



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

The Wisconsin Light

Gay-Bashing Occurs in Affluent City Neighborhood

By Terry Boughner

[Milwaukee]- On Friday night, July 31, 1992, Robert Keirse, 43, was walking home from a birthday party at This Is It somewhere between 11:30 and midnight. He was on E. Juneau Avenue in front of the Astor Hotel. It is a quiet, relatively affluent neighborhood that, he said, he ordinarily considers safe. But with frightening suddenness, all that changed.

He was in front of the Nantucket Shores restaurant that is in the Astor Hotel when two young Black men accosted him and demanded his wallet.

He gave them his wallet, his briefcase and \$75 in cash. Then the terror began.

They called him a "pretty boy," Keirse said and used words such as "rich, white boy" and "faggot" and called him a "queer." One of them said, "We're gonna fix your face so nobody'll want you, man or woman." Then they grabbed him and shoved him, face first, right through a small window of the restaurant. After that, they ran off.

Keirse said he doesn't remember much after that. But somehow, he got to a friend's apartment. There he discovered he was "drenched in blood."

The Aftermath

The paramedics were called. He was cleaned up and taken to St. Mary's Hospital where he received 7 stitches above the right cheek bone. There were also lacerations all about his head and on his fingers, the latter from when his assailants shoved him to the sidewalk.

Keirse, who works in room service at the Marc Plaza Hotel, has lost five and a half days of work and may lose more because, as he said, he has to look good for his job.

Unlike many other Gay victims of a Gay-bashing, Keirse reported the incident to the police. He has nothing but praise for their performance. "The cops," he said, "were very nice to me. Everyone was nice, the paramedics, everyone." No suspects have yet been apprehended.

Keirse said he called the Gay Hot Line and was not satisfied with the results he got from the woman who he said answered the phone. "I am surprised," he said, "that someone who was the founding president of the Cream City Business Association, Ralph Navarro, can't get it together any better than this. The people need a hot line and they need it today, not tomorrow." However, Keirse did say that Navarro who had not answered the phone on the night of the incident, had since called and taken the details of the case.

Keirse has praise also for "the good samaritan" who returned his briefcase and wallet to the front desk of the Astor from where he retrieved them.

However, he adds, "I would like the Gay community to know that they are not safe, even on the exclusive East Side" of Milwaukee.

UWM Turns Blind Eye Towards Entrapment Arrest Techniques



LONG LIVE THE QUEEN — Gays and Lesbians from Wisconsin and Illinois converged on Bristol's Renaissance Faire on July 25, 1992 which was Tri-City "Gay Day." A portion of ticket proceeds went to several AIDS organizations.

[Milwaukee]- On Wednesday, August 5, 1992, Shane Reister, Co-President of the Gay/Lesbian Community at UW-Milwaukee met with University Chancellor John Schroeder; Eleanor Miller, Assistant Chancellor for Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity; Assistant Chancellor John Melkus; UWM Police Chief Philip Clark and a campus police officer. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss recent campus police procedures for dealing with sexual activity in the men's rooms at UWM.

Reister presented a list of alternative ways of dealing with the problem other than the current method of having officers in the men's room stalls.

Among these ways were: to have floor-length dividers. The purpose of these would be so that people could not reach underneath the dividers as they are now doing. Therefore, the need to be stationed in the stalls would be eliminated. In this case, officers would need only to enter the men's room to see activity in the stalls.

Also, it was suggested that all graffiti and etchings in the stalls be removed daily.

It was further suggested that there be dividers between the stalls and that all "glory holes" be plugged up.

It was also asked that there be an end to plainclothes operations used to arrest people for sex play in the rest rooms in order to alleviate the possibility of the use of tactics which unjustly elicits such behavior.

Finally, it was asked that individuals found to be in violation would be given the alternative of going to a trained counselor instead being charged with disorderly conduct and fined \$93.

Administration's Response

Reister reported that he was less than encouraged by the Administration's response. "We tried to provide the Administration with an alternative to having police officers stationed in the toilet stalls because it left too much room for the possibility of entrapment." He said that the Administration responded that the techniques that they are currently using are legal and that they have been effective.

Further Reister said, the Administrators maintained that unless these techniques are found to be illegal, they will continue to use them and will also try other methods of stopping the behavior in the rest rooms.

