



The Wisconsin Light

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

Milwaukee Police Take Brochures; Threaten Activists With Arrest

[Milwaukee]- Four members of ACT UP Milwaukee were detained by Milwaukee Police officers for over an hour Saturday, October 2, after they attempted to distribute AIDS brochures and condoms to Milwaukee Tech High School students entering their Homecoming dance.

The four AIDS activists — Jennifer Krueger, Heather Sjolund, Brian Komar and Patrick Flaherty — were kept at the scene, checked for identification and prohibited from distributing educational materials or making phone calls. Police threatened the activists with arrest unless they turned over the brochures which were sent to the District Attorney for review.

The police came in three squad cars and, according to Flaherty, seemed upset by the brochure which depicted cartoons, including a condom with a smiley face and mouse ears. The words "suck" and "fuck" were also used.

The brochure is nationally used as an educational tool.

When asked why they had come, Detective Krause of the Sexual Assault Task Force was reported to have replied that she was investigating a possible felony. When asked what charge, she is reported to have answered, "passing damaging materials to minors."

Activists were informed that the mere possession of such materials would be considered a misdemeanor.

On Monday morning, October 4, AIDS activists returned to Tech High to distribute AIDS education materials before school, showing their intent to continue their "three year campaign to improve AIDS education for Milwaukee Public Schools."

Less than a week later, six ACT UP members continued their AIDS education efforts at Hamilton High School. Four police appeared, checked identifications, detaining the activists for a half hour, Flaherty said.

ACT UP will be at Pulaski High School and at Bayview High School on the evening of October 16 to hand out AIDS materials.

In the meantime, ACT UP members are working with students at Nicolet High School, advising an AIDS prevention club that has been formed there. The club does not have official recognition yet. The students will be handing out condoms and educational materials at their Homecoming on October 16, Flaherty said.

Flaherty said that ACT UP is exploring ways to "force police to comply with the law and First Amendment Rights."

10,000 People to Carry Mile Long Rainbow Flag in Stonewall March

[Pittsburgh, PA]- In May of 1978, San Francisco resident, designer and Gay activist Gilbert Baker was asked to create an exciting new symbol of the Gay and Lesbian freedom movement for the city's upcoming Freedom Day Parade. The community wanted to adopt and embrace its own symbol, to embody the positive message of Gay and Lesbian human rights.

To Baker, the rainbow was the perfect symbol of the diversity of the Gay and Lesbian community, and the ideal metaphor for a group of individuals which he considered a magical and beautiful part of nature. Community members agreed.

During the weeks before the parade, more than 20 volunteers joined Baker at the Gay and Lesbian Community Center. Cleve Jones, eventual founder of the NAMES Project AIDS Quilt, was there, as were many others.

The original flag was made of organic cotton, hand-dyed in garbage cans at the Center, rinsed by fire hydrants on the roof of the building, and ironed by hand on tables in the Center. Baker himself

Rep. Baldwin Speaks of Love; Catholic Protesters Picket Church



M. BUTTERFLY— The true story of Song Liling (John Lone, above) and Rene Gallimard (Jeremy Irons) is shown in the film 'M. Butterfly.' A drama of love, deception and betrayal, the film is now playing at Milwaukee's Oriental Theatre. (See review on page 6).

Judge Lifts Anti-Gay Military Ban; Supreme Court to Hear Case

By Bob Roeher

[Washington, D.C.]— The ban on Gays and Lesbians in the military has been lifted, though few people realize it yet. U.S. District Court Judge Terry J. Hatter, Jr., reminded us of that fact on September 30 when he granted the motion filed by Keith Meinhold and denied that of the government.

Meinhold, a sonar officer at Moffett Field Naval Air Station near San

Francisco, was discharged in August, 1992, after revealing on national TV that he is Gay.

Hatter had ruled on January 28, 1993, that the ban was unconstitutional. He went further by permanently enjoining the Department of Defense (DOD) from enforcing the ban while the ruling was on appeal. That action gave his order national scope.

