

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

The Wisconsin Light

New Study Shows One in Three Have **Changed Behaviors** to Avoid AIDS

Atlanta, GA--Nearly one-third of Americans say they have changed their sex habits to avoid AIDS, including using condoms more and sleeping with fewer partners. Some, according to the survey, have given up sex entirely.

Even those at extremely low risk of getting the disease are being more careful, though the researchers found that people with the greatest chance of AIDS are doing the most to protect themselves

"People respond to the idea that sex is po-tentially a life or death decision," said Joel A. Feinleib of the University of Chicago.

The findings on sex in the age of AIDS are based on newly analyzed data from the National Health and Social Life Survey, the largest random survey ever conducted of Ameri-

The study, much of which was published in a book last year, was based on 90-minute interviews with 3,434 Americans about their most private acts and desires. The group surveyed ranged in age from 18 to 59.

The latest data were released on February 17 at a meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

One criticism of the study is the difficulty of knowing whether people are telling the truth. This may be especially important in judging their response to AIDS, since almost everyone knows what answers are considered socially

In the survey, 30 percent of U.S. adults said they had changed their behavior in some way as a result of AIDS, and 3 percent of adults

are avoiding sex completely because of AIDS.

John Gagnon of the State University of New York in Stony Brook said the 30 percent figure is probably the "upper bounds estimate" what is really true.

Even if accurate, however, Gagnon said no one knows if this is enough to have a significant impact on the epidemic.

Of the 30 percent who say they have changed their sex practices, the survey found:

29 percent use condoms more often. 26 percent limit themselves to one sex partner.

25 percent choose their partners more carefully or get to know them better. 11 percent reduce their number of part-

11 percent abstain from sex entirely.

Having many sex partners increases the risk of AIDS, and the statistics show just how seriously those people are taking AIDS

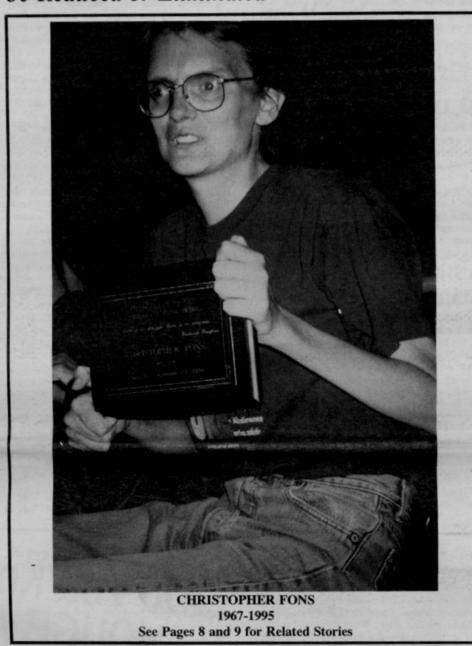
For instance, the survey found that 78 percent of those who have slept with between 11 and 20 people in the last five years have changed their behavior.

By contrast, 12 percent of those with just one partner in five years are doing something dif-ferent because of AIDS.

Feinleib noted that 75 percent of the population is at such low risk of AIDS that they probably do not need to alter their sex prac-

Madison and Milwaukee AIDS Housing Projects Jeopardized by Federal Budget Cuts

HUD Grants for Rodney Scheel House and MAP Family Housing May be Reduced or Eliminated



Utah Rushes to Stop Gay Marriages, While South Dakota Hesitates--For Now

Salt Lake City, UT-- Legislation that would one state that could legalize such unions. deny recognition to same-sex marriages won unanimous endorsement by a Utah House committee that was told the measure could face a legal challenge. At the same time, Hawai'i forged ahead on the same-sex marriage

Utah already bans same-sex marriages. House Bill 366 would deny recognition of such marriages performed in other states. Hawaii is

The House Energy, Natural Resources and Agriculture Committee unanimously endorsed

the measure on February 20 with no debate.

"(There are) possible due-process issues since marriage is a fundamental constitutional right," legislative attorney Janetha Hancock wrote in a legal assessment of the bill. "But

TURN TO MARRIAGE, PAGE 12

Milwaukee-- As Wisconsin Light goes to press, the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin (ARCW) has issued an "urgent Action Alert" to AIDS activists throughout Wisconsin that all federal AIDS housing funds have been targeted for elimination by the leadership of the new Congressional majority, which could mean withdrawal of multi-million dollar grant awards to the Madison AIDS Support Network (MASN) and the Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP) for crucial AIDS housing projects

The ARCW Alert urges the AIDS community to immediately call their respective Congressmen in the U.S. House of Representatives. The full House will soon be voting on these budget cuts

The ARCW Public Policy Office will provide you with the name and phone number of your Congressman and key staff. For this information, call: (414) 273-1991, ext. 247.

