

QUEST

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COVER PHOTO
PROVIDED BY
STEVE VARGAS

**MODEST CROWD
MIXED MESSAGES
AT MADISON'S
EQUALITY MARCH**

**INSIDE: NO MORE HO HO HO HORRORS
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MODEST TURNOUT, MIXED MESSAGES FOR MADISON EQUALITY MARCH

Madison - Sunny skies and brisk 20 degree temperatures greeted a crowd estimated between 100 to 200 marching for LGBT equality and more here December 5. Inspired by the National Equality March last October, Unified For Equality (UFE), a coalition of Madison and southern Wisconsin LGBT groups, organized the march and rally on the Capitol steps as a local follow-up to the Washington DC event. And, as often happens in coalition building, messages at the rally became mixed.

Quest correspondent Steve Vargas pegged the total at a little over one hundred, while rally organizers offered a more optimistic estimate of about 200. The march also briefly interrupted a Fair Wisconsin board of directors meeting when it passed the statewide organization's State Street offices shortly after Noon. One board member told *Quest* the marchers "numbered about 120."

In addition to calling attention to the recent Wisconsin Supreme Court hearing of McConkey lawsuit challenging that validity of the 2006 "Marriage Protection" Amendment referendum, the rally's focus expanded to include speakers advocating universal health care and protesting the ongoing wars in Iraq and Afghanistan - especially President Obama's December 1 decision to add 30,000 troops to the latter battle theater. One chant called on the President to act directly: "Hey Obama, let mama marry mama!" marchers shouted.

The Unified for Equality coalition included the Madison Area Transgender Association; MATC Pride Alliance; the Madison branches of the International Socialist Organization; LGBT Equality NOW at UW-



Madison; OutReach/OutThere of Madison; P.E.A.C.E. at UW-Whitewater and others. Organizers made heavy use of email text and the social networking site Facebook to promote the event. UFE spokesperson Jessie Otradovec reported that she was happy with the turnout, though it was only a third of the total that had committed to attend on Facebook.

Among Unified for Equality's stated demands are equal protection in all matters governed by civil law in all fifty states, the overturning of the state same-sex marriage ban in Wisconsin, the granting of national anti-discrimination rights via 14th

Amendment and an executive order to overturn the "Don't-Ask-Don't-Tell" policy for military personnel.

According to the UFE press release that announced the march, the LGBT community "lacks everyday rights in addition to the marriage right and refuses to accept the status quo any longer. Unified for Equality works without pause to attain the rights guaranteed to us by the 14th Amendment, but not extended to us as a group. We now demand, not request, equal rights for every citizen under the law & the Constitution of the United States of America."

Los Angeles - The Episcopal Diocese of Los Ange-

EPISCOPAL CHURCH ELECTS SECOND GAY BISHOP

les has elected the second openly gay bishop in the national church and the world Anglican fellowship. The Rev. Mary Glasspool of Baltimore won election as assistant bishop in Los Angeles in voting December 5. The first openly gay bishop, V. Gene Robinson of New Hampshire, was consecrated in 2003.

Glasspool told delegates after her election that she was excited about the future of the national church. "I'm very excited about the future of the whole Episcopal Church and I see the Diocese of Los Angeles leading the way into that future. But for just for this moment, let me say again, thank you, and thanks be to our loving and supporting God, a surprising

God," Glasspool told delegates to the diocese's annual convention just after they elected her on the seventh balloting for one of two open suffragan, or assistant, bishop positions.

Referring to the current church season of Advent, a time of anticipation of the birth of Christ, Glasspool said, "This is my 56th Advent and I think I finally know the meaning of the word 'wait.' " The delegates laughed.

Ordained in 1981, Glasspool served in parishes in Philadelphia and Boston and Annapolis before becoming canon to the bishops in 2001. She has served on the diocese's Standing Committee, the board of Episcopal Community Services of Maryland,

and has been elected four times to head the deputation to General Convention.

Glasspool, 55, said she met her partner, Becki Sander, while working in Massachusetts, and the two have been together since 1988.

Reverend Glasspool needs the approval of a majority of national church leaders before she can be consecrated, but her election may spark yet another row. The election of Robinson already has deeply fractured the global Anglican Communion. The Episcopal Church is the Anglican body in the United States. Theologically conservative Episcopalians formed a rival church earlier this year, called the Anglican Church in North America.



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IMMINENT TRAGEDY IN UGANDA: DEATH FOR HOMOSEXUALITY

American Evangelicals And GOP Senators May Have Hand In "Kill The Gays" Law

Kampala - Life for Uganda's estimated half-million gay and lesbian men and women on a good day is considered horrible by any human rights standards. They currently can be jailed for years under some of the harshest anti-sodomy laws on the African continent.

However when the "Anti-Homosexuality Bill 2009" currently before the Ugandan Parliament passes - likely in the next few

days according to the latest reports - they will face a life in prison or even death just for being identified as being gay. Moreover, anyone who knows of gay Ugandans and fails to report it to the police within 24 hours also can be imprisoned for three years. Moreover, under the bill's wide-reaching provisions, gay Ugandans who flee the country can be extradited from anywhere in the world to face prosecution, imprisonment and death just for being gay.

The current bill calls for a lifetime imprisonment on conviction of homosexuality, and creates a new category called "aggravated homosexuality" with provisions for the death penalty upon conviction. Among the factors which can determine "aggravated homosexuality" is if one partner is HIV-positive. The bill also mandates HIV testing to confirm the suspicion of "aggravated homosexuality."

The specific language of Section 3 (2) states: "A person who commits the offence of aggravated homosexuality shall be liable on conviction to suffer death."

The bill also includes a complete ban on all activities and organizations that could be construed as "promoting homosexuality," effectively eliminating the fundamental human rights for gay and lesbian Ugandans. Leaders of any organization that advocates on behalf of gay citizens face fines and imprisonment for up to seven years.

While it is clear that much of the motivation for the Ugandan proposal comes from long standing cultural taboos and a widely-held belief that homosexuality is a "Western disease," it has become clear in recent weeks that American evangelical Christians have both encouraged and facilitated the drafting of the draconian legislation.

A key episode in the trail of evidence occurred in March 2009 in Kampala - the Ugandan - that brought three well-known anti-gay Christian activists from the United States. And if the proposed bill sounds a lot like the 1930's anti-Jewish laws that preceded the Final Solution in Nazi Germany, Uganda's LGBT community can point to one American anti-gay agitator who considers himself an expert in the Third Reich and the homosexuals who allegedly led it.

Scott Lively, author of "The Pink Swastika" and currently operating the Abiding Truth Ministries, Don Schmierer of Exodus International and the International Healing Foundation, and Lee Brundidge, who works with Extreme Prophetic, were invited to the conference of the Family Life Network of Uganda to help organize what Lively called "an effective social and political force" to combat "anti-family Western agitators." Those agitators, he said, are led by gay activists in Europe and the United States who "plan to spread sex-



Above: Scott Lively
Right: Rick Warren consults with President Paul Kagame before speaking at a 2005 mass rally in Rwanda.

ual anarchy throughout the world under the guise of 'human rights' and 'family planning.'"

Veteran Wisconsin gay activists will recall that self-ordained "pastor" Ralph Ovadal of the now-defunct Wisconsin Christians United brought Lively to the state in the mid-1990's to promote his book, which claims that the Holocaust was a gay plot. Key sources for Lively's widely-discredited "research" were German language books created by the predecessor agency of the U.S. CIA as part of a wartime disinformation campaign that sought to discredit the Hitler regime by "proving" the Fuehrer and his top henchmen were homosexuals.

In their talks to the conference of parents, politicians and educators, the trio provided a host of other anti-gay talking points as well. They said homosexuals are "out to destroy the country," according to reports from the scene, and they said that legalizing homosexuality is akin to legalizing "the molestation of children or having sex with animals." Lively was also invited to address the Ugandan Parliament. By his own account, his hosts "were very pleased."

Following the conference, the Family Life Network and its political allies drafted and introduced the Anti-Homosexuality Bill of 2009, which aims to "protect the traditional family by prohibiting any form of sexual relations between persons of the same sex."

When his connection to the bill introduced last October became established Lively attempted to distance himself from the legislation. "I do not now and have never supported incarceration for homosexuals and was in Uganda to advocate for treatment of homosexuals as an alternative to incarceration, similar to what benefited me when arrested for drunk driving years ago in my pre-Christian days," he said.

However, in writing last June about his Uganda trip, Lively boasted that he encouraged Ugandans to maintain a "sufficient legal deterrent to prevent the international 'gay' juggernaut from homosexualizing the society." Also, in a November 27 interview with the right-wing religious LifeSiteNews website, Lively again blamed gay men in the West for prompting the new law. He repeated that he thought the current bill too "harsh" but he defended the criminalization of homosexuality.

