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Vol. 11 #19 ~ Sept. 30 Oct. 13, 2004

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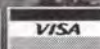
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GWM, 58, 5'6", 165, looking for a hot, horny man who will enjoy being regularly drained., Black or white, 20-50, slender or slightly chubby & want my service, write me at: CSW, PO Box 341396, **Milwaukee**, WI 53234. Tell me where I can write you. [3]

GWM, 28, 5'9", 150, lonely quiet guy seeking friendship/relationship guys, 18-28. I'm good looking, smooth chest, good build. Write w/ photo: Josh, 10457 Pine Rd., **Bear Creek**, WI 54922 [3]

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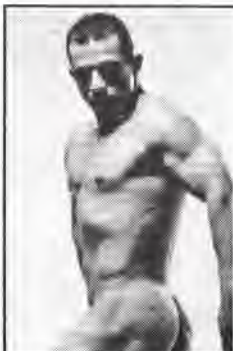
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Louisiana Votes For Anti-Gay Constitutional Ban 78-21% Voting Machines In Pro-Equality Districts Not Delivered For Half A Day

New Orleans - With voting machines unavailable in some districts for half a day, voters in Louisiana overwhelmingly approved a state constitutional amendment September 18 banning any legal recognition of same-sex unions, one of up to 12 such measures on the ballot around the country this year. The amendment won approval with 78% of the vote, and support for it was evident statewide. In New Orleans, home to a politically strong gay community, was the race relatively close, and even there the amendment won passage. Turnout statewide appeared to be about 27% of Louisiana's 2.8 million voters, somewhat low for a state election.

The Religious Right had conducted an intense grassroots lobbying campaign for the amendment, which had been expected to pass easily. The civil rights group Forum for Equality had already promised legal action against it.

"It's gratifying to see the people of Louisiana had an opportunity, as distinguished from judges, having the final say on the issue of whether traditional marriage will continue to be the fundamental institution in our state," said Darrell White, a retired state judge and consultant for Louisiana Family Forum, which pushed for the amendment.

John Rawls, a lawyer for Forum for Equality, reiterated the group's claim that the amendment does far more than stop gay marriage and that it could affect many private contracts between unmarried couples, gay or straight - a claim its supporters dispute. "I am disappointed that so many Louisianians either did not read the amendment or are so afraid of gays that they voted for this amendment anyway," Rawls said.

Louisiana already has a law defining marriage as only between a man and woman, but supporters of the amendment want to protect that law in the Constitution. The amendment also prohibits state officials and courts from recognizing out-of-state marriages and civil unions between same-sex partners.

Rawls said there were many possible grounds for challenging the results in state and federal court. One appeared on the morning of the election when voting

machines were delivered late to 59 districts in liberal-leaning districts in New Orleans. Many voters were unable to cast ballots unless they waited for more than six hours in some cases. Officials with New Orleans' clerk of court's office failed to meet drivers who tried to deliver the machines earlier that morning, according to the state director of elections Frances Sims.

Secretary of State Fox McKeithen and workers in his office delivered the machines from a warehouse by noon, Fox spokesman Scott Madere said. He said New Orleans was the only city to



experience the problem. It wasn't clear how many voters were affected. New Orleans voters were also voting in local races.

Pro-equality voter Julius Green said he went to his polling place in New Orleans' Bywater neighborhood about 10 AM and found no voting machines - just a crowd. "This is ridiculous," Green said. "It makes people feel that their vote don't count."

Ordinarily plans for the deliveries would have been coordinated 10 days before the election, director Sims said. Sims alleged that Hurricane Ivan, which had sparked an evacuation of New Orleans five days before the scheduled vote, may have played a role. New Orleans City Clerk Kimberly Butler claimed that at a number of facilities, the individuals just weren't back at home to open the buildings. Calls to Butler's office asking for an explanation as to why the machines were not delivered

prior to the evacuation order were not answered.

Attorney General Charles Foti said that he planned to investigate. "We will review what happened and take whatever steps are necessary to make sure it doesn't happen again," he said. The election problems could lead to challenges of election results. Inconvenienced voters reportedly were allowed to vote after polling places officially closed but only if they were in line at that time.

On September 24 two civil rights groups asked the Justice Department to investigate an election in which they claim voting machine problems prevented up to 58,000 voters, many of them black, from casting ballots. New Orleans, where nearly 70% of voters are black, has now been verified as the only part of the state where voting machines were not delivered on time in the September 18 election. Voters cast ballots in a number of local elections, plus a statewide constitutional amendment to ban gay marriage.

The NAACP and the Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now (ACORN) said in a letter to the Justice Department that a federal investigation is required "in light of possible violations" of the Voting Rights Act.

"Our concerns are that we have been closed out of the election process for so long and we don't want anything else to thwart it any further than it already has been," Beulah Labostrie, president of the Louisiana chapter of ACORN, said. "We, particularly in the African-American community, do not want any obstruction in the ability for all to vote."

Voting irregularities aside, the approved amendment may have unintended consequences for unmarried heterosexual couples as well. Advocates of the amendment and its opponents agreed it will be up to the courts to decide exactly what the measure does and does not do. Similar amendments to ban legal recognition of same-sex couples are on ballots in Arkansas, Georgia, Kentucky, Michigan, Mississippi, Montana, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon and Utah. Petitions in Ohio are still being verified.

ANTI-GAY AMENDMENT SPONSOR TO LEAD STATE SENATE GOP CAUCUS PICKS FITZGERALD FOLLOWING PANZER'S CRUSHING DEFEAT

Madison - Wisconsin's most virulently anti-gay state senator has been tapped to serve as majority leader for the 2005-6 biennial session. Scott Fitzgerald (R-Juneau) was selected in caucus September 15 as his party's new leader, picking up the pieces left by the bitter primary fight that ousted Majority Leader Mary Panzer. No one else had stepped forward to run for the leadership job Panzer gave up officially on September 17 following her crushing Republican primary loss to Rep. Glenn Grothman (R-West Bend) by a 4-1 margin.

Shortly after his selection, Fitzgerald promised to bring back the anti-gay marriage amendment, a constitutional amendment must pass two consecutive legislative sessions and a statewide referendum before it becomes effective. Fitzgerald and Assembly Speaker John Gard (R-Peshtigo) also plan to quickly draft a new proposal to amend the Wisconsin Constitution to

control state and local spending. The Juneau senator also promised to revisit a failed bill that would let Wisconsinites carry concealed weapons.

Fitzgerald claims that he's ready to lead, having made decisions in his more than 20 years in the U.S. Army Reserve. "It's a whole different world, though, in the way leadership is structured and the way people respond in the military, than in this (Capitol)," he said in a *Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel* interview. "The same traits and characteristics are important. You have to step up, you have to do what's right, and you have to move forward - that's where I feel I'm at right now."

Apparently part of "what's right" on Fitzgerald's list is an anti-gay agenda, given his long history of legislative sponsorships and statements on the issue. In addition to sponsoring the constitutional amendment prohibiting any legal recognition of same-sex relationships, Fitzgerald has been the lead

Senate sponsor of so-called "Definition of Marriage" bills for almost a decade, including the one vetoed by Governor Jim Doyle in 2003.

In 1997, Fitzgerald also tried to force Wisconsin Public Television to cancel *In The Life*, the nationally syndicated LGBT newsmagazine provided without charge to the state network, claiming taxpayer dollars were being used to "normalize the gay lifestyle." Fitzgerald reportedly became enraged when he learned that the program would profile a gay farm couple that lived in his district. The profile "portrays Wisconsin in a very negative light and should be removed," Fitzgerald warned in a press release immediately prior to the program's airing.

Republicans have controlled the Senate, 18-15, and the Assembly, 59-40, over the past two years. Republicans are expected to retain control after the November 2 elections.

