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TAMMY ENDORSES HILLARY FOR PREZ

Baldwin Will Co-Chair Clinton's Wisconsin Campaign

Washington, D.C. - The Hillary Clinton presidential campaign announced the endorsement of Wisconsin Congresswoman Tammy Baldwin August 2 here. Baldwin will also serve as a co-chair of Hillary's Wisconsin campaign and as a member of the campaign's Health Care Policy Task Force. Baldwin will also co-chair the campaign's LGBT steering committee.

"I am proud to endorse Senator Hillary Clinton's candidacy for President of the United States," Baldwin said in a campaign press release. "Senator Clinton is supremely prepared and the candidate best able to ensure health care for all, reaffirm our commitment to the Constitution and rule of law, and re-establish our position of leadership in the world. She will be firm in protecting our national security and fair in addressing the aspirations and needs of all Americans. Hillary Clinton has been my friend and ally in the battle for health care for many years and I look forward to working with her to achieve our common goals when she becomes our next President," Baldwin said.

Baldwin was elected to the House of Representatives in 1998, becoming the first woman to represent Wisconsin in Congress. She is a forceful advocate for creating a universal healthcare system for all Americans, and has worked to expand stem cell research and prescription drug benefits for seniors.



Senator Hillary Clinton

"Tammy is such a strong voice on behalf of those who are too often left out of the political process. I'm honored she'll play a leading role in our national campaign and in Wisconsin," Clinton said.

Baldwin sees Wisconsin as a critical part of the Clinton strategy to win the nomination. "The upper Midwest tends to have very high voter participation, and I always run campaigns that really



Congresswoman Tammy Baldwin

engage the voters - we do a lot of grassroots organizing, not just TV advertising," Baldwin told *The Advocate* following her endorsement. "We put a lot of resources into the voter mobilization. So part of (my discussion with Hillary) was, 'Let's make sure that Wisconsin's a blue state next year,' (and) have Senator Clinton take advantage of the real voter enthusiasm that exists in Wisconsin in the primary."

MILWAUKEE COUNCIL ADDS TRANSGENDER EQUAL RIGHTS PROTECTIONS

Milwaukee - The Common Council voted July 31 to update Milwaukee's nondiscrimination ordinance, adding equal rights protections for the transgendered and gender non-conforming citizens living in the city. The new ordinance ends the city's exemption from its own nondiscrimination rules, and adds military service members and gender identity and expression to the list of already protected categories that include race, sex, religion, ancestry and national origin.

The ordinance also covers loved ones who suffer discrimination because of their association with a member of a protected class, and prohibits city license holders from discriminating, adding an important new enforcement tool.

"We commend the Milwaukee Common Council's action to extend nondiscrimination protections to transgender people," Center Advocates Director Patrick Flaherty said in response to the passage.

Michael Munson, co-founder and executive director of FORGE, said the new law was a step forward: "Anti-discrimination laws don't prevent discrimination, but they do contribute to our goal of making a world where people are judged by what they do and not by the boxes they appear to fit - or not fit - into." Forge is a national education and advocacy group for transgender people, their loved ones, and others based in Milwaukee. Center Advocates and FORGE conducted a 2007 survey that found that 20% of Milwaukee transgender people had been denied employment and 5% had experienced housing discrimination.

Under both the old and updated versions of the nondiscrimination ordinance, people who experience housing or employment discrimination in the City of Milwaukee may file a complaint with the Equal Rights Committee, a body of Mayoral appointees that is in its own process of an overhaul. Persons found guilty of violating the ordinance face a fine of \$500 - \$5,000.

Transgender people are people who identify as and express their gender in a way different from the gender assigned to them at birth. The measure, if

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signed by the Mayor as expected, means that for the first time a majority of the nation's top 25 cities prohibit discrimination against transgender people. More than 12 states, including Wisconsin neighbors Iowa, Minnesota, and Illinois ban discrimination on the basis of gender identity and expression, as do 124 Fortune 500 companies. Both Fair Wisconsin and Center Advocates plan to work to expand the state's nondiscrimination to include gender identity after the Wisconsin budget is passed, probably sometime this autumn.

Wisconsin companies with inclusive nondiscrimination provisions include Miller Brewing, SC Johnson, and Foley and Lardner.



Bishop V. Gene Robinson

OPENLY GAY BISHOP ENDORSES OBAMA

Concord, NH - The Episcopal Church's first openly gay bishop endorsed Senator Barack Obama for president on August 2, even though they don't share the same views on issues critical to gays and lesbians.

"Frankly, I don't think there's any major candidate that is where we in the gay community would hope they would be on our issues," V. Gene Robinson said in a conference call with reporters. "That being said, I would say the senator has been enormously supportive of our issues. We appreciate his support for civil unions."

The continuing repercussions from Robinson's 2003 election as bishop of New Hampshire threaten to break up the worldwide Anglican Communion, of which the Episcopal Church is part. His supporters hail him as a role model and civil rights pioneer.

Robinson stressed that his endorsement was as an individual, not as bishop. "I will not be speaking about the campaign from the pulpit or at any church function," he said. "That is completely inappropriate. But as a private citizen, I will be at campaign events and help in any way that I can."

Robinson said he hopes to persuade Obama to embrace marriage for gay and lesbian couples. Obama supports civil unions and rights for gay couples, but stops short of supporting gay marriage. Robinson, a registered independent and opponent of the war in Iraq, said he was drawn to



Senator Barack Obama

Obama because of the Illinois senator's experience with racism and discrimination, which Robinson also has experienced.

"I think it would be hard to be a person of color in this country and not be on the receiving end of that," he said. "I think we make a mistake when we think there has to be an act of hatred from one person to another for racism to occur, where our whole culture is set up to benefit one race over another."

VERMONT TO CONSIDER GAY MARRIAGE

Burlington - The leaders of the Vermont House and Senate announced July 25 that they have formed a special commission to gauge Vermonters' thoughts on expanding marriage rights to gay and lesbian couples.

The announcement by House Speaker Gaye Symington of Jericho and Senate President Pro Tem Peter Shumlin of Putney comes seven years after Vermont made history with its first-in-the-nation civil unions law. The two Democrats said the commission will study applicable state laws and hold at least six hearings across the state before delivering a report on the issue to lawmakers in April 2008.

"It's time to ask if it is in Vermont's best interest to retain separate legal status for gay couples," said Symington, who supported gay marriage and civil unions as a member of the Vermont House seven years ago.

Shumlin, who was president of the Senate during the civil union debate, said he did not support gay marriage at the time, but added that "much has changed in just a few years." He said Vermonters are now ready to tackle the difficult issue.

"If I had told someone back then that just a few years later our neighbor to the east would pass civil unions without a whimper, they would have said, 'You're crazy, Shumlin,'" he said. "But that is how quickly the conversation has evolved."