Lively's "deterrent" rhetoric has been consistent for decades. During an appearance at one of Ovadal's mid-90's "Truth Tour" stops in Plover, WI Lively called for the re-shaping of Wisconsin and American statutes to reflect Biblical law to prevent the further "homosexualization" of American society. Anti-gay fundamentalist extremists have consistently called for imprisonment and death for homosexual acts.

As tempting as it would be to mark a particularly

notorious anti-gay activist such as Lively as the key source behind the Ugandan "kill the gays" law, more than a handful of Christian activists from America have had a part in the genesis of the bill. Many leading U.S. Christians - including Obama favorite Rick Warren - have long standing ties to churches in Uganda, and appear to have had a hand in promoting the policies that culminated in the new anti-homosexuality bill.

Warren has had a long association with Ugandan pastor Martin Ssempe, who has endorsed the proposed legislation. Ssempe has made multiple appearances at Warren's Saddleback Church in California and has been embraced publicly by both Warren and his wife. Warren has - during appearances in Uganda - called the country a "purpose driven nation," echoing the rhetoric of the preacher's top-selling American book "A Purpose Driven Life."

Warren attempted to distance himself from the Ugandan pastor in a recent *Newsweek* interview, but did not disavow the legislation itself. "It is not my personal calling as a pastor in America to comment or interfere in the political process of other nations," he said.

Many top U.S. politicians also are invested in Uganda. The Bush administration liked to present the country as a model of pro-abstinence, anti-condom AIDS prevention policies. Author Jeff Sharlet recently revealed close ties between The Family -- the secretive network of conservative American Christians that includes leading Senators James Inhofe, Sam Brownback, Tom Coburn and Mike Enzi -- and the Ugandan legislator, David Bahati, who introduced the tough new anti-gay bill.

As horrendous as the Ugandan may be, it is only part of a larger effort by right-wing fundamentalists to ramp up anti-gay hatred on the African subcontinent. A 42-page report, "Globalizing the Culture Wars: U.S. Conservatives, African Churches, and Homophobia," released November 18 by Political Research Associates (PRA), has documented just how extensive - and influential - the Religious Right campaign has been to date.

"Just as the United States and other northern societies routinely dump our outlawed or expired chemicals, pharmaceuticals, machinery, and cultural detritus on African and other Third World countries, we now export a political discourse and public policies our own society has discarded as outdated and dangerous," Tarso Luis Ramos, head of the PRA, wrote in the foreword to the report. "Africa's anti-gay campaigns are to a substantial degree made in the U.S.A."

Worldwide opposition, particularly from the United Kingdom and Sweden - which has threatened to cut off millions in humanitarian aid - has thus far not deterred Ugandans supporting the legislation.

"Homosexuality will not be promoted, encouraged or supported in Uganda," Ethics And Integrity Minister Buturo said in response to a publication of Sweden's threat in the Kampala newspaper Daily Monitor.

"We should remind them (the donors) that there is integrity to be defended and threats are not the way to go," Buturo told journalists at the Uganda Media Centre. "If one chooses to withdraw their aid, they are free because Ugandans do not want to engage in anal sex. We do not care."

BALDWIN & POLIS: 3 PRO-GAY BILLS CLOSE TO PASSAGE

San Francisco - Two of Congress's three openly-gay members told a conference of gay politicians here December 5 that the U.S. House is poised to pass bills to provide health coverage for the same-sex partners of gay federal workers and to protect all gay and transgender employees from job discrimination. Representatives Tammy Baldwin (D-Wisconsin) and Jared Polis (D-Colorado) said they expect a domestic partner benefits bill to come up for a vote by the end of the year and the employment bill to reach the floor early in 2010.

The lawmakers are also confident that the House will include in the annual military spending bill next year a provision to repeal the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy that bans gay men and women from serving in the U.S. military. According to Baldwin and Polis, all three measures will face a harder time in the Senate following the death of longtime ally Senator Edward Kennedy. "I'm hopeful we will see those three pieces of legislation make it all the way, or damn close," Baldwin said. She is the sponsor of the federal worker domestic partner bill.

Office of Personnel Management director John Berry, the highest ranking gay appointee in the Obama administration, told the conference that the President strongly supports all of gay rights measures before the Congress.

Including transgender workers as part of the legislation to ban job discrimination and lifting the military ban on gay service members may especially meet opposition in Congress, Berry said. But he said that with a Democrat in the White House and Democratic majorities controlling the House and the Senate, victories were "within our grasp."

"The tide of public opinion is in our favor. The forces of intolerance are on the run. We have a president who has been clear in his support for our community and in his commitment to our equality," Berry said. "This is the best opportunity we will ever have as a community, and shame on us if we don't succeed."

Although gay activists have criticized President Obama in the past year for not moving more quickly on their concerns, both Polis and Baldwin said the pressure should be directed at Congress because the president can not act alone.

"LGBT leaders need to be focusing in on the people we need to win over instead of just trying to talk to our friends and being angry they haven't delivered," Polis said.

MEREDITH BAXTER: "YES, I'M A LESBIAN"



New York - "Family Ties" actress Meredith Baxter made the media rounds December 2 confirming the rumors that she is a lesbian. "It was a later in life recognition," the actress explained to Matt Lauer on the "Today" show.

The *National Enquirer* recently ran a story about Baxter being spotted on a lesbian cruise through the Caribbean with a "female friend," which was then picked up by celebrity blogs. As a result, the 62-year-old decided to tell her fans herself.

"I didn't want some tabloid to take the story and make it up," she told Lauer. "I wanted it to be in my own words. I've always 'lived a very private life. To come out and disclose stuff is very 'antithetical' to who I am."

Baxter was also interviewed on Sirius XM Radio's "The Frank DeCaro Show." She told DeCaro that she knew she could be outed when she went on the cruise with her partner, Nancy Locke, but she went anyway. "We live a very open life at home," Baxter said. "Anyone who's a friend of mine, anyone who knows and cares about me knows. It's no secret that I'm gay, but it has been to the greater world. "The reason I'm here [on the show] is because I'm saying, yes, I'm a lesbian."

Baxter also told *People* magazine that she has been in a four-year relationship with Locke, who works as a building contractor. Baxter has been dating women for the past seven years, and "the thought of being gay never crossed my mind," she said.

The actress was married three times before, during which she "was never comfortable with herself," she told *People*. Now, she feels like she's "being honest for the first time."

Baxter has also come clean to her five kids, according to *People*. Her 25-year-old son Peter told the magazine that he "just couldn't stop smiling, because she finally figured it out."

Q-BLOK TO SERVE MILWAUKEE'S HOMELESS LGBT YOUTH

Milwaukee - A diverse coalition including the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center, Pathfinders, St. Aemilian-Lakeside, Inc. and Lad Lake have partnered to address the needs of homeless LGBT youth in the Milwaukee community through the formation the Q-Blok Young Adults' Housing Initiative. The partnership is committed to not only developing housing resources for LGBT youth, but also for raising community awareness, advocacy and ongoing resource development for sustainable residential stability for homeless youth and young adults.

"The Center is deeply grateful to The Cream City Foundation, The Helen Bader Foundation, The Greater Milwaukee Foundation, and the City of Milwaukee CDGA's American Recovery and Reinvestment Act for their generous gifts in support of our housing initiative," Milwaukee LGBT Community Center's Director of Programs Julie Bock said. "The funds received will help us provide supportive scattered housing for 20 youth during the first year of operation."

In addition to housing, Q-Blok initiative will provide case management services and will recruit and train sponsoring families that will provide support and guidance for the young adults to help them achieve important milestones.

Recent research conservatively estimates that though they comprise an estimated 4-10% of the general population, one out of five homeless youth ages 18-25 are lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender. LGBT youth are more likely to become homeless because of the abuse and rejection experienced in their families, foster placements, school settings and other areas of their lives. Homeless LGBT youth also are at greater risk of physical and sexual exploitation, frequently trading sex and drugs for basic food, shelter and transportation needs. Furthermore, efforts to survive on the street or with transitory and unstable housing increase mental and physical health problems.

For more information on Q-Blok please contact Julie Bock, Milwaukee LGBT Community Center Director of Programs at 414-292-3070.