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GWM, 58, 165, 5'6", ardent c---s---k---, looking for a couple (black, white or mixed) 20-50, slender or chubby. She can watch me & I'll entertain her, too, if she wishes. Especially interested in the Marinette area. Write CSW, PO Box 341396, **Milwaukee**, WI 53234. Give me your address. (1)

Rich from **Appleton** looking for friends and that *someone special* to share good times and maybe more. I'm 200 (husky), br/haz, semi hairy body, 5'6", 38 y.o. Enjoy biking, camping, etc. Bottom, d/d & HIV free [1]

GWM TV/crossdresser, 40s, tall, slender, slutt, blonde & fairly passable for my age...seeks men over 35 for hot encounters. I'm orally talented & a strict bottom. Have own apartment & discretion is respected & assured. Write T.L., PO Box 311, **Appleton**, WI 54912 [1]

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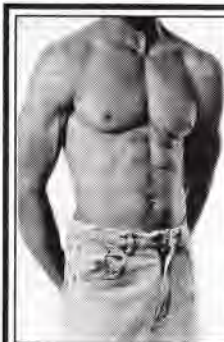
um. (414) 354-7332 or e-mail me at miss6969@yahoo.com Kimberly K. [2]

Tops/bottoms! Are you looking to meet that special guy? If you're in the **Green Bay** area, call (920) 965-5966 any time. Let's connect. [2]

43, stocky hairy bear would like to experience spankings. Live in **La Crosse**, WI. E-mail me at pjohn39@yahoo.com [2]

BiWM **Milwaukee** area, 5'11", 200 lbs., d/d free, 6.5 thick head uncut. Enjoys giving & receiving oral & more. Interested in bi men, crossdressers & bi couples for oral pleasures. E-mail me at norm393@mailstation.com [2]

Sub 33 y.o. good looking bottom seeks top man or men to please, especially top men private parties! Tie me up & let the fun begin for free (I'm just a d/d free bottom s---t), **Milwaukee** area. All letters answered ASAP.



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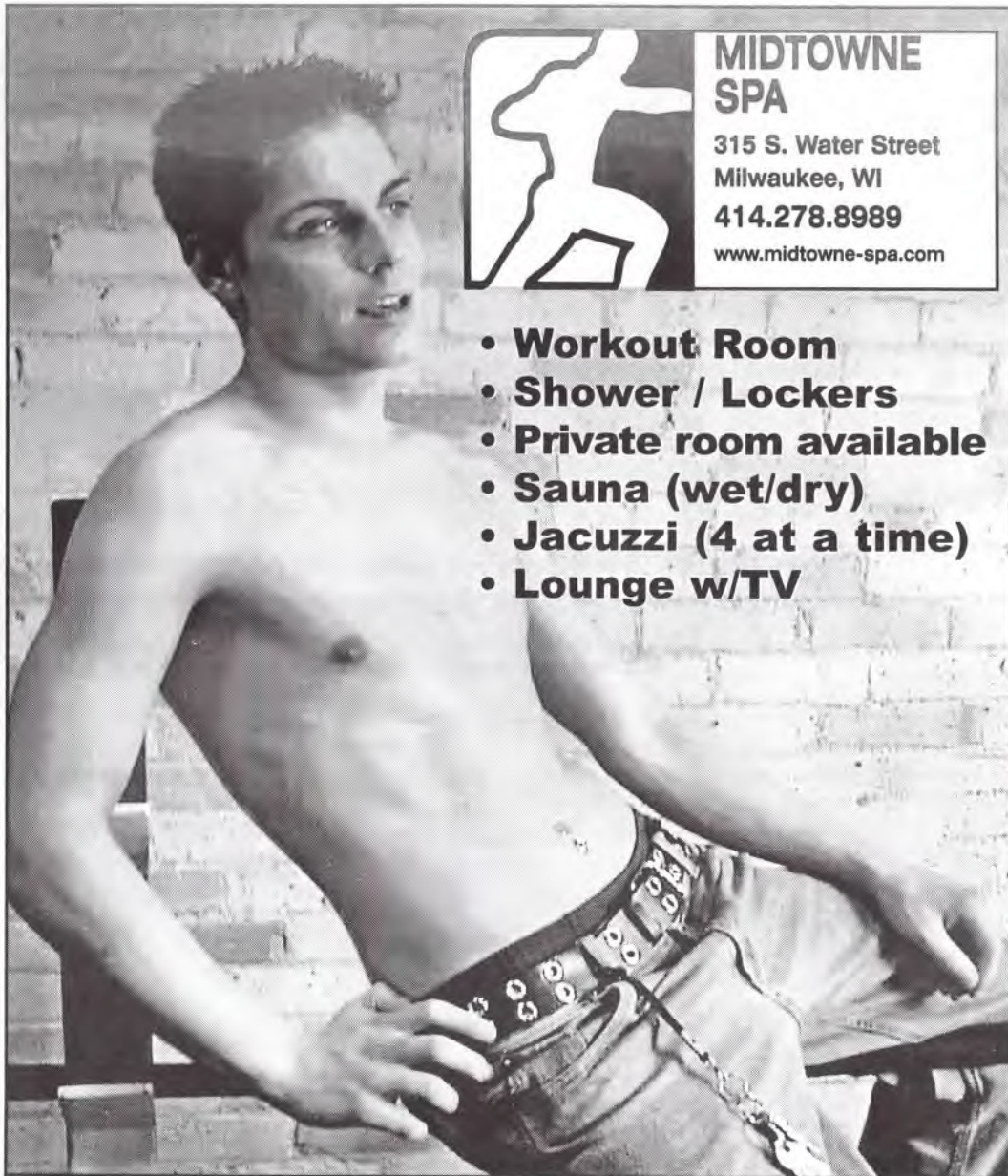
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SAPP SAFE AFTER REPORTED ABDUCTION

Green Bay - Argonauts of Wisconsin President and *Quest* leather lifestyle columnist Michael Sapp is recovering at home following his return to the state September 19 from Paducah, Kentucky. Sapp's return followed a two-week disappearance and an "Amber Alert"-like series of emails seeking information on his whereabouts distributed throughout the leather/Levi community and other gay circles nationwide.

In a statement made available on the Argonauts of Wisconsin website Sapp wrote that he was a "victim of a car theft and abduction." Sapp also reported that the incident was being investigated by the FBI.

Sapp also appeared to confirm widespread rumors that his disappearance was related to an encounter arranged over the internet. "Please help me forget

this terrible experience, and never, ever, ever meet unknown persons you encounter through internet postings without creating a safety net for yourself first," Sapp's letter implored.

The particulars of what may have occurred were suggested in the missing person alert issued by the Argonauts on September 15. The northeast Wisconsin leather group's alert cautioned readers to "always remember, not everyone out there is a good person. Whenever you go out, let friends know where you are going to be and with whom, leave contact numbers, have your cell phone, make sure you have ID on you. And, please take caution. A good playtime prospect is not worth losing your life!"

Sapp disappeared sometime after leaving for a visit with friends over the Labor Day weekend. Family and friends became alarmed when he failed to return

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You can tell it's getting close to state!

Only a few pageants remain before Miss Gay Wisconsin USofA is held.

Top four clockwise are from Miss Forest City above and to the right from Miss Emerald City.

Thanks for the photos
Dan & Kylie
from Drag Depot



Georgia: Sputtering Gay Boycott Now Asks Queers To Drain ATMs Dry

Organizers of the apparently faltering Boycott For Equality are expanding their nationwide walkout to attempt a coordinated cash withdrawal from the economy on October 8. To demonstrate the need for equality in marriage and the workplace, straight and gay supporters are being asked to take out \$80 from their local ATM. Boycott For Equality claims the action will exhaust the cash in many ATMs, leaving a reminder of gay economic power to all who try to use them throughout the long bank weekend.

"Let them know you participated in the boycott," co-founder Dale Duncan said, in requesting participants mail their withdrawal slips to one of their elected officials seeking campaign contributions. "Just take your ATM receipt, cross out your account number, circle your balance, write 'gay money' on it and mail it to campaign headquarters in the postage paid envelope they provide. They'll get the message that nobody in America can be taken for granted." Duncan claims the amount represents the amount the average member of the LGBT community contributes to the U.S. economy each day.

Other components being promoted by boycott organizers include a one-day work stoppage or "pink flu" day to demonstrate solidarity to employers and colleagues; a moratorium on spending for goods and services such as gas, food and clothing; closures by sympathetic businesses to make their customers aware of how dependent Americans are upon each other; and a halt to cell phone use to spread the plea for equality throughout the participant's network.

Boycott organizers admit that less than fifty, mostly personally-owned businesses and only 15,000 people have already pledged to participate using the online forms at the group's website. Census and other statistical estimates of the national LGBT community range from 15 to 30 million people currently living in the United States. On-the-record boycott supporters currently amount to one tenth of a percent of that population.

Louisiana: Fundie Philanderer Swaggart Says He Sorry For Wanting To Kill Gay Folks

After nearly two weeks of international public outcry, televangelist Jimmy Swaggart claimed on September 22 that he was sorry for saying in a televised worship service that he would kill any gay man who looked at him romantically. In a September 12 broadcast, Swaggart was discussing his opposition to gay marriage when he said "I've never seen a man in my life I wanted to marry." Swaggart then added: "And I'm going to be blunt and plain: If one ever looks at me like that,

I'm going to kill him and tell God he died." Swaggart's audience erupted with laughter and applause following the comment.