The DOD appeared to be obeying the injunction during the "truce" period when the ban was being examined by Congress, the Pentagon, and the White House. However, once President Clinton announced his "compromise" on July 19, the military again began to move against Gay and Lesbian service members.

This prompted Meinhold's attorney, John McGuire, to return to the Court, petitioning it to uphold its January ruling. What Hatter chose to do on September 30 was to amend his initial order and judgment against the military, making it even stronger. He also said that violations would be punished by fines of at least \$10,000 a day.

"I was pleasantly surprised by the scope of the clarification," said McGuire. "What he (Hatter) has done is that in ordering the end of that policy, he also is ordering the end of any adverse treatment that any Gay or Lesbian service member might meet. It is more powerful than what I had hoped for."

Hatter's order was unusually detailed in the specific actions it prohibited the DOD from taking against service members for reasons of sexual orientation. He included recruitment, promotion, assignments, or other matters of status. He also prohibited the creating or keeping of any records of sexual

[Madison]- "Our movement is about love and our right to love who we love, and with that as our agenda, we cannot lose," said State Rep. Tammy Baldwin (D-Madison). Baldwin was speaking on October 10 at an interfaith celebration at University United Methodist Church held as the kick-off event for Coming Out Day in Madison.

Baldwin spoke before some 130 people gathered to hear her speak about being a Lesbian in public life.

"Lesbianism is chic today," Baldwin said. "It's chic to be one, to know one and to dress like one." However, she added, "It's a paradox to be at the focus of pop culture and to still be oppressed. Also, Lesbian chic does not convey the reality of Lesbian life."

Baldwin went on to note sadly that Lesbian couples still earn less than their male counterparts at work. She also spoke of the tragedy of Lesbians who die in greater numbers from breast cancer.

Baldwin spoke of the need to change society's attitudes by "learning to speak for ourselves." "Our silence and invisibility can be our worst enemy," Baldwin added, speaking to the Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual community and its friends.

Conservative Christians Protest

While Baldwin spoke of love inside the church, eight protesters picketed the celebration carrying signs reading: "Sodomy is a sin" and "Truly come out of a self-destructive lifestyle."

The protesters identified themselves as Catholics, there because St. Paul's Catholic Church was one of the co-sponsors of the celebration.

Becki Thompson, one of them, said, "Christ said in his Gospel that homosexuality is a sin."

In this, Thompson is wrong. As authorities point out, Jesus said not one word about homosexuality.

Baldwin at UW-La Crosse

At the invitation of J. Jay Scott, the Chair of the UW-La Crosse Task Force on Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Concerns Task Force, Baldwin went as featured speaker to UW-La Crosse on Coming Out Day, October 11. Baldwin's visit was to celebrate the release of the Task Force's report on that day on making the University more congenial to Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual students, faculty and staff.

Baldwin told her audience that advances for Lesbians, Gay men and Bisexuals will only come through education and organization. This, she said, is the way laws get passed and advances are made.

Baldwin decried discrimination, saying that Gay people have been forced to set up a separate community. However, she said, "We don't want to live in a separate community, but a safer, more nurturing community."

As she looked over the young people listening to her and everyone else as well, she spoke of the effects of hatred and discrimination on young Gay people.

"We must be outraged and vocally outraged," she said, "that a Gay teen is three times as likely to commit suicide as a straight teen."

As in Madison, so in La Crosse, Baldwin spoke of the need for love and respect in the lives of Gay and Bisexual people. "We want our families to love us, our neighbors to like us and our fellow students and teachers to respect us."

Baldwin will be at UW-Superior sometime during the week of November 8-12 for Multi-Cultural Awareness Week. The exact date has not been finalized.

Other News

In other news, Baldwin along with Rep. Tim Carpenter (D-Milwaukee) will be meeting on October 20 with John Benson, Wisconsin State Superintendent of Public Instruction. This is a first time-ever

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