"The Contract For America has gone too far and is gutting this country's most humane response to the AIDS epidemic," said Doug Nelson, ARCW Executive Director, who had just returned from Washington, D.C. where he testified before the Senate Committee charged with re-authorizing the Ryan White CARE

"More than half of the people living with AIDS in Wisconsin need housing assistance. Without these HUD funds the prospects for severe homelessness among people with AIDS are profoundly increased," Nelson said.

The ARCW Alert reported that the massive cuts to the HUD budget may result in elimination of funds carried over by HUD from prior fiscal years which have not yet been spent and therefore jeopardizes the Madison and Milwaukee AIDS housing projects.

"With all of the investment by the Madison community in the Rodney Scheel House, it is outrageous that this Congress is prepared to scuttle that vital program for the Madison AIDS community," said Nelson.
"In Milwaukee, we have invested more than

a year's effort in planning for our housing project for families with HIV and we are prepared to break ground in the next few months to construct this critically needed housing

project.
"Both of our communities have received million-dollar HUD grants to make safe and affordable housing for the AIDS community a Nelson continued. "We can't let reckless budget-cutting kill these crucial housing programs," he asserted.

Nelson said that in addition to the Madison

and Milwaukee HUD grants, Wisconsin stands to lose \$650,000 in housing assistance from HUD through the complete elimination of the Housing Opportunities for People With AIDS Program (HOPWA).

We desperately need HOPWA funds for

TURN TO BUDGET CUTS, PAGE 5

Greg Louganis, World's Greatest Olympic Diver, Is a Person Living With AIDS

New York, NY--Greg Louganis, 35, the only man to sweep diving gold medals at consecutive Olympics, said he has AIDS and was HIV-positive when he hit his head during the 1988 Summer Games and bled into the pool.

Louganis, in an interview with ABC News

"20-20" televised Friday, February 24, said that he tested positive for the HIV virus just before the 1988 Games in Seoul and that it has developed into what the Centers for Disease Control defines as AIDS.

"It's just so sad," said Scott Donie, a silver medalist in the 10-meter platform at Barcelona. "He's such an incredible person and was such an incredible athlete. It's no different than when I heard about Arthur Ashe or Magic Johnson. When someone you hold in such high regard gets something like this, it reminds you of how human we all are. It's difficult to ac-

In the preliminaries of the 1988 springboard event, Louganis cracked his head on a reverse

he started bleeding in the pool.
"I was so stunned," Louganis told Walters.

"I mean, what was going on in my mind at the time was, 'What's my responsibility? Do I say something?"

"I just held my head ... I just wanted to hold the blood in," Louganis told interviewer Barbara Walters.

He did not reveal his condition to the U.S. Olympic Committee (USOC) doctor who gave him five stitches, and felt sure the chlorinated water in the pool would dilute the virus.

The next day, Louganis easily won the springboard gold. When it was over, he wrapped his arms around coach Ron O'Brien

He said he told his coach "nobody will ever know what we've been through."

He won four gold medals for springboard

TURN TO LOUGANIS, PAGE 16

High Court's Decision to Review Colorado's Amendment 2 is the Most Crucial Civil dive and became "paralyzed with fear" when Rights Case in Decades

Denver, CO- For perhaps the first time ever and never again, the two sides agree. Both advocates for the civil rights of Lesbians and Gay men and the Far Religious Right say that the U.S. Supreme Court's decision on February 21 to review Colorado's Amendment 2 is a watershed.

"This is our Brown Vs the Board of Education, said Richard Evans, whose name is listed first on the original filing of the Amendment 2 lawsuit. "Hopefully, it will go the same way.

By Brown Vs the Board of Education, the Supreme Court, in 1954, said racial segregation violated African Americans' right to equal protection under the law. The decision paved the way for the African American civil rights movement of the 1960s.

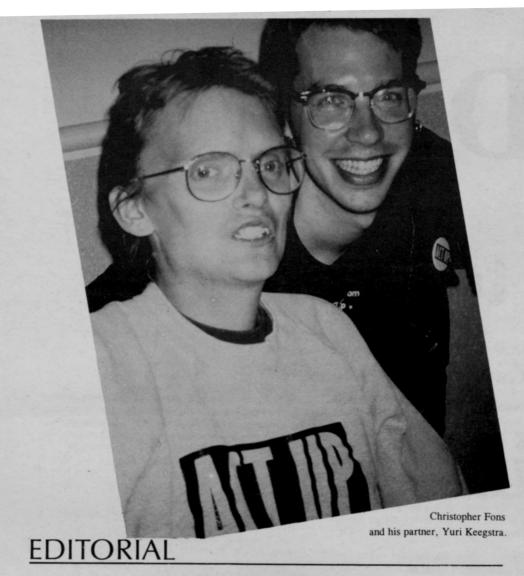
Amendment 2, approved by Colorado voters in 1992, would permit legal discrimination against Gay people. The Amendment has never taken effect because the Colorado courts, including the State Supreme Court, found the amendment unconstitutional.

