



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

# The Wisconsin Light

## Court Grants Preliminary Injunction Preventing Military from Ousting Gays

(Brooklyn, NY)- On April 4, 1994, Federal District Judge Eugene Nickerson granted a preliminary injunction preventing the government from discharging the six servicemembers who filed suit challenging the recently enacted federal law and final Department of Defense regulations excluding Lesbians and Gay men from serving in the U.S. Armed Forces. The Court's action prevents the government from taking any discriminatory action until a full hearing or trial and final decision in the case. No Trial date has yet been set.

The lawsuit, brought by the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund and the American Civil Liberties Union on March 7, 1994, charges that the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy violates constitutional rights to free speech and free expression.

"The hardship to the six plaintiffs is evident and immediate," Nickerson said in granting the injunction that blocked the dismissal of the six. "Their free speech rights to pursue this case will be chilled. They will be subjected to adverse action, including likely discharge from their chosen profession, on the basis of what substantial judicial authority has deemed unconstitutional discrimination."

The injunction was sought in an emergency hearing after one of the six, Petty Officer Robert Heigl, was served with a notice of imminent discharge. He is on active duty with the Coast Guard and is stationed at Governor's Island in New York Harbor.

In addition to Heigl, one of the other plaintiffs is  
Turn to **MILITARY**, Page 15

## Straight: The Latest Hate Journal of the Christian Right Wing

By Dennis McMillan

(San Francisco)- The San Francisco chapter of the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD), has uncovered a homophobic newsletter and E-mail transmission, *Straight* (Society To Remove All Immoral Godless Homosexual Trash), available from Denver, Colorado for computer BBS downloading.

The masthead reads, "Straight is published 6 times a year by Christians under the authority and direction of Christ and his Law-Word," and the publication appears to be run by Rick Savage.

*Straight* offers ad display slicks for use in Christian publications, the header stating "Death Penalty for Homosexuals is Prescribed in the Bible; Wanted: All Criminals Protecting, Promoting or Practicing Homosexual Perversion."

"As kooky, outrageous and stupid as this may look, it is really not that far removed from what Pat Robertson, Lou Sheldon and Pat Buchanan are saying," said Al Kielwasser, SF/GLAAD co-chair.

In fact, in one issue, *Straight* quotes Buchanan, "In a healthy society, homosexuality will be contained, segregated, controlled and stigmatized."

In a segment entitled "Reclaiming Our Language," *Straight* calls "homophobia" a smear term and suggests using "heterophobia" as an expression against Gays, except *Straight* does not like the term "Gay," but prefers "SAD" (Sodomites Against Decency).

In this new information superhighway we are seeing more and more messages advocating rounding up and killing Gay men and Lesbians," said Bonnie Haley, GLAAD co-chair, who recently discovered *Straight* during her computer media watch duties. "This is very similar to the racist hate tactics of neo-Nazis."

"On an upnote, I have talked with monitors of electronic bulletin boards and there is now a pact among all BBS operators on the West Coast to delete any of this information advocating death for any individuals," said Haley.

"On the other hand," Kielwasser added, "it might be good for straight America to see the kind of real oppression we are facing and realize we do need civil rights protections."

## Christian Right Group Organizing in State to Fight Civil Rights for Gays and Lesbians

By Al Geirsbach

(Milwaukee)- Wisconsin Christians United (WCU) announced on April 4, 1994 the opening of its new political campaign, "Project Resist and Restore." The project was made public on WVCY, the Milwaukee TV station operated by Wisconsin Voice of Christian Youth. Ralph Ovadal, a resident of Monroe, Wisconsin, and head of WCU, was interviewed by Rev. Vic Eliason on his nationally broadcast call-in show, "Crosstalk."

Wisconsin Christians United is centered at Ovadal's address, W6908, Highway 81, Monroe, WI 53566, but has organizational presence in about 12 Wisconsin localities, according to him.

Ovadal said the new project aims to "Resist the homosexual agenda and Restore decency and sanity to our public policy here in Wisconsin and to our governing institutions."

Ovadal appealed for funds to carry on an effort centered on the pastors of Wisconsin churches. "The key, of course, is always the pastors. . . We want to ultimately hold a press conference on the

## Controversy Brewing as Public Learns that Coors is Brewing Zima Malt Liquor



Jerry Johnson

Leg Painting--Catherine (Elaine Thornton) paints the leg of Eve (Jennifer LaPorte) in Milwaukee's Boulevard Ensemble's World War II era production of *Waiting for the Parade*. The play runs from April 15 through May 15, 1994. (This photo was taken during a rehearsal.)

## Milwaukee Moving June 11-12 PrideFest Down the Hill to a New Location on Lake Michigan

(Milwaukee)- After five years of celebrating Pride at Juneau Park, Wisconsin's Pride celebration, PrideFest, is moving. The new site is just north of Milwaukee's War Memorial Center. The two-day event will be held on Saturday, June 11 and Sunday, June 12, 1994.

This year's festival will stretch from the Vietnam War Memorial all the way to the War Memorial Center itself. This means the festival will be located right on Lake Michigan.

The new site offers several advantages over the old one. Chief among these is the absence of trees. The festival had used up all of the clear ground space at Juneau Park and had no room to accommodate this year's planned expansion with more tents, activities and stages.

