



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

The Wisconsin Light

Kenosha Cracker Barrel Protest Set For June 21

[Milwaukee]—“The infamously homophobic Cracker Barrel restaurant chain has brought their traditional bigotry values to Wisconsin,” said Queer Nation (QN) Milwaukee. And QN intends to do something about it.

QN points out that both Barbara Walters and Oprah Winfrey have pledged not to eat at Cracker Barrel restaurants due to the chain's policy of firing Lesbian and Gay employees. QN adds that not only is Cracker Barrel's employment policy immoral, but in Wisconsin it's illegal as well.

QN asks you to bring your family, traditional or not, to the new Cracker Barrel restaurant at I-94 and Hwy. 50 and join QN Milwaukee in a Father's Day (June 21) demonstration against the “erosion of values” represented by Cracker Barrel.

There will be group transportation available from Juneau Park. Meet at 9:30 a.m. The caravan will leave at 10:00 a.m.

For more information call (414) 643-5833 or (414) 384-3911 or talk to a representative of QN Milwaukee at the Milwaukee Lesbian Gay Pride Celebration on June 14.

Madison Activist Strasma, to Run For Assembly

[Madison]—Longtime community activist, Ken Strasma, formally announced his candidacy for David Clarenbach's Assembly seat on Monday, June 1, 1992, at 12:30 p.m. at Olin Terrace in Madison.

He was joined in his announcement by State Rep. David Clarenbach (D-Madison). Clarenbach, famous for his battles for civil rights, is giving up his seat after 18 years in the Legislature to run for Congress in the 2nd District.

Strasma is Vice-Chair of the Capitol chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union, and serves on the Boards of Directors of the Marquette Neighborhood Association, Community Shares of Wisconsin, Community CHIP, and Commonwealth Development. Strasma served three terms as Chair of the Dane County Democratic Party and was appointed by Governor Earl to the Wisconsin Equal Rights Council.

“We need someone who will fight for universal health care, meaningful



KEN STRASMA

property tax relief; who will defend abortion rights, and stand up for civil rights and civil liberties,” Strasma said, adding that he will actively oppose any attempt to bring back capital punishment in Wisconsin.

In his speech, Strasma noted that he hoped that Clarenbach was elected to Congress, but “I'm afraid that the nation's gain will be our loss.” He went on to characterize Clarenbach as “one of the State Assembly's strongest leaders both for the City of Madison and for the progressive cause.”

“The people of David Clarenbach's district expect and deserve a State Representative who is progressive, innovative and experienced enough to effectively carry on Clarenbach's fight in the next legislature,” Strasma said.

Bill Introduced in Congress to End Military Discrimination



KISSING ALL WEEK—Stacie Neldaughter and Ginny Lyons of Madison were joined in a commitment ceremony in Dubuque, Iowa's Washington Square on May 30. They are shown while Womansong sang “Alla, that's Alright.” They especially like the line “Someone come and carry me into a seven day kiss...”

Lisowski Selected To Be Grand Marshall in Milwaukee Pride Parade

The Milwaukee Lesbian Gay Pride Committee has announced its choice of Michael S. Lisowski as the Grand Marshall for this year's Pride Parade.

Currently working as a Community Health Educator for the Milwaukee AIDS Project, Michael has a long history of involvement in Milwaukee's Lesbian Gay Community.

Perhaps his best known involvement is as the co-host of Tri Cable Tonight and Q-TV, but Mike Lisowski has done much more to serve our community.

Recognizing the need for a source of information and counseling, Mike took over the Gay People's Union Hotline in 1981 and still serves as its Director. Seeing the need to help troubled Lesbian and Gay teens, he became Director of Gay Youth Milwaukee in 1980 and a position he has held to this day.

In addition Mike has been very involved in Black White Men Together. He served as its Milwaukee Chapter President from 1985 to 1988. He is currently the Corresponding Secretary for its National Board of Directors. Mike received the National Association of Black White Men Together Special Achievement Award in 1984 and 1988 in recognition of his work with Lesbian and Gay Youth.

Typically Mike wants to make certain that we don't forget our Gay and Lesbian Youth. He has requested that members of Gay Youth Milwaukee be allowed to ride with him in the Parade and share in his special moment.