Evans, a grants manager in the Denver Mayor's office, said that now, "Gay and Lesbian issues will be raised to a national level like they've never been raised before.'

Will Perkins, whose Colorado for Family Values (CFV) wrote and campaigned for the amendment, said the high court's ruling would be "crucial," adding his hope the court would be favorable to Amendment 2 in its ruling and thus show that "homosexuals are not entitled to the same civil rights" as others. "The fact that they choose to practice homosexuality does not give them any special rights at all, he said

Perkins said that he was "looking forward"

TURN TO COLORADO, PAGE 15



Two Fallen Heroes

By Terry Boughner

At the time when they are needed the most, two of the state's warriors in the battle against AIDS have died, each fighting to the end, each in his own way, the disease which ultimately claimed their live



CHRIS FONS AND ARNIE MALMON

Christopher Fons was a founder of ACT UP Milwaukee, a man of gentle voice. Yet he was the son of thunder whose wry kind of smile and often sharp with made his intense eyes flash like lightening before a mountain storm. Though he probably would deny the title of leader, he did lead ACT UP through a flurry of actions that scattered prejudice and ignorance like dry leaves in the wind. He would tell the truth about AIDS and even though many "proper and establishment types" didn't want to hear it, he would say it anyway in the hope that inspite of themselves, he could save the lives of they and their children.

Arnie Malmon was also a member of ACT UP and, like Christopher, an activist, but their styles were quite different. Arnie was the educator, refusing to let ignorance and

stupidity get the upper hand.

It is because of Christopher Fons and Arnie Malmon and the work that they and those like them do, that this paper has in the past and does now, enthusiastically and completely endorses ACT UP.

Dan Sc

It is because of Christopher Fons and Arnie Malmon and the work that they and those like them do, that this paper has in the past and does now, enthusiastically and completely endorses ACT UP.

It is because of ACT UP and people like Christopher and Arnie that those like Mark Belling

and Vic Eliason won't get away with spreading misinformation about AIDS.

It is because of ACT UP and people like Christopher and Arnie that young people can have access to the information that will save their lives

Some people say they're uncomfortabe with ACT UP's tactics. ACT UP saves lives. We sup-

port that.

This paper is deeply sorrowed by the loss of Christopher and Arnie. We offer our most sin-

cere condolences to their families and all those who loved and honored them and their work. But, if there is any comfort to be gained, it is this. ACT UP, here in Milwaukee and everywhere else, will be carrying on their work. Lives will be saved. That, we think, is the most fit-



Chris Fons is shown passing out leaflets at an anti-Gay themed religious rally held at Milwaukee's audito rium.

Christopher Fons, AIDS Activist, **Mourned by Hundreds in Milwaukee**

On Tuesday, February 21, 1995, Christopher Fons, co-founder of the Milwaukee chapter of the AIDS Coalition To Unleash Power (ACT UP), died after a long and spirited battle with AIDS. He died peacefully at home with his partner, Yuri Keegstra, and long-time friend, Eric Berna, at his side. He

Fons' death was immediately recognized as an enormous loss to AIDS activism in Milwaukee. "I think Christopher was the conscience of the AIDS community," said Doug Nelson, Executive Director of the Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP). "Christopher created and defined AIDS activism in Milwaukee and made it work. He inspired hundreds of people to join the ranks of AIDS activism and his leadership made a real difference.

In addition to his work with ACT UP, Fons had also actively advocated for equal rights for Gays and Lesbians, as well as the right of women to obtain an abortion on demand. He served on a number of coalitions aimed at building stronger grassroots activism in Milwaukee, and in September of 1994, he received the Community Activist Award from Progressive Milwaukee.

Fons' brother, Dan, who worked alongside Christopher in his fight against AIDS, describes his younger brother as a great inspiration. "When Christopher was in the room, I felt ten times stronger," said Dan Fons, "stronger in my ability and in my determina-tion to fight injustice. Christopher was not a part-time activist. He lived true to his convictions every minute of the day, whether that meant passing out condoms to high school students in front of irate parents or the simple and profound act of holding hands with his boyfriend at a bus stop.