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JAM SESSION

Oprah named **Sara-beth's Legendary Spreadable Fruits**

one of her top 10 all-time favorite gifts – and 'round here, what Mama O says goes. But it's no wonder why the daytime diva and her devoted minions think Sarabeth's preserves are the bees' knees; the NYC-based Kitchen cuts the fruits by hand to avoid bruising, and each batch is slow-simmered and allowed to thicken until it reaches peak flavor. Certified kosher by the Orthodox Union (Hellooo, Hanukkah!), these award-winning jams are available by the jar or in no-need-to-wrap gift and sampler boxes. (\$10-\$32; www.sarabeth.com)



BRIEF BELIEFS

Piss & Vinegar – the provocative new brand of underwear from Ginch Gonch founder Jason Sutherland – has a heart on. For Jesus. Yes, that Jesus. Made from breathable, body-conforming stretch fabric, the first release from this caustic collection is the "I Love..." line, which features the controversial "I Love Jesus" and "I Love Buddha" briefs, boxer briefs, low-rise briefs and jockstraps. Of course, if you're not feeling so sacrilegious this holiday season, Piss & Vinegar – which borrows its name from British slang for living young at heart – will also introduce "I Love Boys" and "I Love Girls" briefs. Redeeming, sure. But you're still on the shortlist for eternal damnation. (\$25; www.pissvinegar.com)



DIRTY 'POP'

An homage to the surreality that defines New York City, celebrated pop artist Olan Montgomery's new pocket-sized book, **POP - Art inspired by New York's Own Subcultures from Celebrity to Subway**, examines with hypercolor sunglasses the individuals that affectionately rub the Big Apple's underbelly, including glittering nightlife personalities, gay idols and the fragile homeless. Combining elements of photography and hand painting with poetry and famous quotes, the images contained within the coffee-table tome are dig-



itally manipulated, printed on canvas, then personally stroked with color and rhetoric by the artist himself – all in a neon-hued attempt to answer the question, "Why can't a nanosecond last forever?" Cultural icons Boy George, Rufus Wainwright, Alan Cumming, Anna Nicole Smith and Amanda Lepore are among those featured. (\$59.95-\$77.95; www.lipstickchic.com)

MIKEY ROX'S THE ULTIMATE GUIDE TO GAY GIFT GIVING



MERRY-TINIS

With flavor infusions like Pomegranate, Chocolate, Tomato and Triple Shot Espresso, **Three Olives Vodka** is quickly gaining a reputation as the gourmand's drink of choice. But that doesn't mean you have to be a food and beverage snob to get your hands on a bottle. For less than a Jackson (Andrew, not Tito), you can snag 750 ml of the smooth stuff to give as a gift to the host of your next holiday party. Extra points for playing guest bartender with this Ho-Ho-Hojito recipe: Muddle 10 mint leaves and half a lime in a tall cocktail glass. Pour in two tablespoons of simple syrup and fill the glass with ice. Add two ounces of Three Olives Pomegranate Vodka (and a dash more for good measure) and top it off with club soda. Garnish with a mint sprig and lime, and voila! Just don't over do it. OK. Remember what happened last year? (\$19.99; www.threeolives.com)

A HIGHER 'SCORE'

In season two of **"Keeping Score"** – the national project of the San Francisco Symphony to make classical music more accessible to the masses – three new programs explore the music and stories behind Hector Berlioz's symphonic love letter "Symphonie fantastique"; Charles Ives' sonic portrait of New England with "Holidays Symphony"; and Dmitri Shostakovich's "Sym-



phony No. 5," a work that may have saved the composer's life. This high-def, three-disc documentary program – a follow-up to season one of the series, which premiered on PBS in November 2006 – is packaged with two concert tapings and available on Blu-Ray. (\$24.99 each; www.keepingsscore.org)

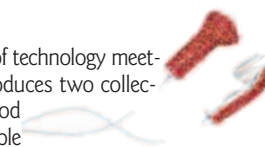
FLY PINK SKIES

Like you need a reason to jet off to a faraway land – but at least this is a good one. Now through the end of the year, when you purchase an **American Airlines gift card** you'll join the fight against breast cancer. For every \$50 you spend in travel gift cards, American Airlines will donate \$5 to Susan G. Komen for the Cure. You can purchase physical cards for yourself (to enjoy a guilt-free getaway), or choose virtual cards to be delivered by e-mail with a personal message attached. Just enter code "Komen" in the tracking box when ordering online. (\$50; www.aa.com/komen)



SONIC COLOR

Built on the concept of technology meeting style, **DEOS** introduces two collections of innovative iPod earphone covers available at all price levels. The first, **DEOS DIAMOND** – for those who have more cash than they can shake a peppermint stick at – consists of three distinct earphone cover styles specifically named for the number of individual diamonds imbedded in each traditional or black titanium design. **DEOS CRVZ** – for more budget-conscious consumers – boasts three collections: Crystal, featuring Swarovski bedazzlements; Aluminum, available in an array of metallic colors; and Silicone, designed with active lifestyles in mind. (\$9.99 and up; www.deosgroup.com)



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Treat the oenophiles on your list to the gift that keeps on giving with monthly deliveries from the **Wine Every Month Club**. Recipients will enjoy new, noteworthy discoveries from wine regions around the world – including Australia, France, Italy, the United States and more. Each bottle arrives with an informative description of the selection as well as seasonal tips and recipes. And just for you – our loyal reader – the Wine Every Month Club is offering an additional month of free wine when you order by phone and mention discount code "ROX." Six and 12-month subscriptions are available. (\$90-\$1,000; 212.787.1700)

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MAN UP

Trouble attracting potential suitors? No sweat. Or maybe it is. Cover up your natural repellent with **Masculinity by Intense**, a new fragrance from NIOZ that's formulated with a unique male-to-male pheromone. Featuring a refined

composition of exotic spices, aromatic herbs and crisp citrus, Masculinity opens with notes of French basil, West Indian clove, Asian mandarin and Sicilian bergamot followed by hints of amber, cedarwood, black pepper and leather. Holy Hugh Jackman! Designed to stimulate the vomeronasal organ (among other "organs"), this sensual scent also is said to help improve self-confidence. Whatever works. (\$55; www.10percent.com)

STOCKING STUFFERS

CDS

"Club Christmas 3," from D1 Music producers Peter McLean and Keith Kemper, features uplifting, instrumental dance-floor versions of beloved holiday classics like "Away in a Manger," "O Come, All Ye Faithful," and a never-heard-before remix of New Year's staple "Auld Lang Syne." Turn the disc merrily on high after dinner and watch grandma get down. (TBA; releases Nov. 25)



On "Suckin' It For the Holidays," Grammy-



nominated, gay-lovin' comedienne Kathy Griffin delivers some of her best stand-up ever on an album that was recorded live from the Borgata Hotel & Casino in Atlantic City.

"Gold and Green," Sugarland's 10-track holiday-themed record, includes several seasonal standards, such as "Silent Night" and "Holly Jolly Christmas," as well as a few original tunes, including the title track and soon-to-be favorites "City of Silver Dreams" and "Coming Home."



DVDS

"Make the Yuletide Gay," the sugar-cookie-sweet new rom-com from writer-director Rob Williams ("3-Day Weekend"), follows Olaf "Gunn" Gunnunderson (Keith Jordan) home for the holidays as he trades his out-and-proud college persona for an in-the-closet existence with his parents. But as Christmas approaches, he gets a surprise he never expected – his boyfriend ... on his doorstep. (\$19.99; www.tlvideo.com)



"Kristine W: The Ultimate Music Video Collection," a two-disc DVD, comes packed with a decade of the diva's biggest hits, including "Save My Soul" and "The Boss."



CALENDARS



Out bodybuilder and former Colt supermodel Bo Dixon releases his first self-titled calendar, **BO DIXON: Reinvented 2010**. Celebrating the power of perseverance, this muscle-worship date keeper features the hirsute powerhouse in fourteen all-new photos and comes with a "making-of" DVD. (\$16.95; www.bodixon.net)

"Money can't buy you love, but the rest is negotiable..." That's the tagline of **The Working Men of Rentboy.com 2010**, the Web site's third-annual calendar honoring its hottest porn stars, escorts and boyfriends for hire. This year's eye candy includes Nick Capra, Josh Hart, Arpad Miklos and Tommy Defendi. (\$15.95; www.rentboy.com)



Mikey Rox is an award-winning journalist/writer and the principal of Paper Rox Scissors, a copywriting and creative consulting company in New York City. Find him at www.paperroscissors.com.

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We honor your privacy and uphold the client/care provider code of ethics.

The MGAC hosts a new art exhibit, *The Geometry Survey* opening with an artists' reception on Saturday, December 12. Special guest curator Pete S. explores how a range of Milwaukee artists incorporate geometry in their work.

The Geometry Survey features work by Crystal Cudworth, Carly Huibregste, A. Bill Miller, Adam Porter, Jen Price, Ryan Ranney and Tim Stoelting. Included are digital images, prints, drawings and paintings.