The political landscape regarding rights for gays and lesbians has changed since Vermont approved civil

unions. Since then, several states have approved civil unions or a similar domestic partnership status, including two of Vermont's neighbors. Legislators in New Hampshire this year approved a civil union law and in 2004 Massachusetts became the first state in the nation to allow gay marriage, a law that sprang from a court ruling that denying same-sex couples the right to wed was unconstitutional.

Beth Robinson, chair of the Vermont Freedom to Marry Task Force, said following the announcement that attitudes toward same-sex rights have changed dramatically in the years since Vermont approved civil unions. A poll of 401 Vermonters earlier this year found that 42% agree that gays and lesbians should have the right to get married and that another 11% are leaning toward that opinion, according to the organization. The poll also found that 37% disagreed with gay marriage.

The announcement was met with shock and surprise by Republican leaders in Vermont. "This is another case of the Democrats distracting and dividing while there are real issues the Legislature needs to solve for Vermonters," Rob Roper, chairman of the Vermont Republican Party told the Associated Press.

The July 25 announcement also was a surprise to the Roman Catholic Diocese of Vermont, according to communications director Gloria Gibson. She said Vermont Catholic Bishop Salvatore Matano has not yet weighed in on the gay marriage commission.

OHIO COURT: GAY BAN DOESN'T INVALIDATE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE LAWS

Columbus - Ohio's domestic violence laws do not conflict with the state's ban on gay marriage, the Ohio Supreme Court ruled July 25. In a 6-1 decision, justices rejected an argument that the domestic violence law was unenforceable in cases involving unmarried couples because it refers to them as living together "as a spouse."

Chief Justice Thomas Moyer wrote in the opinion that lawmakers included many groups under the domestic violence law, and that describing people's living arrangements isn't the same as creating a law approximating marriage. The gay marriage ban prohibited the government from creating any such approximation.

Twenty-seven states have constitutional language defining marriage as between a man and a woman, according to the National Conference of State Legislatures.

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QNU Quickies: Recent Stories Of Note

By Mike Fitzpatrick

Here in no particular order is Quest's take on stories of gay interest since the last issue. A friendly reminder that breaking news is updated daily on the QNU: Quest News Update site online. Visit us at: www.quest-online.com.

WASHINGTON GAY COUPLES SIGN UP FOR DOMESTIC PARTNERSHIPS

Olympia - A raucous cheer went up from a crowd of gay and lesbian couples in Olympia, Washington, as the doors were opened July 23 for domestic partnership. Within an hour of opening, the secretary of state's office had registered about 85 same-sex couples. And there were dozens more waiting outside.

Couples will get more rights as domestic partners, including hospital visitation, the ability to authorize autopsies and organ donations and to inherit without a will. However, they won't get all the same rights of married couples and the state's registry is different from civil unions in other states.

The Legislature approved the new domestic partnerships this spring after the state Supreme Court upheld Washington's ban on same-sex marriage.

PRIEST EMBEZZLES \$200K TO KEEP GAY STRIPPER:

The *Chicago Sun-Times* reported that a Chicago priest pleaded guilty July 28 to stealing nearly \$200,000 from parishioners so that he could give cash and gifts to a gay stripper. Investigators say the Rev. Mark Sorvillo gave James Sosnicki "about a thousand dollars a month, to buy cars, a motorcycle, clothing and a computer. Police also found nude photos of Sosnicki, including one that showed him sleeping in the priest's bed. The padre apparently dipped into the collection basket for a decade in order to have access to the stripper's basket.

BYE-BYE GAY TRANSLATORS, HELLO MR. MACHINE:

After firing 60 Arabic translators for being gay under the 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell' law, the US military has been forced to rely on an untested translating machine. US National Institute of Standards and Technology researchers are now testing a prototype, real-time, two-way translation system to meet the shortfall of translators in Iraq, where linguistic misunderstandings can be fatal. The September 11 Commission also identified the shortage of Arabic linguists as a major factor in the US government's failure to thwart the September 11 attacks. Military intelligence once again lives up to its oxymoronic definition as the top brass feel safer with something that can only blow a circuit (or an occasional translation), rather than human experts who might blow something else off-duty.

GOP LAWMAKER - "FEAR OF BLACKS MADE ME OFFER BLOW JOBS!"

Republican fear of fairies apparently is so great that they'd rather be perceived as racial bigots instead. That's the latest twist in the ongoing investigation of Florida representative Bob Allen's \$20 oral sex offer to an undercover cop in Titusville last month. Turns out the cop was - in Allen's taped testimony - "a pretty stocky black guy." He also admitted that "there was nothing but other black guys around in the park." Allen claims he was fearful for his life when he made the offer. Allen apparently forgot the cop's report he initiated the deal by peeking over the stall. Perhaps Allen's real fear is his conservative Southern voting base finding out that his favorite flavor of lollipop is chocolate.

SIR ELTON - "SHUT DOWN THE INTERNET!"

Elton John has a gripe with the world wide web and thinks it ought to be turned off. The gay mega-platinum hitmaker thinks people spend too much time blogging and chatting rather talking with friends and family in real time, and that file sharing and do-it-yourself music sites are ruining music - both the creative process and the recording industry. "It doesn't bode well for long-term artistic vision," Captain Fantastic wrote in the London tabloid *The Sun*. Sir Elton claims he's doing his part by staying off cell phones, not using iPods, etc. Does that include not going into gay chat rooms?



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VILLAGE PEOPLE RETURN AS STRAIGHT?

In what has to be their umpteenth attempt to return to the frontal lobes of pop consciousness, the 70's disco act the Village People ("Macho Man," "In The Navy") reportedly is down playing their homo hitmaker roots. Current band leader Ray Simpson claims he's stymied that the group's being given credit for being nothing more than gay icons. "(The current line-up is) straight, gay, Catholic, Protestant," Simpson said. "It's black, white, Indian, it's a very diverse group."

Meanwhile former "cop" Victor Willis, who is mounting his own, separate comeback, claims in a new book that the group's biggest hit "YMCA" was "not about gay cruising." Both boys apparently forget that the Village People's abandoning of their gay fan base in the 80's to become a more mainstream "new wave" group with KISS-like make-up is why they fell from favor in the first place. Well, that and the horrible flick "Can't Stop The Music" with Bruce Jenner. Never cross the queens - just like elephants, they never forget!

Can't get out to get Quest this week?

You can still check out the calendar, classifieds, movie reviews and all the news online

www.quest-online.com

OSHKOSH PROF FILES LAWSUIT TO CHALLENGE WISCONSIN GAY MARRIAGE BAN

By Mike Fitzpatrick

Madison - A political science professor from the UW-Oshkosh has taken on Wisconsin's constitutional amendment banning the legal recognition of any unmarried couple's status regardless of sexual orientation. Wisconsin voters approved the so-called "gay marriage ban" last November.

Bill McConkey has filed a lawsuit July 30 in Dane County that seeks to prevent the amendment from being enforced. The suit also asks the court to overturn the ban on the grounds that it violates the 1st and 14th amendments to the US Constitution. The suit also claims that the amendment question was posed incorrectly on the ballot to the people of Wisconsin.

