



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

The Wisconsin Light

Voters In Oregon Back Local Anti-Gay Laws

[Portland, OR]- Less than a year after Oregon voters turned down the strongest measure against Gay rights that was ever considered by a state, Lon Mabon and the Oregon Citizens Alliance (OCA), have come back with several election victories at the local level.

In a two-week election by mail whose ballots were counted June 29, all four counties (Josephine, Douglas, Linn, and Klamath) and two towns (Junction City and Canby) that voted on the issue approved, by heavy margins, a slightly toned-down version of last Autumn's statewide measure, which would have deemed homosexuality "abnormal and perverse," and allowed discrimination against Gays and Lesbians.

The counties and towns had been chosen by OCA and the religious right because residents there had strongly backed the state measure.

The initiatives that they now have approved prohibit local governments from doing anything to "promote" homosexuality, and bar laws protecting Lesbians and Gays from discrimination.

Similar proposals will be voted on in other Oregon counties throughout the year, and campaigns to deprive Gays and Lesbians of civil rights are under way in Idaho, California, Michigan and Washington State.

This Is War!

"We are in a mode of full-scale cultural war now, and we've just picked up a lot of momentum," said Mabon. "We will take this thing from courthouse to courthouse, county to county, state to state. We're saying flat out: don't even try to pass something to protect homosexuals," Mabon warned.

Mabon said he had circulated about "6,000" copies of the videotape "The Gay Agenda," that showed Gays acting flamboyantly at Gay Pride Marches in San Francisco.

Gay activists in Oregon said that the vote showed a need for national laws to protect Lesbians and Gays.

Meanwhile, In Washington State

On June 12, Kevin Tebedo, founder of Colorado for Family Values (CFV) and prime sponsor of Amendment 2, held a Community Watch Seminar at Linden Christian High School in Bellingham, Washington. The seminar, attended by more than 150 people, was titled "The Gay Agenda, Its Threat and What Christians Can Do About It."

The seminar was sponsored by the Bellingham-based Rev. Gary Small and the Youth Action Coalition (YAC) which, according to its spokespeople, considers itself to be a Fundamentalist Christian version of ACT UP.

In his uninterrupted, three-hour speech to seminar attendees, Tebedo said, among other things, that the "Gay agenda is taken directly from Mein Kampf, and includes closing down churches and molesting children below the age of eight."

Tebedo urged his audience to launch an Amendment 2-style initiative in Washington State, saying "The way to stop the Gay agenda is to overpower the homosexual community."

He went on to add that "The game of politics is simply who has got the biggest bat and who can swing the fastest."

Tebedo urged people in Washington State and Christians throughout the nation to "keep a watch" on Gays and Lesbians.

"Monitor means to keep track of them," he said. "It is not harassing, or intimidating them by making phone calls. It is simply gaining knowledge of what is going on. The main reason for monitoring is that there will come a time when you can take that information and use it."

Tebedo concluded his presentation by saying that there can be "no compromise or peaceful coexistence between Gays/Lesbians and traditional family values.

ACT UP Seeks Ouster of Milwaukee Deputy Commissioner of Health



CHICAGO CELEBRATES- Dorothy Hajdys, mother of slain Gay seaman, Allen Schindler, is shown riding in Chicago's Gay Pride Parade on June 27, 1993. After the parade she spoke at the rally held in Lincoln Park. (See related story on page 2).

Strong White House Leadership Will Resist Military Ban Compromise

By Bob Roehr

[Washington, D.C.]— On the eastern edge of Capitol Hill in the Congressional Cemetery, lies a headstone which reads, "When I was in the military they gave me a medal for killing two men and a discharge for loving one."

It is the grave of Leonard Matlovich, the Air Force sergeant who's challenge to the ban on Lesbians and Gays serving in the military exploded the issue into national headlines in 1975.

Matlovich was buried here exactly five years ago on July 4. His issue has yet to be put to rest.

On the western edge of that same hill lies the Capitol building. Gay and Lesbian veterans who would change the policy gathered outside to petition this empty house. Their Congress members remain united only in the hope that the issue will go away, not in a means by which to accomplish that end.

A Silent White House

Down Pennsylvania Avenue, the man who once naively voiced his basic support for the change, and has since studiously avoided basic defense, much less public advocacy of that change, was out of town.

The White House was, again, symbolically empty. President Clinton was in Philadelphia celebrating those who are dismantling the South African system of official government discrimination known as apartheid.

Flirtations Will Present Concert At Milwaukee's MAPfest Sept. 5

By Terry Boughner

[Milwaukee]- The Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP) is bringing the Fabulous Flirtations to Milwaukee for the 8th Annual MAPfest celebration on September 5, 1993. While the Flirts have appeared in Madison, this will be their first performance in Milwaukee.

The Flirtations are a group of five exuberant Gay men, often saucy, many times irreverent, who have gained for themselves a well-deserved national reputation for their musical talent. They bring life to their music and then hone it down to a sharp political edge that makes their audiences laugh, clap as they realize that there is a joy in, a magic in being Lesbian or Gay.

