



Give the People Light and they will find their own way.

The Wisconsin Light

Tri-Cable to Cease Monthly Cable Programs

[Milwaukee]- After two successful seasons as Milwaukee's Gay and Lesbian news and entertainment program, Tri-Cable Tonight will cablecast its final program next month, December.

Begun in the Fall of 1987, Tri-Cable cablecast monthly half-hour programs about Gay and Lesbian community issues and concerns in a magazine style format. During its 26 programs, Tri-Cable Tonight was honored with local and national awards for excellence, including first place in the 1989 Hometown U.S.A. Video competition, several Philo T. Fransworth Awards in 1988 and 1989 and the Cream City Business Association's President's Award.

According to executive producers Bryce Clark and Mark Behar, Tri-Cable's sponsoring group--the Milwaukee Gay/Lesbian Cable Network--will continue to produce programs on Lesbian and Gay issues in 1990. Until then, watch for program announcements and, by all means, KEEP THOSE CLOSET DOORS OPEN!

The Network is constantly looking for interested and motivated people to receive video production training and to be crew members. If you are interested or have ideas for programs or just wish to express your comments, write: P.O. Box 239, Milwaukee 53201 or all (414) 278-0880. The Milwaukee Gay/Lesbian Cable Network is a committee of the Cream City Foundation, Inc., Milwaukee's Gay and Lesbian charitable organization.

Teachers Attend Gay Session At Convention

By Dennis Bergren

[Madison]- For the first time, the Wisconsin State Teachers Convention, held October 26 and 27 in Madison, offered a section for Gay and Lesbian educators.

As I participated in this affirming group, I thought how fortunate the public was to have these people teaching their children. These are committed teachers who care, who have been the objects of derision and prejudice in their own education and are concerned that their students do not suffer that same pain. They gave personal testimony of actions to curb name calling of any kind, to confront prejudice head-on and to try to enlighten and expand awareness and sow seeds of a more tolerant society.

At the same time, these people work under the shadow of fear of discovery and social ostracism, fear they could lose their jobs or be hounded out of town if the public knew of their sexual orientation.

Some of those horror stories were of unbelievable prejudice and bigotry being taught and promoted by many teachers. Yet John Q. Public would stand behind these "educators." Even many of our liberal friends tolerate homosexuals in principle "as long as they don't teach our children."

At the base of their fear is, of course, the wide-spread myth that Gay men and Lesbians are child molesters and recruit children for the Gay lifestyle, a myth perpetrated by media headlines and some fundamentalist religious personages.

We who have grown up Gay, know how ridiculous the recruiting argument is. It doesn't work that way. But we need to examine ways of informing the public, a public who ignores the statistics that the overwhelming majority of child molesters are heterosexual.

The concerns of Gay and Lesbian teachers are the same as those of all good educators: that each child should develop to his/her full potential in a caring environment. The public should be proud of these teachers who have a special awareness of and commitment to equal rights for all individuals.

Students Bringing Marquette University Out of the Closet

By Dan Gall

"We are a group of Marquette University students. What we share is a desire for greater inclusion of Gay students on campus," said Victor Saporta, a Junior.

The group, which has no official name, has been anonymously chalking messages advocating Gay rights on Marquette's sidewalks and igniting, thereby, a discussion of Gay rights across the campus.

The group, composed of both homosexual and heterosexual students, has a set of specific goals for the Marquette administration including an anti-harassment policy for Gay students and a social group for Gay and Lesbian students.

What is more important and more immediate, though, is increasing awareness of homosexuality on campus and, it is hoped, acceptance.

"We'd like students to understand that Gays and Lesbians are not just some freakish few, or second class sinners simply because we're Gay or Lesbian. Gays and Lesbians are everywhere and I'd like to see student attitudes improve," said Saporta.

Students in the group feel alienated at Marquette and are working to gain acceptance for future homosexual students. Saporta emphasized, "...if I can make the experience of the next batch of Gay kids through their school, I'm going to do it!"

The sidewalk is an effective means to reach the students and a way to prove that homosexuality exists on campus. The first chalking was spontaneous, but further chalkings were planned to fit the schedule of *The Tribune*, Marquette's student newspaper.

"We've been written up a few times (in *The Tribune*), said Saporta, "and that's the only mass circulation on campus."

The information campaign has moved from the sidewalk as the group has started to pass out leaflets explaining themselves and increasing their presence on campus.