McConkey teaches communication and organizational administration courses for UW Oshkosh, and is a frequent speaker and trainer on these subjects. He has had over 30 years experience in shaping and developing organizational cultures, training and learning systems, communication with internal and external publics, public and civic affairs, focus groups, surveys and other research methodologies. He also serves on the Center for Community Partnerships, a manufacturing partnership hub created by UW-Oshkosh and UW-Stout to effectively provide services to manufacturers in northeast Wisconsin.

McConkey is not gay. He's married, with seven children and nine grandchildren. McConkey told the Wisconsin Radio Network that sexuality is not



what the lawsuit is about. "It's an affront to the intellectual strength of the people of this state," he said. "The U.S. Constitution - the 14th Amendment - says you can't separate a group of people and forbid them the same protections of the law that everybody else gets."

McConkey admits that he has no legal background and filed the lawsuit without the help of an attorney. "If an attorney will help me pro-bono that would help but I don't have any money to hire lawyers to do this," he said. "I do have the passion to do this because the amendment's wrong!"

McConkey is currently waiting to see if the Governor or Attorney General respond to the lawsuit. McConkey does not know if his challenge will go forward, but he's open to any help oppo-

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nents of the ban want to offer. "One of the issues here is that I may not have standing," McConkey told *Quest*. "I'm not gay, I'm not in an unmarried relationship that is impacted by this amendment."

Shortly after the amendment's passage, the possibility of a legal challenge was investigated by a number of Madison gay couples, but attorneys advised caution. Currently challenges to voter-approved constitutional amendments are under way in several states.

Fair Wisconsin has taken no formal position to date on the matter. "I called Fair Wisconsin (about the lawsuit) and I worked on their campaign last year," McConkey said. "I have not heard one word back from them."

McConkey said he has been surprised by the lack of follow-up to his lawsuit thus far. "I've gotten several supportive phone calls, and there's been discussion in the *Capital Times*' political blog," he said. "But the response overall pretty much has been 'ho-hum.'"

McConkey has promised to send *Quest* a copy of the brief filed last month. *Quest* also has scheduled an in-depth interview with the professor to appear in an upcoming issue.

WISCONSIN AIDS RIDE TAKES TO THE ROAD

Madison - More than 250 cyclists and crew members embarked on a journey to raise funds and awareness for HIV/AIDS here August 2. The ACT 5 ride is the fifth installment of AIDS Network's (AN) signature fundraiser. The acronym stands for "AIDS Network Cycles Together."

The cyclists and their support teams began the 300-plus mile, four-day journey from Madison through South Central Wisconsin with opening ceremonies at Olin Park that started at 6:15 AM. "Every rider, crew member and volunteer has a story to tell about why they participate in this ride and how HIV/AIDS has touched their lives," AN Executive Director Bob Power told the group.

Unlike other rides were been run by professional event planners in the 1990's, ACT 5 has been designed to return a large amount of funds to its beneficiary, AIDS Network. In 2006, ACT 4 brought in approximately \$252,000 and returned over 89% of donations to AIDS Network due to the significant donations made by companies, organizations and individuals.

Closing Ceremonies were held on Sunday, August 5, with all riders, crew members, and steering committee members joining in a "Victory Ride" into Capitol Square to celebrate the return home. "This is an emotional and touching event that encapsulates the entire experience these people have gone through for their family, friends, and neighbors that are suffering with HIV/AIDS," Power said.

AIDS Network is the state-designated AIDS service organization in Southwestern Wisconsin. With funds raised in ACT 5, AIDS Network will be able to provide crucial services to people living with HIV/AIDS and continue its outreach and prevention programs to all communities. More information this year's ride is available at: www.actride.org



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STAGEQ ANNOUNCES 2007-8 SEASON

Madison - StageQ's new season will feature a new play by award winning- gay playwright Paul Rudnick and a third go-round of its popular "Queer Shorts." All of the LGBT theatre company's 2007-8 schedule will be presented at the at the Bartell Theater, 113 E Mifflin Street here.

The first show of the new season will be "Valhalla," by prize-winning playwright Paul Rudnick, best known for "Jeffrey," "In & Out," and "The Most Fabulous Story Ever Told." "Valhalla" intertwines two stories: the life of Ludwig of Bavaria, the 1880s Mad King responsible for building a series of storybook castles inspired by Wagnerian operas, and the fictional adventures of James Avery, a wild Texas teenager of the 1940s. The play explores questions of beauty and madness, as both Ludwig and James pursue lives of operatic passion, bringing them in contact with such diverse figures as a high-school quarterback, the prettiest girl in Dainsville, Texas, most of the characters of *Lohengrin* and princess Sophie, who declares herself "the loneliest humpback in Europe."

"Valhalla" is a comic epic, confronting the price to be paid for wanting, and getting, everything one dreams of. Auditions for the production were held August 6 and 7, with call backs scheduled for

August 14, "Valhalla" will open October 5 and run through October 20 on the Evjue Stage of the Bartell.

The season continues with "Looking For Normal" by Jane Anderson, running on February 7 through March 1. In the play Roy and Irma are church-going Midwesterners with two children who have been married for twenty-five years. When Roy and Irma go to their pastor for marriage counseling, Roy confesses that he's a woman trapped in a man's body. This comedic drama, which was adapted by the playwright as the award-winning HBO film "Normal" in 2003, explores the complexities of marriage, family and deconstructs the very notion of love.

In March, the lesbian musical "Pulp" by Patricia Kane will make its Madison premiere. "Pulp" is an affectionate parody of the lurid lesbian fiction of the 1950s. Departing from the obligatory tragic endings of '50's lesbian pulp fiction, Kane not only happily pairs off three sets of lovers by the end of the play, but also has immense good fun with the punchy style of the genre, and the lure of lesbian bars, drag kings, and the appeal of Barbara Stanwyck. "Pulp" will be seen on the Drury Stage at the Bartell from March 7 - 29, 2008.

For the final main stage show of the 2007-2008 season, StageQ will present its third annual "Queer Shorts" revue of short plays. An opportunity for both experienced and novice actors, directors and playwrights, "Queer Shorts" is a celebration of LGBT theater. The revue will run for two weekends, June 12 - 21, 2008 on the Evjue Stage at the Bartell.

StageQ will also be producing other events during the season, including concerts, an after-hours show, and more of our low-cost and free theater workshops. Stay tuned for more information about those events.

For the upcoming season StageQ will offer its loyal patrons many conveniences with season tickets including a 17% savings versus individual tickets, additional discounts on after-hours shows and special events, the flexibility of not having to pick the performance dates at the time of purchase, preferred seating, the ability to make reservations before tickets go on sale to the general public and being at the top of the waiting list for sold-out shows (if you forget to make reservations).

StageQ season tickets are \$50 each for the complete season of four main-stage shows. Tickets can be ordered through the theatre company's website at: www.StageQ.com.