A visitation and memorial service were held for at the Pabst Theater on Sunday February 26th with nearly 600 people in attendance. Fons had worked as an usher at the theater for many years and had requested that his memorial service be held there.

At the visitation, attendees were able to

view a video compilation of Fons in action over the past five years. Copies of newspaper and magazine articles about Fons' work were displayed, reminding everyone of how often he brought the subject of AIDS into the public spotlight. A table of memorabilia revealed Fons' love of Jeopardy, crossword puzzles and stuffed animals. Condoms and safer sex literature were also available.

The memorial service was a mixture of remembrances and calls to carry on Fons' work. Yuri Keegstra, Fons' partner and caregiver for the past three years, gave an emotional plea for action. "We killed Christopher," Keegstra stated. "Every person in this room contributed to his death as surely as if we had pulled a trigger, myself included. We have all gathered to mourn his death, but ask yourself this question: What did I do to help save Christopher's life? You all loved him...many of you contacted him at various times to ask what you could do to help. Wasn't it obvious? Christopher needed his life saved!'

Keegstra went on to ask those present to use their money, power and influence, including that of family and friends, to work for a cure for AIDS. "Please don't let Christopher's death be in vain," he said. "Silence does equal death and action equals change.

Kari DiFonzo, a friend and employee at the Milwaukee AIDS Project where Fons volunteered on the AIDSLine and on the high school speaker's bureau, noted Fons' ability to captivate teens' attention with his honest and non-judgmental answers to their questions. "What I remember most," she said, "is that he treated them with total respect, and that made all the difference.

Fons' sister, Mary, said of him, "He was a person who could say, 'I can do something about that' and he did." Later in the memorial, Mary Fons sang a Holly Near song about carrying on another's good work which had been adapted to include verses about her brother's struggle.

TURN TO CHRIS FONS, PAGE 16

Arnie Malmon's Legacy Remembered as AIDS Activist and Educator

Arnie Malmon, an AIDS activist and leader in the LesBiGav community died of complications due to AIDS on Wednesday, February 22, 1994 at Sinai Samaritan Medical Center in Milwaukee after a four year battle with the

He was a founder of the Cream City Foundation (CCF) and served on its Board of Directors for six years. In his service to CCF, he initiated the Major Donor Campaign which gave an opportunity for wealthier members of the community to contribute to the Founda-

He served as chair of CCF's Grants Committee and established the John Cowles Scholarship Fund

Tony Rhodes, CCF's current President of the Board, praised Arnie for the leadership that he provided CCF and extolled him for his hard work and dedication.

"He gave of himself unstintingly," Rhodes said. "He was a wonderful person, a generous and giving man.'

A native and life-long resident of Milwaukee, Arnie worked in advertising and marketing, then in development and fundraising for a number of non-profit groups.

From 1975 to 1982, he directed the Milwaukee Blood Pressure Program, a public educa-tion effort affiliated with the Medical College of Wisconsin.

He was a member of ACT UP, concentrat-

ing his activism on education.
Susan Guerrero, Executive Secretary to Doug Nelson, Executive Director of the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin told the story of Arnie's speaking on HIV and AIDS at a Milwaukee junior high school where her son was

The previous speakers had not been able to hold the kids' attention, but when Arnie spoke, things changed. There was such intensity to him, the boy told his mother. "You really wanted to sit there and listen to him.'

Arnie did volunteer work with the Milwaukee AIDS Project, where he was very active in program development, public education efforts and seeking grants on behalf of the agency, said Cheryl Vaughn, MAP's Director of Life-Care Services. He also served on the internal review board of clinical drug trials.

In his "spare time," he wrote a regular column for In Step Magazine entitled "Positively HIV," from which countless numbers received hope and inspiration.

Arnie emerged as the most effective AIDS educator in Milwaukee," said Doug Nelson. "His writing and his speaking generated enlightenment about AIDS that has made this community far more compassionate in its re-



ARNIE MALMON

sponse to this worsening epidemic."

In one of the last times that he spoke in public, Arnie addressed the guests attending the Grand Opening of MAP's Survival/Revival resale store. It was near to Christmas and he talked about hope and the courage that it took

With a wry smile, he said he'd like to have a new car, but didn't think he'd be around to finish the payments, so the old one would have to make do. But it was reliable, a good car still, he said, and it would get him to where he wanted to go.

According to his sister, Sunsh Stein, there will be a party in three or four weeks as Arnie

Other survivors include his parents, Lee and Morrie Malmon of Ormond Beach, Florida and a brother, Shelly of Fox Point.