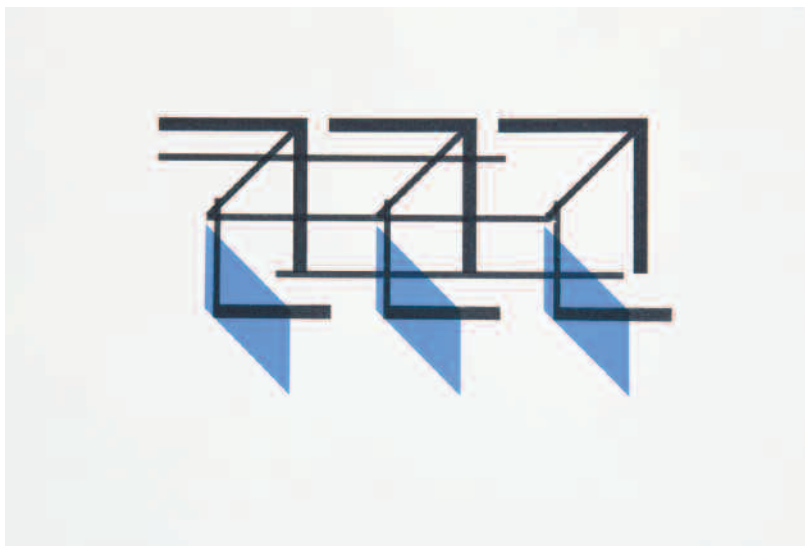
Quest News spoke with curator Pete S. to learn more.

QN: "Pete S. your show, "Geometry Survey" sounds pretty basic. What's it about?"

Pete S.: "Geometry, like our triangle, is the lowest common denominator for artists to create work. I wanted to pursue that angle."

QN: "Again, it sounds like it's just about ele-

The Geometry Survey @ the Milwaukee Gay Arts Center



ments of art – line and shape. How does it relate to us as viewers?"

Pete S. "People are segregated. So the concept is different people coming together. There's no content, just form. There's no gen-

der or other individual aspect beyond the laws of mathematics. It's meant to be harmonizing."

QN: "Is that the message?"

Pete S.: "In my head, different types of work together despite their completely different presentation. Artists are from all persuasions. Art can be conceptual or traditional. Any outsider's goal is some mainstream acceptance. The disconnect from the mainstream is the problem. Art and geometry address that."

The show runs through January 8, 2010. Call the Milwaukee Gay Arts Center at 414-383-3727 for

gallery hours and information.

The Milwaukee Gay Arts Center is located at 703 South 2nd Street in Milwaukee's Historic Walker's Point.

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RIC FEST V SCORES \$2500 FOR SCHOLARSHIP FUND



Milwaukee - Ric Fest V has set a record for the fundraiser, raising over \$2,500 for college-bound LGBT high school students. Winners of the final held November 21 were Ms. Ric Fest Eva of Frank's Power Plant and Mr. Ric Fest Bobby from Mona's. Both earned their titles by raising the highest number of dollar "votes." Conrad from Jack's also was named

the judges' choice for his singing skills.

A total of eleven bars were involved in this year's events. The include Frank's Power Plant, Jack's (Switch Reunion), M's, Mona's, Plan B (in Madison), and Walker's Pint which held preliminary events; and Boot Camp, Harbor Room, Kruz, La Cage, and Triangle that provided silent auction items.

Judges for this year's series of karaoke contests included *Outbound* columnists Michael Johnson and Dear Ruthie, along with Corless Morgan and Jerry from Kruz.

Scholarship applications have gone out to public schools in southeast Wisconsin and Madison. The scholarship is available to any public high school student in Wisconsin. Six \$1000 scholarships have been awarded in past four years.

According to Ricardo Correa Scholarship Foundation President Peter J. Konrath, 2009 fundraising has made it possible to award two or more scholarships

if sufficient qualifying entries are received. "If anyone needs a scholarship or works at a school that has not received the application, they can call 262-573-3321, email us (at: krashmilwaukee@hotmail.com) or pick up an application at the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center," he said.

Students are judged by a committee on academics, leadership ability (clubs, offices), an essay submission, and need. The deadline for submissions is March 1, 2010.

Tax-deductible donations are always welcome, according to Konrath. They can be sent to the the order of the Ricardo Correa Scholarship Foundation and mailed to 1407 E. Manitoba St., Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53207.

Konrath also thanked Ric Fest committee members and volunteers for their many hours running the fundraiser, Thom Ertl for graphic design services and *Quest* for additional promotion and donated advertisements.

LA CROSSE LGBT CENTER OFFERS TWO HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS

La Crosse - The LGBT Center For The Seven Rivers Region has organized two special events to help members and gay community members celebrate the holidays.

The center will offer a Holiday House Tour on Sunday, December 13 from 4 - 8 PM. Organizers have arranged for a tour of four extensively decorated homes for attendees to visit and enjoy. Each home also will offer holiday treats and beverages. Tickets are \$20 each and available at the Center. For more information, call 608-784-0452.

On Tuesday, December 22 there will be a December "Out + About" Holiday Party beginning at 6 PM at Buffalo Wild Wings, 3132 Market Place in Onalaska. Attendees are asked to bring a \$5 gift wrapped for the gift exchange if they wish to participate. It will be an evening of spice, many things nice, and beverages on ice. Reservations are strongly recommended. RSVP with Rosanne at 608-784-0452.

SAGE OFFERS THREE HOLIDAY EVENTS

Milwaukee - SAGE Milwaukee will offer members and other LGBT seniors three opportunities to share holiday cheer this season. Events include a sit-down dinner, a talent show and a reception to ring in the New Year.

SAGE's 2009 Holiday Dinner will be held this year at the Double Tree Hotel, 611 W. Wisconsin Ave. on Saturday, December 13 beginning at Noon with the meal served at 1 PM. Entrées include a choice of Roast Turkey, Baked Cod, Meat and Vegetarian Lasagnas.

Tickets are \$22 for members and \$27 for non-members and available at the SAGE office, 1845 N. Farwell Ave., Ste. 220. For more information or low income sponsorship call 414-224-0517.

SAGE's third annual Rootin' Tootin', High Falutin Talent Show and Spaghetti Feed will be held on Wednesday, December 30 at Plymouth Church, 2717 E. Hampshire Ave. beginning at 5 PM. The event offers an excellent opportunity for attendees to "strut their stuff," as SAGE once again takes over the

stage at the Plymouth Church for an evening of frivolity for the heart, and food for the tummy. Tickets are \$15 and includes attendees all the spaghetti, garlic bread, salad, dessert, and coffee they care to consume. The evening will also offer a silent auction to benefit the organization.

SAGE will ring in 2010 with New Year's Celebration on Saturday, January 2 from 2-4:30 PM at the SAGE office. Attendees are asked to showcase their cooking skills by preparing and bringing hors d'oeuvres or finger foods to share. SAGE will be serving light, non-alcoholic sparkling beverages.

For more information about any of the events, contact SAGE at: 414-224-0517.

SHAMELESS HUSSIES TAKE ON "RIVER WIFE"

Madison - The Shameless Hussies Book Club will meet to discuss "The River Wife" by Jonis Agee on Monday, December 14, beginning at 6:30 PM at A Room of One's Own, 307 E. Johnson St. here.

"The River Wife" is the acclaimed 2007 best seller that offers a sweeping, panoramic story that ranges from 1811 to the 1930s. In 1811, when a great earthquake rocks the peaceful cove of New Madrid, Missouri, Annie Lark finds herself pinned under the massive roof beam of her home. With little hope of freeing their trapped daughter, and the river rapidly rising, the family says a final, tearful goodbye and leaves the young woman to her fate.

Within days, French fur trapper Jacques Ducharme, out scavenging nearby abandoned houses, rescues the girl from the brink of death and nurses her back

to health. Soon, Annie learns to love this strong, brooding man and resolves to live out her life as his River Wife. Together they build a new community called "Jacques' Landing."

More than a century later, in 1930, Hedie Rails comes to Jacques' Landing to marry Clement Ducharme, a direct descendent of the fur trapper and river pirate. The young couple begins their life together in the very house Jacques built for Annie so long ago. When, night after late night, mysterious phone calls take Clement from their home, a pregnant Hedie finds comfort in Annie's old leather bound journals.

But when the pages tell of sinister dealings and horrendous misunderstandings that spelled out tragedy for the rescued bride, Hedie fears that her own life is paralleling Annie's, and that history is repeating itself with Jacques' kin. But the journal entries do not end with Annie.

Emerging from the pages are three other women who helped to shape Jacques Ducharme's life - Omaha, the freed slave who joins his side as a river raider; his second wife, Laura; and their daughter, Maddie. Each relay the haunting tale of this enigmatic, industrious, and ultimately dangerous man, their stories weaving together with Hedie's, as the journals serve not only as a guide to the newest River Wife at Jacques' Landing, but also, perhaps, a warning.

The the long-running women's book club continues to welcome new members, and all interested are invited to drop in. A Room of One's Own also offers a 10% discount off the cover price of each book club selection.

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TIGHT JOB MARKET TOUGH FOR THOSE WITH PAST CONVICTIONS

Analysis By Brian Mahany

Erasing the past? It's not that easy in Wisconsin if your past includes criminal convictions.

