



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

The Wisconsin Light

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COMING OUT WEEK
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Congress Votes: Gays in Military Are An 'Unacceptable Risk'

New Law Set To Go Into Effect October 1



HIGH TIMES—Milwaukee Mayor John O. Norquist and basketball star, Magic Johnson help cut the ribbon at the start of the Wisconsin AIDS Walk on September 26, 1993.

'Daddy's Roommate' Will Stay In Sussex Library Children's Section

By Sue Burke

The children's book *Daddy's Roommate* will remain on the shelves of the Sussex public library, but the library's board of directors will form a committee to consider the selection and placement of children's books and whether children should have access to any book in the library.

In a 5-2 vote on Sept. 23, the board of Pauline Haass Public Library voted to keep the children's picture book, which tells about a boy's divorced Gay father and the father's lover from the boy's point of view.

The decision to appoint a committee of five or six citizens to study the library's children's policies worried a Hamilton High School teacher who had supported keeping *Daddy's Roommate* in the

U.S. House Passes New Hate Crimes Legislation

[Washington, D.C.]—In a major victory for Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Americans, the U.S. House of Representatives passed the Hate Crimes Sentencing Enhancement Act of 1993 by an overwhelming voice vote on September 21st. The vote marks only the second time in history that legislation specifically including Lesbian and Gay Americans has passed the House.

In 1990, the Hate Crimes Statistics Act was passed and signed into law by President Bush. That bill authorized the Department of Justice to measure the number of hate crimes committed each year in an effort to increase public understanding of the problem of hate violence in America.

"The House has now taken the next step with this vital piece of legislation," said Tim McFeeley, Executive Director of the Human Rights Campaign Fund.

The legislation, sponsored by Rep. Charles Schumer (D-NY) and Rep. James Sensenbrenner (R-WI), now moves to the Senate where Sen. Jesse Helms (R-NC) is expected to oppose the inclusion of sexual orientation as a category of the bill.

The legislation, if passed, will increase, by three offense levels, the sentence for federal hate crimes where the victim was targeted because of race, color, religion, national origin, ethnicity, gender, or sexual orientation.

library. "What they did tonight was scary as far as I'm concerned," said Bill Bodette, adding that the decision opens up every book in the library to possible censorship.

The decision also worried the library's director, Joy Botts, who wondered where the library would draw the line.

Library Trustee John Squier, a retired man, cast the lone vote against creating the committee. "I don't want a library saying what books I should take out," he said. "You start with the children's section, and then it can go to young adults, and then it can go to adults, and then to old geezers" like himself.

But board President Richard Allen, who had proposed creating the committee, defended the idea by citing a tradition in society to protect children. He said having non-traditional children's books on the open shelves "plays havoc with parent's expectations of a library" and suggested placing *Daddy's Roommate* in a parenting section for adults.

Botts said parents are informed when children get a library card that children have full access to all books, as guaranteed by the American Library Association's Library Bill of Rights, and it is the parent's duty to monitor their children's library use.

Nationwide, *Daddy's Roommate* has sparked controversy. Five libraries have

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First Openly Gay Business Begins Advertising on Milwaukee Buses

[Milwaukee]—Alternative Connections, Inc., a locally-based dating service exclusively for Gays, Lesbians and Bisexuals, has become the first openly Gay-owned business in Wisconsin to purchase display advertising space on Milwaukee County Transit System buses. The 21" by 72" poster includes a photograph of two men and is featured on the outside rear of numerous County buses through the month of October.

According to Steve Petullo, owner of Alternative Connections, the ad campaign has a two-fold purpose. "It is my desire to reach, not only the large, diverse Gay and Lesbian market, but to represent an accurate, positive image of the Gay and Lesbian lifestyle to the community at large."

Alternative Connections was founded in

[Washington, D.C.]—The House of Representatives on September 28, passed a modified version of President Clinton's policy on Gays in the military by an overwhelming vote. By a 301 to 134 vote, the House followed the Senate's lead, adding language to the Clinton "Don't Ask, Don't Tell, Don't Pursue" policy that called Lesbians and Gays an "unacceptable risk" to the military's morale. White House officials however, said that the additional wording did not change the workings of the President's plan.

The measure won with 140 Democrats joined by 161 Republicans in voting for the measure. Voting against were 121 Democrats, 12 Republicans and 1 Independent.

In the Wisconsin House delegation, Democrat Thomas Barrett and Republican Steve Gunderson voted against the language; Democrats Peter Barca, Gerald Kleczka, David Obey and Republicans Scott Klug, Thomas Petri, Toby Roth and F. James Sensenbrenner Jr. voted for it.

"The White House completely acquiesced on this," said Peri Jude Radevic who takes over as the Executive Director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) on November 1. "They allowed supporters of the ban to carry the day," Radevic added.

In the previous vote in the Senate, Russ

Feingold voted against the language. Herb Kohl voted for the additional wording.

Before passing the measure, the House voted 291 to 144 to reject a Republican amendment that would have required the Defense Department to ask recruits if they were Lesbian, Gay or Bisexual, thereby codifying the former ban. The House also voted down a liberal alternative that would have entirely dropped the ban, leaving the issue to the discretion of the President.

The Clinton policy of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell, Don't Pursue" will take effect on Friday, October 1, 1993. Under this, Gay conduct will still be banned on and off base and Gay and Bisexual troops can still be dismissed for declaring their sexual orientation.

However, recruiters will no longer ask about sexual orientation nor will a person be investigated unless there is evidence of "homosexual conduct."

Pentagon spokespersons said there had been no change. They noted that the law left the drafting of the regulations, that will determine how the policy is applied, to civilian officials in the Pentagon.

"The legislative chapter of this issue is now closed," said NGLTF's Tanya Domi. "This issue won't go away and we're not going away."

David Mixner To Speak In Milwaukee At National Victory Fund Gathering

[Milwaukee]—Milwaukee will hold its very first Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund event on Sunday, November 21, 1993 at the new Skylight Opera Theatre.

The Victory Fund is a nation-wide network of donors committed to helping qualified openly Gay and Lesbian candidates win elections. By pooling resources and targeting contributions, the Victory Fund provides candidates with the financial resources and expertise they need to become winners.

Special Guests

David Mixner As senior advisor to Bill Clinton and the Clinton-Gore Campaign, Mixner played an instrumental role in helping forge an unprecedented alliance between Clinton and the nation's Gay/Lesbian community.

Of late, Mixner has been especially out-spoken in criticizing the President for his action (or lack of same) on lifting the ban against Gays in the military.

Rep. Tammy Baldwin Baldwin is the first openly Lesbian elected to the legislature in Madison. She is known for strongly championing the rights of Lesbians and Gays as well as all people deprived of their civil rights. Baldwin's



DAVID MIXNER

stellar performance in the legislature has won her the plaudits of her colleagues as well as oppressed people throughout the state.

Bob and Rod Jackson-Paris Bob has earned both titles of Mr. America and Mr. Universe. Bodybuilders Bob and Rod are blessed with intelligence, success, celebrity and each other. This couple draws an extra sense of purpose from their union.

As has been said of them, "They have one heart in two bodies."

William Waybourn As Executive Director of the Victory Fund, Waybourn has been an advisor to President Clinton and speaks before Gay and Lesbian groups throughout the U.S.

Be sure to set aside Sunday, November 21, 1993 as a date that will help shape your future.

For more information, call: Tom Reed or Jon Martin at (414) 962-3741.

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