In his semi-contrite public statement Swaggart claimed that he has jokingly used the expression "killing someone and telling God he died" thousands of times, about all sorts of people. He said the expression is figurative and not meant to harm. "It's a humorous statement that doesn't mean anything. You can't lie to God - it's ridiculous," Swaggart told The Associated Press. "If it's an insult, I certainly didn't think it was, but if they are offended, then I certainly offer an apology."

A Quest search of Swaggart's sermon transcripts at his ministry's website failed to turn up a single incidence of the allegedly oft-repeated phrase. Audio recordings of the September 12 statements have circulated on gay-themed websites, prompting complaints to stations carrying Swaggart's program in North America.

One complaint was sent to the Canadian Broadcast Standards Council, a self-regulating industry group that enforces broadcast standards, after a Toronto television station broadcast the service, said Ann Mainville-Neeson, the council's executive director. Cheryl Jacques, head of the Human Rights Campaign, said

Swaggart should preach equality for all Americans. "Apologies don't discourage violence - action does. We hope that he takes action," Jacques said. "His language only encourages an environment where hate crimes occur."

The flap over Swaggart's gay-baiting remarks has brought increased visibility to what some evangelicals describe as a failed ministry desperately seeking any means to survive. Swaggart, a cousin to disgraced 50's rocker Jerry Lee Lewis, was a wildly popular television evangelist during the 1980s until a 1987 sex scandal involving a prostitute that he met in a seedy New Orleans motel.

In his tear-drenched, headline-grabbing apology for that escapade Swaggart never confessed to anything more than an unspecified sin. A few years later, however, he was stopped by police while driving in California with yet another suspected prostitute in his car.

New York: Nielsen And GLAAD Seek Gay TV Ratings

The Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD) and Nielsen Media Research, the television ratings company, are working together to explore ways of better understanding gay and lesbian market demographics. Representatives from GLAAD and Nielsen have held a series of meetings in Los Angeles and New York to discuss ways of including gay and lesbian demographic information in Nielsen's television research. Nielsen and GLAAD said in a September 23 joint statement that they will continue to meet and discuss ways to



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welcome. kook2002kook@yahoo.com [1]
Madison Apartment: Spacious, bright 2 BR apt. in 4-unit building, fenced backyard, off-street parking included. Garage space avail for \$25 mo. Pets/significant others welcome. \$605 mo., heat incl. Mark (608) 835-9115 or spaceforliving@att.net [1a]

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Middle-aged **Appleton-Oshkosh** area gentleman offers massage services for men only. 1-hr. full body massage, \$50. My tantalizing touch will please you immensely, and my tongue you'll certainly judge as superbly sensual. Avail. Mon. thru Fri. after 4, and any time on weekends by appointment. Page (920) 616-2535

Black Masseur offers full body Swedish style massages. Attractive, strong hands, experienced, oils. Friendly. Out call or in by advance notice. Jerry (414) 256-1318 [10/12]

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Community Calendar

Sept. 30 - Oct. 10

2004 Milwaukee LGBT Film/Video Festival...Oriental & UWM Union Theatres.

Boulevard Theatre (Milw.): School for Wives, Moliere's delightful comedy, opens today & runs thru Oct. 23. Tickets (414) 744-5757. More info at boulevardtheatre.com

Friday, Oct. 1

L.D. Crossroads (Appleton) **Kimmi Hayes Band**

Saturday, Oct. 2

Angels of Hope members (the first 15 to sign up...Tina 920-217-3313) tour the Fox River on the **Foxy Lady Yacht!**

Blue Lite (Sheboygan) Miss Lakeshore WI USofA, 10 pm, \$3 cover

FORGE (Milw.) meets 7 pm at the LGBT Center. Meeting topic: *Embracing the Past and Present*

Website: www.forge-forward.org/socialsupport/

Office (Rockford, IL) **Black Out Party!**

Madison Gay Video Club: Queer As Folk (episode 407), *Latter Days and Packers*, 8 pm. www.mgvc.org (608) 244-8675 (evenings)

Sunday, Oct. 3

Club 5 (Madison) Badger Productions presents **Mr. Gay Great Lakes USA-at-Large 2005**; \$5 cover. FMO Michael K. @ (608) 239-6086

Wednesday, October 6

STD Specialties free HIV & syphilis testing, 10pm-1am, **Harbor Room**

Saturday, Oct. 9

Sass (Green Bay) Ms. Gay WI USA, 10:30, stars Sasha, Ms. Gay WI '03 **Swan Club (DePere) An Evening with Rainbow Over Wisconsin**, a gala LGBT event benefitting ROW's Community Enrichment Fund: cocktails & silent auction at 6, dinner 7:30, live auction featuring Jarica Jordan at 8:30, dancing & cameo performances 9:30. Tickets \$25; tables of 10, \$250. Nancy (920) 432-9646 to reserve tickets, or e-mail rainbowoverwi@athenet.net

Sunday, Oct. 10

Club 5 (Madison) Diamond Girl Productions presents *A Night to Remember*, a benefit for **Breast Cancer Research** (www.diamond-girl.org), 10:30 pm, \$4 cover

Tuesday, Oct. 12

Outwards Books (Milw.) Lesbian Reading Group meets to discuss Vin Packer's *Spring Fire*, the story of Leda & Mitch, two sorority sisters at a Midwestern university in the 50s who stumble into a forbidden love affair. All welcome!

Wednesday, Oct. 13

STD Specialties free HIV & syphilis testing, 10pm-1am, **94 North (Kenosha)**

Saturday, Oct. 16

Madison Gay Video Club, 8 pm - *Queer As Folk* (episode 408), *Men's Mix One* - 7 short films, and *Gored*. www.mgvs.org (608) 244-8675 (evenings)

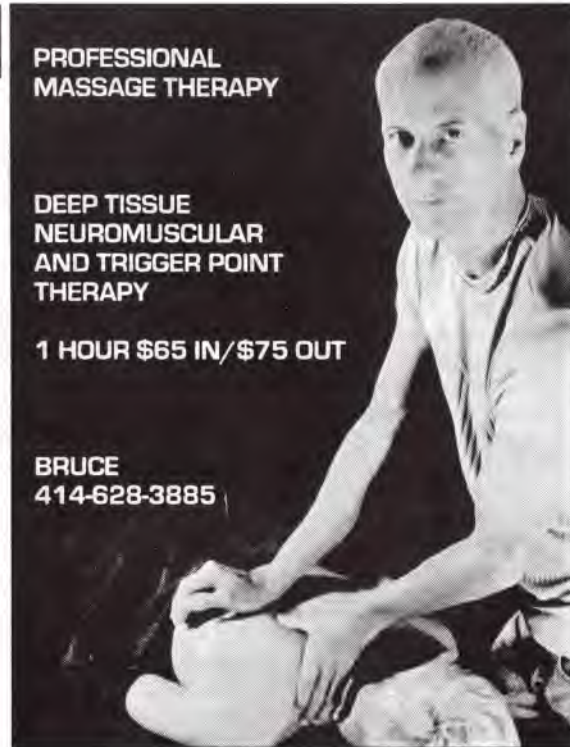
ZA's Historic West Theatre (Green Bay) **Miss Wisconsin USofA Classic**, 10:30 pm pageant, \$10 cover. FMO Brandon or Dale (920) 217-2199

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Sat.-Sun., Oct. 16-17

Celebrating the Body Erotic, a 2-day workshop for men conducted in Chicago by the Body Electric School exploring the connections between touch, physical pleasure & spiritual awareness. FMI (312) 819-1524

Monday, Oct. 18

Outwards Book Club (Milw) gathers to discuss Steve Kluger's best-selling romantic comedy, *Almost Like Being in Love*. New members always welcome!

Wednesday, Oct. 20

Boulevard Theatre (Milw.) Doug Wright's Suspenseful Sampler *Unwrap Your Candy* opens today, and runs thru Oct. 31. www.boulevardtheatre.com

STD Specialties free HIV & syphilis testing, 10pm-1am, **Fluid**

Thursday, Oct. 21

STD Specialties free HIV & syphilis testing, 10pm-1am, **Boom**

Wednesday, Oct. 27

STD Specialties free HIV & syphilis testing, 10pm-1am, **Woodys**

Thursday, Oct. 28

SAGE/Milw. Fundraiser w/ actor John McGivern, Astor Hotel, 6 pm performance followed by an appetizer & wine reception. FMO (414) 224-0517

Saturday, Oct. 30

Madison Gay Video Club - Special Halloween Party, co-sponsored w/ Frontiers: 7 pm free buffet dinner, gay horror film *Shadow of the Vampire*, 8 pm. www.mgvc.org (608) 244-8675 (evenings)

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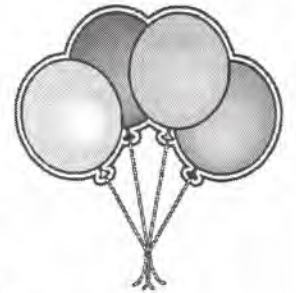
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Please Sir, May I Have Another?