Wisconsin's record unemployment rate and sluggish economy has sent tens of thousands of people to seek expungement of their criminal records. In a tight economy, a criminal record can be a real hindrance to finding work. If 10 people are competing for the same job, in many instances the one or two folks with criminal records are the first rejected.

The impact on job seekers in Wisconsin is especially dramatic. We are unique as a state in that we offer the easiest public access to criminal records and have very onerous laws on expungement.

In many states, accessing criminal records isn't very user friendly. A prospective employer has to fill out forms, pay fees and wait for a response. Not in Wisconsin. Most state employers are very familiar with Wisconsin's court access system, CCAP (wcca.wicourts.gov). The CCAP system, is free, easy to access and provides instant results.

There is one bright spot, however. Wisconsin is also unique in that our equal rights law forbids discrimination in the workplace based on arrest or conviction records. There is a caveat, however, that allows an employer to consider convictions that are "substantially related" to a particular job or position. Thus, a person's conviction for a child sex offense, for example, might be considered if the person

was applying for a day care worker position.

Does the law work? Unfortunately for many the answer is no. Employment discrimination lawyers routinely tell of clients being denied jobs because of arrests or because of convictions from the distant past or having no relationship to the position. One client indicated that he had been turned down for work over 2 dozens times because of a juvenile conviction concerning a fatal accident that occurred almost 2 decades ago.

In most states, the remedy for job seekers and those who have turned their lives around is to seek an expungement. An expungement clears your public record. In most states, that means your records are shredded, removed, sealed or blocked from view. In most states it also means that a job seeker can legally answer "no" if asked about prior convictions.

Most states are reporting up to a 50% increase in expungement requests this year. Florida has already expunged 15,000 records this year. What about Wisconsin?

Wisconsin law extremely limits who can seek an expungement. Generally, the remedy is available only to specified crimes committed by a person under age 25. Those crimes include misdemeanors and some minor felonies. Juvenile delinquency findings can also be expunged but those do not appear on the public access CCAP system.

Expunged cases in Wisconsin are sealed and re-

moved from CCAP. The police and courts still have access, however.

There is another exception for victims of identity theft. If someone "steals" or assumes your identity and commits a crime, there are procedures to restore one's name.

Another alternative in Wisconsin is seeking a pardon from the Governor. Our state Constitution declares in part, "The Governor shall have power to grant reprieves, commutations and pardons, after conviction, for all offenses, except treason and cases of impeachment..."

Although the remedy is there, few lawyers are familiar with the process and few pardons are granted. In recent years, Governor Thompson granted the most, 238 people received pardons between 1987 and 2001.

The economy has caused several expungement websites to spring up across the country. Given Wisconsin's strict guidelines on expungement, however, job hunters seeking to clean their record are much better served contacting an attorney knowledgeable about both the expungement and pardon process.

Editor's Note: Brian Mahany is a criminal defense and employment discrimination lawyer located in Wisconsin. He can be reached at brian@mahanyertl.com or directly at 414-704-6731. His October piece in Quest looked at the 11 year saga to pass the Matthew Shepard Hate Crimes Act.

WOMEN4WOMEN DISHING FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Madison - Women4Women will offer an afternoon of "Holiday Dishing," Saturday, December 12 at OutReach, 600 Williamson St. from 3-5 PM.

"Holiday Dishing" is a gathering with a family of friends to share favorite holiday recipes including appetizers, salads, main dishes, side dishes, holiday cookies and pies. What makes it "dishing" is it's a potluck of food and lively conversation about any topic at all, a virtual free-for-all.

Attendees are asked to bring their favorite dish and copies of the recipe to share with others. Those challenged in the kitchen may bring a favorite carry-out or deli food item along with copies of the menu or phone number. Dishes need to be ready to serve. They should also bring a plate, napkins, utensils and serving spoons. Snarky topics and juicy gossip will also be welcomed!

"Holiday Dishing" will be Women4Women's last event in 2009. The next meet-

ing will be January 9 at Outreach from 3-5 PM and will feature guest speakers from Krueger & Hernandez SC, Attorneys at Law who will talk about civil unions, domestic partnerships, and estate planning for the LGBT community.

Women4Women is an inclusive social/discussion group open to all women who love women, regardless of whether they are lesbian, bi, curious, or anti-label, whether born female or trans. The only criteria is being a woman who loves women. Inclusiveness and diversity are a key part of the group, with women of all cultural backgrounds, races, ages, physical abilities, political beliefs are more than welcome, as we learn both from our diversity and from what we have in common: loving women.

For more information about Outreach's Women4Women group, call Outreach at 608-255-8582 and leave a message or email Donna at: dw65@sbccglobal.net

CHRISTOPHER DURANG'S THE MARRIAGE OF BETTE AND BOO AT THE BOULEVARD

A review By Paul Masterson

Christopher Durang's Obie award winning comedy, *The Marriage of Bette and Boo*, continues the Boulevard Ensemble Theatre's 23rd season. It opened November 24th. The play is gay playwright Durang's autobiography of his youth. Skippy, Bette and Boo's son (the only child of many to survive childbirth) grows up in the midst of family dysfunction. Despite the emotional chaos around him, he manages to persevere by immersing himself in the works of Thomas Hardy to make sense of the world. Skippy is the gay outsider. It's a familiar role for many of us.

Boulevard artistic director and the director of this production presents a successful interpretation of Durang's two-act, 33 scene comedy with its cast of 10. It's a hard-edged work that makes one laugh — even at the tragedy of stillbirth. But, it has to be a comedy with the mix of wincingly real characters played by a very capable and well-chosen cast of veterans and new talent.

Current UWM student Paul Madden as Skippy narrates the action with nuance and staid storytelling. He

portrays the hapless observer who manages to survive the brutality of family life. He plays the role with palpable dignity, intelligence and perception. Anne Miller (Bette), a recent UWM alumna and Ken Dillon (Boo) portray their roles well as mismatched couple, attempting normalcy despite their conflicts.

The remaining cast members all deserve applause. Each portrays their character with conviction and control. Michael Weber stands out as Karl Hudlocke, Boo's father and alcoholic husband of Soot, who presents the unsubtle cruelty of a man hell bent on foisting his own misery on the rest of the world. His wife, Soot Hudlocke (Christine Horgen) is the good wife, absorbing abuse with humor that hides her inner hatred of her lot. Horgen's performance is wrenchingly real.

Playing the both doctor and Father Donnelly is none other than David Flores. His aloof doctor delivers dead babies with deadpan while his theologically impaired priest delivers delightful charm especially in his exasperated and tipsily conducted retreat for married couples.

Playing Margaret and Paul Brennan, the parents

of the bride, are Michelle Waide and Michael Chobanoff. Both maintain their sovereignty as oblivious participants in life until they meet their mutual fates. Finally, Caitlin Kujawski and Heather Reynolds as Bette's neurotic sisters, Joan and Emily, round out the cast and complete the unhappy family picture with sound performances.

The Boulevard's sparse sets and creative use of minimal resources have become this Bay View venue's hallmark. Here the play is set again a black painted wall with wedding photos by Troy Freund. The scenes of the happy occasion created an album effect to contrast fond memories with the tense reality of married life.

In his curtain speech, Bucher says, "Chris Durang's *Marriage of Bette and Boo* is a great antidote for holiday sentiment." It is certainly that and an entertaining evening as well.

The Marriage of Bette and Boo runs November 24 through January 2nd, 2010 at the Boulevard Theatre, located at 2252 South Kinnickinnic in Bay View. For ticket and performance information see www.boulevardtheatre.com or call 414-744-5757.



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CHRISTMAS ON DVD Helping Make Christmas Gay!

by Glenn Bishop

Under normal circumstances, Glenn finds the wonderful coverage of national and world affairs here in *Quest* quite sufficient, thank you very much! And now, with the holiday season fast approaching, who has time to pay attention to the news?

Then, out of nowhere, an outrageous and invariably overwhelming headline will catch Glenn's eye:

"World goes nuts because the President preempts 'A Charlie Brown Christmas.'"

Talk about your imponderables. For heaven's sake, what was President Obama thinking? Christmas is serious business. Don't think so? Some radio stations have been playing "All Christmas, All Day" since before Halloween and the ABC Family well into their '25 Days of Christmas.' Could President Obama's priorities have been any more ill-advised? Who chooses "troops in Afghanistan" over of Linus's poignant recitation of Luke's account of the angels appearing to the shepherds on that first Christmas Eve?

Not, Glenn.

Following repeated viewings of "**Make the Yulvide Gay.**" Glenn has become positively giddy with Christmas cheer. So much so in fact, Glenn spent much of Thanksgiving culling his DVD collection, looking for some holiday entertainment with a decided gay sensibility, determined to help make this Christmas just a bit gayer for all of you loyal *Quest* readers.

