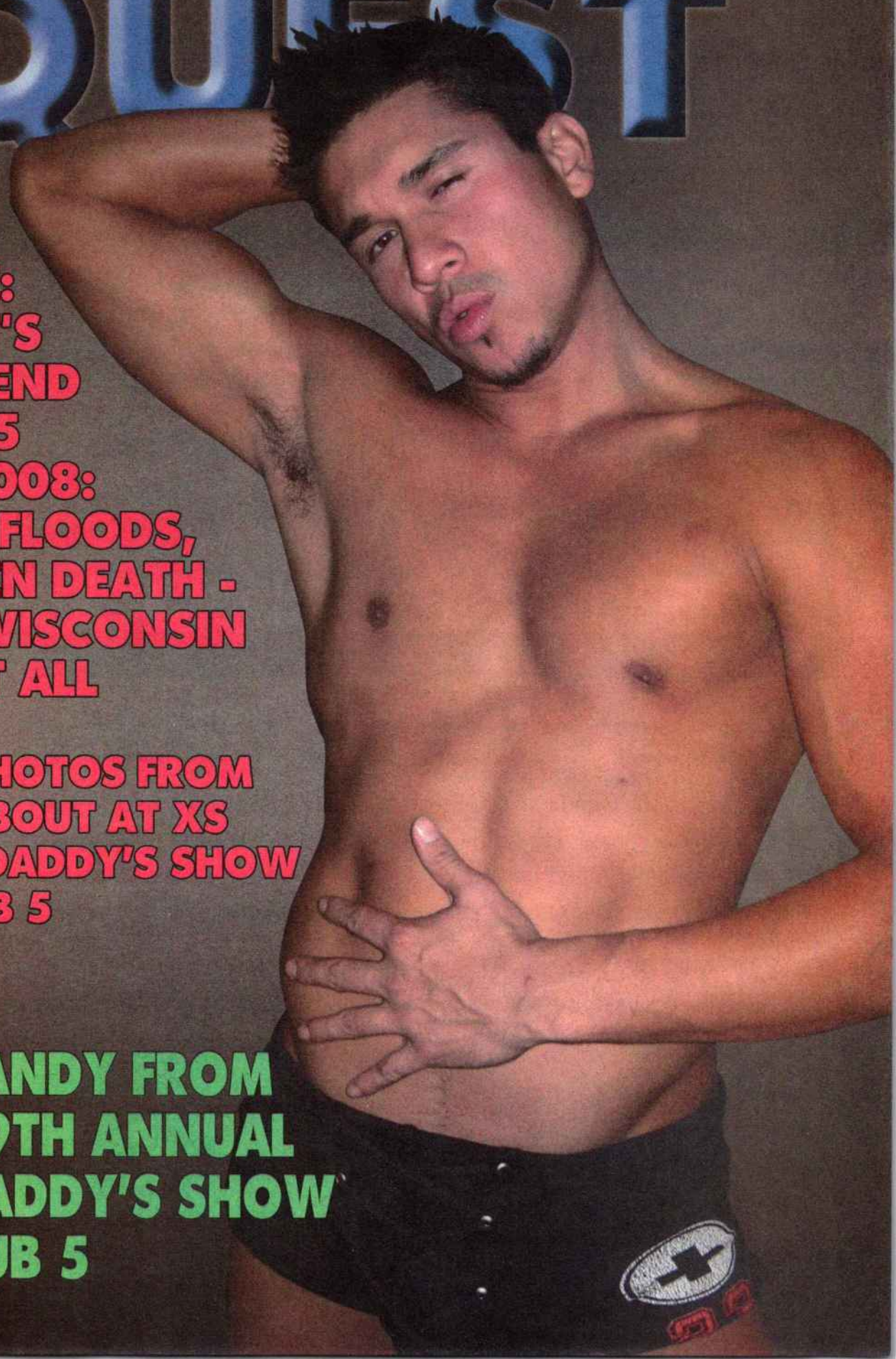


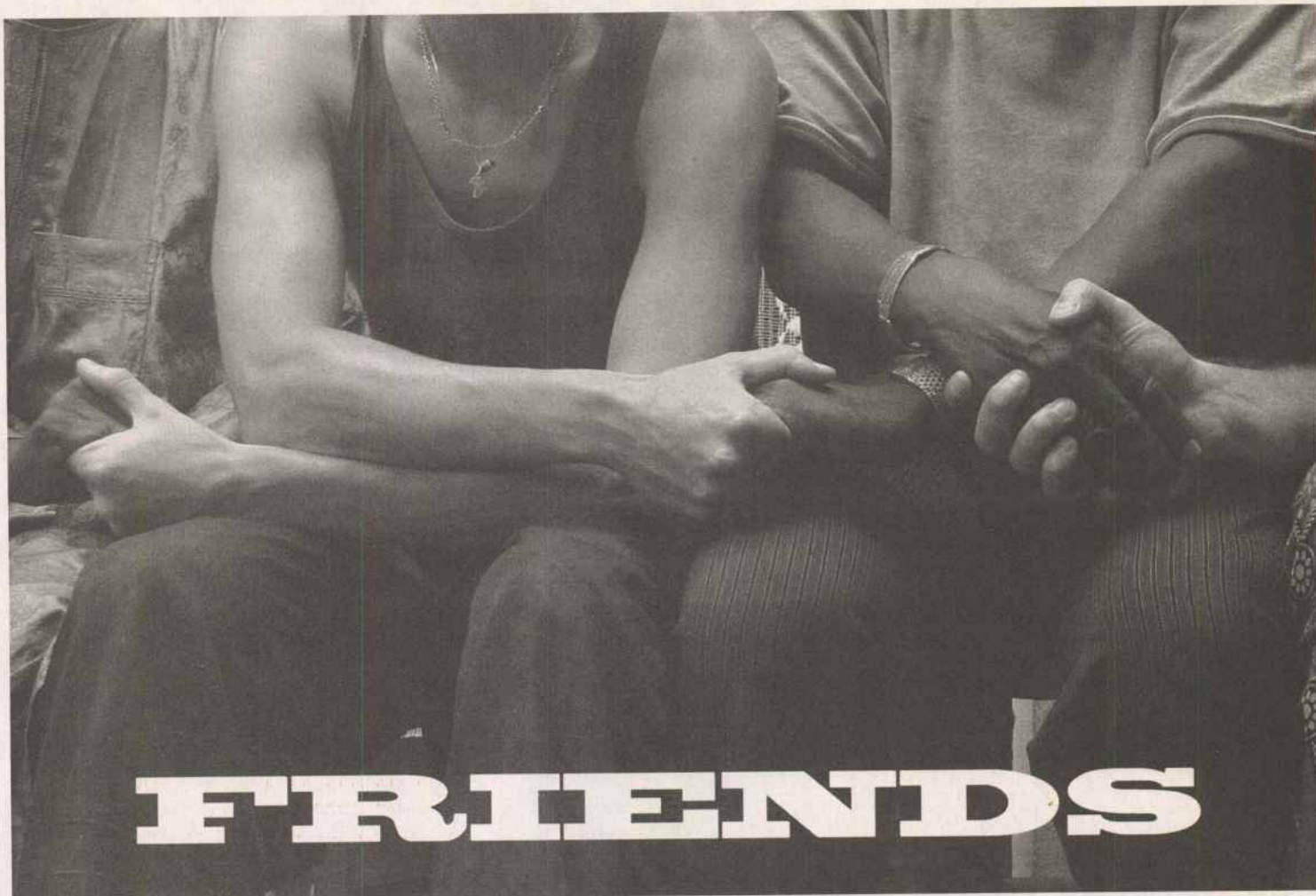
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YEAR-END
TOP 25
FOR 2008:
FIRES, FLOODS,
SUDDEN DEATH -
GAY WISCONSIN
HAD IT ALL**

**PLUS PHOTOS FROM
TURNABOUT AT XS
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Quest's End Of The Year Top 25:

Top 10 Wisconsin & National LGBT Stories Of 2008 Plus The Top 5 Predictions For 2009

By Mike Fitzpatrick

By any standard you care to choose, 2008 has turned out to be a stunning year for everyone. From last winter's record-setting Wisconsin snowfalls (which may yet be surpassed in 2009 if the way Old Man Winter has been blowing so far continues) and late Spring's record rainfalls and flooding, to the dizzying highs at the gas pump to the breath-taking lows on Wall Street this year has been one for the record books.

Politically the longest primary season in U.S. history was followed by the most expensive presidential campaign every tallied. In California, gay marriage was granted in May and taken away just six months later - another first for the LGBT community. For Wisconsin's queer community it was quite a year as well, filled with fire, flood, history-making success and sudden death.

For our final issue of 2008, *Quest* takes a look back to the top 10 Wisconsin and national stories plus our top five predictions for the coming year.

Top 10 Wisconsin Stories Of 2008

1. Fairness Wins In Wisconsin. On November 4 a combination of Barack Obama's coat tails and savvy progressive organizing, including efforts by Fair Wisconsin and Center Advocates, resulted in the Democrats taking the majority of the Wisconsin State Assembly for the first time since 1994. Moreover, it marked the first time since 1986 that pro-LGBT equality majorities exist in both houses of the Legislature and an openly pro-gay chief executive lives in the Governor's Mansion. Though the budget-busting 5.2 billion dollar state deficit and the ever deepening recession that face the new leadership may dampen enthusiasm for pro-gay initiatives, for the first time in over two decades Wisconsin's LGBT civil rights leaders will not work in "reactive mode" to anti-gay legislative assaults - for the next two years at least.

Due in large part for his efforts in coordinating the Democrats' Assembly take back, openly-gay Madison Assembly Representative Mark Pocan also has emerged as one of Wisconsin's most powerful political leaders. His recent appointment to a top budget post on the legislature's Joint Finance Committee could result in more friendly response to a long sought-after package for UW-Madison (and possibly

system-wide) employees: domestic partner benefits for committed but unmarried couples, including same-sex partners.

Increased gay leadership in a receptive political environment, thankful for gay activist organizing helping to win eleven Assembly and four Senate seats in the last two election cycles makes this Wisconsin's biggest gay story for 2008.



2. Patrick Flaherty Loses His Milwaukee Aldermanic Bid By Just 71 Votes. He appeared to have the momentum. He had finished first in the eight-way February primary. He had endorsements galore, ranging from Mayor Tom Barrett to the *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel* and *Shepherd Express*. He had strong financial support and volunteers from all walks of life making calls and knocking on door all over the 3rd District. But in a heartbreakingly close April 1 defeat, openly-gay political activist and non-profit manager Patrick Flaherty lost his bid to become the city's first-ever openly-gay alderman by just 71 votes.

Winning candidate Nik Kovac tallied 4,292 ballots for 50.2% of the vote, according to official results. Flaherty received 4,221 votes for 49.4%, with 37 write-in votes also cast. Overall turnout also may have hurt Flaherty, who had won 4,167 votes (31.8%) of the more than 13,000 cast in the February 19 primary that also included the hotly-contested

Democratic Presidential race between Barack Obama and Hillary Clinton. Kovac scored 3,406 votes (26%) in the winter vote.

Flaherty was also likely hurt when Sura Faraj, an openly-lesbian candidate who failed to make the primary cut in the 3rd District, threw her support to Kovac. Faraj had questioned Flaherty's openness about his sexuality in his campaign materials during the primary.

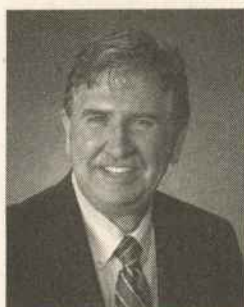
However, Flaherty's record of successes in securing greater equality for the LGBT community both in Milwaukee and statewide will be a legacy few other activists anywhere in Wisconsin will be able to match. In addition to his years in HIV/AIDS work at the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin, Flaherty was a leading force behind the establishment of the City of Milwaukee's domestic partnership registry and the expansion of equal rights to the city's transgendered employees. As the one-time lead figure at Center Advocates, he helped co-found the Fair Wisconsin "No On The amendment" campaign and in securing the Milwaukee Common Council's endorsement of a "no" vote on the ballot measure to ban civil unions and gay marriage in 2006.

3. Full Financial Equality: Economic Downturn Hits Gay Organizations Too. It was not until after the presidential election that government officials admitted the United States had been in an economic recession since December 2007. But even before the mid-September Wall Street meltdown, sharp-eyed observers knew something was up among the state's gay not-for-profits and businesses even if they weren't necessarily admitting their problems openly and directly.

Things began when, after 24 years, one of the oldest "mom & pop" video stores in the Midwest, the gay-friendly RSE Video Discount Superstore, 118 E. Dakota St. in Bay View, closed its doors at the end of April. Changes in the industry and franchise competition were blamed.

However, not-for-profits showed more widespread signs of distress. In late Spring, the website for LGBT Center of The Chippewa Valley went dark, followed by a mid-year board at the Eau-Claire based organization. In a span of less than two months beginning in June, the Milwaukee LGBT Center announced then

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retracted the hiring of Milwaukee activist Paul Williams as communications director, followed closely by the severance of ties with its 501(c)4 arm - Center Advocates - in a move to focus more tightly on its core mission. August and September saw sub-par fundraising for both AIDS Network's ACT IV AIDS Ride and ARCW's annual AIDS Walk Wisconsin, with the latter down by a staggering 21%.