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More info available under top stories...



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Saturday, October 9
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Live Auction featuring Jarica Jordan • 8:30pm
Dancing & cameo performances 9:30pm
Tickets \$25 - Tables of 10 \$250

Tickets available from individual ROW members & businesses
For more info or to reserve tickets
Call Nancy 920-432-9646 or email: rainbowoverwi@athenet.net

better understand media usage among gay and lesbian TV audiences.

"Nielsen Media Research welcomes the opportunity to learn more about media usage among gay and lesbian audiences," Susan D. Whiting, President and CEO of Nielsen Media Research, said. "We are pleased that GLAAD approached us to search for ideas that will provide media companies with more information so they can make more informed programming and advertising decisions."

"Nielsen's commitment to exploring and understanding the gay and lesbian demographic sends an incredibly powerful message that gay people and families count," GLAAD Executive Director Joan M. Garry said. "We look forward to our continued relationship with Nielsen as they work to paint a more inclusive portrait of American media consumers."

"This is a first step toward inclusion not only for our community, but for advertisers, networks and the Hollywood creative community as well," GLAAD Entertainment Media Director Stephen Macias added. "This kind of information has the potential not only to transform outreach to the gay and lesbian market, but also to help shape the accuracy and inclusiveness of the images we see in the media."

New York: HIV Dementia Mechanism Discovered

Scientists at the U.S. Department of Energy's Brookhaven National Laboratory have discovered a key mechanism in the brains of people with HIV related dementia. The study is the first to document decreases in the neurotransmitter dopamine in those with the condition, and may lead to new, more effective therapies. HIV dementia is a type of cognitive decline that is more common in the later stages of HIV infection.

"Our results offer the first evidence of dopamine terminal injury - specifically injury to dopamine transporters - in HIV dementia patients," Brookhaven physician Gene-Jack Wang, the study's lead author, said. "This suggests that a decrease in transporters may contribute to the disease process. We believe our

findings also indicate a new direction for treatment."

Using positron emission tomography (PET), a brain-scanning technique, Wang and colleagues looked at the brains of 15 HIV-positive study volunteers, some of whom had symptoms of dementia, and 13 HIV-negative volunteers. The purpose of the scans was to determine the presence of dopamine transporters and dopamine receptors. Dopamine transporters, found on the terminals of some brain cells (neurons), recycle dopamine, a brain chemical that sends signals between the cells. Dopamine receptors are "docking ports" on the receiving neurons. Dopamine is associated with pleasure and reward and is also essential for movement; low levels are found in conditions such as Parkinson's disease. Decreased dopamine transporters represent neuron damage and lower levels of functional dopamine neurons, as well as decreases in the release of dopamine.

Prior to brain scanning, each volunteer was given an injection containing a

radiotracer, a radioactive chemical "tag" designed to "light up" activated areas of the brain. The PET camera picks up the radioactive signal and measures the level and location of the tracer. Two hours after the first scan, each volunteer was given a second radiotracer, and his/her brain was scanned again. The first scan looked specifically for the presence of dopamine receptors, and the second searched for dopamine transporters.

The researchers found that HIV-positive patients with, but not those without dementia, had significantly lower dopamine transporter levels in the putamen and ventral striatum, the brain regions containing the most transporters, compared with HIV-negative volunteers. Higher levels of HIV virus correlated with lower transporter levels in the caudate - part of the striatum - and in the putamen. Dopamine receptor levels showed only mild decreases in HIV-positive volunteers.

The study appears in the September 2004 issue of the British scientific journal *Brain*. Physician Linda Chang, for-

CD'S REVIEWED

SCISSORSISTERS

With a club dance hit out on video "Take Your Mama" this New York City based group is ready to bring their style of kitschy gay vitality and humor to the stages across America. This self titled album really has a different type of musical style to it. A sound like Billy Joel however it covers an array of musical styles. Part disco, soul, folk, punk and dance. Some of the songs are funny, some are serious and some kind of dark. With all the different styles on this album everyone can find something they will like.

Hunky lead singer Jake Shears really camps it up with dramatic dress and a wild look in his eye in their debut video, but live on stage every member of the band is eye candy and fun to watch.



Scissorsister' mission to inject fun and frisson back into pop culture has come out on this album. cutting edge has never sounded more irresistibly decadent.

GIRLYMAN



more gracefully than many songs of its kind ("I drowned myself tonight in sangria/ Made with sliced up fruit and cheap marsala"). Other ballads such as "Say Goodbye" and "The Shape I Found You In" move deeply and

Aptly titled, "Remember Who I Am" is a stirring collection of remembrances - of friends, of lovers, of ways of life. "Viola," the disc's lovely opening elegy, dips and soars

deliberately courtesy of Joe Dye's pedal steel guitar, which floats through the songs like a somber ghost. The dreamy "Maori" boasts a gorgeous melodic finesse as it contemplates the faraway natives of New Zealand, while "Amaze Me" tells a quirky tale of love for America in a dark time. Each song hooks into what's visceral and true.

Release date: 09/07/04

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New York City's top drag queen performers gather together to sing songs originally done by Abba. From the go go version of Waterloo to the country western style of Dancing Queen, this is a CD for all to have. It is sure to please as you hear boys singing like girls. If you are tired of the same old Abba and want to hear it in a different format pick this one up! All your favorites are included in this fifteen song Cd along with alot of pictures to give you an idea of the "girls" singing. Enjoy!

www.figjament.com

<http://www.figjament.com>

STONE LOVE

Angie Stone



It's been five years since Angie Stone's debut and her third album, Stone Love, is still taking the neo-soul approach with dabbles in hip-hop, funk, and classic soul from throughout the years. The big song is "I Wanna Thank Ya," a funky, up-tempo hip-hop break that sees Stone dueting with Snoop Dogg-the production is a fresh take on the old skool sound while Stone's melody has a breezy disco-soul vibe.



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town existence and over the objections of both husband and older daughter, sets out for Tel Aviv. But the grass isn't much greener in Tel Aviv, where Nurit struggles to make ends meet and assure the safety of two children. Her solution is to hire a nanny, a bright and charismatic Mushidi (Nthathi Moshesh), an illegal immigrant who works two jobs in the hopes of sending for her son who remains in Ghana.

Their relationship is not an easy one to develop, complicated both by race and later by sexual attraction. Soon, however, Nurit begins to emerge from her façade of anger and mistrust and the four look to becoming a content, extended family. Or seem to be until Nurit's husband learns the nature of the relationship of his wife and her nanny.

"Round Trip" is a stark, poignant film that has touches on many important issues and courageously refuses simple, fairy-tale solutions. (Shahar Rozen, Isreal, in Hebrew with English subtitles, 95min, 2003)

(7:00pm) "Wild Side"

This year's Milwaukee LGBT Film/Video Festival ends with "Wild Side," another dark, melancholy film from French director Sebastien Lifshitz whose "Come Undone" was a festival favorite a few years back. Stephanie (Stephanie Michelin) works as a transsexual prostitute in Paris where she lives with Jamal (Yasmine Belmadi), a male hustler and Mikhail (Edouard Nikitine), a deserter from Russian army who works as a waiter. Stephanie journeys home when her mother (Josiane Stoleru) falls ill, with her surrogate family in tow. It may have been a very long time but Stephanie's childhood memories come flooding back. "Wild Side" is a deeply evocative, elusive film that manages to be both compelling and supremely frustrating. (Sebastien Lifshitz, France, in French with English subtitles, 93 min 2004)

CLUB MUSIC

TOP FIFTEEN DJ PLAYLISTS

Club 5 Madison WI Tony Ritschard"

1. Spiderman-----Michael Buble
2. You Are The One-----Jocelyn Brown
3. The Wonder Of It All-----Kristine W.
4. Dirty Filthy-----Celeda
5. Freedom-----Joi Cardwell
6. Gloria 2004-----Laura Branigan
7. Looking Good, Feeling Gorgeous-----Ru Paul
8. How Would You Feel-----David Morales
9. Popular-----Darren Hayes
10. You Move Me-----Amber
11. I Want More-----Faithless
12. Ain' No Love, Ain't No Use 2004-----Soda Club
13. Will I Ever-----Andy Bell
14. New Day-----Patti LaBelle
15. Sand In My Shoes-----Dido