Here are some of the treasures Glenn found ... as well as a few you might want to avoid.

10. "Ornaments,"

director Brian Samuel Davis

In much the same way a car accident can be impossible to look away from, "**Ornaments**" is hypnotically compelling. Still, this 2008 holiday offering certainly did little to put any 'fun' into Glenn invariably dysfunctional Christmas. In "**Ornaments**," six friends (?) get together for their annual celebration of the holidays, a group including the thoroughly obnoxious TJ (Brian Samuel Davis) who is spewing more vitriol than ever before and has brought along his latest boy toy for shock value. For some 90-odd minutes they bicker, squabble and make a total mockery of any notion of "peace and goodwill towards man." No thanks. That's exactly the reason Glenn doesn't go home for the holidays.

Available on DVD: SRP \$29.95

9. "Visions of Sugar Plums"

director Edward Fasulo

"**Visions of Sugar Plums**" has been knocking around for years. Why? The cute, sexy box art suggests that a Merry Christmas is sure to be in store for chiseled fitness trainer Joey (Edward Fasulo) and boyfriend Bruce (Mark W. Hardin), not to mention for those who are about to watch them spend their



first Christmas together. Well, no such luck. There's a promising premise: Bruce's fundamentalist folks are set to surprise their son, not knowing he's living with a male hottie. Evidently a labor of love; the best of intentions cannot make up for horrible sound (surely a blessing here), an uncertain narrative and rather dodgy cinematography.

Available on DVD: SRP \$15.95

8. "Miss Richfield 1981: Fall on Your Knees"

What would the holidays be without a Drag Christmas Extravaganza? What indeed, asks Glenn? While some might prefer "**The Dame Edna Experience - The Christmas Specials**," as Glenn does, there's no denying Miss Richfield's popularity. Sadly, those unfamiliar with the diva from Richfield are likely to be left watching with incredulity at how much the audience for this live show seems to enjoy the proceedings. The most logical explanation would be an abundance of alcohol; Glenn was often heard crying out for a cocktail during the screening.

Available on DVD: SRP \$22.95

*7. "Houseboy"

director Spencer Schilly

This melodramatic story of a cute young boy toy on his own during the long, cold Christmas season nights will certainly suit those who demand plenty of hot male flesh with their holiday entertainment. To keep their relationship fresh Simon and DJ (Tom Merlino, Brian Patacca) find a cute lad to add some spice. Enter a suitably adorable Nick (Nick May).

Nick thinks he's found a real home with Simon and DJ, only to be left behind to water plants and tends to small, furry rodents while the boys go home for the holidays. Nick doesn't handle being on his own during Christmas terribly well; his ensuing depression leads to thoughts of suicide, much random sex, drug use and perhaps salvation in his new friend Blake (Blake Young-Fountain), a very sweet young African-American lad.

Available on DVD: SRP \$19.95

6. "24 Nights"

Jonathan (Kevin Isola) is not your typical twenty-something gay man; he still clings to his lifelong belief in Santa Claus. He reminisces about how his mother told him, whilst just a wee lad, that if Jonathan was a good boy, Santa would bring what he wished for. Now a college drop-out and working in a Greenwich Village gay bookstore, Jonathan has a terrific idea: why not ask St. Nick for the man of his dreams? No more failed love affairs for Jonathan! When handsome southerner Tony begins working at the bookstore, Jonathan can't believe his good luck. Damn if Santa hasn't come through. There's only one problem, Tony's current boy friend, Keith. Is Tony the man of Jonathan's dreams or is Santa just plain naughty? Available on DVD: SRP \$19.95

5. "Nutcracker!"

choreographer Matthew Bourne

Please note the exclamation point! During a season jam-packed with Sugar Plum Fairies, Glenn inevitably turns to this enchanting revisionist take on the perennial E.T.A Hoffman classic. Here, rather than opening to a glorious Edwardian Christmas party, Bourne treats us to a Dickensian orphanage whose proprietors starve the poor souls in favor of their gluttonous offspring. Nor is there a loathsome Tiny Tim in sight! Will Clara find her Nutcracker Prince in the day-glo fantasy that is Bourne's 'Sweetieland?' Available on DVD: SRP \$29.99

4. "Are You Being Served: Christmas"

Paul Lynde's hilarious Uncle Arthur on "**Bewitched**" notwithstanding, has there ever been a television character more enchanted than John Inman's Mr. Humphreys? This special (and quite inexpensive) collection includes four festive holiday themed episodes of the perennially British classic and popular PBS mainstay. Watch as Mr. Humphreys and the whole Grace Brothers gang forced to dress as fairy-tale characters for a holiday promotion; in another, they try to entertain young Mr. Grace by doing a children's ballet.

Available on DVD: SRP \$9.95

See also "**Keeping Up Appearances: Deck the Halls with Hyacinth**"

Available on DVD: SRP \$19.95

3. "Some of My Best Friends Are"

director Mervyn Nelson

Now this one is rather more of a Christmas wish as Glenn has long thought "Some of My Best Friends Are," a gay classic from 1971, merely an urban legend. Set in a New York City gay bar on Christmas Eve, "Some of My Best Friends Are" boasts a cast which included Warhol diva Candy Darling plus such soon to be budding sit-com stars Gary Sandy ("WKRP in Cincinnati"), Fannie Flagg ("Harper Valley, P.T.A") and Rue McClanahan ("Maude," "Golden Girls"). Produced on the heels of the better known "Boys in the Band," "Some of My Best Friends Are" has languished in virtual obscurity; there's never been either a VHS or DVD release. Still Glenn has waited patiently. Perhaps this year Santa might find it in his heart to bring Glenn a copy of the film for Christmas. Or if that's not possible, Santa, perhaps the long hoped for Easy Bake Oven? Not currently available on DVD.

2. "A Christmas Memory"

Filmed for ABC TV back in 1966, Truman Capote's magical short story recalls when as a boy of ten, young Truman — here dubbed Buddy — lived with his slightly crazy cousin Sook (Geraldine Page), her dog Queenie plus two much reviled Aunts. With the arrival of autumn, Sook would presently announce, "Oh, my. Its fruitcake weather." So would begin the annual ritual of baking 30 fruitcakes for many faraway friends who at some point touched their lives, a daunting task during the poverty of the 1930s. Capote himself narrates

their poignant last Christmas together, before they are separated, when "those who know best" send Buddy to the first in a series of much hated military schools. Beautifully directed and blessed with Meyer Kupferman's haunting score, "A

Christmas Memory" is a perfect, heartfelt gay Christmas classic.

Available on DVD: SRP \$22.95



1. "The Judy Garland Holiday Special"

How can the extraordinary Judy not top this list? Many in the 1960s were called on to host holiday specials: Bob Hope, Bing Crosby and Perry Como to name but a few. The emphasis back then was on family entertainment and after all, Judy was a mom. In hindsight, having now seen the trainwreck of a life that Liza has carved out for herself, one might have looked some other, more suitable Hollywood celeb. Picture it: Bette Davis growling out "Silent Night." Or rather, imagine the charming duet with Joan and Christina Crawford singing "Baby It's Cold Outside." Just days after her beloved JFK was assassinated, this special episode from her short-lived television series found Judy inviting America into her home for a musical Christmas Eve with friends/guest stars Jack Jones and Mel Tormé. Highlights include Liza Minnelli who, joined by her "beau," dancer Tracey Everitt, sings "Alice Blue Gown." Jack Jones offers a lovely version of "Lolipops And Roses." And as for Judy; she is forever "Somewhere Over the Rainbow."

Available on DVD: SRP \$15.95



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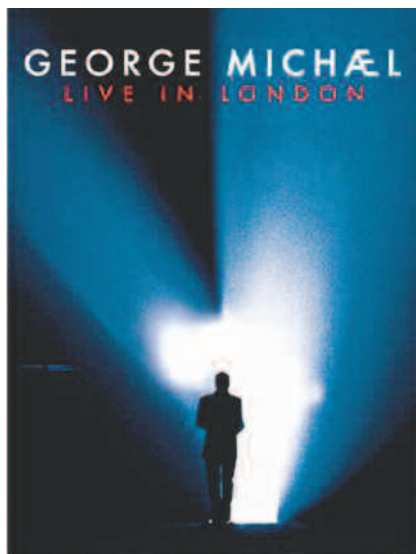
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George Michael is to release 'Live in London' a special 23 song full concert DVD on December 8th through Epic Records/Sony Music Entertainment. This is the first live DVD of George's career. Recorded and filmed at The Final Two concerts in London's Earls Court arena on August 24th and 25th these highly anticipated shows marked the end of George Michael's triumphant 25 Live Tour and were the last chance to catch George performing on a stage of this magnitude.