November's "An Evening With Rainbow Over Wisconsin" signature fundraiser saw an estimated 30% drop in revenue for the northeast Wisconsin-based charitable foundation. And, in what was reported as a last minute decision, soft ad sales and unpaid advertiser commitments made December's issue of *Queer Life - Quest's* Milwaukee-based friendly competitor for the last four years - its last.

Gay bars and businesses also have been reporting slackening sales "off the record" for most of the year. The results of holiday shopping season may be the final make-or-break for several.

Belt-tightening continues at most LGBT-supportive institutions around the state as the year ends. *Quest* encourages its readers to support their favorite gay businesses or not-for-profit groups. Donations made to non-profits between now and the end of the year will in most cases be tax-deductible.

4. Northeast Wisconsin's Pride Alive Sparks In An Off Year For Gay Pride. Perhaps it was the economy, or perhaps it's because some feel the need for gay pride may be *passé*. In the case of PrideFest, it was the worst weather in the festival's history. But this year was definitely a downer for most of Wisconsin's gay pride events - except in northeast Wisconsin, where Pride Alive broke records for both attendance and gay visibility in that part of the state.

On paper, Milwaukee PrideFest's "coming of age" party certainly looked to be shaping up as its most star-studded and successful ever. That is until the rains came - and came and came and came.

About 90 minutes before the gates opened for PrideFest 2008 on June 6 workers putting the final touches on the 21st annual festival at the Henry B. Maier Summerfest grounds scurried for cover in response to an ear-deafening tornado siren located just a few yards from the Miller Stage. It was an omen that ended up characterizing the weekend.

Record-breaking weather generated by three successive days of multiple storms battered southern Wisconsin June 6-8, caused widespread flash flooding,

popped manhole covers throughout downtown Milwaukee, collapsed two buildings four blocks from the city's gay district and stranded hundreds of motorists across the metro area. Governor Jim Doyle later declared disaster areas in 30 counties across the state.

The PrideFest grounds certainly appeared to qualify. Only one of PrideFest's three headline shows went off without a weather-related hitch: Wanda Sykes' pre-coming out party June 6. Weather was also kind for the two hours it took 48-unit Milwaukee's Gay Pride parade to march down the city's gay district, in part to the beat of the event's first ever marching band: the Pioneer Drum and Bugle Corps and Color Guard.

July's Pride Alive event in Green Bay was an all-together different story. Attendance at northeast Wisconsin's revitalized pride celebration exceeded organizers' expectations with between 2000 to 2500 taking part the day-long festival held at Joannes Park July 12.

The crowd was very mixed both in age and sexual orientation. Many couples, both straight and gay, pushed strollers and stopped by the children's area for face painting and other kids' activities.

"This is a very impressive," guest speaker and former Chief Financial Officer for the Human Rights Campaign Harvey Hurdle told *Quest*. "So many of the pride events in larger cities focus on the partying nowadays. But what's happening here in Green Bay today really demonstrates just how far we've come with all segments of the community coming together in celebration of both our diversity and our commonality."

Pride Alive was truly the most dramatic rise from the ashes in 2008. Only 50 people had attended the NEW pride picnic a year earlier. The picnic had been canceled all together in 2006 due to a snafu in obtaining the required licenses necessary to serve beer.

One week later it was "Back To Basics" for the 2008 edition of Madison Pride. Alleged financial mismanagement by Madison Pride's former treasurer discovered earlier in the year had left organizers with no funds to produce a more elaborate event. Hundreds rather than thousands showed up for the 19th Annual Rally and March at the Capitol. Sunny skies and a few protesters greeted slightly over 200 people at the rally.

August events also were less well attended than in previous years. Central Wisconsin Pride had a country fair flair, though the 250 who attended was about half of the previous year's turnout. Eau Claire's Unity Picnic, LaCrosse's "Live, Love, Be Proud Of Your Colors" pride event and Milwaukee Black Pride were scaled-back versions of previous years' festivities.

Only Twin Ports Pride in Duluth-Superior, the longest-running pride event in the Badger State, saw a modest expansion among Wisconsin's established pride traditions.

5. Domestic Partnerships Gain Recognition Across Wisconsin. Despite the 2006 passage of the Constitutional amendment that banned legal recognition of all unmarried couples' relationships, domestic partnerships made a bit of a comeback in 2008 with three notable achievements: a statewide law, a benefit package for some of the employees of the state's largest school district and a county-wide partnership registry.

In April Wisconsin has joined 20 other states and shortly will offer a standardized, legally enforceable form that will allow a person to state their final wishes and name a personal representative to handle their execution. AB305 also known as the Final Rights Bill, was approved by the State Senate January 15. Following concurrence, the bill was submitted March 4 to Governor Jim Doyle who approved it a day later. The bill became law March 18 with an effective enforcement date of April 1.

The law directed the Wisconsin Dept. Of Health and Family Services (DHFS) to develop a document similar to the current health care power of attorney and living will documents. Individuals now are able to list their preferences for final disposition of their remains and name any individual with whom they have a personal relationship as the personal representative to carry out their wishes as feasible. Same sex and other unmarried couples became able to name their partners if they so choose.

On September 24, An effort that began more than a year ago to give domestic partners of Milwaukee Public Schools (MPS) employees the same standing for fringe benefits as employees' wives or husbands moved forward when the School Board's finance committee voted 3-2 to support the measure. The MPS finance committee voted 4-1 subsequently voted in November to provide the benefits.

The committee's decision moved the resolution to be voted on by the MPS board of Education where it is expected to pass. MPS will then become the fifth district in Wisconsin to provide benefits for unmarried families. Districts already providing such benefits are Madison, Middleton, Sun Prairie and La Crosse.

In December Dane County residents became able to officially register their domestic partnerships with the



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county. The domestic-partnership registry was approved when the Dane County Board passed an ordinance establishing the program last September. According to the ordinance, companies working for the county on contracts worth at least \$5,000 must offer health benefits to their employees' domestic partners, whether of they are same or opposite sex couples.

6. Fires Strike Two Notable Gay Landmarks.

The furies that unleashed the rainstorms in June and the financial storms in September chose to reign fire on two notable gay landmarks during July and August.

A mid-afternoon fire severely damaged the home of former *Wisconsin Light* publisher Jerry Johnson July 12. According to Johnson, the blaze started in the master bedroom, traveled up the walls to the attic, and engulfed the roof of the turn-of-the-century brick edifice located on Milwaukee's Brewer's Hill.

Johnson and his late partner Dr. Terry Boughner produced the *Wisconsin Light* at the house for most of its years of publication. They also had had retained multiple complete sets of the newspaper in all of its three configurations. Johnson and Boughner also had amassed an extensive collection of African art and LGBT-themed movie posters and other memorabilia. Fortunately none of the valuables were lost.

A late afternoon fire caused serious damage to Stevens Point's gay Club Night Out on August 16. A passerby noticed the fire just before 5 PM and called emergency responders. The building was unoccupied at the time of the blaze.

The greatest damage to the nearly century old wood-frame structure occurred in the second floor living quarters, where the fire appeared to have started. The main bar area also suffered smoke and water damage. Local authorities did not estimate the loss or damage to the building. Though a planned September polka benefit for the bar fell through, owners Dan Wrycha and Scott Sohn vowed to be back once all the insurance matters were settled and contractors could be hired.

7. Openly Lesbian Carolyn "Biddy" Martin Named UW-Madison Chancellor. In September Carolyn "Biddy" Martin became the new chancellor at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, in the process making the school the largest university with an openly gay leader in the United States.

Prior to her new post Martin had been Provost and a professor of women's and German studies at New

York's Cornell University since 2000. Martin also authored the influential 1995 book "Femininity Played Straight: The Significance of Being Lesbian," in which Duke University reviewer Carolyn Dever believed Martin laid "a powerful claim to the complex significations of the feminine."

UW System spokesman David Giroux said Martin's sexual orientation was not a factor in her appointment, which was confirmed by the Board of Regents in early June. "What she is, in our eyes, is an exceptionally qualified academic leader. Period," Giroux said. "And she was brought here so she can apply that considerable experience to our flagship campus and move us forward in areas of education and research."

8. SSBL Milwaukee Wins 2009 World Series Bid.

In the predawn hours of February 1 in a driving snow storm, members of Milwaukee's Saturday Softball League (SSBL) Gay Softball World Series Bid Committee made their way to General Mitchell International Airport for an early flight to Seattle, Washington. Their itinerary: to attend the North American Gay Amateur Athletic Association (NAGAAA) World Series Bid Conference. Their mission - to present SSBL's bid and bring the 2009 Gay Softball World Series (GSWS) to Milwaukee - was successful. The NAGAAA Fest 2009 Gay Softball World Series will be held in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, August 31 through September 5.

The Cream City's affordability, SSBL's organizational experience, and Milwaukee Mayor Tom Barrett's support were all key in winning the hosting duties for the "Fun & Friends First"-themed event over the Milwaukee group's major Midwest rival: the Chicago Metropolitan Sports Association.

9. Vic Milford's Murder Gets Walker's Point Neighborhood Increased Police Attention.

The tragic January murder of 43 year-old gay Miller Brewing Company executive Lodewikus "Vic" Milford initially left the city's Walker's Point neighborhood unsettled. The killing, which occurred after two members of the Latin Kings street gang robbed Milford and three female coworkers of their wallets and purses, also has focused attention on what residents and business owners believed was a long-ignored pattern of increased property and personal crime that has been ignored by the city's police department.

The city responded with stepped-up patrols that saw overall crime in the area subsequently plummet. In July, calling the crime a "terroristic act," Milwau-

kee County Circuit Judge Jeffrey Wagner sentenced 21 year old Miguel "Wicked" Ayala to life in prison without the chance of parole. Wagner also tacked on an additional 50 years in prison for the robberies Ayala had committed.

10. Passings: Club 5's Ed Gruenwald, Show-girl Kitanah Kim.

Sudden deaths took the lives of two well known figures in the state's LGBT community in 2008.

Veteran gay activist and Club 5 founder Ed Gruenwald died following a brief battle pancreatic cancer. The 58 year-old Gruenwald succumbed April 21, less than three weeks after being diagnosed with the disease.

Following the loss of the Washington Hotel complex, Gruenwald had opened Club 5 in 1998 on Madison's southwest side. He previously had owned Manoeuvres, a smaller gay club in the former Wilson Hotel. He also owned one of the first gay pride stores in Madison, We Are Family, on the city's east side. Gruenwald was also a longtime sponsor of the Madison Gay Softball (now SSBL-Madison) and involved with the MAGIC Picnic and Madison Pride.

On December 6, popular western Wisconsin female impersonator and pageant promoter Kitanah Kim died in a auto accident in Roseville, Minnesota. Miss Kim had just assumed sponsorship of the Mr. and Miss Chippewa Valley USofA preliminary pageants and was about to complete a degree in Psychology at UW-Stout at the time of death. Kitanah's full obituary is published in the State News section of this issue.

Top 10 National Stories

1. Passage of California Proposition 8 Sets Off "Stonewall 2.0" Anti-gay marriage ballot measures have been passing for most of the first decade of the 21st century, so when three more got voter approval last November 4, it first seemed like the same old story to pundits and even some leaders of the gay activist establishment. What happened next, however, wasn't expected: a grassroots reaction that saw over 100,000 people protest in over 300 cities across the United States less than two weeks after the vote with a resultant surge in overall support for legalizing same sex unions nationwide.

California's Proposition 8 was not just another exercise in anti-gay symbolism. Most other measures - including the two just passed in Arizona and Florida - have just confirmed constitutionally what

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was already illegal by legislative fiat. California's measure, later found to be overwhelmingly supported by the economically and educationally disadvantaged, took away an already existing right for gay couples to wed. More significantly, it jeopardized the validity of 18,000 legal marriages performed between the state's high court decision last May and election day.

Massive protest demonstrations in California immediately following the vote coalesced into a coordinated international movement just days later, thanks to the social networking skills of Seattle lesbian blogger Amy Balliet. Within a week the "gay for pay" activist establishment was struggling to keep up and ally with the rapidly burgeoning Joint The Impact movement.

The coordinated protests - including at least 7 in Wisconsin involving over 1,000 people - drew mainstream media attention to the gay marriage issue in a way not seen previously. Two weeks later a *Newsweek* survey showed that the unscripted personal stories and the ad hoc visibility angle of the low-budget November 15 protests had accomplished what millions of dollars and focus group-shaped professional media messages over many months had failed to do: move mainstream national opinion sharply in favor of legalizing same-sex unions.

Though subsequent Join the Impact actions have been better promoted than attended - the gay food drive for faith-based food banks and "A Day Without A Gay" both fizzled - the ability of one person to both capture both the widespread interest and support of grassroots volunteers and coordinate a sophisticated, visible national response in just a matter of days using the Internet and fairly simple software has put activists on all sides of the gay marriage and other hot button issues on notice: there is a new force to be reckoned with, and is one that may be beyond any establishment control. What some are calling "Stonewall 2.0" and its coming aftershocks is the top national gay story of 2008.

2. Gay Marriage Moves Decisively Forward.

Despite the seeming setbacks at the ballot box in three states last November, the gay marriage issue overall found a lot of traction in 2008. Supreme Court rulings in California and Connecticut eloquently stated the "equal protection under the law" case for civilly recognizing same sex unions. The fact that the coming Prop 8 lawsuits will land in front of the same mostly Republican-appointed California High Court that six months earlier invalidated the earlier Proposition 22 make the ore recent referendum's future appear more dimmer than bright.