*All Club Remixes

Za's Historic West Theatre, Green Bay WI "DJ Carl"

1. Car Wash-----Christina Aguilera
2. Lola's Theme-----Shape: UK
3. Stupidisco-----Junior Jack
4. Good Luck-----Basement Jaxx
5. Turn Me On-----Kevin Lyttle
6. Lose My Breath-----Destiny's Child
7. Move ya Body-----Nina Sky
8. California Dreamin'-----Royal Gigolos
9. My Prerogative-----Britney Spears
10. Goodies-----Ciara
11. Put em High-----Stonebridge
12. Whatever u Want-----Christina Milian
13. You Move Me-----Amber
14. How Would You Feel-----David Morales
15. o.g. bitch-----Esthero



Miss Wisconsin USofA Classic

Saturday, October 16th, 2004

Za's Historic West Theater • Green Bay



Elsie Bovine
Miss WI USofA Classic 2003



Ginger Manchester
Miss Gay USofA Classic



Tina Devore
Emeritus

Registration 2:00 pm • Rehearsal 2:30 pm • Interview 6:00 pm
(Registration and Interview will take place at Historic West Theater, 405 W. Walnut)



Pageant 10:30 pm
Cover Charge \$10

Contestant Entry Fee \$100

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merly a researcher at Brookhaven Lab and now with the University of Hawaii, initiated the research.

"This study clearly demonstrates that HIV infection damages dopamine-associated brain cells, and provides a pathway for developing more effective treatments," National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) Director

Nora Volkow said. Volkow worked on the study while at Brookhaven Lab.

"These findings suggest that HIV patients with dementia may benefit from dopamine-enhancing treatments, especially those patients with more severe cognitive motor deficits," Wang added. "Studies have shown, however, that some of these agents may actually exacerbate HIV-induced neurotoxicity, but antioxidants may block this mechanism. Further studies should focus on adjunctive approaches combining drugs in both classes.

Texas: Gay Black GOP Group Backs Bush

The Abe Lincoln Black Republican Caucus (ALBRC), a group of young urban Black gay Republicans, voted September 22 in Dallas to endorse President Bush for reelection. The endorsement was fueled by the Log Cabin Republicans' (LCR) recent refusal to endorse President Bush.

"We think that the 'Republican Tent' is inclusive and there is room for differences, but one does not pick up their marbles and go home if there are a few points of disagreement," ALBRC national spokesperson Anthony Falls said. "The ALBRC does not support marriage for gays, yet we do support and call for recognition of domestic partnerships."

According to co-founder Don Sneed, ALBRC was created to address the political issues and needs of young Black gay Republicans. "Our voices are never heard, yet we exist and are growing in numbers" Sneed said. "Although we are small, have meager resources and are not as widely known as our counterparts in the Log Cabin Republicans, we do exist, we have families and friends who listen to our voting recommendations and we have the capacity to get our message up and out. With this election as close as it is, especially in the battleground states, any movement of the Black vote towards President Bush, could make a significant difference"

Sneed is also a Bush-appointed member of the Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS.

Washington, DC: RNC Fesses Up: "We Sent The Queer-Baiting, Bible Ban Mailing"

The Republican National Committee has admitted that it distributed anti-gay campaign literature in West Virginia and Arkansas warning voters that liberals want to ban the Bible.

When asked September 24 by Associated Press reporters, party spokeswoman Christine Iverson said the GOP had already acknowledged it was the source of the mass mailings. However, when reporters asked about the mailings a week earlier, RNC Chairman Ed Gillespie alleged he wasn't aware of the material and did not confirm that it was distributed by the GOP. However, Gillespie said it "could be the work" of the party.

The literature claimed that "the liberal agenda includes removing 'under God' from the Pledge of Allegiance" and

as ever. The "Boys' Shorts" program offers a tantalizing mix of films, from couples trying to bake babies to asses trying to get waxed. *Not screened.*

Day 10: Saturday, October 9
(2:00pm) Du Ska Nog Se Att Det Gar Over (Don't Worry, It Will Probably Pass)

A few years ago, the Festival featured Cecilia Neant-Falk's "Companions: Tales From the Closet," a touching documentary about older lesbians. In "Don't You Worry, It Will Probably Pass," Neant-Falk turns her lens on young woman just coming out. Much like when she was a teenager, Neant-Falk placed an ad, "Are you there? A girl attracted to both boys and girls." Her three subjects, My, Joppe and Natalie share their revealing stories. Free. (Cecilia Neant-Falk, Sweden, in Swedish with English subtitles, 74 min 2003)

(4:00pm) "Venus of Mars"

Comparisons of Emily Goldberg's documentary of Venus, the gender-bending lead singer of the Minneapolis glam rock band All the Pretty Horses and John Cameron Mitchell's popular fiction "Hedwig and the Angry Inch" are inevitable. In addition to protagonists who are certainly kindred spirits, both films incorporate concert footage and original animation. Goldberg's purpose is less certain, her film working best as promotion for the band. Not until halfway through the film does Goldberg delve into Steve's transgendered journey and the impact it had on his relationship with his wife Lynette. Nor, curiously, is there mention of how s/he then became the vinyl corseted and stiletto heeled lead singer Venus. While the fictional license of "Hedwig" offered plenty of opportunities for insights, such were not always forthcoming from Goldberg's real-life subjects. (Emily Goldberg, USA 105min 2003)

(7:00pm) "Goldfish Memories"

Irish filmmaker Liz Gill's debut effort, "Goldfish Memories," is a charming sexual comedy of manner set in contemporary Dublin. All of the characters are attractive twenty-somethings who seem destined to look for love in all the wrong places. Tom (Sean Campion) is a Literature professor captivated with Rilke and his lovely female students. Lesbian news presenter Angie (Flora Montgomery) becomes enchanted with bisexual free-spirit Clara (Fiona O'Shaughnessy). Angie's best friend Red (Keith McErlean) is a bicycle messenger who has set his eye on straight bartender David (Peter Gaynor), whose girlfriend Rosie (Lise Hearn) reacts badly to being dumped for a man by getting too quickly engaged to marry Larry (Stuart Graham). And so on and so on...

Indeed, Gill's giddily convoluted plot spins her small group of likable characters in and out of each other's beds so quickly that you begin to wish that you could pause or even, on occasion, rewind, in order to keep everyone straight - so to speak.

But "Goldfish Memories" is so sweet and Gill so very generous with all of her characters, it is impossible to resist this romantic confection. (Liz Gill, Ireland, 85min 2003)

(9:00pm) "Straight-Jacket"

1950s Hollywood has never been so Gay or so computer-generated as in Richard Day "Straight-Jacket." Day's cautionary tale follows the fortunes of hunky Hollywood heart-throb Guy Stone (Matt Letscher) who is all set to play the lead in "Ben Hur!" Then he's caught by the evil tabloid press during a police raid on a gay bar. Guy's agent Jerry (Veronica Cartwright) and the head of the studio concoct a sham marriage to his secretary Sally (Carrie Preston), who is pretty but seemingly not very

bright. Shades of Rock Hudson! Well, there's a few flaws in this oh-so ingenious plan. Heaven forbid but Sally has some definite ideas of marriage and they include suitable conjugal requirements. Meanwhile Guy falls in love with Rick (Adam Greer), an idealistic playwright.

Is Sally ever have sex with her husband? Will Jerry find the right woman? Can Guy's slimy screen rival Freddie break out of his B-movie purgatory? Will Guy be able to ride into the sunset with Rick?

