



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

The Wisconsin Light

AIDS Information Passed Out At High School Proms

[Milwaukee]- ACT UP/Milwaukee is distributing Red Cross AIDS information and condoms at local high school proms again this Spring. The weekend of May 10-11 included proms at West Allis, Solomon Juneau, Milwaukee High School of the Arts and Brookfield Central high schools and at downtown locations. ACT UP will be attending as many proms as it can this season.

Major media reportage of ACT UP's presence at the proms indicated that the great majority of teen-agers welcomed the condoms and information ACT UP was distributing.

ACT UP says these actions are continuations of its efforts to promote AIDS education for Milwaukee's teen-agers. Adolescence is a time of exploration in every aspect of life. ACT UP believes that without the knowledge of how to protect themselves, teen-agers will be the next wave in the AIDS pandemic.

Communities, ACT UP says, are still afraid of the issues surrounding adolescent sexuality and refuse to supply the necessary information. ACT UP maintains that some people would rather see sexually-active teen-agers get infected and die than talk about condoms in high schools. Honest education and discussion of sex and HIV-infection must be available to help stem the spread of this disease.

According to ACT UP, "We must use accurate AIDS information as a vaccine to control AIDS, as we control polio and smallpox with mandatory immunizations. Condoms, water-based lubricants, spermicides and clean needles must become so expected in our everyday lives that we will no longer have to struggle to discuss them with our children, parents or our partners."

The Milwaukee Journal's October 17, 1990 editorial acknowledged "adolescents are notorious risk-takers; at the same time, they are susceptible to believing that they will escape the consequences of their behavior. That combination is deadly in the age of AIDS. ACT UP makes that point graphically when it hands out condoms before a dance. It's an unpleasant message, perhaps, but it needs to be heard."

Ecumenical Retreat Planned In Madison

[Madison]- "Relationships" is the theme of a three-day ecumenical retreat to be held on June 28-30, 1991. Here, participants will be able to explore their own spirituality as it relates to relationships.