Additionally, New York Governor David Patterson's May 28 decision to accept out-of state gay marriages as valid in the Empire State followed the beginning of civil unions in New Hampshire last January and preceded a New Jersey commission's December 10 recommendation that the Garden State scrap its current civil unions bill in favor of full civil marriage. At year's end, Maine was gearing up for a full gay marriage battle in 2009.

As 2008 comes to a close two states - Massachusetts and Connecticut - permit same sex marriages. Gay and lesbian civil unions are legally recognized in New Hampshire, New Jersey and Vermont, while Oregon, Washington, Hawaii, the District of Columbia and Maine have domestic-partnership laws granting gay couples varying degrees of spousal rights.

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3. Only 2.9% of Americans Are Gay, According To the Nation's Largest LGBT Civil Rights Group. In this down economy, is it also time to mark down all the Ten Percent Societies around the country? A poll sponsored by the Human Rights Campaign and conducted by Hunter College released its results last April and found that only 2.9% of Americans older than 18 identify as gay, lesbian or bisexual.

The poll's authors claimed the study provided the most comprehensive and truly representative picture of the lesbian, gay, and bisexual population to date because it was specifically designed for the that group. Transgender individuals were not included because, to date, their numbers are too few to provide a statistically accurate representation.

The poll also found that gay people are both younger

and more politically active than their straight counterparts. Issues of concern are divided by age with younger gay people seeking marriage and adoption rights while older gay Americans advocate for anti-discrimination and anti-violence laws.

4. CDC Admits: 40% More HIV/AIDS Cases Than Previously Reported.

The number of Americans infected by the AIDS virus each year is much higher than the government has been estimating, U.S. health officials at the Centers for Disease Control admitted in a report issued last August. The United States actually had roughly 56,300 new HIV infections in 2006 - a dramatic increase from the 40,000 annual estimate used for the last dozen years. Also dramatic: the rapidly decreasing age of the newly-infected and the double-digit resurgence of

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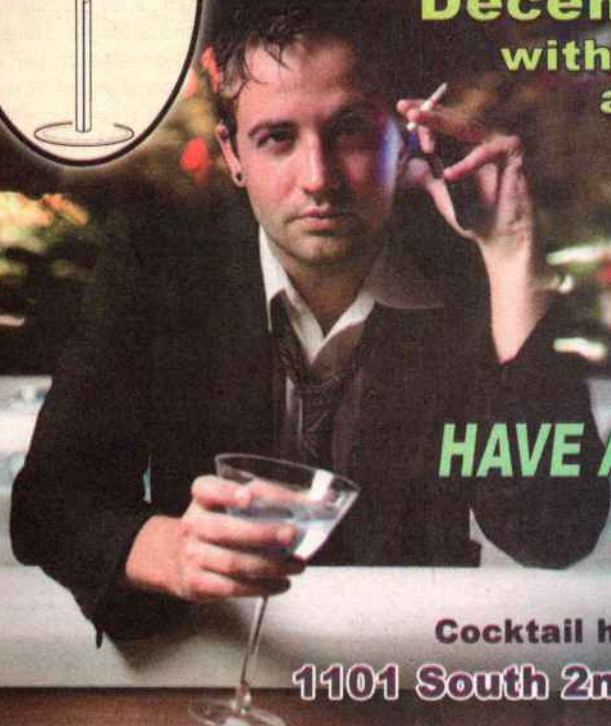
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HIV among gay men aged 25 and under.

The CDC undercount was the most surprising of developments in the HIV/AIDS field. Other eyebrow-raisers: the revelation that a German man may have been cured of HIV through a bone marrow stem cell transplant last July; a Swiss study released last February that suggested in certain cases seropositive couples whose viral loads were fully suppressed by AIDS medication might engage in condom-free sex; and the October recommendation by the CDC that so-called AIDS "cocktail" treatment should begin earlier in patients whose T-cell counts drop below 500, rather than the previously recommended 350. Studies suggest the new treatment recommendation could extend longevity in HIV+ patients seven-fold.

5. Execution-Style School Shooting Of Gay Teen Shocks Nation. The February 12 shooting of diminutive 15 year-old junior high school student Larry King by a fellow classmate in Oxnard, California sent shockwaves across the country similar to those that followed the murder of Matthew Shepard a decade earlier. Details of how 14 year-old Brandon McInerney coolly pulled out a handgun, shot King in the head, was briefly interrupted by his teacher before getting off a second round, then walking calmly out the door of the classroom after dropping the weapon swirled through news stories, opinion pieces and blogs, focusing attention on the ever-lessening age of coming out, now commonly happening almost concurrently with the heterosexual awakening of much of America's pre-teens.

King's death from his wounds two days later sparks vigils and marches nationwide as well as diversity education legislation in King's home state.

McInerney was subsequently charged as an adult with premeditated murder and a hate crime. He has pleaded not guilty to both charges. On December 9 he was found competent to stand trial with a preliminary hearing set for January 2009.

6. One Gay Adoption Ban Voided, Another Passes. A Florida law that blocked gay people from adopting children was declared unconstitutional by a Miami judge November 25. Circuit Judge Cindy Lederman said the 31-year-old law violates equal protection rights for the children and their prospective gay parents, rejecting the state's arguments that there is "a supposed dark cloud hovering over homes of homosexuals and their children."

Lederman noted that gay people are allowed to be foster parents in Florida. "There is no rational basis to prohibit gay parents from adopting," she wrote in a 53-page ruling. Florida had been the only state with an outright ban on gay adoption.

Earlier in the month, however, Arkansas voters approved a measure similar to a law in Utah that bans any unmarried straight or gay couples from adopting or fostering children. Mississippi also bans gay couples, but not single gay men and women, from adopting.

7. Most Outrageous Anti-Gay Bigot of 2008: Sally Kern. Though many may vie for the coveted-honor of being the most outrageous anti-gay personage in any given year, sometimes a con-

testant comes completely out of left, er, right field. That certainly seems to be the case of Republican Oklahoma City state representative Sally Kern, whose YouTube performance last March mixed terrorism, pedophilia and societal decay into a tantalizingly brief sound bite.

"Studies show that no society that has totally embraced homosexuality has lasted more than, you know, a few decades. So it's the death knell of this country," Kern said, apparently unaware that her remarks were being recorded. "I honestly think it's the biggest threat our nation has, even more so than terrorism or Islam — which I think is a big threat, okay? Cause what's happening now is they are going after, in schools, two-year olds...And this stuff is deadly, and it's spreading, and it will destroy our young people, it will destroy this nation."

Kern stuck to her story, claiming that "I said nothing that was not true" and refused to apologize, triggering competing demonstrations for and against her at the state capitol.

But the best twist was not Ellen DeGeneres' on-air attempt to talk with Kern. It was the revelation by several classmates that her son was most likely gay.

8. Passings Of Note: Del Martin And Jesse Helms. One was a true hero of the gay civil rights movement. The other was - well - not.

Just two months after achieving a life-long dream, the legal marriage to Phyllis Lyon - her partner of 55 years - lesbian rights pioneer Del Martin, whose trail blazing activism spanned more than a half century, died August 27 at a San Francisco hospice. She was 87.

Martin began her crusade for lesbian equality in 1955 by co-founding the a lesbian social-turned-political organization Daughters of Bilitis. The organization started a newsletter, called *The Ladder*, which grew into a magazine focused on lesbian politics and culture for nearly two decades prior to Stonewall.

In 1972 Martin co-founded with Lyon the Alice B. Toklas Democratic Club, the first gay political club in the United States. Martin also helped spearhead a successful campaign to get the American Psychiatric Association to remove homosexuality from its roster of mental illnesses in 1973.

A month earlier as most in America celebrated their freedom July 4, one of the nation's best known obstacles to full equality for African-Americans, women, gay folks and those struggling to live with HIV/AIDS breathed his last. Former North Carolina Republican Senator Jesse Helms passed away at a nursing home in Raleigh at age 86.

Fondly remembered by America's right wing as "Senator No" for his lifelong opposition to civil rights for just about any group you care to name during his six terms in the Senate, Helms was instrumental in slowing the U. S. response to AIDS in the mid-to-late 1980's because some interventions might "promote homosexuality." Though late in his career he actually advocated for increased funding for HIV after meeting and becoming friends with U2 singer Bono, Helms' legacy is largely viewed negatively by most in the LGBT community.

Unlike many of those HIV sufferers whose lives he likely shortened by his actions, Helms died peacefully of natural causes.

9. Reality TV Gets Just A Little Too Gay. America's ongoing love affair with low-budget and supposedly unscripted "reality" television shows took a decidedly gay twist in 2008 with contestants tumbling out of the closet on some of the country's most popular shows.

In January, former U.S. Marine contestant Militia on the second season of NBC's *American Gladiators* certainly looked familiar to a lot of gay viewers for some reason. Gay bloggers quickly pointed out the hunky Cuban-born Alex Castro - Militia's real name - had once worked a Colt studios porn star under the name Elian Cortez.

Last February on *Big Brother 9: Till Death Do Us Part*, supposedly straight contestant James Zinkland entered the house looking for his true love. That was until the Dirty Boy Video website proclaimed Zinkland was also their Mohawk-wearing, heavily tattooed gay porn star "Crazy James."

A month later the top-rated *American Idol* struggled with not one, but two gay surprises. First, 24 year-old David Hernandez was to reveal a talent other than singing. He once worked as a stripper at a Phoenix night club called Dick's Cabaret, where he appeared fully nude and performed lap dances for the club's "mostly male" clientele, according to club manager Gordy Bryan. Hernandez wasn't disqualified but he also didn't make the Final Eight which would have guaranteed him a spot on the reality show's nationally touring show of *Idol* stars.

American Idol's pert Ramiele Malubay also was discovered to have a photo that showed her partying with friends. The problem was that her breasts were being groped by some of her female friends. Two separate girlfriends each had their hands on her breasts in the blurry black and white shot. Malubay also had her mouth open in a faux shocked look. The Saudi Arabia-born sweetie also missed the Final Eight cut however.

10. Most Over-Exposed Supposedly Gay Celebrity: Lindsay Lohan. 2008 continued the now long-in-the-tooth trend of alleged outings in the gossip media of various celebrities as gay. Last August Clay Aiken puffed up and shared he was a daddy - well, surrogate style that is - before dropping all pretenses, coming out and subsequently lusting after fellow Broadway dancer Reed Kelly of *Wicked*, even as Clay was tap dancing down the street in *Spamalot*. Not to be outdone, fellow fey songbird Ricky Martin showed off his twin bon bons, er, babies for *People En Espanol* in late November.

But the hands down winner of most over-exposed allegedly gay celebrity of 2008 belongs to Lindsay Lohan and her year-long but now-shelved Sapphic relationship with club DJ Sam Ronson. After a few months of - peek-a-boo candids last Spring, Lindsay "came out" then stepped onto bisexual street, with her daddy denying the entire thing as merely a phase. However, shortly after a guest star stint on the *trés gay Ugly Betty*, Lohan dumped Sam and is now moving on to... well, who really cares? Perhaps a monastery in Tibet to enter treatment for Michael Jackson Syndrome?

continues

Quest's Top 5 Predictions For 2009

Before looking at our new predictions let's see how we did in 2008. Here were the five forecasts:

1. Milwaukee Will Elect Its First Openly-Gay Alder. It didn't happen. Despite the odds, for at one point three gay candidates - Patrick Flaherty, Sura Faraj and Michael LaForest - were running, the stars did not align in the Cream City last April. Though it was exceptionally close: Flaherty lost by just 77 votes.

2. The Marriage Ban Ballot Lawsuit Will Falter. That it did. UW-Oshkosh professor William McConkey's do-it-yourself lawsuit to overturn Wisconsin's so-called "Marriage Protection" amendment briefly gained a bit of traction in late 2007 when Dane County Circuit Court Judge Richard Neiss ruled the "one question" argument deserved further study. However on May 30 Neiss ruled that the November 2006 civil unions and gay marriage ban referendum did not violate the single-subject rule of Article 12, Section 1 of the Wisconsin Constitution. McConkey later appealed Neiss' ruling and at year's end Attorney General J. B. Van Hollen had issued the state's defense of the referendum question to the Appeals Court. Though it's not over yet, the case is likely to share the fate of similar suits ultimately thrown out in Georgia and Kentucky.

3. The Wisconsin State Legislature Will Remain Divided. Wrong. The Obama wave crashed through the Wisconsin Assembly washing six Republicans out of office, with a little help from Wisconsin's gay civil rights organizations.

4. Democrats Retain Congressional Control. Oh yes, and then some, although the economic forecast we used to suggest a closer race was off. Instead, the economy slipped right past recession to what may be the point of depression and Republicans took the brunt of the blame. Gains in the House were

more modest than in the Senate, where at year's end it appeared the Democrats were just one vote shy of a supermajority.

5. President Obama. Not only did we pick the winner, we also had alluded that John McCain would be the most likely GOP nominee at a time when both the presidential races were wide open. If you have to nail it, nail it well!

Three out of five again! My psychic batting average continues to be far better than my dear departed prognosticating idol Jeanne Dixon's less than 5% accuracy ratio. So, once again dabbing on a bit of her brilliant red lip polish, here are my predictions for 2009:

1. The UW System Will Finally Get Domestic Partner Benefits. Despite the increased cost in sour economy, benefits parity with the rest of the Big Ten and faculty retention are the arguments that will win - not to mention Democrat majorities in both houses of the Legislature to grease the process to get the package to the desk of on-record supportive Governor Doyle. My guess is that the benefits will be bundled in the biennial budget bill, something that is also likely to pass on time for the first time in memory. I also had made this prediction (then inaccurately) for 2007 but this time around my confidence is 90%.

