



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

# The Wisconsin Light

## Madison Safer Sex Awareness Day September 22

[Madison]- The Third Annual Safer Sex Awareness Day will be held in Madison on Saturday, September 22, 1990 in Library Mall from 12:00-4:00 p.m. The event is a kickoff for the Madison AIDS Support Network's (MASN) University Outreach Education Program at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

The day is designed to be a non-sexual, non-threatening way for students to become aware of and involved in HIV prevention techniques. Features of the day's events include: the band, Switchtrack Alley, The Condom Games, Pat the Prophylactic, information, comedy, prizes and speakers, including persons infected with HIV and a dance at night, "The Rubber Ball."

Condoms and the spermicide nonoxonyl-9 have been found to be extremely effective in preventing the transmission of HIV, the virus which causes AIDS. MASN hopes to enable students to learn about and feel comfortable with using condoms correctly as well as providing individuals with risk reduction information to encourage informed choices about safer behaviors.

Another purpose of Safer Sex Awareness Day is to offer an opportunity to approach the issue creatively-- allowing students to use humor to address their own vulnerability. The Day will open the door to further discussion, and will allow students to be receptive to more serious programs that will follow later in the year.

Winners in each of the events will be awarded prizes donated by local businesses. Sponsors include: MASN, Safetex Co., The Soap Opera, The Puzzlebox, The Cheddarheads, Active Sportswear, Ovens of Brittany, The Barrymore Theater, University Square Four Theater, Little Luxuries, Sunprint Cafe, Steep and Brew, Victors, Taco Bell, Bennetton, Campus Video, Solstice Gifts, The Wisconsin Student Association and Ansell Americas.

For more information, please call Scott Christensen, Joeli Hettler or Dave Rompa at MASN, (608) 238-MASN.

## First Degree Murder Charge Dropped

[Milwaukee]- Circuit Judge William D. Gardner has dismissed the charge of first degree murder against James G. Malone for the slaying, in 1988, of Dennis Owens, a Gay man employed by WITI-TV 6.

At a hearing September 5, Judge Gardner let stand a charge of armed robbery connected to the murder and set the trial date for October 19.

Prosecutors asked for dismissal of the murder charge after admitting that they could not prove beyond reasonable doubt Malone's responsibility for that crime. Malone's accomplice, Dirk Harris, has already been convicted in the first degree murder and armed robbery of Owens. He was sentenced to life in prison with no parole until the year 2035.

Owens, 31, was shot five times and run over by a car after being robbed. His body was found in a lot on E. Florida Street in the Gay bar district. At his trial, witnesses testified that Harris planned to "roll a queer."

Owens is fondly remembered as a quiet and friendly man by patrons of the Gay bars he occasionally visited. He was respected by his colleagues at Channel 6 where he worked as a floor manager and cameraman in the news department. Co-workers noted that Owens often donated his time, money and technical skills to charitable causes.

## Sept. 30 Wisconsin AIDS Walk Expects Over 2,500 As Event Nears

By Terry Boughner

### A CELEBRATION OF LIFE



### Wisconsin AIDS Walk

## ACLU Files Suit For Man Denied National Guard Employment

[Milwaukee]- In a novel approach to fighting military discrimination against Gay men and Lesbians, the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) and Wisconsin Foundation has filed a state employment discrimination complaint on behalf of a Gay soldier who was denied employment by the Wisconsin National Guard.

The soldier, Richard Aries of Madison, was honorably discharged by the US Army at the end of his enlistment after he was denied the option to re-enlist because of his sexual orientation.

Aries then decided to apply for a position with the Wisconsin State National Guard and was told by telephone that there was a slot open, that he would have the same rank as he had in the Army and that he would be eligible for student loans.

When he later attempted to enlist in person, Aries was asked if he was Gay. When he told the recruiter he was, Aries said he was told that the state guard follows the federal regulations regarding homosexuality.

Although federal regulations forbid the

## Milwaukee ACT-UP Demonstrates Against Wisconsin Dental Community's Discriminatory Response To AIDS

[Milwaukee]- The Milwaukee chapter of the AIDS Coalition To Unleash Power (ACT-UP) held an informational action on Wednesday, September 19, 1990, in front of the Lincoln Avenue Dental Group offices at 2700 W. Lincoln Ave. The action began at approximately 9:00 a.m. with members of ACT-UP handing out leaflets and encouraging patients to ask their dentists appropriate questions to ensure quality dental care.

The informational action received widespread coverage by most of the major media. The exception, as of press time, is *The Milwaukee Journal* which did not carry a story in its September 19 issue, the day of the action.

There were six questions printed on the leaflet that ACT-UP wants dental patients to ask their dentist. 1) What are the Universal Blood Precautions? 2) Do you use these Precautions with every patient? 3) Do you know that most HIV+ people aren't aware of their infection and can't tell you they're infected? 4) Do you know you are already treating HIV+ people? 5) What's the most recent training you've had in infection control? and 6) Why aren't there any mandatory continuing education requirements to keep your

"The Wisconsin AIDS Walk is fast becoming a high profile event around which people are rallying to demonstrate solidarity and support for all people affected by the AIDS epidemic," said Doug Nelson, Executive Director of the Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP).