Day's premise is full of promise and his screenplay is chock full of witty one-liners and wacky plot twists. Yet despite some fine performances, particularly by Cartwright's brassy butch-in-training Jerry and Adam Greer's supremely cuddlesome Rick, Glenn couldn't help but think that "Straight-Jacket" should have been so much more fun. (Richard Day, USA 96 min, 2004)

Day 11: Sunday, October 10
(2:00pm) "Tying the Knot"

Gay marriage is on everyone's minds these days. So, it comes as no surprise that at least one film would focus on this controversial topic. Jim de Seve puts a human face to this issue by focusing on two specific case histories. The union of two Florida police-women was celebrated by friends, family and colleagues. Then, when one was killed in the line of duty and the issue of pension monies arose, everything changed. Even more infuriating is the story of a gay couple of 22 years whose will is overturned over a technicality. The inequity of these cases are placed within the context of current debate. Free (Jim de Seve, USA, 80min 2003)

(5:00pm) "Al Ha'Kav" (Round Trip)

Nurit (Anat Waxman) is an Israeli woman facing a mid-life crisis. Working double shifts as a bus driver to support her two children and her chronically unemployed husband, Nurit decides to flee her small

QUEST DEADLINES

Vol. 11 Issue 20

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2004 MILWAUKEE LGBT FILM FESTIVAL

By Glenn Bishop

Week 2:

Day 5: Monday, October 4

(7:00pm) In "A.K.A.," 18-year-old Dean (Matthew Leitch), manages to slip into the wonderful world of the British aristocracy circa 1978. In Paris, Dean meets hunky American boy-toy Benjamin (Peter Youngblood Hills). But can Dean find true happiness while living a lie? *Free. Not screened.*

(Duncan Roy, United Kingdom 123min 2002)

Day 6: Tuesday, October 5

(7:00pm) Magical realism meets Thai cinema in "Sud Pralad" (Tropical Malady). The romantic idyll between country lad Tong and Keng, a young soldier is interrupted by the disappearance of a villager and the onset of attacks by a wild beast. *Free. Not Screened* (Apichatpong Weerasethakul,

France/Thailand, in Thai with English subtitles 118min 2003)

Day 7: Wednesday, October 6

(7:00pm) "Therese and Isabelle" Radley Metzger's classic Lesbian erotic classic of two boarding school outcasts' illicit affair. *Not screened* (Radley Metzger, USA in French with English subtitles, 118min 1967)

Day 8: Thursday, October 7

(7:00pm) Rodney Evans' "Brother to Brother" bravely attempts to portray the struggle for acceptance by Gay African-Americans past and present. Handsome young artist Perry (Anthony Mackie) is a college student on the eve his first gallery showing. This should be an exciting time for him. However Perry is still nursing bruises, ones both physical and emotional, following his father's discovery of Perry with another man.

Perry's life changes when he meets a charismatic homeless man (Roger Robinson) who claims to be Bruce Richard Nugent, the last remaining member of the famed Harlem Renaissance. Perry is as keen to hear Nugent's oral history as Nugent himself happy to impart it. In a series of luminously filmed black & white flashbacks, Nugent introduces Perry to Langston Hughes, Wallace Thurman as well as Nugent's own fascinating story.

"Brother to Brother" is an ambitious, challenging film as Evans seeks to highlight the similarities and differences faced by young Gay African-Americans across the span of 60-odd years. The past comes especially vividly to life thanks to terrific performances by Duane Boutte, Daniel Sunjata and Aunjanue Ellis as the youthful versions of Nugent, Langston Hughes and Zora Neale Hurston.

"Brother to Brother" is a passionate piece of cinema with its lens focusing on one part of our

diverse, LGBT community all to often ignored. Still, one wishes Evans a better storyteller for those unfamiliar with the Harlem Renaissance are likely to remain so.

Highly Recommended
Rodney Evans, USA 90min 2003)

Day 9: Friday, October 8

(7:00pm) Calamity Dames: An Evening of Lesbian Shorts

Always a Pandora's Box of cinematic pleasures, this collection of Lesbian Shorts offers diverse films from across the world. Guinever Turner is represented with "Hummer," where humming in candlelight proves a heady aphrodisiac. Buboo Kakati's "The Nearly Unadventurous Life of Zoe Cadwalder" is an absolutely charming romance in which getting struck by lightning proves no deterrent to true love.

(9:00pm) In Your Face: An Evening of Boys' Shorts

The "Boys' Shorts" program is always a crowd-pleaser and there's no reason to doubt this year's program will as popular

showed a Bible with the word "BANNED" across it. It also showed a photo of a man, on his knees, placing a ring on the hand of another man with the word "ALLOWED." a gay-baiting reference to same-sex marriage. The mailing urged people to "vote Republican to protect our families" and defeat the "liberal agenda."

The RNC isn't the only GOP-friendly organization raising an anti-gay hue and cry however. A group led by Republican conservative activist Gary Bauer is launching a television advertising campaign against John Kerry in Pennsylvania and Michigan to criticize his stand on gay marriage. The 30-second ad shows Kerry speaking while an announcer says Kerry opposed efforts to stop gay marriage in Massachusetts and also voted against the Defense of Marriage Act which defined marriage as between a man and a woman.

"I'm convinced that one of the big issues of the campaign is this debate over marriage," Bauer said. Bauer is the self-appointed president of an organization that calls itself American Values, and supports a constitutional amendment to ban gay marriage. "Both parties continue to remain very nervous when it comes to values issues," he added.

Kerry opposes gay marriage but also opposes a federal constitutional amendment to ban them. Kerry says he supports civil unions and rejects legislation that could be used to eliminate equal protections for gays. Bauer claims the anti-Kerry ad is financed by "an independent political group" called Americans United to Preserve Marriage, which has raised \$500,000.

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Safonda Says All

Hey all, Another month has passed and summer is dwindling away. Well, let us get started with the pageant that has passed by.

Even tho it was just a bar title it is a very coveted one to win. For those who missed it, it was the Mr. And Miss Napalese Lounge pageant. This pageant is for those who have not had a glass hat in the past two years or ever for that matter. The Mr. Side was gotten by Brandon from Superstar Productions. I am guessing he is the powerhouse competitor being that all else running for the male title packed up their props and swimsuits and left the building before it even begun after hearing Brandon was running. And I thought it was the boys who had the balls. Next was the girls, your contestants for the night were Tippy, Mercedes Andrews and Nicole Starr. With interview over it was time for a little talent after the show started. Tippy graced us with a very cute Dame Edna number, while Mercedes danced the house out with a little Destinys Child and Nicole did the ever popular and way over done Jennifer Holiday. I know that this was just a bar title, but can these queens stop doing Jennifer? After a perfect score at one of our state pageants, how does anyone think they can do it any better? The judges hear Jennifer and immediately flashback to that time and judge accordingly. Next up was gown. All the gals looked good, however some better than others. I personally do not understand some of the scoring however, keep in mind I was not a judge but one gown was to short, one gown was modeled badly and one gown fit like a sack. One updo looked like it was dragged behind a car. Come on girls, you should no better than that at this point. One of the girls had an updo that came straight from a national pageant where it was loved by all. However it was cracked by a few select judges. So, like I said, it is just a bar title that goes nowhere but when you have so many people talking and asking questions about the out come what are you going to do. It is not like this has never happened before. I personally have no opinion on the outcome. I have enough people that hate me right now. So, as it ended, Brandon won Mr. Of course, Tippy won with Mercedes coming in first runner up. I am looking forward to seeing these two throughout the year performing for the wonderful Napalese Lounge. Rachael Vanders and Steven Lloyd gave up their

titles in great style. Rachael wore a Domino Designs original gown that looked flawless. Steve however, after doing a Holly Hot Damn tribute by falling off the stage, gave a four minute thank you speech before his final number. Girl, this is a bar title, how long will the speech be when you give up a state title, a half hour? Love ya! Also, Steve threw himself a little party on Sunday at his home in celebration to him giving up his title. I was



unable to attend because of some high school aged bullshit still being said, so I decided to not lower myself to that level and I made other plans. However rumor has it a game of truth or dare took place. Now, I have played this game before and I know enough never to take a dare, turns out some are not that smart and ended up having to stand naked in the middle of 9th street for all party goers to watch. Dumb dumb dumb.

Next was the ever popular Shaketacular put on by none other than Doodles and Steve. Better known that night as Eicha-sketch and Crayola. As always a very entertaining show with the who's who of Green Bay showing their support and doing numbers. Steven Lloyd, Cary, Loretta Lusinda, Mercedes, C.C. Domino, Elsie Bovine, Tippy, Katrina, Mark Madison, Brandon, Tammy Faye, Justine and your wonderful emcee team myself and Kelli Jo Klein. The show was a great time with the show lasting til about 1a.m. Just an honorable mention, Doodles actually stayed some what sober, personally I like him better drunk!

Other things going on, I hear Brandysil had a 100 year flood. Turns out some lesbian had a problem with the fire sprinkler in the bathroom and it flooded the bar out. Probably the first time those carpets have been cleaned in years!

Also, for Andy's 21st birthday celebration party the West had some hot go-go boys on the blocks wowing the crowd with their wares. I have not seen that bar that packed since the last state pageant was held, Rumor has it the go-gos made a stop at Andy's apartment after bar close to give him a private birthday present. He is denying it of course because he is such an innocent flower. (And I am only 29!)

Next up, if you happen to see Tammy Faye out, give her a congratulations on becoming a grandpa. (Some people should not be able to breed)

Rumor also has it that one night at Napalese a person who I will not mention, decided to be a "superstar" and try and get on the WB by wearing only an apron and dance the night away. Seeing this will buy me another year on the couch! By the way, you owe Kari a new apron!