2. The California Supreme Court Will Void Proposition 8. Speaking of reruns, this is also a variation of another failed 2007 forecast. This time, however, I believe that my promise of a pro-gay ruling that will likely set up a federal case on same-sex marriage will happen because literally 18,000 gay couples' marital lives were directly impacted by the passing of Prop 8 last November. The Court will rule by the end of the year and in those couples' favor, though the reasoning will be more technical this time - lack of legislative review on this basic civil rights

issue. My confidence here is 80%.

3. For 2009, it's the economy stupid - not gay civil rights. President-elect Obama has already signaled as much to our community, by suggesting through his transition team that gay issues, like "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" for example, will not get reviewed until 2010. With economists and even Vice President-elect Biden whispering the "D-word," Obama will have no choice but to focus on all things economic in his first year in the White House in 2009. Gay civil rights issues are going to get very short shrift. Look also to history - the Great Depression - to confirm that when basic life security issues like food, shelter and income are threatened, progress on less tangible issues like civil rights equality make little if no progress. Expect platitudes, not progress federally in 2009. My confidence here is 80%.

4. Obama Will Get To Nominate At Least Two Supreme Court Judges. The liberal wing of the nation's high court has held on through eight years of social conservatism. They're old and, in some cases, ill. At least two - most likely John Paul Stevens, who turns 89 in April, and cancer survivor Ruth Bader Ginsburg, who turns 75 a month earlier - will seek to respectfully bow out at the end of the current court term next June. My confidence here is 70%.

5. Cold Economic Climate Causes Consolidation Or Collapse. The scramble is already on for increasingly scarce donor dollars for not-for-profit groups of all stripes, including those with rainbow colors. Gay groups with overlapping and redundant missions will either fight it out with the losers closing their doors, or find a way to combine their efforts for the greater gay good. Look for at least one organization shuttering and one merger nationally - possibly in Wisconsin as well - in 2009. My confidence here is 70%

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- Immunizations
- STD diagnosis and treatment

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- Fillings, crowns, bridges and dentures
- Root canal therapy
- Scalings and root planing
- Screening for oral cancer

MENTAL HEALTH CLINIC

- Screening and diagnosis of mental health conditions
- Individual and group therapy
- Couples therapy
- Crisis intervention
- Neuropsychological testing
- Complementary services



John Fangman, MD



Iram Nadeem, MD



Christine Hogan, MD



Sharon O'Dwyer, APNP



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Steve Debbink, DDS



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RACINE LGBT CENTER GETS PERMITS TO OPEN

Racine - A proposed new LGBT community center on the city's north side was given the go-ahead here December 16, when the city council approved a conditional use permit by a 9-4 vote. The vote came following public comment from both supporters and opponents of the center, with the latter apparently stirred up by inflammatory reporting on the proposed center by an out-of-town religious broadcaster.

As a result of the council's decision, Carthage College professor Bruce Joffe will be able to remodel the building at 1456 Junction Ave. in the city's proposed Uptown Artist Relocation District into the LGBT Center of SE Wisconsin.

Joffe focused on his plans for the center during his comments. The center will offer films, speakers, reading groups, HIV testing and counseling, art shows and domestic violence workshops, he noted.

Opponents to the center focused on the affront the building apparently will pose to their chosen fundamentalist religious beliefs. "This is something Racine doesn't need," Renee Muller told the aldermen. "We need to show love to these people through Christ. We do not need a center like this."

Another opponent attempted to threaten the council with the "wrath of God." "The way you vote, you will have to answer to the lord," Julie Lema warned.

Milwaukee-based "Christian" radio and television outfit WVCY filmed portions of the public comments.

Supporters also had their say. Among them was Sister Truly Fierce of the Abbey of the Brew City Sisters, an offshoot of San Francisco's Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence, and local resident Shannon Jones. Jones told

council members that had an LGBT center existed in Racine while he was in high school, he would not have felt so isolated.

After an unsuccessful attempt to table the resolution, the council voted in favor of granting the permit. According to Joffe, work will begin on the building's renovation in January for a projected April 2009 opening. For more information about the new center visit online at: www.lgbtsewisc.org

FELICIA MELTON-SMYTH HOLIDAY GIFT DRIVE CONCLUDES

Madison - For the fifth year, AIDS Network and the Shamrock Bar have collaborated to make the holiday season happier for children, families and persons living with HIV/AIDS in South Central Wisconsin. The gift drive is named in honor of its founder, Felicia Melton-Smyth, a longtime friend of AIDS Network who was tragically murdered while on vacation in Mexico this past spring.

As they have done each year, the Shamrock hosted a Customer Appreciation Night December 18. Woof's also similarly collected gifts and donations from its patrons the previous weekend. Additionally many individuals made donations directly to AIDS Network in Felicia Melton-Smyth's name.

On December 19 donations and gifts arrived at AIDS Network, where case management staff, assisted by more than a dozen volunteers, wrapped and coordinated distribution to clients. In 2007, over 70 families and almost 200 individuals received toys, clothing, food and other basic needs from this event.

"Felicia was the driving force behind what has become a much anticipated annual event at AIDS Network. She is greatly missed but her spirit lives on in

this worthwhile endeavor," AIDS Network Executive Director Karen Dotson said. "I want to thank everyone who donated for their generosity. It is especially gratifying and important during these challenging economic times."

With offices in Madison, Janesville and Beloit, AIDS Network is the stated-designated HIV/AIDS service provider in 13 counties. The agency offers case management, prevention and legal services. In addition to the gift drive, AIDS Network also works with food pantries and community organizations to make sure clients don't go hungry, not only during the holidays, but all year long.

ANGELS OF HOPE SETS HOLIDAY SERVICES

Green Bay - The Angels of Hope MCC, 3607 Libal St. here, has set two special services for the holiday season. On Christmas Eve, December 24 church members will gather at 7 PM for the Christmas service.

Earlier this month church leaders decided to put a twist on the traditional Nativity scene on display at the church's Green Bay site. To reflect the diversity of the congregation, a "crèche lottery" was held. Participants drew names to see which piece of the Nativity scene they would bring in. The result was a collection of large and small, wood, plastic, metal and paper figurines of people, angels or animals brought from home Nativity scenes to the church display.

However, to bring a sheep figures, congregants also needed to donate \$10 or more to the ministry's "Oh, We Like Sheep" holiday campaign. The money collected will be sent to Heifer International to buy a sheep for charity's programs to help families in poorer countries acquire animals to use for starting herds or

WISCONSIN'S #1 LGBT WEBSITE

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January 31 - White Party

February 28 - Kurtis Ryan & Friends

supplying milk, wool or other products for income. Members also had the option to designate their contribution to go toward Heifer International's programs for tree planting. (For more information about Heifer International: www.heifer.org)

Angels of Hope will also offer a New Year's Eve Service on December 31 at 6 PM. For more information about the holiday services or other church programs, contact the Angels of Hope by phone at: 920-983-7453 or online at: www.angelssofhope.org.

SHOWGIRL KITANAH KIM DIES IN AUTO ACCIDENT

Roseville, MN - Phimmanou Opboune, 29, was killed on Friday, December 6, as the result of a one-vehicle car crash here. Born July 4, 1979, in Thailand, Phimmanou was a dean's list student at the University of Wisconsin-Stout majoring in Psychology with one semester until graduation.

In the persona of Miss Kitanah Kim, he was a well-known and respected female impersonator throughout Wisconsin and Minnesota. Involved in the USofA pageant system, Kitanah had won several crowns and awards, including the Sage LaRue Miss Congeniality Award. She had most recently become the promoter for the Mr. and Miss Chippewa Valley preliminary pageants.

In the wake of her death, many nightclubs and drag families statewide have hosted benefits and tribute shows to raise funds for her family to cover funeral expenses. On January 17, 2009 the Fillmore, 310 N. 4th Street in Wausau will host "Forever Kitanah," a tribute and fundraising show in memory of this beloved performer. Kelli Jo Klein will emcee with performances by notable drag queens from all over Wisconsin. All performer's tips and cover charges will go to Opboune's family.

QUEST'S NEXT ISSUE IS JANUARY 22

Santa says we've been good, so the staff at *Quest* will be taking a well-deserved and all too-short short winter's break after this issue goes to press. Street date for our first issue of 2009 will be January 22. Deadline for ads and submissions is January 13.

Additionally QNU: *Quest* News Update will not be refreshed on January 8-9. However, both before and after, QNU will keep you up on breaking gay news in Wisconsin and the world each morning as we have for the past five years. If you haven't caught the QNU habit, join the thousands who already do each week: go to www.quest-online.com and click on the QNU button there. While you're on the *Quest* home page, why not also join us at our new social networking on Facebook. It's just a click away and easy to join if you're already a Facebook member.

And from all of us to all of you: don now your gay apparel to enjoy all the holidays of this festive season offers: Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, New Year's, Solstice and Yule (not to mention Tohji-Taisai and Gahambar of Maidyairem for our Shinto and Zoroastrian friends!)

ARE YOU QUEER ENOUGH FOR SQUARE DANCING?

Milwaukee - The Cream City Squares, Milwaukee's LGBT square dancing club, invites everyone to take their challenge: get out of the cold and into the warm world of LGBT square dancing beginning February 8. "This ain't your parent's dancing! It's high-energy stylin' and movin' to music," organizers told *Quest*.

According to the group, there are no gender roles and a dance partner isn't required. Women can "lead" and men can "follow" or vice versa. Best of all, no "silly skirts" are required. Most women and men

dance in jeans or slacks and a t-shirt.

For those whose interest may be piqued there will be a "taste of square dancing" party for newbies to LGBT square dancing on Sunday, February 8 at Lake Park Lutheran Church, beginning at 1 PM. Absolutely no previous dance experience is required. Lake Park Lutheran Church is located just west of Sendik's on Downer, 2647 N. Stowell St. Free parking is available in a city lot just north of Sendik's. Club dances at Lake Park Lutheran are smoke and alcohol-free.

If you're up to the "challenge," organizers noted, lessons will begin the following week: Sunday, February 15, at the same time and location. Cream City Squares members will teach everything a new dancer needs to know, one step at a time. Cost is \$3 per lesson. After completing 11 lessons, dancers will be able to dance with other people throughout the world, including a few thousand LGBT folks in the US, Canada, and Japan. Fiver square dance groups operate in southern California for example. One the East coast there are the Boston Uncommons, while on the west coast Seattle's Puddletown Squares dance every Monday night. For a complete list of LGBT clubs, go to: www.iagsdc.org.

According to the Puddletown website, "Square dancing... is a highly social activity, one of the few where gay men, lesbians, straight people, and all the other groups that are part of the gay and lesbian community all join hands (literally) to dance, and the first night of lessons is often the first time we see people who are about to become life long friends."

The Cream City Squares are now celebrating their 17th anniversary in Milwaukee. The invite all members and allies of the LGBT community to join them in dancing fun and friendship this February. For more information call Shari by phone at: 414-526-5055 or visit the club's website at: www.iagsdc.org/creamcity

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ROSES IN DECEMBER OPENS AT THE BOULEVARD ENSEMBLE STUDIO THEATRE, DECEMBER 26

By Paul Masterson

The Boulevard Ensemble Studio Theatre continues its 2008-09 season with Victor L. Cahn's two-person comedy, *Roses in December*.

Cahn's play is a study in communication. The young grad student Carolyn Mayers (Anne Miller) sends a snail mail reunion invitation, replete with formulaic frills, to the curmudgeon author and alumnus Joel Gordon (David Ferrie). The recipient remains mute until, after an incessant barrage of formal follow ups, his ire is ignited and he returns a rejection. From there, a correspondence ensues. The entertaining tit for tat exchange provides the foundation, and the eventual edifice, of a relationship between the correspondents.

Artistic director Mark Bucher's choice of Cahn's successful 2007 Broadway production is yet another in the Boulevard Theater's array of Milwaukee premieres and quirky studies of human nature.

Bucher's calculated direction adds staging to the play absent in its Broadway run. Rather than have the duet seated at desks on opposite sides of the stage, Bucher gives them movement and interaction, albeit distant, that allows a better sense of the complex personalities involved. He is assisted by Kevin Wlekinski and Holly Blomquist.

The action adds dimension but *Roses in December* is about the power of language. The literary devices, wit and well chosen vocabulary defy and reject today's technological trend to reduce communication to abbreviations. As a study of the lost art of letter writing, Cahn contrives his characters and the audience to explore the nuanced stages of a very personal relationship as it develops through the machination of a linguistic cat and mouse.

Is it a love story? Bucher admits the presumption is a logical one. "After all, the play's cast is a man and a woman. But it's more than that and we come to know more than just two characters. There are some curve balls for a traditional love story. So, it's a mystery, a comedy and a holiday tonic. It's not sentimental or saccharine. It's a natural progression through the barriers and openings language affords us. A perfect fit for this time of year and for any audience," Bucher said.

Both Anne Miller and David Ferrie are Boulevard veterans. Appearing together for this two-person show, they find being on stage for the duration of the play a fulfilling challenge. "Concentration is a peak level and demands full focus," Miller said. Ferrie agrees but added "never leaving the stage allows for momentum and sustaining the role. It's sometimes more difficult to exit and enter and have to retrieve the character each time."