Their latest album, *Out On The Road*, recorded in concert, is a totally delightful demonstration of doo-woop tunes, but with a decided Queer twist.

For example, in "Mister Sandman," they sing, "Give him two legs like Greg

He was silent on the official American government version of apartheid — discrimination against Gays and Lesbians in the military and in other aspects of American life.

Across the Potomac River, the generals and admirals are continuing their tradition of fighting the last war — the fear of foxholes and fraternization. They don't realize that their greatest worry should be a perception of them as fair and representative, for they need to maintain society's support through dollar appropriations and through recruitment of the best and brightest young minds to staff their all-volunteer force.

The Stage Is Set

This melodrama assumes more and more the characteristics of Samuel Beckett's play *Waiting for Godot* where there is a lot of talk, but nothing seems to happen, and all of the action that does seem to happen, takes place off stage.

Perhaps that is why the latest round of media events staged by pro-Gay forces have been largely ignored.

The Campaign for Military Services press conference on June 30 in Atlanta with Coretta Scott King at the grave of her husband; Queer Nation marching on July 2 from the White House to the Capitol; these and the rest have been largely ignored by the major media.

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Louganis, but make him comfortable about his Gayness." Or listen to "So Much In Love (Lesbian Love)." It was written as a tribute to the first woman District Attorney of Puerto Rico and her Lesbian lover of over 50 years.

I've reviewed the Flirtations and their albums on these pages before. Need I tell you that I think they well deserve the name "Fabulous?"

Opening for the Flirts will be Milwaukee's hit comedy duo, Blomberg and Mahaffey.

This special matinee show will be held at the PAC's Todd Wehr Theater at 3:00 p.m. Reserved seat tickets are \$15 which includes admission to the festival. Tickets will be available at MAP beginning in mid-July. Call (414) 273-1991.

(Word of advice, I'd get my tickets early. Believe it. The Flirts are good!

Call Jim Schleif at (414) 273-1991 for more information about MAPfest, or to reserve a booth.

[Milwaukee]- "The current disastrous epidemics of AIDS, syphilis and penicillin resistant gonorrhea are, in large part, the result of hypersexual behaviors of confused, unhappy, mentally retarded, desperate and/or addicted people. These are high risk behaviors that no one in their right mind would engage in."

This is part of a letter written by Thomas L. Schlenker, M.D., M.P.H., Special Deputy Commissioner of Health for the City of Milwaukee.

As a result, ACT UP Milwaukee is demanding that Schlenker either resign or be fired.

In the main, the letter addressed the resurgence in America of syphilis and other sexually transmitted diseases.

Schlenker wrote the letter as a Letter to the Editor to the *Marquette Tribune*, the student newspaper, in response to a report in that paper about two Marquette students who had been diagnosed with syphilis by the Health Department just prior to the Christmas break.

The letter was published on January 27, 1993. *Wisconsin Light* received a copy of the letter from ACT UP Milwaukee.

Schlenker said that in writing the letter he had in mind one particular female student who, he said had had "25" sex partners in a school term. Her habit, he said, was to get drunk, go to frat parties and have sex.

Schlenker said that the letter was intended to convey to students the idea "in the strongest possible terms" that promiscuous sex was not acceptable healthy behavior. It "should not be viewed as a college lark."

Schlenker added that he was not referring to people with AIDS, nor to Gays or Lesbians, but to "people who are out of control."

Schlenker was asked what how he defined "hypersexual." He admitted that the word did not have an exact definition, but in his thinking it meant "having sex with people you don't know or only know slightly." It means a lot of sex over a short period of time, he said.

Paul W. Nannis, Milwaukee Commissioner of Health, said that the letter had to be understood "in context." He added that while he couldn't speak for Dr. Schlenker, he believed that Schlenker was referring to only one particular incident: the woman who had sex with many partners.

"People read it broadly and they shouldn't," Nannis said. He said also that he could understand why people might be upset with the letter, but "He (Schlenker) wasn't speaking generally.

"We (the Health Department) don't want to treat any people that way," he said. "We don't want to give that message out."

ACT UP Milwaukee Responds

Christopher Fons, a member of ACT UP Milwaukee said that what Schlenker's remarks in the letter showed him was that Schlenker was "obviously not in touch with the community. He's proven this before and this is a glaring example."

Fons went on to demand that Schlenker resign or that Milwaukee Mayor John Norquist remove him from office. "His ideas are dangerous to the public health," Fons said.

In a press release, ACT UP Milwaukee agreed with Fons. ACT UP said that the Schlenker's statement "clearly illustrates Schlenker's inability to separate medical facts from hate-motivated stereotypes" and went on to call for Schlenker's "immediate resignation."

ACT UP went on to say that HIV is transmitted through unsafe sex, the sharing of unclean IV needles and direct blood-to-blood contact. "Frequency of sexual encounters and IQ levels are not determining factors of HIV transmission."

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