GUERNSEY GALA KICKS UP ITS HEELS

Green Bay - The annual Guernsey Gala kicked off July 28 at The Shelter here with one of the most elaborate (and best attended) shows in the fund-raising pageant's 16 year history. The competition, which included the 9th Annual Gay Guernsey softball tournament at Perkins Park August 5, will wrap up on August 18 with a grand finale show at the Napalese Lounge.

During the three week event contestants have held car washes, shows, special dinners and even a strip show to raise money. The Gala is on target to exceed a lifetime total of \$150,000 in funds raised.

The Guernsey Gala holds a special place in the northeastern Wisconsin LGBT community's long history of battling HIV/AIDS. It was created in 1992 by Wayne Thiele and his friends as a way to raise money needed to help people living with HIV in the city of Green Bay who were struggling to make ends meet. The Gala was fashioned after Milwaukee's Possum Queen contest with candidates running for the title of "Guernsey Queen" by collecting dollar "votes." Four local bars - Brandy's II, The Napalese Lounge, SASS, Za's Videobar - participated in the first "pageant" and raised several hundred dollars.

Over the next ten years Wayne - as his Guernsey alter ego "Elsie Bovine" - raised tens of thousands of dollars for the clients of Center Project, and later, those served by the Green Bay office of ARCW. After the 2002 competition, Wayne asked Rainbow Over Wisconsin to take over the organization and promotion of the event. ROW members agreed and with Wayne's mentoring hand, began sponsoring the Guernsey Gala in 2003.

FMI about the Guernsey Gala, go to ROW's website at: www.rainbowoverwisconsin.org.

CREAM CITY GAYLA TO CELEBRATE 25 YEARS

Milwaukee - It is being billed as "the event of the year," and it will celebrate a major milestone in the LGBT community's history of giving here. On Saturday, September 22 the Cream City Foundation (CCF) will sponsor a "Gayla with a sprinkle of fairy dust" in the rotunda of the Milwaukee City Hall, beginning at 7 PM.

The event will honor and celebrate the philanthropic spirit of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender people and the culmination of 25 years of funding their own LGBT charity: the Cream City Foundation.

Cream City treasurer Tom Wilson told *Quest* that in addition to the quarter century milestone, CCF will be celebrating two other distinctions. "Cream

City is the second oldest LGBT foundation in the history of the United States," Wilson said. "Additionally we have distributed \$500,000 in grants over that 25 years."

CCF supports the entire LGBT community Wilson added. "We have no agenda, we take no sides," he said. "We are here to work with the entire community through partnerships with all LGBT organizations and with similar supportive allies in the straight community."

Music for the Gayla will be provided by Mrs. Fun. Complex, sophisticated and adventurous, the WAMI-winning duo of Connie Grauer and Kim Zick offer music that is a provocative blend of off-center jazz, ultra-funk, spoken word rap, and their own brand of neo-cabaret. The event will be hosted by legendary Milwaukee entertainer Rona and *Outbound* columnist Michael Johnston.

General admission tickets are \$75 through September 10 (\$85 thereafter) or "Fairy" level of \$100. Sponsorship levels for the event range from \$250 to \$2500. Tickets may be purchased online at: www.creamcityfoundation.org or by phone at 414-225-0244. For additional information visit the CCF website or email Maria Cardenas at: director@creamcityfoundation.org.

Feature: PRIDES COLLIDE IN MID-AUGUST EVENTS OFFERED IN EAU CLAIRE, LACROSSE AND MILWAUKEE

By Mike Fitzpatrick

Eau Claire, LaCrosse, Milwaukee - Gay Pride Wisconsin style is about to head into its third month of festivals, with three events that culminate on the weekend of August 17-18 in Milwaukee, Eau Claire and LaCrosse.

First up is Milwaukee's Black Pride celebration, beginning August 12 and running through August 19. Charles Daniels Productions, Inc. (CDP), an inner-city grass roots community based non-profit organization with a 501 (C) 3 tax exempt status working with the LGBTQ community and their social networks, is the official organizing entity for the seven-day event. According to organizers, the purpose for the celebration is to "bring African-American and other people of color, same gender loving men and women together from across the country to participate in informative and engaging workshops and social activities that encourage meaningful dialogue and social empowerment."

Powerhouse singer-actor Jennifer Holliday, who recently has been billed as the "original

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Dreamgirl" is set to headline with a performance on August 18 at MATC's Cooley Auditorium from 6-10 PM. Tickets for the show range from \$15-30 and are currently available at Club Finesse, Conversations, Rainbow, Viva La Femme and the Black Pride (CDP) office at the LGBT Community Center, 315 W. Court St. For more information, call 414-263-9999.

An "after party" celebration sponsored by Vive La Femme & Conversations night clubs at the Masonic Temple, will follow the concert at 10PM. Admission will be \$15 per person.

Black Pride will kick off on Sunday, August 12, with a block party to be held at the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center from 4-9 PM. The week will conclude with the Second Annual White Party co-hosted by the four abovementioned night clubs with tickets costing \$10 per club available at each venue. Several additional events, including a bus trip and several club events are also scheduled throughout the week. Detailed information about the events are online at the Black Pride (CDP) website at: www.blackpridecdp.com or by calling Eloise at 414-263-9999.

While Milwaukee's Black Pride (CDP) focuses on African-American and other people of color issues, the event welcomes the participation of all regardless of age, creed, gender, gender identification, HIV status, national origin, physical, mental or development ability, religion or sexual orientation, organizers said.

Western Wisconsin Pride is set to run in the Eau Claire area from August 17-19. The central event this year will be the annual Pride Festival and Picnic to be held from 11 AM - 7 PM on the Riverview Park Island. Picnic organizers are asking a \$3 suggested donation for admittance, the picnic menu will include a choice of hamburger, brat or hot dog, chips or cold salad and soda. Cotton candy & sno-cones will also be available for \$1 each. Picnic highlights, according to organizers will be a "celebrity" dunk tank, prize drawings and many exhibits and vendors. Vendors already schedule to be present include J & J Human Wear, The Main Stitch, Rainbow Glass; Shop, Trust & Buy, Minnesota Couples, Duluth/Superior Pride, AIDS Walk Wisconsin, the LGBT Democratic Caucus, ARCW, Fair Wisconsin, Spectrum, the Chippewa Valley LGBT Community Center, Pro-Choice Wisconsin and Mark Olson, the Democratic Party candidate for 68th Assembly District.

Because parking is limited at the site, a shuttle bus will run from Scooter's Bar parking lot on the hour to the park and on the half-hour from the park to Scooter's. Handicapped parking will be unrestricted at the park however.

Following the picnic a benefit "Drag Queen

Show" will be held at Scooter's Bar. The \$3 admission will help offset pride weekend expenses. The Chippewa Valley LGBT Community Center also has planned a movie night.

Doors will open at 7:45 PM with the film starting at 8 PM.