In light of the numerous closures of Milwaukee theater companies including Milwaukee Shakespeare, the Boulevard's longevity (now in its 23rd season) is a testament to Mark Bucher's resolute and persistent perseverance. He believes in his mission to give the community thought-



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ful and thought provoking performances and to train new actors.

Roses in December opens Friday, December 26 and runs through January 18, 2009 at the Boulevard Ensemble Studio Theatre, 2252, South Kinnickinnic, in Milwaukee's Bay View. For ticket information call 414-744-5757 or visit the Boulevard Theater website www.boulevardtheatre.com

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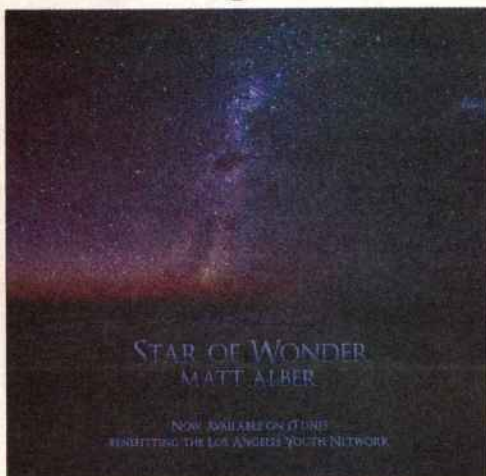
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For the holidays, classical-gone-pop singer Matt Alber has released a hauntingly beautiful cover "Star Of Wonder" originally by quirky sister trio, The Roches. All proceeds from the sale of the song exclusively on iTunes benefit LA Youth Network (LAYN) an organization that takes in homeless L.A. youth, many of whom are gay and lesbian teens.

Says Alber, "A lot of these kids are gay, lesbian or transgender who flee from abusive homes and schools. They arrive by bus, they hitch-hike, they do whatever they can to get away and land here with nothing. LAYN is more than a band-aid or a hand-out; they provide real homes, one-on-one social workers and even send these kids to college. Most of us have always had a roof over our heads. These kids just want a safe place to start their lives."

You may remember Matt Alber is featured on our Quest cover for issue 18 (November 13-26).

Please help us spread the word and buy! The more downloads sold, the more money Matt raises for LA Youth Network! Stream and purchase the song by entering this web address: <http://mattalber.com/starofwonder/star> (Give it a few seconds, it starts quietly, with wind chimes.) Click the purchase song and you will be taken to iTunes site for the purchase.

Matt Alber's dreamy debut solo album, "Hide Nothing" is out now. Go to mattalber.com to listen to a streaming version. Watch for the super romantic "End Of The World" video soon on Logo. Quest had the opportunity to see the video in advance of its release and it is sure to bring a tear to some of your eyes. It's that good!

WOOF'S

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DIVERSION OF THE DAY Community Events Calendar

Thursday, December 25 - Christmas Day

Ravens (Appleton) White Raven Party (Got a crappy gift? re-wrap it and reuse it here we wont tell! & Karaoke with Livewire

Saturday, December 27

Christopher Allens Club 1226 (Oshkosh) Holiday Extravaganza Show 10:30

LaCage (Milwaukee) Last Dance Party. Join us on the last Sat nite of 2008

Milwaukee Gay Arts Center THE MAD KINGS 8pm Madison's sexiest & most beloved Drag King Troupe visits for an evening of hot songs & laughter. The MAD-KINGS have been entertaining audiences throughout Wisconsin since '05. They perform Genres from Rock to Country to Show Tunes and everything in between. Join us for their MGAC return! Their fabulous stage presence and hot style will leave you panting for more. Make sure to bring your singles! \$6 cover at the door

NEW YEAR'S EVE, Wednesday December 31

Ballgame (Milwaukee) Open round the clock party favors, buffet at 1am

BOOM (Milwaukee) No cover, champagne toast at midnight

Harbor room (Milwaukee) 43 consecutive hours of celebration free buffet at 1am

ICON (Kenosha) Black & White Party. Open bar 9pm-1am Food buffet, champagne toast at midnight party favors and more. Tickets \$50 open 9pm-4am

Jack (Milwaukee) [formerly Club 200 East] Opening party 2 killer DJ's food, champagne party starts 10pm

LaCage (Milwaukee) 2-4-1 Drinks 6-9 in ETC, Free beer or rail mixer in LaCage 10-11, champagne toast and huge balloon drop. Early morning buffet in 2009

Madison Gay Video Club Special All-Night New Year's Eve Party Falcon 35th Anniversary Marathon, 1978-2007 8PM, www.mgvc.org, 608-244-8690 (evenings)

Midtowne Spa (Milwaukee) Anything Goes into 2009 Party *Underwear, fetish, toys, bear, leather, anything!*

Napales Lounge (Green Bay) Open round the clock New Years Eve until 2am after New Years Day.

Madison 3rd Annual Big Queer NYE Dance Party Sponsored by OutReach. Hookah Lounge, 77 Sirloin Strip. Doors open 10pm. Tickets: \$12 at door, includes free hors d'oeuvres & a champagne toast at midnight. DJ & dancing all night. FML: www.medhookahcafe.com.

Ravens (Appleton) Come dressed to impress! hors'd'oeuvres, party favors and a champagne toast at midnight.

The Shelter (Green Bay) Open 4pm. for 36 hours. Toomany specials to list, please see the ad in this issue.

Triangle (Milwaukee) Open 38 hours with 2 buffets

Saturday, January 3

Madison Gay Video Club "Dog Tags" (TLA Rel.,08) "Best Men 1: Bachelor Party" (Falcon Studios.08) 8PM, <http://www.mgvc.org>, 608-244-8690 (evenings)

Saturday, January 10

ICON (Kenosha) Leather Night at Club ICON. Shine up your favorite gear and join us for a night of leathery goodness!

Monday, January 12

Outwards Book Club (Milw) discussion of the atmospheric and suspenseful, *Stray Dog Winter* by David Francis. Come & meet the group & discuss a great book

Wednesday, January 14

Outwards Lesbian Reading Group (Milw) The book to be discussed is the well-loved *Alma Rose* by Edith Forbes. All interested readers are always welcome to join in.

Friday, January 16

ICON (Kenosha) Bacardi is in the house and they want to through a party! From 11p.m. until 1a.m. enjoy shot specials, giveaways, and eye candy!

Saturday, January 17

Argonauts Charity WinterQuest 35th Anniversary Dinner, 6pm Cocktails, Dinner to follow, Prime Rib and Shrimp \$30.00 Tickets available from club brothers at Napalese Lounge Green Bay, At 9pm a Special Club Night and fund raiser, Pie in the Eye !!! Beer Bust and Raffle.

Madison Gay Video Club "Arizona Sky" (Guardian Pic.08) "Best Men 2: Wedding Party" (Falcon Studios.08) 8PM, www.mgvc.org, 608-244-8690 (evenings)

Miltown Kings Half & Half show Miramar Theater 9pm \$7 18+ 9 Guest performer spots open sign up at 6:45pm on show day more info on miltownkings.com

Rainbow Club (P.O.Box 254 dorchester, WI 54425) meeting 1pm its at N16731 Sandhill Ave, Dorchester. We invite you all to join our non-drinking group. (No sex at meetings, this is to meet others) Pot luck lunch. \$12/year membership write us to be on our mailing list or send your e mail so we can keep you updated.

Monday, January 19

Rainbow Over Wisconsin Annual Meeting 7 PM. Site TBA. FML: www.rainbowoverwisconsin.org

Thursday, January 29

ICON (Kenosha) Mr. Wisconsin Club Competition

Friday, January 30

Ravens (Appleton) Our second Drag Revue

Saturday, January 31

ICON (Kenosha) Ronnie Nyles Performs LIVE 8p.m. until midnight!

Weekly Bar Specials	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Art Bar	Free Pool \$2 Mystery Beer	2fer Tuesday 2-4-1 til 12am	Double It for a Buck!	\$5 Martini	\$5 Margaritas	\$2 Shot Special	\$4.40 Bloody Marys
Ballgame	Mon-Fri 2-4-1 2pm-8pm	Tuesday & Thursday @ 9pm Pull tabs	Drinks as low as 25¢				Packer Touchdown Shots
BOOM	2-4-1 Pitchers Miller Lite	Karaoke w/ 2-4-1 Leine's	Bad Boys Nite Out	\$3 Tall Pinnade Flavored Vodka	Beer Bust 5-9 pm	Beer Bust 2-6 pm	Open 2 pm
City Lights Chill	ECONOMY BUSTER!!!	2-4-1 ALL DAY, ALL NIGHT	SUNDAYS THROUGH THURSDAYS		2-4-1 happy hour 4-8pm	12" Pizza & Pitcher for \$12	Economy Buster 2-4-1
FLUID	2-4-1 All Day & Nite	\$3 Jagermeister & Bacardi O Bombs	\$1 off Miller Bottles	\$3.50 Cosmos	Tue-Fri Happy Hour 5-8pm	\$4 Long Islands/Long Beach	\$3 Rail Bloody Mary, Screws & Greyhounds
HARBOR ROOM	MON - THUR Happy Hour 3-8pm	2-4-1 Beer Bust 8-Midnight \$7	Shirtless Men Drink Half Price Rail/Domestic 7-cl	Same as Thur but no Beer Bust,	Shirtless Men Drink Half Price Rail/Domestic 7-cl Sat/Sun	Sun Beer Bust 8-Midnight \$7	
LaCage	Movies 'n \$4 Martinis	Male Dancers \$4 Effen Mixers \$6 Effen Martinis	2-4-1 Drinks all nite	\$4 Mixers \$6 Martinis DJ Wizz Kid	Trans-Fromation Female Impersonators		2-4-1 Absolute Grey Goose & Effen Drinks
M's Bar	Now Open Mondays 4pm	Happy Hour Monday - Friday	2-4-1 from 4-8pm	2-4-1 all Night		Drag Show @ 10pm	Showtunes w/Chi Chi
MONA'S	2-4-1 Beer wine rails call	Happy Hour 3-7 Free Pool	Happy Hour 3-7 Chicken sandwich & wraps 2-4-1	Happy Hour 3-7 \$3 cosmos & pull tabs	Happy Hour 3-7 \$6 Long Island 9-cl	\$0¢ Taps \$2.50 bottles (ask) \$3 Smirnoff Twisted & Mike's \$2 cans Blatz & PBR	Beer bust 6-10 \$2.50 Bottle Beer (ask) \$3 Smirnoff etc
RAVENS	Buy 1 get 1 Martinis and signature drinks	\$2 Domestic Bottles. Pints and Pint Mixers	Guys Nite \$1 Off everything for guys	Ladies Nite/Livewire Karaoke \$1 off everything 4 girls \$6 Dom pitchers dance bar open	Fri & Sat \$10 All You Can Drink & nightly drink specials DJ Mark 10:30 - close & the valleys hottest new dance music & videos		Alternative Music Night \$6 Pitchers \$4 Jack&Coke various other specials
Walker's Pint	\$1 off bottles, cocktails, shots, taps	\$2 domestic bottles/taps	\$5 pitchers of lite, 64, pabst,schlitz	2-4-1 domestic bottles & rails	rotating specials	rotating specials	\$4 rail bloody's \$1 off bombs all day & night
WOOF'S	Monday's \$1 OFF ALL DRINKS if wearing WOOF'S T-Shirt or Hat!	Pool Tournament Double Elim Cash Prizes \$1 off all Jack Daniel's Drinks 8PM-Midnight	Hump Day Half-Price Drinks \$2.00 Drafts (Miller Lite) 8PM-Midnight	Get Bombed \$1.00 off all Bomb Drinks 8PM-Midnight	Tail Waggin' Shot Specials \$1off Shots 8-Midnight Live DJ 10PM-Close	Live DJ 10PM-Close	Bloody Mary Bar/Mimosas 12-4 Bear-Beer-Bash \$2 Drafts (Miller Lite) & Free Pizza (Glass Nickel) 5-8PM

Cheap Talkin' Chi Chi

Gossip and bar events in Milwaukee

Greetings Gossip Mongers, and Happy Holidays to you all! I hope everyone is looking forward to the new year with a new president and a new direction for the country as a whole. This last year has been a tumultuous one so it is with wide eyed hope that 2009 will be a banner year for all!

To begin with I would like to thank everyone's positive and sometimes unrequested tips for this column. I take everything you give me into consideration for the column and I appreciate all the feedback that I get. Thankyou!! So lets get to the gossip and happenings and what is forthcoming in the new year.

To begin with I had the pleasure of my old tennis gal Marcia's presence on a recent jaunt to Milwaukee from her hometown of Racine. We have not been in contact for awhile which I share all the blame. Since Marcia enjoys the pleasures of the Sappho kind we stopped into Mona's to see what was new. I had the pleasure of seeing Pam the proprietor making sure that everyone was having a good time. We were being amply served by her bar wenches Kim and Jaimee. Pam was nice enough to allow us all to have a complimentary holiday shot. Make sure you stop in to check their many drink specials and the only gay-owned bars that offer a full dinner menu, I will be stopping back for one of their shows on Sunday nites with Three Strike Productions!

I bumped into Brian Reinkober from Naaga fest at Kruz who told me that over 100 delegates of the World Series of Softball which will be held in our fair city in August will be on hand to checkout what we have to offer so let us all make a great impression and put Milwaukee on the map where it belongs. The delegates will be representing 37 U.S. cities as well as Canada.