Mike's other involvements include his

Coalition Formed to Fight Anti-Choice Demonstrations in Milwaukee

[Milwaukee]—In response to the targeting of Milwaukee women's health clinics for six weeks of illegal blockades by some of the most fanatic anti-choice groups in America (groups which are not supported by the Wisconsin Right to Life), a number of pro-choice individuals and groups have formed the Milwaukee Clinic Protection Coalition (MCPC).

Among the groups included in MCPC are: the Milwaukee Jewish Council, the National Abortion Rights Action League, Wisconsin (NARAL), the National Council of Jewish Women—Milwaukee Section, NOW, Planned Parenthood of Wisconsin and others. It is sponsored by the First Unitarian Society of Milwaukee.

The Coalition hopes to prevent the terrible chaos that occurred in Wichita, Kansas from happening here in Milwaukee.

Without the support of the Milwaukee

volunteer work with MAP, his work with the Milwaukee Public Schools Task Force Regarding Gay and Lesbian Teens, and many other groups, projects and organizations too numerous to name.

Lisowski has received a number of



MICHAEL S. LISOWSKI

honors including the Community Service Award from the Milwaukee Lesbian Gay Pride Committee, and the Lambda Rights Network Pace Setter Award. In 1987 Mike was installed as a member of the Cream City Business Association Wall of Fame.

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[Washington, D.C.]—On May 19, 1992, Rep. Patricia Schroeder (D-CO) introduced a Gay-initiated bill into the House of Representatives that would prohibit discrimination in the military on the basis of sexual orientation.

Schroeder is a member of the House Armed Services Committee. The bill is titled “The Military Freedom Act of 1992” (HR 5208). It is the first legislation ever proposed to end the military's exclusion of Lesbians, Gay men and Bisexuals. As of press time, the bill has 53 co-sponsors.

According to the Human Rights Campaign Fund, none of the co-sponsors is from Wisconsin.

On the May 19th broadcast of the ABC television program *Nightline*, Schroeder admitted, “I'm a little nervous about whether the bill can get passed this year.”

Arkansas Gov. Bill Clinton, the likely Democratic candidate for president, has spoken in favor of the bill. President Bush has repeatedly supported the military's ban on Gays.

Both U.S. Defense Secretary Richard Cheney and General Colin Powell, have also voiced their support for the exclusionary policy.

Cheney, who earlier had called the anti-Gay policy an “old chestnut,” on May 22, speaking at a press conference told a reporter that “a Gay lifestyle is incompatible with military service.”

Powell had earlier stated that putting Gay soldiers in “close proximity” with other service members would cause problems during everyday activities “such as showering or using the latrine.”

In a letter to Schroeder, Powell repeated his concerns about the incompatibility of Gays and “privacy rights.”

Freedom Act Draws Wide Support

Outside the Administration, the Freedom Act has drawn wide support. Openly Gay Congressman Gerry Studds (D-MA) said, “the question is not whether Gay men and women will serve in the armed forces. They always have, they do now at every rank and level — both military and civilian — and they always will. The question is whether they can do so openly, with dignity and with pride, or whether they will be compelled to live a lie.”

Studds further maintained that the military's argument against Gays, Lesbians and Bisexuals, was “the same argument used decades ago to justify racial segregation of the armed forces. Such a policy, he said, “has no place in a free country.”

Urvashi Vaid, whose National Gay and Lesbian Task Force initiated the Military Freedom Project four years ago, expressed pride in the new “stage of our coalition's campaign to dismantle” the Pentagon's archaic policy.

Added Rosemary Dempsey, openly Lesbian vice president of the National Organization for Women, “Women are three times more likely to be discharged based on allegations of homosexuality.” She called the policy not only homophobic, but “inherently sexist.”

Still under House consideration is a resolution proposed by Rep. Barbara Boxer (D-CA) that seeks an Executive Order from President Bush to abolish the military's anti-Gay ban. Both Boxer and Schroeder serve on the Armed Services Committee.

Oppression Continues

On May 19, Lieutenant j.g. Tracy Thorne, 25, a Navy aviator based at Oceana Naval Air Station in Virginia Beach, appeared with Schroeder on *Nightline*. He became the first active-duty military officer to publicly disclose his being Gay before facing official charges.

Earlier in the day, on ABC TV's *World News Tonight*, Petty Officer 1st Class Keith Meinhold, 30, also announced he is

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