Three events are scheduled for Friday, August 17. An open house will be held at the Chippewa Valley LGBT Community Center from 7-10 PM. There will be a pizza & bowling party at Bowlwinkles bowling lanes from 7-9 PM. Scooter's Bar will hold a male dancer revue starting at 10 PM. Male Dancers

Western Wisconsin Pride will conclude on Sunday with a Chippewa River Tube Float. Those wishing to attend will meet at Scooter's Bar parking lot and depart at 1 PM. Attendees should bring a tube in order to float down the river.

For additional information about Western Wisconsin Pride, go to the group's website at: www.westernwisconsinpride.com. An email contact page is available onsite for additional questions.

LaCrosse Pride this year will be a one-day event sponsored by the city's 7 Rivers LGBT Resource Center. The event will run from 11 AM to 11 PM at the Oktoberfest Grounds on the south side of LaCrosse. Souvenir pride buttons offering unrestricted admission are \$5 per person with children 12 & under free.

Entertainers scheduled to appear are hypnotist Al Kaytraz, comedian Tracy Schroeder and area entertainers Ginger Presley, Char Engen & Leesa. Special appearances are also set by: Ti'nea, Jaqu'e Mone't, Suga Brown, Venus Love, Holiday Rose, Ms. Kellie Jo Klien, Scotty, Raven Zlair, Tammy Faye, Brandy Merlot, Reggie, and Dee Dee Winters.

The day-long event promises a number of fun filled activities such as bingo, a "Gladiator Joust," and an euchre card tournament. Several additional children's activities are planned as well as a number of speakers. The day-long event will also have a number of vendors, and a variety of food and beverage options. Additional details for this year's LaCrosse Pride can be obtained at two websites: lacrossepride.7riverslgbt.org and the event's MySpace page at: www.myspace.com/laxpride. Additional questions can be answered by calling the 7 Rivers Center at 608-784-0452 or by emailing: pride@7riverslgbt.org.

Wisconsin summer of Pride will conclude with one of the oldest pride events in the nation, Twin Ports Pride in Duluth-Superior on Labor Day weekend, August 30 - September 2. Headlining that event will be Lady Kier, formerly of the club chart topping Dee-Lite. *Quest* will have a complete preview in the next issue.

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FOR RENT ROOMMATES

Roommate wanted to share a large two bedroom, two bath apartment in North West Green Bay. (Howard) \$400.00 /month All utilities, cable, DSL, off street parking. Email: bearturk38@yahoo.com or 920-819-0156 [1]

Rental to Share - Beautiful Downtown Racine Loft. 2200 sq. ft. 1st floor, 2 Bedrooms. Full Bathroom. All Bills Paid! Washer & Dryer in unit. Cable & High Speed Internet included. Elevator, secure parking. A lot of EXTRAS. MUST SEE!! \$600 month + Deposit. Serious Inquires ONLY! Call PJ - 414-614-4399 [1]

Beautiful country home for rent. Need 2 guys to rent master Bdrm, bath, den and guest bdrm. The house comes completely furnished, may bring your bed and stuff. Rent includes all utilities. Call me to discuss Pictures avail upon request: 414-364-3327 [1]

Menasha Roommate wanted. Will trade expenses for transportation to/from school locally (m.t. & w (5-7p) & f (3-5p) & sometimes work (9-5m-sa) GWM who smokes & has a dog. Email hlhassell@yahoo.com. See myspace www.myspace.com/84418654 Include references. [2]

Available after July 15. 3BR Washington Heights 1500 sqft lower. Refinished HWF throughout, remolded kitchen and bath, built in china cabinets, separate large basement space, 1 garage space and off the parking, near parks, in diverse neighborhood. Mins from downtown and shopping. Rent/mo and security are \$980. 262-880-3187 for appointment. [2]

Upper dup: 2 br, lvrn, drn, kitch., window ac. Quiet. Pet friendly. Street parking, utilities not included. Rent \$675. Clean, bright, includes electric stove, refrigerator shared washer/ dryer, small basement storage. send email for appt to view. hous-377438367@craigslist.org Avail. August 1. [2]

Looking for roommate to share 3 bedroom house in Green Bay westside. Includes all utilities, cable, DSL, washer & dryer, on busline nice neighborhood.

315.00 a month call 920-362-7272 [2]

Looking for a Room to rent in green bay, near eastside/ downtown area with gay or gay friendly persons. GWM. Contact 920-544-1367 or nis1159@yahoo.com. [2]

Looking for Roommate to share 3 bedroom house in Green Bay westside. Includes all utilities, cable, DSL, washer & dryer, on busline, nice neighborhood. \$315/month (920)362-7272

Roommate wanted share upper level apt. Your own bedroom, TV room, own bath, shared kitchen and laundry room. No utilities. **Burlington, WI Before Sept 1st.** Call Gary 262-749-9811 [2]

Neenah Apartment for Rent. Quiet 2 bedroom apartment on southeast side of Neenah, appliances included, onsite laundry, off road parking. \$425 /month plus security. 920-725-2531 or 920-379-1167 [2]

For Rent - 2 bedroom in Riverwest. 2625 N Fratney St. One garaged parking space, laundry, appliances. \$700 plus security. (414) 550-4426 [2]

FOR SALE, TRADE or PURCHASE

Interested in trading or watching Bel Ami videos? **Wausau Area** (715)845-6467 [2]

EMPLOYMENT SEEKING A YOUNGER MALE to help a middle-aged man in exchange for room and board, in the Fox Valley home of a middle-aged couple. Prefer N/S, clean and honest. Call 920-738-0112 for details [1]

ICON HAIR SALON, Located in downtown Milwaukee: We have a chair rental available. Part-time rent is \$400/month and full-time is \$800/month. **FMI call (414)221-0099** ask for Bill or Ron. [8/22]

HELP WANTED: GWM 53 seeking GWM, nice looking, 26-40 for "houseboy" position which includes minimal apt. cleaning and chores. Perfect for student type who doesn't need a lot of "stuff". No Rent, modest payment for services. N/S. I am shy but curious, quiet, enjoy movies, eating out, reading & conversation. Large book collection for your use. Reliable references required. Comfortable Milw. east side apartment close to bus, schools, theatres & restaurants. hummelcreche@netzero.net All the comforts of home.

BARTENDERS WANTED: **City Lights Chill** is seeking fresh, energetic faces! Part time days, nights, weekends and holidays. Applicants must be **EXPERIENCED** and **LICENSED** by the City of Milwaukee. Laid-back, no-drama attitude is a plus. Please apply in person during our hours of operation. **NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE.** 111 W. Howard Ave. Milwaukee, WI 53207.

Join our team! Home of Wisconsin's largest gay dance club, LaCage is currently hiring for the following positions: Experienced and licensed bartenders, Security, Servers, and Bar Backs. You must be at least 21 years old and have availability on weekends after 10 pm. If you're interested, please visit us in ETC (lower level of LaCage) anytime after 5 pm daily. No phone calls please.

