



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

# The Wisconsin Light

## Swedish Parliament Gives Gays Right to Marry Beginning in January, 1995

(Stockholm, Sweden)- Sweden followed Denmark and Norway on June 7, 1994, and passed a bill allowing same-sex couples to marry—a measure on supporter said was a “contribution to love.”

After lengthy debate, the Riksdag, or parliament, voted 171-141, with five abstentions, to accept the Registered Partnership Law.

Elisabeth Persson of the small Leftist Party, a supporter of marriage between same-sex couples, said the law “protects a personal relation. It is a small, but important contribution to love.”

The vote makes Scandinavia a leader in civil rights for Gays. In 1989, Denmark became the first country in the world to allow same-sex marriages. Norway adopted similar legislation last year.

Sweden's Partnership Law gives Gay couples the same inheritance, tax and other benefits and obligations as married heterosexuals. But it stops short of allowing same-sex couples to adopt or have children by artificial insemination.

Under the new law, which takes effect in January, 1995, Gay couples can marry in civil ceremonies. Churches may continue to marry whoever they want.

Social Democrat Maj-Lis Loow, who chaired the judicial committee that prepared the bill, said no further Gay reforms are being planned.

During debate, little opposition was voiced against homosexuality. Opponents focused on legal technicalities, such as introducing a new legal term, saying the matter ought to be investigated further.

## Madison's Club 3054 Gets 60-Day Suspension; Wings to Close For Good

(Madison)- As we go to press, word has been received that on Wednesday, June 8, the City of Madison reached a tentative agreement with Cheri Becker owner of Club 3054.

The agreement specifies that Club 3054 will close for a period of 60 days. When the 60 days begins is not known at this time. The club will then reopen pending approval by the Madison Common Council.

At that time, only the upstairs bar and patio will reopen. The bar known as Wings, where alleged illegal and unprotected sexual activities are said to have occurred will not be reopening under any circumstances.

Both the tentative agreement and the reopening will need to be voted on by the Common Council.

## Wisconsin High Court Adoption Decision A Setback for Gay and Lesbian Families

(Madison)- State Representative Tammy Baldwin (D-Madison) on June 8, joined attorney Judith Newton and Gay and Lesbian parents to express their disappointment with the State Supreme Court decision in the Green Bay “Angel Lace M.” adoption case. Baldwin announced that she will introduce legislation reversing the decision.

This case, as reported in *Light*, originally heard by a Brown County Circuit Court Judge, raised the issue of the rights of a Lesbian co-parent to adopt her partner's child and the rights of the child to have a legally recognized parent.

Georgina Grinkey and her former husband, Terry Moede, adopted Angel during their marriage in 1988. Following the breakup of the marriage, Georgina and Angel started living with Annette Grinkey in 1990. Annette sought to petition for Angel's adoption in 1992.

Although the adoption study concluded that

## State GOP Platform Calls For All HIV Test Results to be Made Public



Teeth Time—Mike Neville (left) and Chris Flieller show off their talents in *Dracula Vs the Nazis*. Produced by the Playwrights Studio Theatre, the play opens June 17 at Milwaukee's Broadway Theatre Center.

## June is Gay Pride Month All Over the Country; Even With Mickey Mouse

(Milwaukee)- June is Gay Pride Month, in Wisconsin and all over the country. In cities, towns and even theme parks, the LesBiGay community gathers to celebrate Stonewall 25—even in the Magic Kingdom.

On Saturday, June 4, 1994, some 20,000 Lesbians and Gays gathered at Walt Disney World in Florida for the annual kickoff to local celebrations throughout the Sunshine State. The proportion of openly Lesbian and Gay men on the Magic Kingdom's streets made them seem like Christopher Street-south, the *New York Times* reported.

T-shirts decorated with Pink Triangles were nearly as common as Mickey Mouse shirts.

There were no protests, but some visitors said they were uncomfortable seeing two men holding hands.

David Caton, director of the American Family Association, said that “The best protest comes from people who went to Walt Disney World. They can go back to ‘Hometown USA’ and tell everybody how offensive it was.”

Mary Lou Simms, of Tampa, said that the only people who would find the event offensive were “Christian bigots. Who listens to them anyhow,” she asked.

### In Vermont

Marchers at Vermont's 11th annual Gay Pride parade in Burlington said they noticed increasingly positive reactions to their cause.

About 2,000 people marched in the parade that was held on Saturday, June 4. The event featured classic cars, marching bands, baby carriages and floats.

Governor Howard Dean has proclaimed

June to be Stonewall 25 Month in Vermont.

“Civil rights are civil rights and they are for everyone,” said Dean, “regardless of race, color, creed or sexual orientation.”