Administrators said that someone needs to come forward and file a

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MAP's Nelson Elected to Powerful National AIDS Action Council Board

[Milwaukee]- Wisconsin's progressive response to the AIDS epidemic has received national recognition with the election of Doug Nelson, one of the state's leading AIDS advocates, to the Board of Directors of the AIDS Action Council, a powerful AIDS lobby dedicated to influencing federal AIDS policy.

Nelson, Executive Director of the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin, Inc. (ARCW), and a long-time leader of the Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP), become the only member of the national board from the midwest.

In announcing Nelson's appointment, Fred Miller, Chair of the Board of the Washington, D.C.-based AIDS Action Council, called Nelson "a bright, dedicated AIDS activist with impressive skills and experience who will help enhance the power of the national AIDS lobby."

"My election is an acknowledgment by the national AIDS leaders that the HIV epidemic is ravaging America's heartland. I will work to assure that our issues are included on the national AIDS agenda," Nelson said. Top priorities for Nelson will be increased federal funding for AIDS care, an aggressive national prevention campaign that boldly addresses risk behaviors, and a strong federal investment in community-based AIDS research.

Nelson Praises State

Nelson attributed his election to the unique support that state government has

given the AIDS epidemic in Wisconsin and to the strength and success of the AIDS service agencies that he directs.

"Governor Thompson and the legislature have risked investment of state resources in unique initiatives that support people who live with HIV disease," Nelson said. "The state's financial investment in private sector AIDS service organizations like MAP has enabled us to build a strong system of support for people with AIDS that is a national model."

Because of increasing state support, Nelson said that the ARCW has become the largest private, non-profit AIDS service organization in the midwest. "There is no other single AIDS service agency in the midwest that delivers the comprehensive support and HIV prevention services that we do," Nelson explained.

ARCW operates on a \$3.1 million annual budget and delivers services through three AIDS service organizations; MAP, Southeast Wisconsin AIDS Project — Kenosha, and Northwest Wisconsin AIDS Project — Eau Claire. The agency also manages the operations of the Wisconsin Community-Based Research Consortium, a state-wide HIV experimental drug trial program.

Series Begins to Explain How's, Whys of Milwaukee AIDS Project

By Terry Boughner

A month or so back, I suggested to Doug Nelson, Executive Director of the Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP), that perhaps there were fewer people than was thought who understood what MAP was all about. He agreed. I further suggested that what was needed to change that situation was for some one (me, I offered) to come and spend a day at MAP and report what I saw and learned. To my pleasure and somewhat surprise, he agreed to that as well.

What ensued was not a day as I had thought, but days of taping interviews and learning as much as I could about the agency. What I found was an agency of such complexity, carrying on such a multitude of tasks that my original concept of "A Day In The Life of MAP" had to be discarded. At one point, someone asked me how it was going? I replied that the volume of information was causing "brain overload." That was only the truth.

As a result, what I began by thinking would be one neat little article, quickly

had to be expanded to envision a series of articles of which this is the first. They will continue in each issue of the paper, going into September and the AIDS Walk. Let this article serve as an introduction.

Methodology

Let me say right at the outset that MAP opened its doors wide. I received the utmost in cooperation from everyone. Any graphs, charts, figures or any other kind of information that I asked for was made immediately available, no questions asked. No one, at any level, tried to preview or hinder what I was doing in any way. Help was there if I needed it, but nothing more. All interviews were done in complete privacy. No one has heard my tapes except me.

Besides this introduction, the series will be divided into five parts. They will begin by describing the Life Care Services. This involves Case Management, Housing Assistance, Legal Assistance, Support Services, Client Reception, Financial help and the Food Pantry.

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Have You Seen This Missing Girl?

[Milwaukee]- Have you seen Monique Valencia Hodgson? She's a little 6-year-old girl with a sweet smile and



MONIQUE HODGSON

great big, angelic eyes, who has been missing since about 5:15 p.m., August 4th, 1992.

Monique was on the way home from the Palmer School playground just across the street from her grandparents' home, and two houses up the street from the home of Jerry Johnson and Terry Boughner who publish and edit *The Wisconsin Light*, when witnesses saw her get into a yellow pick up truck on the passenger side with an unknown black male who may be in his 60's. They drove off. She has not been seen since.

Monique is 3'8" tall and weighs 50 lbs. She has brown hair and brown eyes. She has a front tooth missing and a second front tooth grown in halfway. She was last seen wearing a green pants suit with yellow and purple flowers.

The Brewer's Hill Neighborhood Association is offering a reward of \$1,000 for her safe return.

If you see her or have any information, please call the 5th District Police Department at (414) 935-7252.