SENSUAL MASSAGE YOUNG MALE offers full body massage. I have table, oils, experienced. In or Out calls. Quiet space and place. Friendly. Call me for rates. (213)427-8191 [8/22]

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Treat yourself to a very relaxing **full body massage.** Ladies welcome, too! **Green Bay/Fox Valley area.** Page me (920) 613-3835 [8/22]

Full Body Massage, an exhilarating experience, \$55/hr. \$75 for 90 min. (414)378-9838 SW side **Milwaukee** [8/22]

Looking for a nice Swedish Massage for YOUR Pleasure? Call Tim @ (414)899-4247 (In only) \$55 Very Well Trained, you wont be disappointed! [10/10]

Massage by Doug. Cool Down this Summer with a hot massage by a muscular guy. Call Doug! (414)410-7881 [9/26]

Massage and More! by a cute, smooth stud. (414)614-8883 Outcalls Only. [9/5]

50 year old certified massage therapist in Appleton offering Swedish relaxation, sports massage and deep tissue massage in my private studio by appointment only. Please call (920)915-4318 Serious inquiries only please. [8/8]

MODEL/ESCORT TOP MALE STUD Young, attractive, bi-racial, well defined, very well endowed, hung thick. Looking for bottoms who know how to take it. In or out. Second man available. Call for rates. (414)477-1404 [8/22]

Hot young 22 year old muscular sexy male White-Latino 6'0 160# available for escort service in Racine/Kenosha area. Call (262)456-0762 / (262)456-6242 Ask for Alex. Beautiful brown eyes, short hair, 7 inch cut. [8/22]

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All Male Chat! 18+ record & listen FREE! (920)431-9000 code 4120 [P]

OVER 50 GAY MEN'S GROUP Not interested in the young bar scene or one night flings? Here's a chance to meet guys our own age for socializing and establishing friendships which could develop into something more than just friendship. 920-495-9714

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fun, active or relaxed, funny, creative man, seeks man for walking or dancing or conversation & laughs! 773-585-6275 Tommy [2]

Very attractive and pretty Madison area bimale, CD, exhibitionist, 5'11", 145 Lbs., bottom, shaved and tan all over has fantasy to strip and masturbate for group of people, males or females, preferably in outdoor environment. No single males please. Call Kris 608-663-9687 If no answer, please leave message. [2]

52 year old guy, 5'10" 160# lookin to suck all cummers, young and old willing to feed me. I am 1 hour north

PERSONALS

Wanted: Friends of erotic play fetish and more. Call after 3 pm till 10pm. Please no weekend or late calls. (920)707-6467 [1]

SWM 6'0" 175 mid 50's. I enjoy sucking men with enthusiasm and oral talent. Prefer going slowly to encourage a strong full finish. Like saved-up. OK to talk dirty to me and give me

special instructions. Can travel and/or host. South Central Wis. Send email to: suxnlxjizz@yahoo.com [1]

GWM 54yo 180# in shape. U should B 2. Looking 4 friends or relationship in UP, Northern WI. Honest, romantic, sports, music, motorcycles. You: younger, not feminine, dark hair a plus, enjoys life. Drop me a line. Bob V. S. US2 W8079 Lot 12 Iron Mt., MI 49801 [1]

Hot fun ads= Hot male swinger. looking for hot boys and girls for discreet fun. No psychos please! call me (262)902-2792 No calls after 1am please. Anything goes!! [1]

GWM, 6', 170#, looking for other nudist/naturists. (414) 379-5350 [1]

VIAGRA WANTED - Tall goodlooking guy seeks viagra in exchange for ??? I am

in the Milwaukee area. Friendly. Serious only. (314)315-0492 [1]

La Crosse, WI hairy bear, 46, looking for dominant playing top. I'm 5'11", 250, stocky, very hairy. Like to get spanked, heavy nip play, sucking, etc... email me at pjohn39@msn.com [1]

Male in Milwaukee by airport I'm 5'10" 185# looking for passible TS TV

of gb, willing to travel, e-mail me at downunder54144@yahoo.com or call 715-938-1366, very discreet & safe, hope to hear from you. [2]

If you're a female couple, or M/F couple with a bi-male, would you like this fit, handsome gentleman to watch or join you in sensual pleasures? I'm a healthy, passionate, 50+, with a pleasant personality. You set the limits. wayneheart@hotmail.com

Wisconsin Rapids: GWM, 26, 5 foot 9 in, 175lbs, 32in waist (Husky Build). Hi my name is Tony, I am looking for an older man to please. H/W proportionate please. Tops or Bottoms welcome. I am into oral, anal, leather, 420, Bears, Daddies. Men with body/facial hair is a plus. I can host. e-mail me deepspaceproductions@gmail.com [2]

Man on Man Fun! 18+ Record & Listen FREE! (920) 431-9000, code 4166 [P]

Slim, slender, PHYSICALLY FIT cross-dresser LOVES to dress up VERY SEXY & SLUTTY, VERY SHORT SKIRTS, stockings, sexy/slutty high heels. ISO other PHY FIT CD's..OR..DOM PHY FIT BLACK MALES..must send stats and a pic...100% SINCERE, DISCRETE. contact rswhite@wi.rr.com

GWM, 35, 170#, 6" cut, looking for men to orally service, like to do multiples and bukake, I love cum. I'm available on Sunday afternoons, your place, Milwaukee area. Send response and stats to moon-scape2006@yahoo.com. Really enjoy men in their 20's.

Gay WM looking for young men 18-25 only from Oshkosh to come over and serve my oscar meyer. Call 920-426-2683 Ask for Rich



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GWM 5'11" 180# short hair smooth chest hazel

eyes 8" thick tool top looking for thin in-shapebottom. Call Daryl 815-962-4221

Looking for skinny/slim male dates under 130#, ages 18-25 who wear a smile. Lv message after hearing that you won a brand new car by naming the 50 states 262-654-6208 [3]

GWM 60 5'9" 182# a top in good shape average looking

ISO bottom who is looking for a LTR & intelligent conversation. He'd be 45-68 and likes to cuddle after sex. Call Brian 224-321-9809 Waukegan IL (please no inmates or fatties!) [3]

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males who'd like to use her also welcome. Respond with pics Boxholder 1528 S. Koeller Road PMB 340 Oshkosh WI 54902 [3]

GWM Oshkosh looking for others to start a GWM Club. If you want to get-together, talk, hangout once a week or month even if you want to come out of the closet, Bi or Gay, lets meet.

920-385-0123 [3]

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Diversion of the Day

Quest's Events Calendar

Saturday, August 11

City Lights chill...(Milw) Towel Party
La Cage (Milwaukee) Miss Cream City USofA 2007 Pageant
Shelter (Green Bay) Annual Sage La Rue Memorial Show 10:30pm

Sunday, August 12

Fluid (Milwaukee) Mexican Drag Queen Bingo 4pm

Monday, August 13

Outwords Books (Milwaukee) Outwords Book club Michael T Hammet's inspirational memoir, Born on a Blue Day

Tuesday, August 14

Outwords Books (Milwaukee) Lesbian Reading Group @ Outwords The book to be discussed in August is Red Light the latest novel from by J.D. Glass.