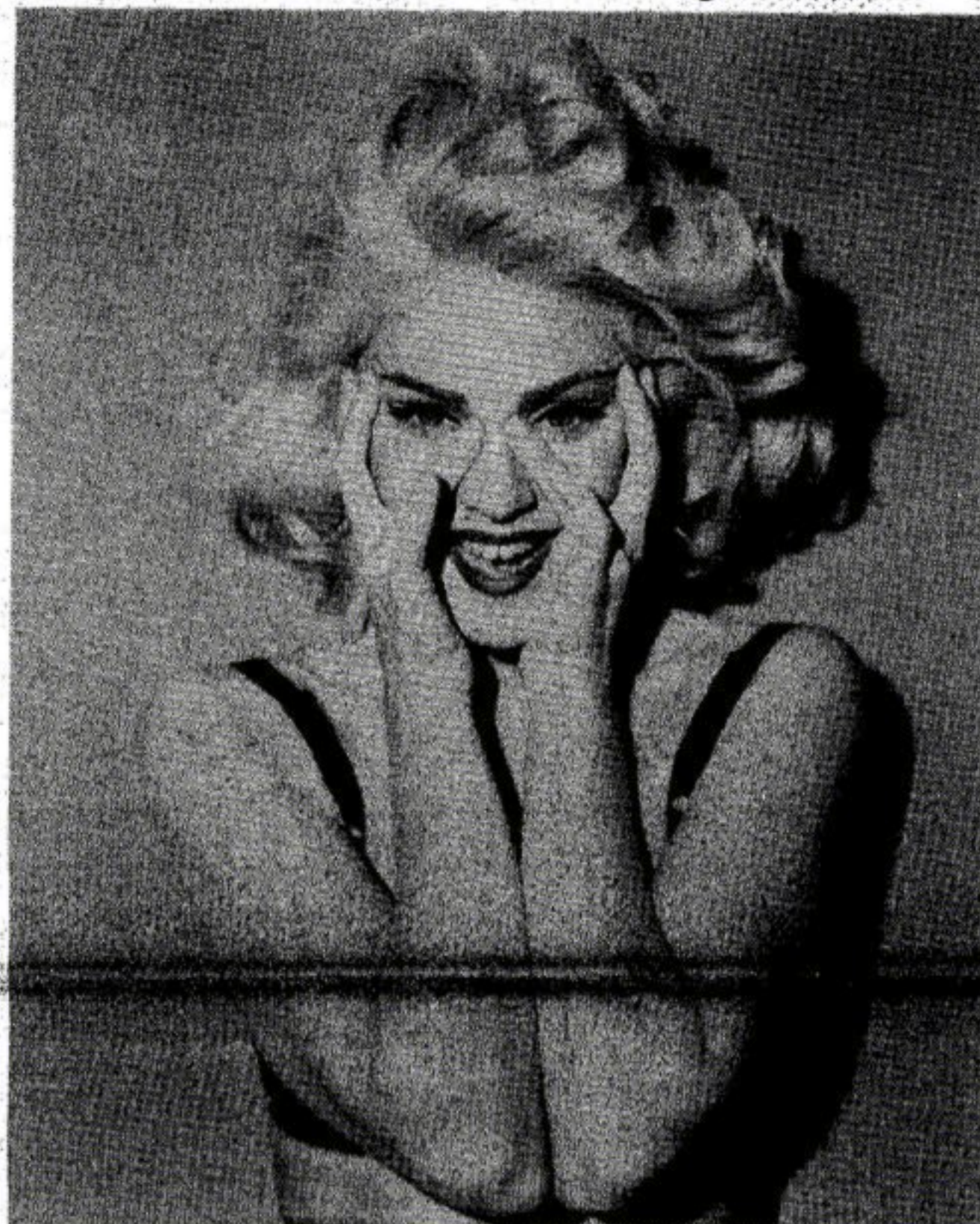
People affected by HIV or AIDS, regardless of their religious or spiritual traditions, are encouraged to attend. Caretakers, close family members and friends are also welcome.

The retreat is being sponsored by St. Benedict Center, the Wisconsin Conference of Churches AIDS Task Force, Integrity/Dignity of Madison, the American Red Cross, the Madison AIDS Support Network and Damien Ministries working together as the Madison Interfaith Committee on AIDS/HIV Ministries.

The retreat will cost \$150 per person, but sponsorships will permit HIV-positive retreatants to attend without charge. Checks to register for the retreat or sponsor someone who has HIV should be made out to "St. Benedict Center/AIDS Retreat."

For more information, write to the Madison Interfaith Committee on AIDS/HIV Ministries, Box 741, Madison, WI 53701 or call Ray Gau at Dale Heights Presbyterian Church, (608) 233-0134; Marge Sutinen at the Red Cross at (608) 233-9300 or George Hinger at the St. Benedict Center at (608) 836-1631.

ACT UP Protests Visit By HHS Secretary Louis Sullivan



Steven Meisel

By ACT UP/Milwaukee

[Milwaukee]- Louis Sullivan, U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services, (HHS) will be in Milwaukee on Saturday, May 18, 1991 to attend the graduation ceremonies of the Medical College of Wisconsin. He will be receiving an honorary degree from the college and will be addressing the class of new doctors. ACT UP/Milwaukee plans to protest Dr. Sullivan during his stay in Milwaukee, asking for adequate health care for everyone and equal access to treatment.

HHS comprises roughly 35% of the U.S. Government. As Secretary, Louis Sullivan is responsible for providing Aid For Dependent Children, Social Security Insurance and Health Care to protect Americans financially and medically. He holds the government safety net, but this safety net has holes, holes caused by inadequacies or by conservatives who don't care to help their fellow Americans. Louis Sullivan must fight a conservative administration's Office of Management and Budget and the reactionary right's moral agenda for America. As a respected physician who has worked his way up to his office, he is now allowing U.S. medicine to be run by bigots and number-crunchers.