And now for an award! This will be the "get a life asshole" award. Seems a new bar is in the works for the Green Bay area. As with all businesses, you must meet with the city to be sure all is good. Turns out one disgruntled prick who has nothing better to do than to convince people that he is an ass decided to try and stop the bar from opening. Is there not a big rock you can sit under? From what I am hearing all his attempts were for nothing and all is going well. I can not wait for a grand opening invitation!

Well, that is it for now, keep in mind the first annual Rainbow Over Wisconsin auction and dinner is coming up along with Za's birthday party, and Ms. Wisconsin pageant all on the same night. Sounds like a good excuse to start early for a dinner and then see Sasha Give up hear title and then stop at the West for some eye candy on the dance boxes. I will see you all there. Plus, the Wednesday night bowling league has started and is being held at 9pm at Riviera lanes. All are welcome, we have more teams already than last year and is turning out to be the best year yet. Come on down and join!

See ya at the shows!

Safonda

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Please note the state articles are arranged alphabetical by city name.

ROW Dinner Tickets Selling Quickly

Green Bay - Tickets for Rainbow Over Wisconsin's first-ever benefit dinner October 9 are selling even faster than projected, ROW board members learned at the group's September 20 meeting. The northeast Wisconsin charitable organization learned 113 of the 200 available tickets for its "Evening With Rainbow Over Wisconsin" event had been sold with two sellers yet to report. Tickets will be available for purchase until sold out or through October 4.

The dinner, silent & live auction and dance will be held beginning at 6 PM at the Swan Club in DePere. The event will feature professional auctioneer and popular female illusionist Jarica Jordan in full costume seeking top bidders, with a selection of cameo performances follow the auction prior to the dance.

Tickets are \$25 each and available from ROW members and businesses in Appleton, Green Bay and Sheboygan. Tables of 10 and individual tickets may also be arranged via email through the ROW website at www.rainbowoverwisconsin.org. For more information about the dinner, call Nancy at 920-432-9646.

Rainbow Over Wisconsin will also sponsor a 9-pin tap bowling tournament on Saturday, November 27 at the Riviera Lanes in Green Bay. Additional details will be available shortly.

Positive Voice To Open Office

Green Bay - Positive Voice, northeast Wisconsin's largest LGBT member organization will open offices on Stuart St. in early October. The new site was recently purchased by the Arketype, Ltd. design firm which is donating space to the group and the Coalition to Promote Respect, an organization seeking to foster acceptance of ethnic diversity in Brown County.

Positive Voice is seeking the following items: twenty stackable or folding chairs, four 6' plastic folding tables, four wall book cases, a refrigerator with freezer, and a microwave oven.



Inclusive Services Workshop Set

La Crosse - The La Crosse Domestic Abuse Task Force will present a one-day provider workshop on "Providing Inclusive Services to LGBT Clients," focusing on domestic abuse and sexual assault victims and LGBT youth on Friday, October 22, from 9 AM to 4 PM in Room 2006 in the Health Science Building at UW-LaCrosse. This day-long training is designed primarily for agency staff and others who work with youth and/or victims of domestic violence & sexual assault. Topics covered will include: Developing a Common Language - Definitions & Terminology, Understanding the Dynamics of Domestic Abuse in LGBT Relationships, Identifying Barriers to Service Faced by LGBT Victims and Creating an Inclusive Environment.

Featured presenter will be Kathy Herbst, Director of Programs at the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center, who is responsible for the Center's Anti-Violence Project. Ms. Herbst has provided training and consultation on working effectively with lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people to domestic violence and sexual assault organizations in Milwaukee and throughout Wisconsin. She is a Commissioner on the Milwaukee Commission on Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault and a member of the WCADV/WCASA statewide LGBT committee.

Also, there will be an informative panel of youth and young adults from SAGE and GALAXY. To register please contact:

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There is such a thing as a free lunch! The first fifty to register will get a free lunch, too. If you need accommodations or have special dietary requirements, please contact the group by October 8 at 608-785-7670.

Action Wisconsin Sets October Online Auction

Madison - An auction hosted by Action Wisconsin will be held during the month of October. The auction will take place online at www.wkowauction.com. Items up for auction include original artwork, exquisite jewelry and unique memorabilia, as well as luxurious health and beauty services. Bidding begins midnight on Friday, October 1 and ends midnight on Monday, November 1. All winning bids at the end of the month will benefit the Action Wisconsin Education Fund (AWEF) and support its efforts to stop a proposed constitutional amendment banning civil unions, domestic partner benefits and marriage for gay couples.

This event is part of a continuous auction made possible by WKOW Channel 27, ABC's Madison affiliate, and IndustryConnection.com (ICI). Each month, a different charity is selected to host the auction. WKOW provides space on its Web site, and ICI designs the pages and readies the auction at no cost. All proceeds from the auction benefit the designated charity.

AWEF works statewide to advance and protect the civil rights of Wisconsin's lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender citizens and their families. FMI, visit www.actionwisconsin.org.

Action Wisconsin Continues Statewide Outreach

Madison - Action Wisconsin continues to have a statewide presence in smaller cities and rural areas. In mid-September Action Wisconsin hosted a town hall in Eau Claire with strong support from the LGBT Community Center of the Chippewa Valley, the LGBT Straight Alliance at UW-Eau Claire, and the Human Rights Campaign. About 60 students, community members, and families gathered September 16 to discuss the proposed state constitutional amendment banning gay marriage and civil unions. At least 25 people signed on to help fight the amendment.

This was the third in a series of town hall events coordinated by Action Wisconsin around the state. In February, nearly 800 people met in Madison, and in May, nearly 200 gathered in Green Bay. Another town hall has just been scheduled for Thursday, October 28 in La Crosse, with support from the new Seven Rivers LGBT Resource Center. Additional details will be available soon.

The state leaders working against the amendment are Action Wisconsin, the statewide LGBT civil rights group, the Milwaukee Center Advocates, and the Human Rights Campaign. While the Center Advocates is based in Milwaukee, Action Wisconsin works statewide, with Action Networks in Madison, Green Bay, and has planned work in the La Crosse, Racine/Kenosha and Waukesha areas. National LGBT organizations such as the Human Rights Campaign and the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF), have been

QUEST IS SERIOUS ABOUT REPORTING NEWS AND ENTERTAINMENT ACROSS WISCONSINI

Quest, Wisconsin's LGBT News and Entertainment Source now in year eleven continues to make progress in reporting news from all corners of Wisconsin. Based in the Fox Valley with an office in Milwaukee we strive to give a voice to every city no matter how small. Partly for this reason, some continue to think of Quest as a magazine that is for "Up North" but in reality, a Wisconsin News Magazine has no allegiance to any one city. You may not realize Quest's biggest market is really Milwaukee with the bulk of our printed issues going there and most of our advertisers based there. Quest is poised for future growth both in print and on the web. We are the only Wisconsin based magazine that also does it's own printing. New equipment added allows us to continue to grow in size as needed, at the same time keeping advertising rates to the bare minimum. Quest on the Web is growing too! Our new design makes finding a news story even easier. News articles from past issues are now archived and made available for months after the issue has expired. Our website is not a duplication of the printed issue, but more of an "Ezine" and is both quick loading and easy to navigate. Look for more improvements online coming including weekly updating of classifieds and news as it breaks.

Quest has evolved over the past decade under Ted and Za's guidance. The addition of Mike Fitzpatrick, a former news and feature writer for *In Step* has helped transform us from a simple bar guide to a respected and trusted source for news and entertainment that affects the lives of Wisconsin's LGBT Community! We continue to search for people who would like to join our team and help keep Wisconsin informed. *(Za steps onto his soapbox for a plea to the masses...)*

Now more than ever, we face an uphill battle for our rights as the ever increasing power of the "moral right" strengthens its challenges. Quest will be there to keep you informed, but it is you in the end that will make a difference. Be sure to vote this November. Better yet, please make a point of assisting at least one other person to make sure he or she votes as well. If the LGBT community could set aside it's apathy and muster the same over-zealous almost fanatical "mission" as the religion-biased right, we could make a profound difference in who gets elected. It doesn't matter if you agree with my view that we need a change in the Whitehouse. *(There are some who work on Quest who disagree with my somewhat socialist attitude.)* It matters more that you make the effort to vote for whomever you feel should be in office locally, and at the national level. We will

never achieve our full rights until we act like full citizens and participate. The hard part is to get people to care enough to help us help them reach all of our goals.