There was some Boston ice fishing going on in M's on one of my shifts. A cute construction worker who is here under contract was being baited by very many anglers who were hoping for a bite, unfortunately no one even got a nibble. Such is life

I was at Boom-Room on the 12th to see my co-hort in the printing and bartending world Miss K.V. They were hosting a sing-a-long as well as X-MAS show. Unfortunately I was unable to participate since my good friend Baby

Jane Hudson had obtained tickets to see Miss Linda Eder at the Northern Lights Theater. The show was excellent even though Miss Eder did not do any of her signature Broadway tunes now that she is throwing her hat into the country pop group that Jessica Simpson and Jewel most recently joined. After three double 7&7 and a huge shot of Dr's Jane decided to get her money's worth since she did not get to her any Broadway tunes. I guess she was replenishing her signature glassware collection with items from the casino when she promptly dropped them in the middle of the casino floor in front of the cashiers. I was surprised when we were not promptly escorted out with all the cameras that are there.

Kruz most recently hosted their Castaway night with the boys in leather doing their best to raise the most money for their respective club. I had the opportunity to go in as my alter ego Chi-Chi Rodriguez after the Thanksgiving Show at M's and was making out with my gal pal Holly of who is the only woman I truly enjoy making out with. Well let me tell you I did receive quite a few looks of which I explained that I was taking my union break from hooker corner on 3rd and North. F%#*k them if they can't take a joke! I do want to let everybody know that I and Velveeta from La Cage will be guest bartending for the Jerry and Serge at Kruz on January 11th so they can take their well appreciated staff for their annual holiday staff party. So come on down and see how we do in this MENS bar.

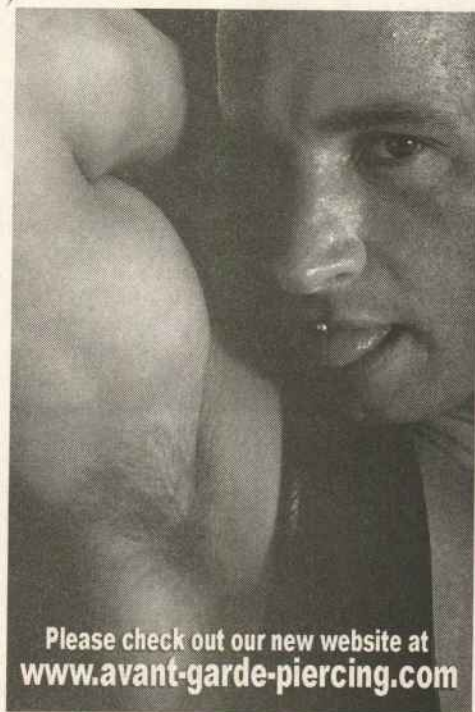
M's is going strong and looking forward to an even better year with Dr. J at the helm. They are going to be open Christmas Eve 8-2 and Christmas Day 6-2. New Year's Eve they will be open from 6-???. Look to see what the special drop will be this year from the roof and New Year's day wear your favorite p.j.'s and watch the polar bears from noon-???

If you are on the far southside stop in at City Lights on X-Mas eve and fill Sean's stocking with whatever you want. He is very ambidextrous from what I hear so make sure he stays busy.

The boys at LaCage are offering free rail cock-tails and Beer early on New Year's and make sure you kiss someone new after Midnight. If you

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are still going by 4 a.m. Don Johnson will be holding court from 4-10. So no matter where you are you will be guaranteed a fresh hangover for the new year. That is all for now so make sure you email me at chichibarista@aol.com if you have any delicious tidbits for me or any special events coming up in the near future. See you next year so keep the liquor flowing and the talk cheap!

--LOVE CHI-CHI

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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. Barbie responds to all emails...whether you deserve it or not. Send your questions to Uncle Barbie at: askunclebarbie@aol.com

Winter Solstice

Dear Uncle Barbie,

This time of the year I get very depressed. I do not know if it is because of the cold winter weather or the lack of sunlight in the shorter days, or just the holidays in general that get me down. Why is that? Maybe I get depressed because I really do not get into Christmas that much because I am not that religious. I actually am more interested in learning about the Winter Solstice tradition. I do not suppose you know anything about that, do you? Whatever. Anyway, I just want to know what I can do to fight depression during the wintertime. Signed, Cheryl H.

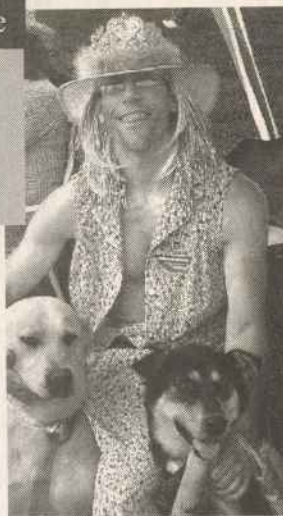
Hello Cheryl,

This December 21st is the Winter Solstice (Wiccan Yule), and it marks the time of the year when the nights are the longest and the days are the shortest. This lack of sunlight may be contributing to your seasonal depression. People give meaning to the Winter Solstice event in many different ways. Some view it as a sorrowful time in which they mourn the absence of the sun. Others choose to look at it as a sign of hope because the longest night is over and the days will slowly start getting longer now with more and more daylight. Still other souls appreciate both the moonlight and sunlight equally, showing respect for both the Moon Goddess and Sun God.

Although there are countless ways of viewing the Winter Solstice and Yule season, I tend to think of it as an opportunity for caring and reaching out to other people. Since the darkness is the strongest at this time of the year, perhaps we can turn to each other for light. In the days of old, people would share the light and warmth of their fire with those in need. The light and warmth that shines from your heart can be particularly bright, if you let it. Share this light with others. After all, every single thing you do has some kind of effect on others, to varying degrees. Over time, the more kindness you show others, the more likely it is that kindness will be shown to you.

Throughout the world, various religions speak of this type of reciprocal energy. Buddhists believe that what affects one part of life will affect the whole, American Indians acknowledge that every life needs to be respected, Jews consider all life sacred, Pagans and Wiccans believe that whatever energy you give off will come back to you multiplied times three, Christians profess that you reap what you sow, etc. Other religions have similar philosophies, too, but no matter how they say it, it all comes down to the same basic message--what goes around comes around.

As you enter into this Yule holiday season, remember to smile more and to look for opportunities to serve others. This can ward off your holiday blues just as well as anything else. Also remember your beloved ancestors. Traditionally, in pre-Christian times, households with family values would honor their deceased relatives by setting out a plate of holiday food called a spirit offering plate. It is important that families today remember the ancestors and respect ancient heritage. Christians and Pagans are not necessarily adversarial communities. Many traditions, such as our holiday tree and Yule logs, are shared customs between the Christian Christmas and the Wiccan Yule. Did you realize that the angel on your holiday tree originated from the Pagan's traditional use of fairies on their trees? Wiccans use cinnamon sticks, apples, grapes, and oranges as ornaments on the Yule trees. These were



used in ancient times and are still used today among Wiccan communities throughout the country.

These customs are real traditional family values, and practicing the ancient traditions teaches young people to honor the heritage of all humans. If children do not respect the ancestors, they will not respect you. Traditionally, the Christian Christmas is the celebration of the birth of Christ. For womyn and men who practice Wicca, the Winter Solstice is the celebration of the Moon Goddess and eventually the return of the Sun God during the Summer Solstice. I believe it is beneficial for people to focus on our similarities, instead of our differences. So to answer

your question, you can avoid depression this holiday season by celebrating the ancient traditions of respect for every form of life, and honoring all people. Since you feel so down at this time of the year, I recommend that you do a random act of kindness in the holiday spirit. As they did in times of old, pass on the light in your heart to those who are in darkness. Brightening someone else's day can cheer you up, as well. --Happy Winter Solstice, Barbie

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Interview with Raphael Kadushin On *Big Trips: More Good Gay Travel Writing*

All gay people imagine the "Big Trip" that may break open the doors, lead you to romance, find that perfect beach or perfect love. Is there something about gay folks and travel that makes us always ready to "get out of Dodge"? When we think of the famous Twentieth Century queer travelers and adventures—Lawrence of Arabia, Sir Richard Burton, Amelia Earhart, Richard Halliburton—it almost seems as if there is something compelling gay people to push themselves beyond boundaries and look for love and ourselves. The extraordinary new anthology *BIG TRIPS: More Good Gay Travel Writing* edited by Raphael Kadushin builds on the earlier anthology *Wonderlands* and digs even deeper in to the psychic, emotional and sexual adventures of travel in a rich variety of stories and essays by such luminaries as Edmund White, Dale Peck, Martin Sherman and many other remarkable literary voices. It all comes together in an anthology of dynamic writing about travel that makes us want to book our next flight, or at least gets us dreaming of other places, our own personal "Big Trips". I spoke with editor and author Raphael Kadushin about gay lives and journeys.

Q: There seem to be so many travel books coming out these days? What sets this apart from the pack?

A: Well I think three things. First I think it's just the range of strong writers, really the best of both young gay voices and established gay writers. So you have everyone from Mack Friedman, Aaron Hamburger and Cliff Chase to people like Edmund White, who of course if one of our finest American writers, and Andrew Holleran and Dale Peck. And Martin Sherman who is probably best known for his play "Bent". I always wish I'd had the chance to see the Broadway production of that play when Richard Gere starred in it. And these aren't just great gay writers but great writers period, so they each have a distinctive voice that goes through you.

The second thing that was fun for me, in editing the book, and that distinguishes it is the range of destinations the writers took on. I didn't try for any geographical balance; I thought I'd just see what came in when I asked people for pieces. But what came in was just naturally balanced and no writer wrote about the same place. So the anthology jumps all over the world, which is great for vicarious travel readers, since none of us can really afford to travel much right now. It skips from Corfu to Sicily, San Francisco, Egypt, Provincetown, Mexico, Vienna, Rome, Prague, Florida, the English countryside, London, Dordogne, Paris, Morocco, the Greek islands, and northern Spain. It's like a grand tour on paper.

And the third thing that makes the book worth reading I think is the depth of the pieces. These aren't consumer travel pieces, which you can get in any magazine or website. You're not going to find the ten best bistros in Paris kind of travel writing here, or the thread-count story or 18 hours in London. Each writer is really exploring the sensibility of the place they visit, so if you can't travel now, or if you're thinking about

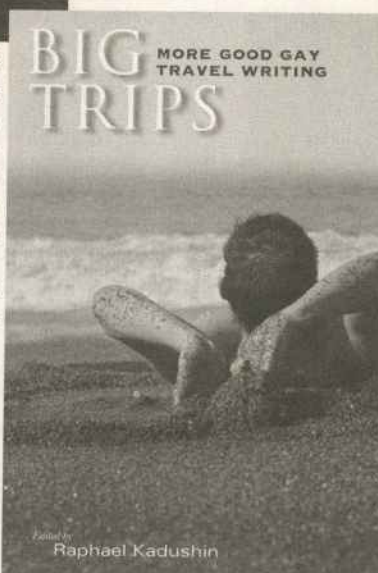
future trips, you get a sense of immersion in the place, what it really feels like to be in Prague or Cairo. And you get a real narrative story as well, so you can read the pieces in *Big Trips* as travel stories or as really short stories.

Q: In fact some of them are short stories, in the sense that you are mixing fiction and non-fiction in this anthology. How do you justify that?

A: Well I think most travel writing is a form of fiction, in the sense that most travel writers are just seeing a fragment of a place and projecting their own fictions onto that place. You don't really know Vienna or Paris or Marrakech in a week or two so you are always creating a story, even if you are pretending to be an objective journalist. You're partly seeing what you want to see or what you are looking for. And in some ways fiction, because it doesn't have to stick to any rules or conventions, can capture the emotional reality of a place better, and it can take on bigger themes. A lot of the pieces in the *Big Trips*, in the end, aren't just about a single trip. They tackle universal issues too, like why we travel, what drives our wanderlust, what we are really looking for when we travel, and even how we define our sense of home.

Q: And also issues like how and why we fall in love. I was surprised at how many pieces in the anthology are half travel story and half romance. Aaron Hamburger's story about his infatuation with Lucas, the perfect Czech porn star, and Duncan Fallowell's subtle, erotic flirtation with a man in Sicily, and Michael Klein's poetic story about his affair during a perfect Provincetown summer, are as much love stories as anything else. Were you consciously looking for that intersection, between travel and romance?

A: No but I think it's sort of inevitable. I think the impulse that fuels our wanderlust, the hunger for new experience and sensation, is to some extent a sensual, erotic impulse and it's the same thing, in a way, that drives our search for sex, and love, and a real personal connection. So I think it becomes a nature part of a lot of travel writing and probably half the stories in here have some elements of a love story. Edmund White's piece is probably the truest love story because it's a double-decker love story, about an American writer living in Paris who falls in love first with a French man and then with a young American, from Georgia, who is an expat like himself and who in some ways is more French than the French; White describes him as loving everything French, French manners, clothes, food. And together the two Americans go from Paris to Morocco where they become pure outsiders, exotics, together. So the romance and the travel become intertwined; the travel in some ways heightens the romance. The other thing about the way travel stories and love stories intersect has to do with the quality of the writing too. Travel writers have to be sensual writer if they're good; they have to capture



the smell of a place, the taste of it, the quality of the local beauty. And that talent for sensual, sensory description makes for good romances. White's story ends with a wonderful, poetic description of his French lover's ass and Fallowell describes his Sicilian crush, a man named Riccardo, as having the black curls and startled-looking arched eyebrows that you see on statues of ancient Greeks.

Q: Your own story, which focuses partly on the narrator's affair with a British man, is also a love story but a sad one.