Nelson continued, "For the first time we will truly witness the community coming together on the issue of AIDS" and, he added that the response to the Walk has been far more extensive than expected.

Originally, Nelson said, MAP had projected an estimated 2,500 walkers, but now it is believed that that number will be exceeded.

"Enthusiasm is building rapidly. We expect a large turn-out for the Walk. Already there are more than 20 teams registered," Nelson said. They include Schwartz Bookshops, the Visiting Nurse Association, Bank One, La Cage and Breezin 100.7 FM to name a few.

Nelson indicated that walkers are making an extraordinary effort to bring in pledge money. "The average pledge per walker," he said, "is approximately \$100. And," he added proudly, "there are several people who already have collected over \$1,000 in pledges and one of the teams has currently secured \$8,000."

Vince Lombardo, a long-time MAP volunteer and one of the walkers who has gathered more than \$1,000 in pledges, said, "I am overwhelmed with the generosity of people and their willingness to help fight the AIDS epidemic. My pledges range from \$2.00 to \$100 and I am amazed at the variety of people who have pledged their financial support."

Lombardo speaking from his hospital bed went on to say that, "My original goal was to raise \$1,000 for the Walk and I fully expect to raise more than \$2,500. It has just blown me away at how easy it is to get support from my friends and my colleagues at work."

Broad community support for the AIDS Walk will be immediately evident at the Opening Ceremonies. Speakers will include the honorary Co-chairs of the Walk, Susan Mudd and her spouse Milwaukee Mayor John O. Norquist; Speaker Pro Temp of the Wisconsin Assembly, Rep. David Clarenbach and Frederick Cullen, President of Bank One.

Emcees will be Melody Williams and Billie Newsum. Widespread community backing is seen also in the more than 25 corporate sponsors that are underwriting the cost of the Walk. This permits all pledge dollars from Walkers to be used for AIDS prevention and direct services to people with HIV disease.

"The Wisconsin AIDS Walk will be more than just a stroll along the lakefront," Nelson said. "It will be a spirited celebration of life with good food and great entertainment."

Prior to the Walk, the popular Milwaukee band "John Kruth and the Atomic Croutons" will perform to be followed by warm-up exercises led by a "suitably enticing" team from Vic Tanny.

In addition, there will be entertainment at all five rest stops, located each mile along the Walk route. Walkers will be

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enlistment of Lesbians and Gay men in national guard units, Wisconsin law specifically prohibits the state's national guard from discriminating on the basis of sexual orientation.

By fighting the military's discrimination on a state level, the ACLU has opened a new avenue to legal and public challenge, said William B. Rubenstein, the Director of the ACLU's national Lesbian and Gay Rights Project.

The case against the Wisconsin State Guard is being handled for the ACLU by cooperating attorney Patrick Berrigan of the Milwaukee firm of Angermeier & Rogers. Berrigan also represented Miriam Ben-Shalom.

In contrast to Ben-Shalom's federal constitutional challenge to the U.S. Army policy, the Aries case will challenge the state guard's discrimination before the Wisconsin Personnel Commission on the ground that it violates Wisconsin's statewide Gay rights law.

If unsuccessful before that panel, court action is likely.

license?

Channel 4 which gave the story lead coverage on their 5:00 p.m. news, reported the action as a "quiet demonstration." According to J.J. Newmann who was there, most people accepted the leaflets and were eager for the information.

This action, according to ACT-UP, constitutes the first in a series of actions designed to focus public awareness on the Wisconsin dental community's inadequate and risky response to the AIDS crisis. Until Wisconsin's dental community stops its discriminatory and ignorant practices and engages in real educational and disease preventing techniques, ACT-UP-Milwaukee will continue to use whatever non-violent means are necessary to inform the public about these issues. Until Wisconsin dentists begin to protect themselves and the general public, they are leaving us all at risk.

ACT-UP's informal survey of dentists revealed that one third of area dentists were engaging in discriminatory practices with regard to treating HIV infected people. Also, it was discovered that many dentists were woefully ignorant of or

refused to implement properly the disease prevention techniques proscribed by the Centers for Disease Control and the American Dental Association.

Members of ACT-UP-Milwaukee met with Dennis McGuire, Executive Director of the Wisconsin Dental Association (WDA) and other representatives of the dental community to express concern and inform them of ACT-UP's expectations. Their response, according to ACT-UP, was to do little if anything to help ease the effects of the AIDS crisis or to ensure an end to discrimination and ignorance.

Therefore, ACT-UP Milwaukee determined to pursue its own agenda, addressing the dental needs of the people of Wisconsin.

ACT-UP requests that the WDA send its members a letter that addresses the full scope of this problem. Among other points, the letter should include:

An acknowledgment of the problem; A copy of AB 400 prohibiting discrimination against HIV+; An explanation of every caregiver's moral and ethical obligation to treat persons with HIV; An explanation of the recommended precautions for preventing the transmission of any

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