'Live in London' features tracks from George's historic career including 'Careless Whisper', 'Freedom', 'Faith', 'Everything She Wants' and 'Amazing'. A special behind the scenes bonus documentary, 'I'd Know him a Mile Off,' offers a glimpse behind the magic of these sold out shows even shadowing the man himself before and after his performances on stage. 'Live in London' will be available worldwide in two formats, double disc DVD and a single Blu-Ray disc.

George Michael is one of the world's most successful male artists, selling over 100 million records world wide and encompassing 11 British No.1 singles, eight British No.1 albums and six US No.1 singles. The Multi talented artist also proved to be a big hit on the small screen as he parodied himself in Christmas specials of the hit UK television shows 'Catherine Tate Show' and 'Extras'.

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DIVERSION OF THE DAY Community Events Calendar

Friday, December 11

The ROOM (Milwaukee) The ROOM's Holiday Party

Jack (Milw) Join the SWITCH crew for a reunion party 9:30-cl hot male dancers and Santa!

LaCage (Milwaukee) Customer Appreciation Party and 4 Year Anniversary
FREE Beer, cocktail & hors d'ouvres 10-11pm Transformations show follows.

Milwaukee LGBT Center Holiday Mix n Mingle 5:30pm to 8pm, Members \$10 Non-members \$15 Food will be provided by Haute Dish, a Personal Chef Service. Non-alcoholic beverages will be available as well

Napalese (Green Bay) Christmas Gift Extravaganza, gifts, raffles and beer bust 9-cl

Saturday, December 12

ICON (Kenosha) Leather Night: Strippers & a Toys for Tots benefit. Get in free with a child's toy donation

WOOF's (Madison) Santa Saturday 4-7 Toy Drive in memory of Felicia Melton Smyth for AIDS Network. Dancing boys, Naughty elves and a free Santa Shot with a toy donation.

Sunday, December 13

Triangle (Milwaukee) Just Boys with Dan E. Dance. 11pm

Monday, December 14

Milwaukee LGBT Center Financial Literacy Series, 6:30pm to 8pm at the center.

Outwards (Milwaukee) 7pm Outwards Book Club The book for discussion in December will be Neil Bartlett's psychological thriller, Skin Lane. Come and meet the group and discuss a great book.

Triangle (Milwaukee) Holiday Party with food, fun and even presents!

Tuesday, December 15

Fluid (Milwaukee) Fluid Holiday Party 7-cl

Thursday, December 17

BOOM (Milwaukee) BOOM's Holiday Party

Friday, December 18

BOOM (Milwaukee) MANHUNT Mery XXXMas Party

LaCage (Milwaukee) Naughty Santa Christmas Party

Saturday, December 19

ICON (Kenosha) Home For Christmas, a Felicia Melton Smyth AIDS Charities Benefit

Madison Gay Video Club "Make The Yuletide Gay" (TLA Rel., dir. Rob Williams, 2009) "Roughin' It" (Falcon Studios '09) 8PM, www.mgvc.org, 608-244-8690 (evenings)

Midtowne Spa (Milwaukee) Holiday Party and Porn Swap/Sale with Castaways, Video City and featuring Mr. Midtowne and Dylan, Milwaukee's local porn star.

Sunday, December 20

Fluid (Milwaukee) Christmas Bingo

Thursday, New Year's Eve December 31

Ballgame (Milwaukee) Open round the clock party favors and a buffet at midnight.

BOOM (Milwaukee) No Cover for our New Year's Eve Party

Fluid (Milwaukee) complimentary champagne toast at midnight.

ICON (Kenosha) Black & White Party \$50 includes open bar 8-midnight, food buffet, DJ champagne toast at midnight party favors and give-a-ways all night including a Vegas trip.

LaCage (Milwaukee) 2-4-1 drinks in Montage 6-9pm then ETC opens 9pm and LaCage at 10. Buffet, Complimentary champagne, favors & a giant balloon drop.

Saturday, January 16, 2010

Positive Voice (Green Bay) Mama Mia Purchase your own tickets. We'll meet after the 2pm matinee for drinks.

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ddjilges@execpc.com
www.iagsdc.org/creamcity

Front Runners
(414) 332-1527

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(414) 530-1886
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www.milwaukeeegamma.com

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www.hitmilwaukee.org

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www.harmonycave.org
www.myspace.com/harmonycave

Men's Voices Milwaukee C/o U.C.C.
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www.mvmchorus.org

Miltown Kings
www.myspace.com/miltownkings

Metro Milwaukee Tennis Club
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Milw, WI 53222 (414) 616-3716
Moenell@MSN.COM
www.milwaukeeetennis.com

Milwaukee Gay Arts Center
703 S 2nd Street
Milw, WI 53204 (414) 383-3727
milwgac@yahoo.com

Milwaukee Pride Parade
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Milw, WI 53207 414-607-3793
www.prideparademke.org

PrideFest
PO BOX 511763 Milwaukee, 53203
(414) 272-3378 www.pridefest.com

Saturday Softball League
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(414) 350-7147
www.ssbmlmilwaukee.com

Shoreline Country Dancers
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info@shoreline-milw.org
www.shoreline-milw.org

Wisconsin Gay Hockey
(414) 202-5874
wigayhockey@wi.rr.com
home.wi.rr.com/wigayhockey

Women's Voices Milwaukee
315 W Court St Milwaukee, 53212
(414) 534-5645

LGBT Service and Advocacy Organizations

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Milwaukee, WI 53212
(414) 271-2656
www.centeradvocates.org

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www.charlesdprodinc.com

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Milwaukee, WI 53202

Cream City Foundation
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Milwaukee, WI 53202
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director@creamcityfoundation.org

Diverse And Resilient
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Milwaukee, WI 53202
(414) 390-0444
director@diverseandresilient.org
www.diverseandresilient.org

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www.fairwisconsin.org

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glcentermil@aol.com
www.glcommunitytrustfund.com

Galan Club
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www.galanclub.org

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doolguy@charter.net

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**Human Rights League-Political
Action Committee (HRL-PAC)**
PO BOX 510407
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(414) 319-9863
www.hrl-pac.org

Lesbian Alliance
315 W Court Street
Milwaukee, WI 53212
(414) 272-9442
lamm@milwpc.com

LGBT Center of SE Wisconsin
1456 Junction Ave. Racine, WI 53403
ph: (262)664.4100 fax: (262)664.4101
info@lgbtsewisc.org

Log Cabin Republicans
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(414) 755-1954
membership@lcrwi.com

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(414) 271-2656
www.mkelgbt.org

Pathfinders
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Milwaukee, WI 53202
(414) 271-1560
info@tccmilw.org
www.tccmilw.org

PFLAG Milwaukee
315 W Court Street
Milwaukee, WI 53212
(414) 299-9198
pflagmilwaukee@hotmail.com

PFLAG Racine/Kenosha
PO BOX 580058
Pleasant Prairie, WI 53158
(262) 694-2729
pflagkenosha@aol.com

Positive Direction Milwaukee
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Positive Voice
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Project Q
315 W Court St. Milw, WI 53212
(414) 223-3220
kurt@projectq.org
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Queer Program
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(414) 265-8500
queerprgrm@aol.com

Queer Zine Archive Project
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Milwaukee, WI 53202
qzap@qzap.org
www.qzap.org

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www.rainbowoverwisconsin.org

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email@sagemilwaukee.org

Transgender Aging Network
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Glendale, WI 53209
(414) 540-6456
loreecd@aol.com

UWM LGBT Resource Center
UWM Union WG89 P.O. Box 41
Milwaukee, WI 53201
(414) 229-4116
jrmurray@uwm.edu
www.uwm.edu/Dept/OSL/LGBT

**Wisconsin Rainbow Alliance
of the Deaf**
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www.wiscrad.org

LGBT Neighborhood Associations

Bay View GAYS
(414) 482-3796
bvgpresident@bvgsays.com
www.bvgsays.com

Washington Heights Rainbow Association
(414) 258-8834
washhtsrainbow@aol.com
www.washingtonheightsrainbow.org

Wauwatosa Rainbow Association
(aka Rainbow Fireflies)
(414) 774-9470
tosarainbow@yahoo.com

LGBT Social Groups

Argonauts of Wisconsin
PO Box 22096 Green Bay, WI 54305
www.argonautsll.org
argonews@sbcglobal.net

Black and White Men Together
PO Box 80395 Milwaukee, WI 53208
(414) 461-5359
bwmtmilwaukee@aol.com
www.bwmtmilwaukee.org

Bear Club 4 Men
PO Box 13463 Green Bay, WI 54307
www.bc4m.com

Brew City Bears
PO Box 1035 Milwaukee, WI 53201
(414) 331-3744
bc4men-alan@sbcglobal.net
www.bc4men.info