The new site offers a glorious view of Lake Michigan. Furthermore, O'Donnell Park Parking Pavilion is just two blocks south of the new PrideFest grounds. The Pavilion holds around 1,200 cars.

steps of the capitol with all the pastors we can get and take a stand for righteousness." Project Resist and Restore plans a number of steps in its newly declared war on Lesbians and Gay men:

- 1) Collect enough money to buy and distribute a video exposing the homosexual agenda to several hundred pastors;
- 2) Develop a newspaper-type publication exposing homosexuality and use it in a literature drop campaign across the state;
- 3) Introduce legislation which would remove all sexual orientation language from the state statutes.

Ovadal says his group feels very strongly that Gays are not entitled to full civil rights. "I'm here today to say I am against certain civil rights for homosexuals. I say that unabashedly."

Eliason strongly endorses the group and its opinions. "Folks," he said, "it's exciting to know people heading in a direction: they know where they're headed, they know what they want to do, and they need people to help them do it."

PrideFest will be making good use of the additional space.

Madison's Club 3054 and *Instep Magazine* will be sponsoring a dance tent.

The dance tent will be 40' x 80' in size, with flaps that will be kept tied down so the sound will not interfere with the other stages and tents. A more than adequate sound system will drive the music played by a variety of DJ's from clubs throughout Wisconsin.

"DJ's can demonstrate their spinning style and let us all hear the type of music featured at their club," Geiman said.

Because country-western acts will be featured on several other stages, the dance tent will feature high energy/techno/rave/disco/hip-hop dance music only.

A new entertainment state, located in a large tent, is being added. Six volleyball courts will be laid out for the first annual PrideFest Lite Volleyball invitational.

The First Annual Milwaukee Invitational Classic Car show, sponsored by the Lake Michigan Region of the Lambda Car Club, will be held on the grounds.

The PrideFest History tent will include the largest display of Gay and Lesbian history anywhere in the country.

"None of these things would have been possible at the old site," said PrideFest Co-Chair, Bill Meunier. "We had run out of room to put up more tents and exhibits. Trying to cram everything into the space we were using would have caused severe crowd congestion. Furthermore, we would have had problems with sound systems on the various stages drowning each other out."

The new PrideFest will be fenced off and have one gate located at the north end of the grounds. Visitors will be asked to voluntarily donate \$1 to help keep attendance and defray costs. Carry-ins of food and drink will be prohibited except for those accompanied by children.

Organizers admit that they are somewhat nervous about the move. After five years in one location, they want to make sure that people know about the move. They are asking that as people become aware of the move, they spread the news to others.

By Bill Meunier  
A controversy is brewing over the marketing of Zima malt liquor to Gay and Lesbian bars around the country. Zima is being promoted in Gay publications and in TV commercials which depict it as an upscale liberal, yuppie beverage. The clear malt liquor is a hot item in many locations.

The problem that many Gays and Lesbians have with Zima is that it is brewed by the Coors Brewing Corporation. In a move that appears to many to be deceptive, the Coors Brewery is marketing the liquor under the name "Zima Beverage Company, Memphis, TN."

Critics say that Coors has good reason to hide its ownership of the brand. They charge that some of the Coors Brewery profits, including money garnered from the Gay community, have been funneled into homophobic, radical Right Wing organizations.

Coors is a privately held corporation, wholly owned by members of the Coors family.

David Smith, Public Information Officer for the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) told *Light* that "Coors has been trying for to get into the Gay and Lesbian market for some time. You can find no use of the Coors name in the marketing of Zima. It's clear that this was a deliberate marketing decision. In effect, a percentage of every dollar spent on a Coors product goes directly to radical organizations that are attacking this country's Gay population."

Richard Levy, Director of Political Research Associates in Boston, agrees. Levy says that while the Coors family funds homophobic radical groups, their company is making an open bid to increase its share of the Gay market.

"Their strategy seems to be 'We'd like you to drink our beer, before you die'," said Levy. He added that "The foundations they have set up with Coors profits took the lead in creating the whole new radical right."

"These people aren't just engaged in passive Republican or Democratic politics. They are actively engaged in aggressive attacks on the Gay and Lesbian community," said Smith. "That engagement includes donating money as well as providing political guidance to the Right Wing."

Tim Kingston, author of a series of articles on Coors for the *San Francisco Bay Times*, a Gay publication, estimates that the Adolph Coors Foundation sent approximately \$1.1 million to Right Wing groups in 1988 alone; in its 1992-93 fiscal year, Kingston believes the Coors Foundation sent \$900,000.

One major beneficiary of Coors funds is the Free Congress Foundation (FCF), identified by People For the American Way and others as the organization that created the Radical Right. It was this group that came up with the strategy of labeling civil rights for Gay people as "special rights," a strategy that is widely credited with convincing Colorado voters to pass Amendment 2.

FCF also helped to organize the effort that derailed President Clinton's plan to lift the ban on Gays in the military.

Joseph Coors is the Chairman of the Board of both FCF and the Coors Brewing Company. By 1988, he and the Adolph Coors foundation had donated a total of \$485,000 to FCF.

Another group funded in part by Coors beer money is The Heritage Foundation (HF). HF was established by Joseph Coors and ultra-right activist Paul Weyrich.



According to *The Village Voice*, HF provided a needed legal review for Oregon's anti-Gay Amendment 9. Amendment 9 failed, but backers are currently trying to get a new version on the ballot.

NGLTF calls HF "one of the most influential, ultra-right wings think tanks in the world."

Many critics believe that the Coors family is so great, that they have labeled them "key players" in the creation and expansion of the Right Wing. Among the most vocal of these critics is Russ Bellant.

Bellant is the author of *The Coors Connection*, a 1991 book about the Coors family role in building the radical right.

Bellant told *Light*, "Coors has a marketing strategy in the Gay, Afro-American, Women's and

Turn to **ZIMA**, Page 12