Midtowne Spa (Milw) BESTD Clinic FREE 30 min AIDS testing. 6-9pm

Wednesday, August 15

MONA's (Milwaukee) Three Strikes Presents Ragina D Stone, Miss EOY 10pm

Friday, August 17

Milwaukee Gay Arts Center in the theatre: (Also on Sat. Aug 18 & Fri/Sat Aug 24&25) *The Business of Selling Sex* - An Exploration of Feminism & Sexuality Produced by R. Alice Wilson and Susan Marie Bischoff *Call Girls* A Three-Way in One Act Written by R. Alice Wilson and Colleen Duvall Directed by Shawn Smith *The Night They Drove Old Dixie Down* Inspired by a True Story Written and Directed by Susan Marie Bischoff

Saturday, August 18

City Lights chill...(Milw) Underwear Party
Madison Gay Video Club "Boy Culture" (TLA Rel., dir. Q. Allan Brocka, 2006)
"Naked Muscles: The New Breed" (Colt Studio, dir. Rutherford & Weston, 2007)
8:00 PM, <http://www.mgvc.org>, 244-8675 (evenings)
OZ Bar (Wausau) 11th Anniversary Special show at 10:30 See ad in this issue
Shot, drink and beer specials and a swimsuit contest with prizes!

Thursday, August 23

BOOM (Milwaukee) Live Band! The Whisper System 9:30pm

Saturday, August 25

City Lights chill...(Milw) Full Moon Party

Milwaukee Pumphouse Goldie Adams: Celebrating 30 years in the biz. Benefit for ARCW Food Pantry. Bring 5 or more canned foods & get Free rail or tap 8pm
Swim Party/Project Q at Lincoln Outdoor Pool 1300 W. Glendale 5:30 pm.
Meet at the Center, 315 W Court St. BYO snacks or food. FMI 414-223-3220

Sunday, August 26

Boot Camp (Milwaukee) Annual August White Party, a fundraiser for the G/L Community Trust Fund 3-9 pm Complimentary wine & hors d' oeuvres.
Center Advocates PAC Garden Party 11 am-1 pm. 2770 N Summit Ave.
Sponsor the Garden Party & Help Elect Pro-LGBT Legislators. If you are interested in finding out more about Center Advocates PAC or the Garden Party, please call 414-347-1892.

Fluid (Milwaukee) Refrigerator Magnet Bingo 4pm

Tuesday, August 28

Midtowne Spa (Milw) BESTD Clinic FREE 30 min AIDS testing. 6-9pm

Thursday, August 30

BOOM (Milwaukee) Live Band! Mr. Wrong 9:30pm

LABOR DAY WEEKEND Friday, August 31

SWITCH (Milwaukee) Foam Party Part 1

LABOR DAY WEEKEND Saturday, September 1

The Tazzbah (Milwaukee) Finale! the final day of operation. Bar is closing.

SWITCH (Milwaukee) Foam Party Part 2

Saturday, September 8

Triangle (Milw) Rummage sale benefiting AIDS Walk WI. from 11 am. to 6 pm.

Sunday, September 9

Triangle (Milw) Rummage sale benefiting AIDS Walk WI. from 11 am. to 6 pm.

Wednesday, September 19

MONA's (Milwaukee) Three Strikes Presents Dominique Mahon & Friends

Saturday, September 29 - AIDS Walk Wisconsin



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Ask the Irreverent, Uncle Barbie

Your Intellectual Whore

(An effervescently gay advice columnist)

Disclaimer: Although the author of this syndicated column holds a doctorate in clinical psychology, the tongue-in-cheek advice given is for entertainment only and is not a substitute for therapy. Send your questions to Uncle Barbie: AskUncleBarbie@aol.com. Barbie responds to all emails... whether you deserve it or not.

Psychotic Incoherencies

Dear Uncle Barbie,

Some kind of a comedian, are we? The Devil's name is dullness. The last temptation is the greatest treason: to do the right deed for the wrong reason. The monarchy is a labor intensive industry. To do the same thing over and over again is not only boredom; it is to be controlled by rather than to control what you do. Force is not a remedy. The master's eye is the best fertilizer. Screw up your courage, you screwed up everything else. The ordinary man is involved in action, the hero acts. An immense difference. When in doubt, wear red. When you put faith, hope, and love together, you can raise positive kids in a negative world. An army of deer would be more formidable commanded by a lion, than an army of lions commanded by a stag. O lyric Love, half angel and half bird. And all a wonder and a wild desire.

When all else is lost, the future still remains. A specialist is someone who does everything else worse. The old know what they want; the young are sad and bewildered. I must, in the face of a storm, think, live, and die as a king. To live is like to love--all reason is against it and all healthy instinct for it. In the advance of civilization, it is new knowledge which paves the way, and the pavement is eternal. We cannot banish dangers, but we can banish fears. We must not demean life by standing in awe of death. Evangelical faith without Christian ethics is a travesty on the gospel. Inhabit ourselves that we may indeed do what we want to do. If the single man plant himself indomitably on his instincts, and there abide, the huge world will come round to him. Do you think I should have lived comfortably so long, if ever I had been married? Baggage! The most important thing a father can do for his children is to love their mother. Atheism is easy in fair weather.

--Signed, Waterloo

Hello Waterloo,

What the f~#! Are you psychotic? I swear; I receive the most bizarre questions. Why do I get all the weirdoes? Save some of your psychotic incoherencies for your psychologist. With a therapist, you don't need to worry about rejection. The only question in your sprawling vernacular rambling was the very first sentence which asked, "Some kind of a comedian, are we?" To answer your well thought out question--yes, I am some kind of comedian; how anal of you to notice. The rest of your comments were not questions at all! Still, your words echo in the ventricles of my brain. These statements are reminiscent of phrases that I have encountered throughout my life. They sound like typical, long-winded, dogmatic blathering--like the kind of verbal vomit I used to hear from religious fundamentalists. (Their monotonous messages may fade, but their trailing scent still lingers. Meow!)

By the way, do you even have an original thought in your entire head? All you are doing is plagiarizing popular quotes that have been published by other authors, and then trying to pass them off as capricious creations of your own whimsical wisdom. I suspect that you are doing this because it is your thwarted way of assembling an attempt to appear clever by spewing intellectual quotes (and thereby appearing important). However, the problem is, you have a

plethora of loose associations in your flow of thought which, unfortunately, comes off sounding like the totality of your personality is comprised of an accumulation of flaws (and therein lies the rub). In the field of psychology, we refer to this verbal deprivation as "cognitive slippage." (It's kind of like a brain fart.) In my professional opinion, it sounds as if you are in a state of psychological decomposition. I really think you need to get back on your meds. Otherwise you are headed for a psychotic break! (That is, if you are not already in the throes of one, right now.)