The Brunch Club
jennieragland@wi.rr.com

Castaways
PO BOX 1697
Milwaukee, WI 53202

**Dodge County Gay/Bi Men's
Social Group of Wisconsin**
http://groups.yahoo.com/groups/DCGMSG/
dcgmsg@yahoo.com

Femme Mafia Milwaukee
www.myspace.com/femmefamiamke

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Men (MenEnjoyNudism)
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N.E.W. Brotherhood
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www.NEWBrotherhood.org

Rainbow Families c/o PFLAG
315 W Court St. Milwaukee, 53212
mkerainbowfamilies@hotmail.com

LGBT Welcoming Churches

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angelsofhopemcc.org
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Church of Atheism
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church_of_atheism@yahoo.com
www.freewebs.com/churchofatheism

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Footstep Fellowship
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geocities.com/footstepfellowship

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Milwaukee Metropolitan Community Church
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info@queerchurch.org pastor@milmcc.org
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www.bestd.org

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jane.ottow@cssw.org
www.cssw.org

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www.tccmilw.org

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ANGIE STONE EXPECTS THE 'UNEXPECTED'

R&B Star's New Album is 2nd for Legendary Soul Label Stax Records

R&B/soul luminary Angie Stone has never shied away from pushing her own limits and the limits of her music. With each new recording, with each next step in her career, she has consistently hit the world with something it didn't see coming. Her new album, *Unexpected*, from Stax Records (a division of Concord Music Group), encompasses a diversity of styles and influences that Stone has distilled over the years – rap, R&B, soul, funk and more – and weaves them together in a narrative that addresses life's ups and downs, but ultimately strikes a redemptive chord.

"I wanted this album to be something different," says Stone, whose 2007 Stax debut, *The Art of Love & War*, was her first album to top Billboard's R&B/hip-hop chart. "I didn't want to make the kind of neo-soul record I had made in the past. That would have been repetitive."

But in the midst of mapping this new direction, Stone encountered a shock that even she didn't see coming. Mid-way through the recording process, her father – Stone's spiritual anchor and creative mentor passed away very suddenly. "It was totally unexpected," she says, "and that's where I came up with the title of the album. I really didn't think I could finish the project, because I was so grief stricken. . . I had to do a lot of the vocals a second time. I had to lean on my dad's wisdom and energy, and try to be open to what he would have wanted me to do in order to finish the songs. I can say that his spirit was literally there in the studio with me, and I'm grateful for that."

Unexpected represents a turning point for Angie Stone – not just in her career, but in her life and her world view.



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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

IT TAKES ONE TO KNOW ONE

Dear Uncle Barbie,

The "closeted" years of my life were some difficult, trying years. I'm over that now, so don't you worry toots! Before I came out, however, I said some really nasty things about gay people. I feared and hated them. Since that awful period of my existence, I've had a hunch about homophobes (or my past self). That is, I believe the more homophobic one is, the more homosexual they are. Homophobes are fearful of, and hate, their own sexuality.

I thought I would enlighten you and your readers to a small study conducted at the University of Georgia. This study asked the question: Is homophobia associated with homosexual arousal? The study investigated the role of homosexual arousal in men who claimed to have never had gay sex or gay sex fantasies. Participants consisted of a group of 35 homophobic men and a group of 29 non-homophobic men. They were assigned to their respective groups on the basis of their scores on the index of homophobia (WW Hudson & WA Ricketts, 1980).

The men were exposed to heterosexual porn, gay male porn, and lesbian porn. Changes in the participants penile circumference were monitored with a device which looks like a high-tech cock ring. Both groups exhibited increases in penile cir-

cumference when watching both heterosexual and lesbian videos. Here is the crazy part:

ONLY THE HOMOPHOBIC MEN SHOWED AN INCREASE IN PENILE CIRCUMFERENCE WHEN WATCHING GAY MALE PORN. The study concluded homophobia is apparently associated with homosexual arousal that the homophobic individual is either unaware of or denies.

This answers a lot of my questions about why so many guys hate us homos. In my closeted days, I was scared of my gayness, and that fear was projected as hatred. Sheesh! Perhaps, you'd like to shed some light onto the subject of homophobia, since you probably receive more hate mail than our nation's President.

Signed, Gay Guy

Hello Earthling,

Rarely have I receive such a detailed and well-researched question from as this one. I only wish the rest of the public was as informed and enlightened as you. Yes, I have heard of the research study to which you referred.

Similarly, I have heard of another clinical technique used to measure sexual arousal. Put simply, it



An orgy of educational entertainment.

involves video taping and digitally measuring a person's pupil dilation when shown various erotic images of men and women. The results of this study support the findings of the other study you cited: the people who demonstrated the most pupil dilation when exposed to homoerotic images were the same people who expressed the strongest objections to homosexuality.

The fast majority of those homophobic individuals were married men who also became aroused by images of nude women. Are you starting to get the idea that homophobes are fighting an internal conflict? It would seem that the battle of Sodom and Gomorra is fought from within. (Was that too philosophical?) Let me put it in terms that are more down to Earth. It is my opinion that the most homophobic individuals are neither straight nor gay--they are bisexual. I believe that their abhorrence of homosexuality stems from their mixed sexual feelings for both sexes. It is this cognitive dissonance that creates the anxiety which can lead to homophobia. (Damn, that was a lot of big words.)

This dissonance doesn't have to always result in an antigay attitude. If the conflicted person is able to truly accept and embrace his or her identity as a sexual being, then the anxiety dissipates and the conflict is resolved. If the conflict is not resolved...well, then the person may end up like one of those antigay ministers who gets caught having sex with a gay prostitute. (So to all those homophobes out there who keep sending me their antigay emails--you are all more gay (albeit closeted) than you want to admit. Touché!)

Gay By Nature, Barbie

fair wisconsin

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Outwords customer Joel Buchanan pictured here with hunky model Alex Wilson. Joel was kind enough to pass on these photos he took at the model meet-n-greet with calendar photographer John Gress for the very cool "Cool Down" calendar now on sale at Milwaukee's LGBT owned bookstore, OUTWORDS. See ad right hint hint.... Anyway, obviously Quest owner Za who missed the calendar event while putting out an edition of Outbound was thankful but also certain Joel just wanted to rub it in a little that he had fun and I didn't. — sigh...

Below: more shots of the models and customers.



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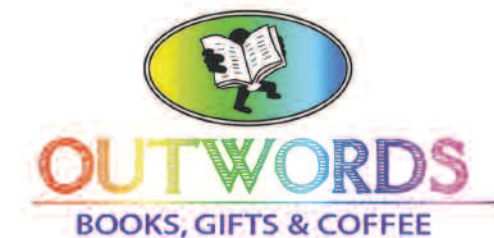


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Chantalls Sweet Sixteen Party at Club ICON, Kenosha

Photos by Paul Carbonneau



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Janesville: (South) roommate needed - M2F TS seeking m or f for mobile home. 3 BR 1-1/2 bath furnished. Very nice & clean. Shared rent and utilities. Clean, inexpensive. Smoking okay. Will consider small pet. JoanneTGwi@AOL.com [12/30]

LaCrosse: Looking to rent a room in a house or apartment in LaCrosse with gay male(s), or any gay friendly guy / lady. Need by Dec 1st will pay rent and do household chores to help out or any other services that are needed. Decent clean guy and will keep place clean. Had some back luck lately and really need some help PLEASE call (608)790-4004.

Messages

Dodge and Junee County GLBT community. Do you feel a need to have Jesus in your life? Ever thought of attending the MCC in Milwaukee? We are offering rides, carpooling and more information. Please email me at bearhearted@att.net [1/20]

HELP WANTED

GWM needed to clean 1 BR apt every 2 weeks. Minimal work. I am partially dis-

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WANTED TO BUY: Late 1980's early 90's Z. Cavaricci & I.O.U. shirts, sweaters, jackets etc. Also advertising pinback buttons from Chess King, DeJaiz & Merry-Go-Round stores. For info: jrotunda@wi.rr.com What were you wearing on Black Friday 1987?

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 Club 5 Bar/Restaurant 5 Applegate Ct
 Madison, (608)277-9700
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SASS 840 S. Broadway, Green Bay
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Club 1226 1226 Oshkosh Ave Oshkosh,
 (920)651-1226

Debs Spare Time 1303 Harrison St
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JoDee's 2139 Racine St Racine (262)634-9804

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1 Ballgame 196 S 2nd (414)273-7474

3 Boom (& The ROOM) 625 S. 2nd St
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4 Boot Camp 209 E National (414)643-6900

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

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

6 Fluid 819 South 2nd (414)643-5843

7 Harbor Room 117 E Greenfield (414)672-7988

8 JACK 200 E Washington (414)389-3596

9 KRUZ 354 E. National (414)272-KRUZ

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

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

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

5 Montage (Upper level of LaCage)
 801S 2nd, (414)383-8330

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

13 Nut Hut 1500 W Scott (414)647-2673

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