A: It starts out as sort of a burlesque, as this series of almost comical accidents happen to this young American boy living in London. He meets this very handsome slightly older British journalist who is being kept by a sugar daddy, and they go off on this tour of Yorkshire, past all these odd literary sites—Whitby, where Bram Stoker's *Dracula* landed, and Beatrix Potter's house, and Byron country. So it's sort of a literary tour. But the story is really about in some ways the two different sides of travel. One side is that sense of euphoric adventure we have when we set off for a new place. But the other side is that sudden sense of vulnerability you feel when you are lost in the world, and the search for home that can result.

Q: Do you feel that split personally? I know how much you travel yourself, as a journalist for a lot of the travel magazines, and I would think that gets exhausting.

A: Well you know it does; you probably travel as much as I do. But I feel it more and more and that sort of informed how I divided the pieces in *Big Trips*. There are two parts to the anthology. The first part is called *Going Out* and it focuses on the wonderful rush you get from traveling, so it has pieces like Michael Klein's description of a golden summer in Provincetown and Phil Gambone's excitement over being in Mozart's Vienna. But the second part, called *Coming Back*, is about travelers who are really tired of traveling, who are looking for some sense of a home. And those are less romantic pieces but in some ways, for me, more moving. So you have a wonderful story by Andrew Holleran, about his visit to these gated retirement communities in Florida that he realizes could never be a home. And Mack Friedman's elegiac story about a man traveling with the ashes of his cremated mother, back to Mexico, where they once vacationed. And then the first act of a relatively unknown play by Martin Sherman, that starred Vanessa Redgrave when it was produced in London. It's the perfect ending to *Big Trips* because it's a two-person play set on a Greek island and it becomes this almost debate between a young boy who is just starting his travels and an older woman named Mrs. Honey who is the spent, tired traveler looking to land anywhere, somewhere. She just wants to go home.

Tim Miller is an internationally acclaimed solo performer and the author of *BODY BLOWS* and *1001 BEDS*. He can be reached at his website www.timmillerperformer.com



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MILK

Glenn is invariably suspicious when Hollywood goes "gay" as it has again with "Milk," a film which has mainstream critics seemingly wetting themselves over in their determination to provide the choicest possible accolades.

It has been 15 years since "Philadelphia," not to mention 30 years since Milk's and San Francisco Mayor George Moscone's assassinations, and evidently very little has changed. Even in the hands of openly gay, iconoclastic director Gus Van Sant, "Milk" is a surprisingly conventional biopic rather better at placing Harvey Milk within the context of the burgeoning 1970s gay rights movement than actually bringing to the screen a fully realized portrait of the flesh-and-blood gay man.

And surely Glenn be would remiss not to mention that "Milk" is yet another Hollywood film for Vito Russo's legendary cinematic necrology.

"Milk" opens with footage of then Supervisor Dianne Feinstein broadcasting the news that Harvey Milk and George Moscone had been slain by former Supervisor Dan White, eerily reminiscent of the opening of Rob Epstein's Oscar-winning documentary "The Times of Harvey Milk." Additionally, Van Sant then places a solitary Harvey Milk (Sean Penn) in his drab little kitchen making a tape recording of his life, to be played only in the event of the assassination which we know is inevitable.

Milk's story begins as Harvey is approaching his 40th birthday. The year is 1970 and Harvey Milk is an insurance salesman in New York City. When he spies a cute young man, Scott Smith (James Franco, excellent) on a subway stairwell, Harvey must think he's hit the jackpot. Turning 40 will surely be much more pleasant an option with a tasty bit of masculine company. As Glenn has determined can happen only at the movies, the much older Harvey woos, beds and ultimately wins the lad in a twinkling.

The two immediately set off San Francisco and with their arrival at the city by the Bay, Van Sant dutifully records Milk's emergence as the unofficial "Mayor of Castro Street," all from his humble headquarters at Castro Camera. Each unsuccessful campaign is given measured coverage punctuated with the arrival of two dynamic characters Cleve Jones (Emile Hirsch) and Anne Kronenberg (Alison Pill). Even as new Mayor George Moscone is radically changing how City Supervisors are to be elected, a move resulting in Milk's victory in 1977, Milk's relationship with Scott continues to deteriorate.

Once Milk is victorious, Dustin Lance Black's bland screenplay changes direction. No longer merely a "candidate," Supervisor Milk spearheads the battle against California Proposition 8, more commonly known as the Briggs Initiative, which have banned gays and lesbians, and possibly anyone who supported gay rights, from working in California's public schools. Then, in retrospect decidedly foolhardy, Milk also sought to work with another new City Supervisor, Dan White (Josh Brolin, suitably psychotic) while juggling time with neurotically unstable new boyfriend Jack Lira (Diego Luna).



Full Price, Matinee or wait for the DVD

"Milk" will prove essential viewing for those old enough to remember the oh-so wickedly misguided Anita Bryant, the brimming with hate Briggs Initiative and worst of all, Dan White's cowardly "Twinkie" defense. As a gentleman of a certain age, Glenn often found "Milk" bringing back to life so many memories of a time when "march" far better described the gay pride celebrations now more dismissively if indeed more accurately identified as "parades." And best of all, what a terrific history lesson for youthful LGBT audiences! Yet as well made and as well intentioned as "Milk" undoubtedly is, Glenn couldn't help but be disappointed, the film's poignant final moments notwithstanding. Sean Penn's much acclaimed portrayal of Harvey Milk is fine work but ultimately all too safe. Much as Harvey himself would transform his own image from that of an aging hippie to a clean-cut, four-square suit, Van Sant similarly colors "Milk" in deliberately dull shades, surely in the hopes of attracting masses of mainstream moviegoers. And perhaps Academy voters.

Just the facts...

"Milk" is in English and is clocked at 127 minutes FMI check out the fabulous official website: <http://www.filmfocus.com/focus/features/film/milk/> Stephen Spinella, who plays Rick Stokes, originated the role of Prior Walter in "Angels in America" on Broadway. Emile Hirsch (Cleve Jones) played the title character in 2003's quirky "The Mudge Boy."

"Milk" is currently playing Milwaukee's Oriental Landmark Theatre, opening at Madison's Sundance Cinema and other locations nationwide.



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Roommate wanted to share fully furnished, 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath, Appleton Duplex with gay white male. nice place, nice guy. Includes all utilities plus: appliances, dishwasher, garbage disposal, patio, Direct TV and roadrunner. Only \$395 /month! Call Dean(920)858-7172 [1]

Oshkosh GWM 54 (my stats 5'11" 6" cut) looking to rent out one of his rooms to a nice quiet gay male. \$225 per month plus \$100 security deposit. All utilities included. Northeast side of Oshkosh. Call Richard A Lee (920)426-2683 @102 W Bent Ave. Oshkosh 54901 [1]

METRO MILWAUKEE/SOUTH-EASTERN WISCONSIN

West Allis 2 Bdrm upper: \$585 + sec Garage. Appliances. No smoking. On site landlord. Pets negotiable. Cozy. Quiet. Good Condition. Cable ready. Laundry Hookups. Storage.(414)708-2827 [2]

Spacious 3bdrm lower on fantastic street in Washington Heights. This owner occupied retro duplex has oak hardwood floors, eat-in kitchen w/loads of cabinets, counter space, big bath w/ceramic tile, lots of closet space, newer furnace w/central air, clean, dry storage in basement w/laundry facilities available. 1 garage space included. Easy access to freeway. Ideal for professional or quiet student. \$850.00 with lease. Security deposit, background and credit check required. Please contact Joe at agelessjoe@aol.com [1]

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Seeking someone to be my Live-In Helper, 18-35. Apply haskins65@yahoo.com [2]

4 SALE, TRADE or SERVICE OFFERED

FOR SALE: DVD'S & VHS XXX Rated. Call (414)727-0536 If not home leave message with # & I'll return call.

FOR SALE: hide a cock sex machine. payed \$400. will sell for \$300. or best offer. (let the machine do all the work!) call 262-498-3580 [1]

CASH PAID for your old and rare GAY ADULT paperbacks, magazines, 8mm, DVD, VHS, especially pre-1983 & genre items, Bear, Asian, HandJobs,

Tom finland, Lesbiana, mainstream gay items. Models must be over 18. (414)254-3843 [2]

WAXING NOW AVAILABLE for your personal grooming or Holiday event. \$50/side at ICON Salon. Ask or leave message for Ron or RJ (414)221-0099

For Sale: New Solid Silicone Breasts: was \$360 Now \$195. also wigs of all types, discreet photography and want to buy B&D items, tall boots women and men. Call Rick 9am-9pm (414)788-4908 [1/21/09]

THERAPEUTIC MASSAGE & REIKI

50 year old CERTIFIED MASSAGE THERAPIST in Appleton offering Swedish relaxation, sports massage and deep tissue massage in my private studio by ap-

pointment only. Please call (920)915-4318 Serious inquiries only please.

SENSUAL MASSAGE

RICH'S MASSAGE. Firm relaxing touch, light sensual touch. In my apartment in West Allis on a bed, using almond oil. A 30 minute massage is \$25, same day appointments. I'm chunky, 210# 5'11", 55yo. Call (414)778-1771 8am-10pm [1/21]

Massage and More! by a cute, smooth stud. (414)614-8883 Outcalls Only.

I offer very discreet relaxing, therapeutic or sensual/erotic massage services to interested individuals. If you are in need, please contact me at hungtopguy@gmail.com for more information or to set up an appointment. [1/7/09]



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Selective Video 2709 W. Beltline Hwy. Madison, WI 53713 608-271-3381 Open 24hrs.	City News & Video 1606 Pearl Street Waukesha, WI 53186 262-513-8481 Open 24hrs.	Supreme Video 945 N. Wahsburn Street Oshkosh, WI 54904 920-235-2012 Open 24hrs.
Special Souvenirs 9284 Skyline Drive Allenton, WI 53002 920-488-2704 Open 24hrs.	Select Video 16475 W. Russell Road Zion, IL 60099 847-395-6142 Open Noon-Midnight, Mon-Sat	Sheridan News & Video 12212 S. Sheridan Road Pleasant Prairie, WI 53140 262-694-6769 Open 9am-Midnight
Success Video 1819 Douglas Ave. Racine, WI 53402 262-638-2435 Open 9am-Midnight	Super Video III N6441 5th Ave. Plainfield, WI 54966 715-335-8277 Open 8am-midnight	<p>With this coupon receive 15% off any store purchase Offer expires 1/22/09 Not valid with any other offer.</p>

MUST BE 18 TO ENTER. VALID DRIVER'S LICENSE OR STATE-ISSUED ID REQUIRED.

SENSUAL MASSAGE continued

BODYBUILDER certified masseur w/ table. 34, 5'9", 50" chest, 30" waist, 220 lbs. German/Italian. Very good looking, huge and ripped. Nude/erotic. **Milwaukee/Bayview** area. In/Out. Jeff (414) 690-9706 [2/11]

50 year old certified massage therapist in **Appleton** offering Sweedish relaxation, sports massage and deep tissue massage in my private studio by appointment only. Please call (920)915-4318 Serious inquiries only please. [1/21]

PERSONALS

MESSAGES

Rainbow meeting Jan 17th 2009 at 1pm N16731 Sandhill Ave, Dorchester WI 54425 We wish to invite you all to join! We're a non drinking club & no sex at meetings. This is a pot luck lunch to meet other. We have a \$12/year membership. To join, send to Rainbow Club P.O. Box 254 Dorchester WI 54425 to be on our mailing list or send us your email and we can keep you updated [1]

OVER 50 GAY MEN'S NETWORK information has been moved to the *Wisconsin Groups and Organizations* section of Quest.