Gay and Lesbian teens also took part in the days activities.

“This is not just a phase,” said Jeremie Monahan, 19, of his being Gay. “This is reality. No one would choose to be ridiculed, hated and feared by so many people just to go through a phase,” he said.

### In Alabama

Brenda Braxton watched as about 400 Lesbians and Gay men commemorated the 25th Anniversary of Stonewall in Birmingham, Alabama. “I don't think Birmingham will ever accept them,” she said. “I don't think they'll ever give them the rights they deserve.”

The marchers went on to Caldwell Park where an estimated crowd of 5,000 people attended a Gay Pride festival.

Edward Clayton, a former Marine sergeant discharged in 1987 because he is Gay, carried the U.S. flag at the front of the parade.

“This is the first parade that I have been to,” he said, “that I have not had to worry ‘What if my mom sees me?’ or ‘What if my boss sees me?’”

Approximately 2,000 people stood and watched the parade. There were no incidents.

### In North Carolina

The North Carolina Lesbian/Gay Pride celebration kicked off in Charlotte on Friday afternoon, June 3, marking the beginning of that state's three day festival. This was the 11th Gay Pride celebration in North Carolina and the first in Charlotte.

The festivities centered on a parade through downtown Charlotte, a festival/rally, an art exhibit and numerous workshops offered throughout the weekend. Some 10,000 people were estimated to have attended the events.

One of the more interesting was a workshop offered by Mel White of Dallas, a Gay man who is a former ghost writer for Jerry Falwell, Pat Robertson and others.

This celebration was the first to last over several days.

## U.S. Judge Orders Military to Re-instate Lesbian Nurse to National Guard

(Seattle, WA)(AP)- A Lesbian colonel whose discharge from the Washington State National Guard has been ruled unconstitutional says she hopes to be back in uniform soon, preferably without waiting for expected appeals to be resolved.

“These things take a long time and I don't particularly want to be reinstated posthumously,” Col. Margarethe Cammermeyer, 52, said on June 2, 1994, from her nurse's job at a

(Milwaukee)(AP)- A resolution calling for AIDS to be acknowledged as a communicable disease subject to public health control was endorsed by the Republican State Convention on Sunday, June 5, 1994, despite claims it could lead to Gay-bashing.

Debate over the AIDS proposal and a strongly worded anti-Choice resolution triggered sharp debate at the closing session of the GOP's weekend convention in Milwaukee.

“Until the stigma of being tested for AIDS is removed, we should not require disclosure” of people who are tested, delegate Robert Jones of Cavour said.

“This could lead to Gay-bashing, absolutely,” Jones said.

Delegate Joyce Waldrop, a nurse from Dane County, said she thought the spirit of the resolution was good, but that “it could lead to discrimination” against people tested for AIDS.

The resolution, introduced from the floor by delegate Don Brill, a retired Eau Claire teacher, seemed to catch many delegates by surprise. Debate was delayed while copies were printed and distributed.

The resolution was approved 1,527 to 1,285 on a special vote system based on delegate representation by counties. An estimated 1,100 delegates attended the convention.

Brill, who is challenging U.S. Rep. Steve Gunderson for the Republican nomination in western Wisconsin's 3rd Congressional District, told delegates there “must be a rationalized plan for controlling our AIDS epidemic.”

**“No one will be tested for HIV if they think they will lose their job, be denied medical care, or be left alone to die.”**

Tammy Baldwin

### Baldwin Condemns Resolution

State Rep. Tammy Baldwin (D-Madison) attacked the Wisconsin GOP's resolution on AIDS. “If Wisconsin were to follow the call of the GOP convention delegates we would foolishly reverse landmark legal protections that have served us well in the battle to combat this devastating disease. Twelve years into the epidemic, experience tells us that this is quite simply a wrongheaded move,” Baldwin said. She pledged to fight such an effort in the legislature.

“The State Republican Party Convention showed that AIDS is two epidemics,” Baldwin continued. “The epidemic of the disease and an epidemic of fear of the disease.”

Baldwin called for a continuation of an “all-out crusade” against both epidemics and urged that Wisconsin's “progressive public policy effort” in stopping the spread of HIV continue.

“That will require vigorous enforcement and implementation of the legal safeguards that provide a secure environment for people with AIDS and a commitment on the part of the Legislature and the Governor to fund programs that will keep the infected population as healthy as possible,” Baldwin said.

Baldwin was referring to Republican Governor Tommy Thompson who has announced that he is seeking an unprecedented third term in office.

“Wisconsin has responded to the AIDS crisis in a unique fashion,” Baldwin said, “with a series of landmark legal protections and state funded programs. By looking at the experience of the larger states with much

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