When he was first nominated for the position, he so worried conservatives that they tried to stop his appointment. They compromised by surrounding him with conservative assistants. However, their concern seems to have been unfounded as Dr. Sullivan has caved in to the right on every issue in two years—including "suspect" stances on abortion, needle-exchange programs to slow the spread of AIDS and act as a bridge to treatment of addicts; and distancing himself and the administration from his own department's study that suggested that one-third of teen-age suicides could be avoided if we taught homosexuality to be natural for some people. With this appointment, he seems to have lost focus of his oath and ethics.

Dr. Sullivan proved that, without a study or an interagency committee, simply as U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services, he could end R.J. Reynold's Uptown cigarette campaign. His weapon was a bully pulpit. Another government official, ex-Surgeon General C. Everett Koop, seems to have understood the power of truth, as well when he took on AIDS with his five-member staff. Surely Louis Sullivan, a physician and department head, can find more causes worthy of his attention than just cigarettes and personal responsibility.

Last May, in relation to demands of AIDS activists, he said, "We have matched their rhetoric with actions." However, last year he failed to remove HIV from the list of immigration restrictions, causing a world boycott of the Sixth International AIDS Conference; he opposed the passage of the Ryan White CARE Act to provide disaster relief for cities hardest hit by the AIDS crisis; and he refused to make the Centers for Disease Control change its definition of AIDS to better include the women and minorities affected. This year, as we

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Madonna's new documentary film, *Truth or Dare*, has just opened at theatres throughout the country. (See review on page 9).

UW Madison Opens Family Housing to Gay/Lesbian Couples

[Madison]- On Thursday, May 2, 1991, University of Wisconsin officials announced their decision to open family housing to Gay and Lesbian couples.

"I think that this is the only decision which the university could have made on this decision," said Beverly Jenkins Minority Affairs Director of United Council.

United Council is the oldest and one of the largest student research organizations representing over 170,000 students throughout the UW system.

"I've been lobbying various officials on this issue for over a year, and I always stressed that it had nothing to do with one's sentiment towards the legitimacy of a Gay or Lesbian couple. It's clearly an issue of whether or not the university will live up to its own policies of nondiscrimination," said Jenkins.

Madison's GALVANize Plans Dance Fundraiser on May 31

[Madison]- The Gay and Lesbian Visibility Alliance of Madison (GALVANize) is planning a dance to raise money for the October 5, 1991 Lesbian and Gay Pride March/Celebration. The dance will be held at Great Hall in the UW Memorial Union at 8:30 p.m. on Friday, May 31. All Lesbians, Gays, bisexuals and friends are welcome. DJ's Tara and Tony are planning their selection of great dance music. Let's have fun and raise money for the march. Childcare will be provided. Call (608) 255-8061 for childcare or more info.

GALVANize is also having a general planning meeting at 7:30 p.m. at the UW

Norm Sunstad, University Housing Director, said that he did not expect many Lesbian and Gay couples to apply immediately for housing, because relatively few couples have registered as domestic partners in Madison. "I expect this to change now that the university has shown that they support alternative families," said Jenkins.

UW-Madison is currently the only school in the system to have such a policy. UW-Superior is the only other campus operating nontraditional student residence facilities. The brochure explicitly states that housing is open to "single parent families, traditional families and married students." United Council hopes that the decision in Madison will serve as precedent for other campuses throughout Wisconsin and nation-wide.

Memorial Union (check "Today in the Union" for room) on Friday, May 31 (BEFORE THE DANCE). This is a planning meeting for the Oct. 5, 1991 March. Please get involved. Many committees are meeting to plan the march and events leading up to the march. There's much to organize and plan. Let's have a huge, successful march. Get involved! We can all make the march a success.

To be on the mailing list or for more info, call: (608) 255-8061 or write GALVANize, P.O. Box 1403, Madison, WI 53701-1403.

Welcome
Milwaukee Classic
Softball Players!
Have a Great Time
While Visiting
Milwaukee

The Wisconsin Light