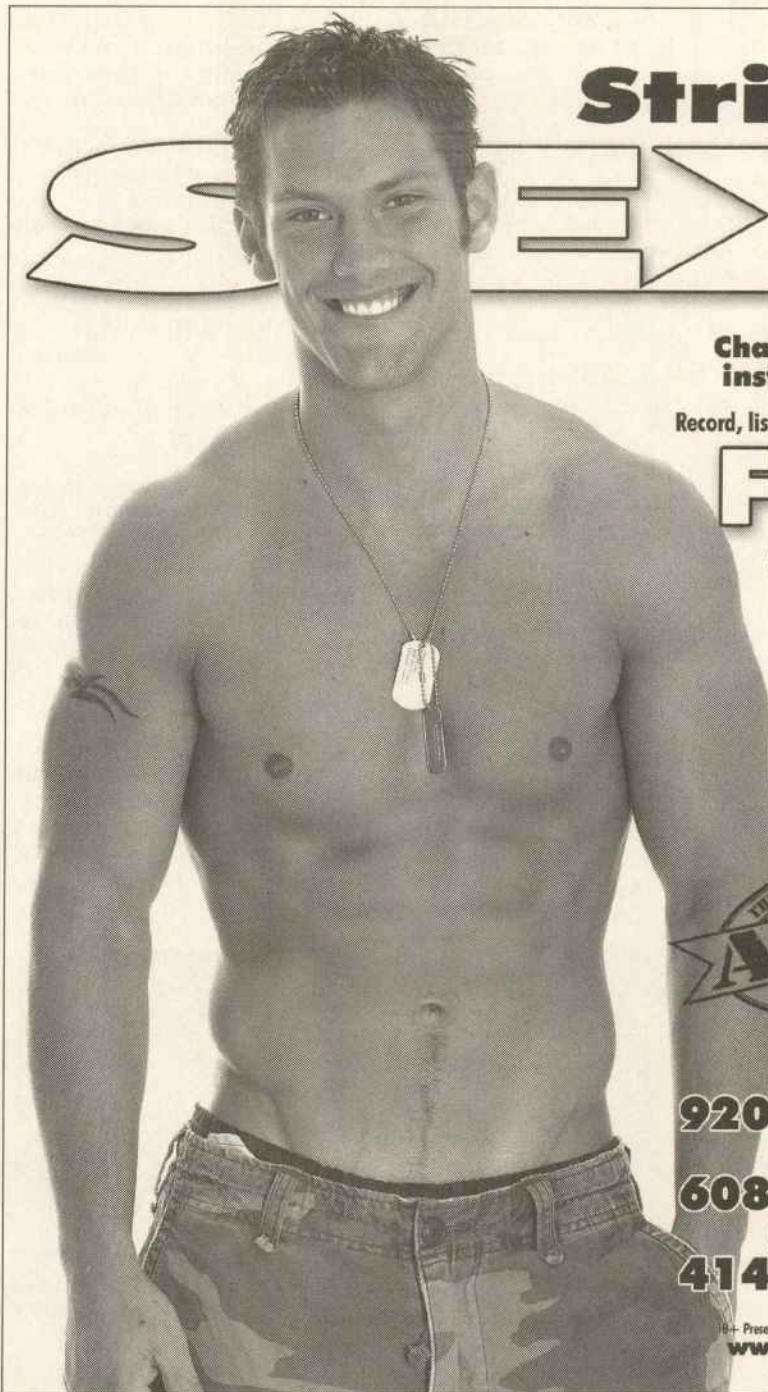
Out on the town? Please drive responsibly. **DO NOT DRINK & DRIVE**, call Yellow Cab, Green Bay (920)435-1111

CROSSDRESSING or Bi looking for MEN & WOMEN

Wanted: bi female! Ever want to do a guy with toys? Male 40yrs looking for fun. T-girl, TV, TS or crossdressers in Racine area. Call Mark (262)902-2792

Hot white male 30's clean, D/D free want the same to suck me off on a reg. Seeking TV's, CD's and passable as females. I can stay hard for as long as I like. Call (414)721-1849 7:30am - 3:30 pm only. Must be discreet! **HWOOD**. Milw area. [2]

59 years old bottom cross dresser, into anyone interested in sex with a cross dresser. I am very oral and love to bottom if thats what you like. Seeking NSA regular meetings. Can host at times. Prefer married bisexual guys D/D free. **SAFE SEX A MUST**. I live in Richland Center. If you live nearby or just passing thru, why not stop for some good sexual fun. I would like to hook up with a local guy or guys for regular get togethers if we hit it off. Open to all **LEGAL** age men with an interest in Bisexual man to (SLUT) action. Me being the slut. I can not believe there is no guys in the area who are not interested in NSA pleasure. **ANYONE** out there? Let get something going. Contact me at. ccupfalsies@yahoo.com [2]



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MEN looking for MEN

Fun, funny, creative, gentleman, seeks man for walking, playing cards, or talking & laughs! 773-585-6275 Chicago or P.O. Box 63, Lawrenceville, IL Tommy

GWM looking to be a houseboy for the right person. Wanting to be naked 24/7. haskins65@yahoo.com or 1631 Sampson St. Wisconsin Rapids 54494 (715)323-5515 [1]

Very fit, bright, reasonable, responsible, attractive SWM, 40's, talented masculine guy with wide range of interests, seeks similar male, ages 18-45, for friendship and intimacy. Milwaukee area. Email blondbluefitswimmer@yahoo.com [1]

BiWM sub, 43, 5'9", 155lbs, swimmers build seeks DOMS for bondage, blindfolds, oral, anal, showers, groups and service as they see fit. call 8am to 4pm. be discreet. 414-305-0970 [1]

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

Janesville bottom GWM 43, 5' 8" 145lbs. live alone & no car looking to give guys under 45 high/weight proportionate, Blow Jobs or you can do me anally, at my place No reciprocation required. Call Mark 608-752-8677 or e-mail redhawk65@gmail.com if interested. [1]

Lucky for you I'm a giver. Looking to meet guys 18-80 who are clean & disease free. I enjoy giving great blow jobs & if you like, I'm a hot wet bottom. I'm a biWM 53 years young, semi-retired 190# 5'10" decent looking, shaved with a smooth body. Have

a clean place to myself in Appleton. Call & maybe we can get together so I can give you pleasure. (920)707-4337

Bath house sluts: Seek dates for lunch, dinner or coffee with guys who can afford the time/money once or more times a week. Must have spent many hours at Milwaukee area bath houses since the 70's (Finlandia, Broadway Bath, Club Baths, Midtowne) having sex with anonymous men. I have always been a hot bottom, you are a hot topper, 55-75 years old. We are both discreet unassuming homos who can share a good story. Pen pals welcome if you live outside SE WI. AAH/BA, PMB#130 10238 West National Ave. West Allis, 53227 [1]

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

58 yo GWM 5'11" 260# seeking same for sex-- I love to suck and be sucked. Very discreet. Call me at (715)345-9613 or email knarf103051@g2a.net My name is Frank [2]

Tall lean 48 yo GWM HIVpoz living in New London area seeking tall lean well hung tops for fun times. Phone (512)791-4006 [2]

Adult or senior walking partner wanted by adult gentleman for exercise & laughs! You chose time & place or when our paths cross! (773)585-6275 Chicago or P.O. Box 63, Lawrenceville, IL. Tommy [2]

I'm still looking for eager young bottoms in Central/West Central Wisconsin. Willing to teach first timers and can host or travel. E-mail brownie3@mwt.net or call Steve at 608-427-2269. Thanx! [2]

Older man wants to suck cock. Must be drug and disease free, very hot. (262)639-4171. c ell 262-994-5977 ask for Don in Racine. [2]

GWM, 57 yo, 260lb, 5'11" desires same for casual sex. I love to suck & be sucked. Call (715)345-9613, or e-mail knarf103051@g2a.net [2]

Looking for buddy! caring, loyalty, a+! love picnics, beaches, walking, playing games, talking nutrition or travel! (773)569-6333 Tom 3658 E. 79 Pl., Chicago. pen pal wanted too! [2]

Hi, I'm John. I have my own place and I'm looking for hot cute sexy guys, Latino's too with a goatee and big hung dicks to suck on for winter time. I want lots of farmers & construction guys hands on my hot sexy body and your

body. Wis. Rapids, Loyal, Rosholt, Stevens Point, Wausau, Spencer, Baron, Auburndale, Colby, Neillsville, Vesper. (715)207-0474 ask for John. [3]

69 year old man looking for a companion. I am a stay at home guy. I'm looking for a gentleman 55 or older. Like phone sex call (906)225-1801 after 4 pm. [3]

Lonely SWM 54, 6' 175# seeks Bi/G/TVTS/WHHEM/F/Cpls for warmth this winter. Please be discreet, send phone & photo to B. Halm 1475 W Windlake Ave. Rm3, Milwaukee, WI 53215 [3]

Need your slim, defined, muscular BLACK body massaged? Worshipped? BJ? WM 50's 5'7" 155# mustache, blue eyes, brown hair for your pleasure. No hustlers. Prefer st8, bi steady. Wont respond to "out-of-areas" & "unknowns." Need to see you in gym nude. Be discreet. Call 11a-11p (414)614-0429 [3]

Very fit, bright, reasonable, responsible, attractive SWM, 40's, talented masculine guy with wide range of interests, seeks similar male, ages 18-45, for friendship and intimacy. Milwaukee area. Email blondbluefitswimmer@yahoo.com [3]

GWM, 45, 6', 220#, in search of a gay male for a business and life partner relationship. I would like to purchase a business in hospitality or food service fields somewhere in eastern WI. Any ideas? smilin_dale@yahoo.com [3]

Single Bi-male, 54 5'10" 160# looking for all aged men who like getting BJ's, no recip necessary, just love the taste. I'm 1 hour north of Green Bay, live alone, discreet, safe, and am free Mon- Thursdays. Also do body massages and also like light bondage. if interested give me a call 715-938-1366 or e-mail me at downunder54114@yahoo.com hope to hear from you [3]

49 yo Bi WM available for sucking your cock off. Fox Cities only. 8" plus only. (920)486-7103 Ask for PJ [3]

Chippewa Falls top looking for hot long suck sessions. Looking to relax back and let an oral expert do his thing. 7.5c & thick, 6' 185 fit smooth goatee 53yo. You be high weight proportional and eager to please. [3]

40ish gay male, travels, often in Milwaukee, looking for dinner companion for intelligent conversation and fun-- older or younger, gay or bi. Leave message at georgglavas@yahoo.com."

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My Place 3201 South Ave La Crosse
(608)788-9073

Players 214 Main St, La Crosse
(608)784-2353

Chances R 417 Jay St, La Crosse
(608)782-5105

CLUB Impulse 132 W. Grand Ave.
Beloit, (608)361-0000

Club 5 Bar/Restaurant 5 Applegate Ct
Madison, (608)277-9700

Shamrock 117 W Main St.,
Madison (608)255-5029

WOOF'S 114 King Street, Madison
(608)204-6222 www.woofsmadison.com

Captain Dix (Rainbow Valley Resort)
4124 River Road WI Dells, WI (866) 553-1818

NORTHERN WISCONSIN (715)

Scooters 411 Galloway Street,
Eau Claire (715)835-9959

JT's Bar and Grill 1506 N. 3rd
Superior (715)-394-2580

The Flame 1612 Tower Ave
Superior, WI (715)395-0101

The Main 1217 Tower Ave
Superior, WI (715)392-1756

OZ 320 Washington St, Wausau
www.totheo.oz.com (715)842-3225

Club Night Out 2533 Cty. Rd. M, Stevens Point
(715)342-5820 www.club-nightout.com
(This bar is temporarily closed due to fire)

NORTHEASTERN WISCONSIN (920)

Rascals Bar & Grill 702 E. Wis.,
Appleton (920)954-9262

Ravens (NEW) 215 E. College Ave
Appleton (920)364-9599

Napalese 1351 Cedar Street,
Green Bay (920)432-9646

SASS 840 S. Broadway, Green Bay
(920)437-7277

THE SHELTER 730 N. Quincy St. Green Bay
920-432-2662 • theshelterclub.com

XS Niteclub
1106 Main Street, Green Bay

Club 1226
1226 Oshkosh Ave Oshkosh,
(920)651-1226

Blue Lite 1029 N 8th,
Sheboygan
(920)457-1636

ROCKFORD, IL (815)

The Office 513 East State
Rockford, IL (815)965-0344

SOUTHERN WISCONSIN (262)

Club ICON 6305 120th (Off I-94) Kenosha,
(262)857-3240 www.club-icon.com

JoDee's 2139 Racine St, Racine
(262)634-9804

MILWAUKEE (414)

Art Bar 722 Burleigh, (414)372-7880

Ballgame 196 S 2nd (414)273-7474

Babylon @ Three (Thurs only)
722 N. Milwaukee St (414)225-0003

Boom (& The ROOM) 625 S. 2nd St
(414)277-5040

Boot Camp 209 E National
(414)643-6900

City Lights Chill 111 W. Howard Ave
(414)481-1441

Jack (Formerly Club 200 East)
200 E. Washington (414)389-3596

ETC (Basement level of LaCage)
801S 2nd, (414)383-8330

Fluid 819 South 2nd (414)643-5843

Harbor Room 117 E. Greenfield Ave.
(414)672-7988

KRUZ 354 E. National (414)272-KRUZ

LaCage Video Dancebar
801S 2nd, (414)383-8330

M's 1101 S.2nd St. (414)383-8900

Midtowne Spa (*this is not a bar*)
315 S Water (414)278-8989

Pumphouse 2011 S.1st St (414)744-4008

PUMP @ Decibel (Sundays only)
1905 E North Ave 414-272-3337

Mona's 1407 S. First St (414)643-0377

Nut Hut 1500 W Scott (414)647-2673

This Is It 418 E. Wells Street
(414)278-9192

Triangle 135 E National,
(414)383-9412

Two (Milwaukee's Make-Out Bar)
718 E. Burleigh St.

Walker's Pint 818 S 2nd St
(414)643-7468

Wherehouse (Fridays only)
818 S. Water St. 414-383-7593

Woody's 1579 S 2nd (414) 672-0806



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Mail: P.O. Box 171 Wausau, WI 54402

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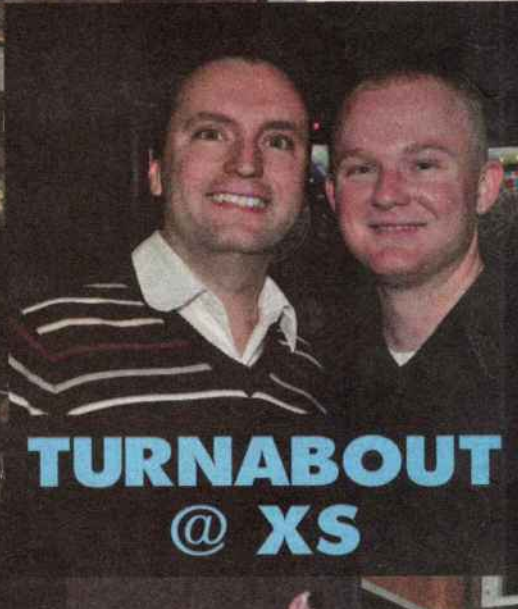


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