There are about 10 core members, not all homosexual, and support for the group on campus has grown. There is no outside support for the students, but the group formed spontaneously and is not yet organized or formal enough to seek it yet.

The group may not be large, but the awareness of homosexuality on campus has grown to a disproportionate degree. There has also been an anti-Gay backlash complete with homophobic sidewalk messages. Even this is seen as a positive step by the group -- the attitudes, at least, are out in the open.

The Gay rights group is not violent and does not consider the chalkings to be vandalism, but they are a growing movement on campus.

"I'm not mentally ill. I'm not paranoid," said Saporta. "I'm angry!"



J. J. Newmann won the title of Mr. Gay Wisconsin and Mimi Marcs was crowned Miss Gay Wisconsin at the Pageant held Nov. 5 at Milwaukee's Marc Plaza Hotel.

S.F. Plans New Domestic Partners Bill After Narrow Referendum Defeat

[San Francisco]- On November 7th, San Francisco voters rejected, by less than 1,800 votes (50.2% to 49.7%), domestic partnership legislation which had been passed unanimously by the City's Board of Supervisors last Spring. The legislation was brought to a referendum, Proposition S, after local religious leaders collected enough signatures to place it on the ballot.

The law would have set up a registration system for domestic partners, which it defined as any two unmarried individuals -- straight or Gay -- living together in a committed relationship and jointly responsible for basic living expenses.

It would have prevented discrimination against such registered domestic partners, providing hospital visitation rights and bereavement leave. The law was limited to city and county employees and would not have effected the private sector.

The defeat of Proposition S stunned Gay and Lesbian leaders in San Francisco. Because of the city's liberal reputation and its well-organized Gay community, many assumed that the domestic partners law had, perhaps, the best chance of being sustained in San Francisco.

Community leaders and sources at the *San Francisco Sentinel*, the city's Gay and Lesbian newspaper, outlined a number of factors in the defeat.

The October earthquake had a profound effect on voting results. Hundreds of "Yes on S" organizers were diverted from the task of voter registration to assist in earthquake relief efforts just two weeks prior to the crucial vote.

In addition, a poll taken immediately after the earthquake indicated that the number of those "undecided" about Proposition S increased from 17% prior to the quake to a whopping 39%. Organizers attributed this to the general atmosphere of fear and uncertainty following the quake.

Roberta Achtenberg of the Lesbian Rights Project speculated that "We didn't do as good an education job as we should have in our own community. I'm not sure everyone appreciated its significance, whether they had a domestic partner or not, whether they felt this was the most important issue facing the Gay community or not... I'm not sure everybody appreciated how important it was to avoid a defeat."

Early research revealed that of those

most likely to vote (those who had voted in five of the last five elections), the majority opposed Proposition S. It was essential, therefore, to reach out to those who voted with young, liberal, straight Democrats, turn out in record numbers.

Yes on S campaign manager Dick Pabich admitted: "We probably didn't do all we needed to get non-Gay voters out to the polls." The direct mail campaign never went beyond the Gay community to rouse other potential supporters in the city.

The opposition, led by the Catholic Church, fundamentalist Christians and

Flu, Pneumonia Shots Urged For High-Risk People

[Milwaukee]- The Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP) supports the City of Milwaukee Health Department and the Centers for Disease Control recommendations regarding flu and pneumococcal immunizations for high-risk populations.

MAP recommends that all individuals with HIV infection consult with their health care providers and give serious consideration to the immunizations. Receiving the vaccine between September and early December will bring enhanced protection prior to the start of the "flu season."

MAP also recommends that volunteers, family members, friends and others in close contact with HIV infected persons receive these vaccines as well. These immunizations will prevent people from getting influenza and passing the disease along to those with HIV infection.

The Milwaukee Health Department will be offering these immunizations at MAP, 315 W. Court St., from 12:00 noon to 8:00 p.m. on Thursday, November 30, 1989. The cost is \$4.00 for the influenza vaccine and this should be an annual immunization.

The pneumonia vaccine costs \$7.00 and need only be given once in a lifetime, covering over 20 types of pneumonia. If payment is a problem, arrangements can be made through MAP. Most insurance carriers will reimburse the cost of vaccination.

For further information, please contact Brenda McClellan-Tilson, RNCNP and Director of Education at MAP, (414) 273-2437.

Welcome HIT Bowlers