--Poetically Put, Barbie



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**Above and Right: Mr. Club ICON at ICON, Kenosha
Below: Karaoke on thursdays at Switch, Milwaukee**



OPENING NIGHT by Glenn Bishop AT THE MILWAUKEE LGBT FILM FESTIVAL

"Nina's Heavenly Delights"

For the Opening Night of the 20th Annual Milwaukee LGBT Film/Video Festival, Festival Director Carl Bogner has selected a sure-fire crowd-pleaser with **Nina's Heavenly Delights**.

In her debut film, filmmaker Pratibha Parmar offers a familiar story, that of a much loved albeit deeply closeted daughter who fled her close-knit family rather than accept the marriage that had been arranged for her. Now three years later, following the death of her father, Nina (Shelley Conn) has returned home to Glasgow to a decidedly tepid welcome and the knowledge that her father had bet – and lost – half share of the family business, a curry house named the New Taj.

With her best gay pal Bobbi (Ronny Jhutti) at her side, Nina tries to make sense of her life and her future. All she knows is that she doesn't want to see her father's beloved restaurant in the hands of rival restaurateur Raj Khanna (Art Malik, best known for his role in "Jewel of the Crown") and that of his handsome son Sanjay (Raji James). Oh, by the way, Sanjay just happens to have been the prospective husband from whom Nina had fled.

Oh what a tangled web, thinks Glenn.

After some serious introspection plus a session helping Bobbi choreograph a Bollywood-style dance routine, Nina decides to send off the New Taj in one final blaze of glory by attempting to win the annual **Best Of The West** curry competition. With young Nina at his side, her father had twice won the title and had long dreamed of winning a third, a hat trick. Only one thing stands in Nina's way: Lisa (Laura Fraser).

Headstrong, persuasive and downright gorgeous, Nina quickly convinces the obviously smitten Lisa to help in her curry-induced quest. Nina's family, however, are entirely another matter, each being caught up in their own internal melodramas.

Playing homage to a number of popular films, a hint of *Ghost* here, a pinch of *My Best Friend's Wedding* there, a generous measure of the classic *My Beautiful Laundrette* plus a dollop of *The Iron Chef*, **Nina's Heavenly Delights** ambles along in a cheerful, good-

natured fashion, as Nina and Lisa fall in love while preparing for the fabulous meal they will need to create in order to beat the cocky Sanjay and win the competition.

Can Lisa and Nina return the New Taj to its former glory? Is Nina strong enough to accept Lisa's love and come out to her family? Will Sanjay ever get over Nina and live happily-ever-after? Should Bobbi try to convince Nina's spunky but endearing little sister to burn her downright hideous Highland dancing outfit she seems way too fond of wearing?



Full Price, Matinee or wait 'til the budgets...

While lacking in any genuine original spark, director Pratibha Parmar and screenwriter Andrea Gibb have nevertheless concocted a most enjoyable – not to mention hunger-inducing – film. Surrounded by her lovable family and wacky friends or is it her wacky family and her lovable friends, Conn's Nina rather pales in comparison. Gibb's script has her cast as a somewhat reluctant lesbian lover and Conn perhaps takes this a little too much to heart. Far more compelling are Ronny Jhutti as Bobbi, the kooky but adorable Bollywood drag queen and especially Veena Sood as Nina's kindhearted mother, a woman at her own crossroads. In the end, having made sure that all loose ends are neatly wrapped up with a great big bow, Parmar and Gibb refuse to leave well enough alone. Oh, no. Determined to leave moviegoers leave the cinema humming a happy tune, **Nina's Heavenly Delights** has one final surprise: a ludicrous Bollywood-inspired musical number.

Just the facts...

Nina's Heavenly Delights opens the 20th Annual Milwaukee LGBT Film/Video Festival on Thursday, September 6th at Landmark's **Oriental Theatre**.

Find complete schedule information at arts.uwm.edu/lgbtfilm.

Veena Sood, who plays Nina's mother, also played the role of Dolly in the delightful comedy "A Touch of Pink"

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Thank You Sir:

by Jeff Hicks

Well enough of the Hiatus !

My summer schedule has been rife with treasures and tragedies. Now it is time to get down to business. **FETISHES ;**

There are many. Each may take a bit of doing to explore. My choice this time is the "puppy / dog - handler / trainer; area of interest. Many people do not quite realize that the specifics of puppy / owner-trainer relationships entail some very caring intimate details. Just think of the times that you have had a four legged "pup" / 'dog', in your life. That little critter had, or still has, a total dedication to you the "master" within its' life. Pup will do anything to please you; and love you, for the attention, love, caring, and 'discipline', and your every action with him/her. This is a dedication akin to the slave focus in many BDSM relationships. Many times a 'pup', [who has found a trainer/master/owner]; will respond with a love and caring that is as unconditional as the love from "Man's best friend". Fortunately their often is a trainer/master who is willing to take on the responsibility of handling a pup of this degree of dedication. It can sometimes be unsettling to a SIR/trainer/handler, how much a pup/boy will dedicate him/it-self to the master. The "boy/pup", who can do this, has achieved a level of interpersonal relationship far more intimate and intense than your average partnership. The trainer then takes on the responsibility of caring for a very submissive person/dog/pup. This level of dedication often exceeds the degree of commitment otherwise expected and can extend into all actions of and with the 'pup'. As is representative of canines, all actions can be directed to the submitting to, and the pleasing of, the dominant 'alpha dog', of the Pack. A pup can look forward to being

cared for and rewarded as result of that submission and resulting dedication to the 'alpha'. Imagine if you will the opportunity as a pup, to curl

up at the foot or knee of your Master and have the deep comfort of knowing that you are totally cared for, nurtured, and protected. Far more than a typical human to human relationship will achieve. That can be typical of the Master / pup relationship.

On special occasions, this fetish can be displayed publically. Many reoccurring Leather: weekends / large play parties / Special Education events / and National contests; provide an opportunity for just such exhibitions. Just as a drag queen isn't really a female, and a pup isn't really a canine, both need a time and space to express their fetish / life / and needs in a safe and accepting non-judgemental atmosphere.

Those of us who have any fetish, (and we all really do), need to look at and embrace what another fetishist does. We just might find something in each that will trip a trigger for us.

Questions / comments:

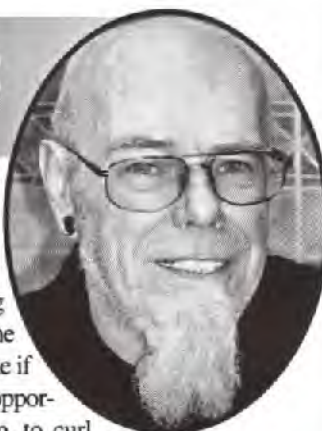
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Greater Milwaukee Foundation's
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