Thanks for listening,

Mark Mariucci (ZA)
Publisher

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Workshop presenters include SAGE board members Robert Carpenter, PhD and Debbie Renard, PhD, SAGE Social Worker Jan Singer, LCSW and Transgender Aging Network Director Loree Cook-Daniels, MS.

Fees for the workshop are \$10 per session or \$15 for the full day. Letters of attendance will be provided at the end of the training. To pre-register or for more information, call Jan at 414-224-0517, Extension #1 or email her at lifeadventure204@earthlink.net.

Hate Crime Charges Stick

Sturgeon Bay - Close to 80 people filled the circuit courtroom September 10 to hear Judge Todd Ehlers refuse to dismiss charges against four of five defendants facing hate-crime charges resulting from a June brawl at a rural Jacksonport tavern.

Father and son Mark and Josh Sawyer, Robert Wagner and Andrew Ostrand are charged with disorderly conduct, battery and substantial battery, including the hate crime penalty enhancer. Attorneys for the men requested dismissal on the enhancer due to lack evidence to demonstrate probable cause. Ehlers denied the motion and ordered a preliminary hearing on the case for October 7 at 1 PM. The four men could face maximum penalties of \$30,000 in fines and 11 years in jail if convicted of all charges, including the hate crime enhancer.

By refusing to dismiss the enhancer Ehlers upheld District Attorney Joan Korb's decision to prosecute the case as a hate crime. "I acknowledge the substantial battery charge here is based on a bare-bones allegation," Ehlers said, according to reports in the *Green Bay Press Gazette*. "But there's enough alleged in this criminal complaint to move forward."

Most of the crowd at the September 10 hearing were family members of the defendants but a few Door County PFLAG members were in attendance as well. Adam Bley of Sturgeon Bay, the fifth man charged with the hate crime enhancer is charged only with disorderly conduct. Bley is seeking a separate trial.

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sending resources to Wisconsin. Currently, three HRC staff are working out of the Action Wisconsin headquarters in Madison.

Although these volunteers are doing amazing things leading the struggle for equality, we still need to continue to reach thousands more people to spread the word as far as possible. If you think you can help, please contact Action Wisconsin through Saad Akbar Khan at 608-441-0143, Ext. 307 or via email at saad.akbar_khan@actionwisconsin.org.

Outreach Starts Men's Coming Out Group

Madison - A men's coming-out support group will begin meeting in the fall. The purpose of the group is to offer support to men who are dealing with the realization that they are not heterosexual and how that affects their everyday lives and to support those people previously or currently in same sex relationships. The men's coming out support group will identify and discuss the stages of coming out and explore topics such as how to deal with family members, physical and sexual safety, legal rights and discrimination, and spirituality, among others. The group will run for ten weeks. Two trained volunteers will facilitate each meeting. People who are interested in attending the meetings should leave a message for Jim with contact information by Friday, October 8. For more information, contact OutReach at 608-255-8582 or email programs@outreachinc.com.

Gay Circles Group Forming

Madison - The orientation meeting for Gay Circles, a gay men's structure support group, will be held at 7 PM on Wednesday, October 13 at OutReach, Madison and south central Wisconsin's LGBT community center and safe space. The facilitated eight-week program focuses on developing trust, understanding, and communication skills among gay men in an effort to strengthen their overall relationships with other gay men. Each meeting in the eight week session will cover a different topic, from coming out issues to building loving relationships. The group will meet on Wednesdays at 7:30 PM at OutReach, 600 Williamson Street, beginning October 20. If interested, please call Jim at 608-217-6868 to register for the orientation, or e-mail him at programs@outreachinc.com.

Lesbian Relationship Groups To Meet

Madison - OutReach is sponsoring two healthy lesbian relationship groups to start in October, one of which is specifically for couples. Both will run for eight weeks and are designed to allow women, in a confidential and supportive peer-based environment, to explore personal and relationship issues with other women. Both groups are facilitated support groups where group members gain insight and support from each other. The couples group will start on October 4 and run on Mondays starting at 7 PM. The healthy lesbian relationship group for individual women will start on October 21 and run

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To contact the Social Worker select voice mailbox One

on Thursdays at 7 PM. Both groups will meet at OutReach, 600 Williamson St. If interested, please contact OutReach at 608-255-8582 or e-mail programs@outreachinc.com and ask to be put on the list for the group or groups you are interested in. A facilitator will get back to you with more information.

PICADA Starts LGBTQ Youth Support Group

Madison - PICADA, a prevention and intervention social service agency, invites high school youth who are facing common issues dealing with the LGBTQ population and their allies to their LGBTQ youth support group. The group meets Mondays at 4:30 PM at 2000 Fordem Avenue. The group focuses on such concerns as substance use and abuse, improving school performance, safe sex issues, and much more. This fall they also hope to have a variety of social activities.

Questions or comments about the group are welcome. If you or anyone you know who would like to join, please contact Javon Al Yasiri at 246-7606, ext 1150. The LGBTQ Youth Group is proudly supported by Craig Adamski of Teens Like Us, John Quinlan and Harry Straetz of Outreach Inc., Sunshine Jones of Proud Theater, and Bonnie Augusta of the Madison School District.

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BESTD Clinic Celebrates Three Decades of Community Service

Milwaukee - On October 16 the Brady East STD Clinic will celebrate thirty years of providing the Milwaukee community free STD counseling, testing, treatment and medication.

The clinic was founded in 1974 by the Gay People's Union in response to the rise of sexually transmitted diseases in gay and bisexual men and the need for competent and sensitive health care. Originally located at Broadway and St. Paul, the clinic moved to its current location on Brady Street in 1981 after Dr. Roger Gremminger, volunteer physician and board member, donated his Brady Street building to BESTD.

The clinic's progressive and proactive strategy, fueled by the efforts of a dedicated volunteer work force, was responsible for one of the nation's first "outreach clinics" for off-site testing of STDs in the 1970s. BESTD has continued to be a leader in its outreach efforts and spearheaded the nation's first large-scale outreach use of the "Rapid" HIV test at Milwaukee's Pridefest in 2003. Today, BESTD remains one of the most active and accessible HIV testing sites in the state of Wisconsin.

Recently, the clinic's community service was recognized with a grant from the Greater Milwaukee Foundation's Johnson and



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Pabst LGBT Humanity Fund and a formal commendation from Wisconsin governor Jim Doyle.

"BESTD Clinic is proud to have served the Milwaukee community for the past thirty years," said Kevin Lynch, BESTD president. "And we are proud of our great volunteer staff of physicians, advisors, counselors and technicians. Their selfless dedication allows us to apply every single dollar directly toward helping our patients and continuing our mission of providing quality professional health services at no cost"

The Brady East STD Clinic is a Milwaukee based clinic whose services include: free anonymous or confidential HIV testing and counseling, free hepatitis vaccinations, free men's STD testing, diagnosis and treatment, traveling HIV testing and counseling clinics, educational programming and support groups.

The mission of BESTD Clinic is to provide quality professional diagnosis and treatment of sexually transmitted diseases as well as HIV/AIDS prevention counseling and testing in a manner that is sensitive to the sexual orientation and gender identity of our clients. BESTD Clinic provides its services at no cost. For more information, visit online at www.bestd.org.

Center Advocates Announces Annual Meeting, Primary Results

Milwaukee - Center Advocates will hold its annual meeting on Monday, October 25, at 6:30 PM at the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center, 315 W. Court Street. The meeting is open to the public, but only paid members can vote to elect new board members. Memberships may be paid at the annual meeting.

The group will also be holding a Milwaukee fundraiser to help support efforts to defeat the amendment and educate voters on Thursday, October 21. For more information, contact 414-271-2656 or visit www.centeradvocates.org.

Center Advocates, the organizing affiliate of the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center that is working for full equality for LGBT people in Southeast Wisconsin, also has announced several exciting developments. The group organized its most successful "Equality Knocks" action on September 14 during the Fall primaries. Sixty volunteers working in pairs outside more than a dozen polling places in four Metro Milwaukee neighborhoods identified more than 900 opponents of Wisconsin's proposed anti-gay constitutional amendment, more than twice the group's previous single-day record. The newly identified supporters - overwhelmingly straight allies - will be added to a list of thousands of non-gay allies the group has build through door-to-door, telephone and polling place Equality Knocks canvasses.

SAGE Sponsors Providers Workshop

Milwaukee - Senior Action in a Gay Environment (SAGE) will sponsor "Working with Older Adults," the group's 5th Annual training for professionals, Friday October 22 at the Milwaukee Friends Meeting House, 3224 N. Gordon Place. The two-part training asks the question "Do you know the orientation of the people you serve?" as it reminds attendees that

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