Donations in Arnie's memory may be made to his beloved Cream City Foundation, P.O. Box 204, Milwaukee, WI 53201.

SISTERNEWS AND VIEWS

Remembering Chris

By Jamakaya

I first met Christopher Fons in 1991 in a courtroom in the "Safety" Building in downtown Milwaukee. No, Christopher was not in court after one of his many arrests. He was there, as he so often was, looking out for the interests of others.

We were both attending the trial of one of the killers of Ricky Roundtree, a man who was brutally murdered after he allegedly came on to two other men at a north side bar. The homophobes stalked Roundtree after he left the bar, shot him twice, set his body on fire and left him to die in an abandoned building. One got life, the other 25 years.

I was there to report on the trail. Chris said he was there to monitor it. But since no specific group had sent him, it became obvious he had simply come on his own to be there, to bear witness as it were. I don't recall whether I spotted his political buttons or maybe he recognized me from community events or my photo in this paper, but we immediately caught each others' eyes, introduced ourselves and sat

Chris and I exchanged numbers that day and communicated many times in the following years. Usually, I was in my role as reporter, finding out what ACT UP was up to and covering its actions. Chris was always accessible, sharing his plans and concerns, tipping me off to the next target of ACT UP's wrath. Even after he became paralyzed, ravaged by AIDS and cryptosporidiosis, he remained available to answer questions and to comment about the latest outrage emanating from Congress, City Hall or the school system.

I mention my meeting with Chris at the Roundtree murder trial because his presence there was so indicative of his values and his political commitment. He just wanted to be there. He thought someone should be there.

While many eulogies, especially those in the mainstream press, have made Chris's name synonymous with "anger" and "rage" and "militancy," the features I found most remarkable in Chris, however contrary this may seem, were his thoughtfulness, his patience and his gentle nature.

I remember quiet moments and images of Chris which were eloquent. Like his presence in the courtroom for the Roundtree case. Like his greeting Mayor Norquist at a reception last year. The frail, wheelchair-bound Chris looked up at the giant politico, smiled and said, "Hello Mayor Norquist. I'd like to shake your hand but I can't 'cause I have Crypto.' There wasn't a bit of protest or rebuke in his tone, which made the encounter all the more

Kari DiFonzo shared a similar impression of Chris at his memorial service. Kari, an AIDS educator and friend of Chris, noted that he was speaking to students about living with AIDS until a month before his death. She recalled his effect on a group at the infamous Parkman Middle School.

"These kids, who probably gave their teachers in incredible amount of hell during the day, listened to Chris with bated breath. What blew me away was not what he said or how much he was willing to share--which was a lot--but he spoke to them with such respect. He never made any of them feel their questions were stupid, and that's why he reached

Kari called Chris the most "real," the most 'genuine" person she's ever known.

All of this is not to say that Chris wasn't angry. He had a lot to be angry about and he often said that anger was "a great motivator." He also understood implicitly Fredrick Douglass's maxim that "Power concedes nothing without a demand," so demand he did! Unfortunately, the media's focus on ACT UP's tactics has obscured the group's considerable effectiveness and record of achievement, a record I have touted in this column many times.

Kitty Barber, a longtime Lesbian activist who occasionally criticized ACT UP's tactics and/or timing, nevertheless had glowing words for Chris. She touched on another aspect of his character that made him such a fine person and

'What was really special about Chris," said Kitty, "was that he really had a good grasp of all the issues and their interconnectedness. He understood the relationship between sexism, racism and homophobia. He incorporated that in his work and battled against them all."

Chris's mother, Pat, was largely responsible for nurturing his political consciousness from a young age (his, and those of seven other children), taking him to peace rallies and encouraging discussion of social issues.

Chris's breadth of vision was reflected in some of the songs played at his memorial



CHRISTOPHER FONS

His favorite group was Sweet Honey in the Rock. (Good taste, Chris!) Their haunting 'Spiritual" ("Can't no one know at sunrise how this day is going to end...") was played. It has a stanza which goes: "You know the troubles of the world fill our hearts with rage/From Soweto to Stonewall, Birmingham and L.A./We're searching for hope that lies within ourselves/As we fight against misogyny, race hatred and AIDS.

Another song, which left nary a dry eye in the house, was Holly Near's "It Could Have Been Me," a homage to activists fallen in the line of duty. His sister Mary wrote special verses about Chris. But the chorus couldn't have been more appropriate: "It could have been me, but instead it was you./So I'll keep doing the work you were doing as if I were

I'm sure Chris would say: "Don't mourn. Organize!

Rest well, brother.

ETTERS

Christopher Fons

TO THE EDITOR:

This week Milwaukee lost a real champion: a champhion for all people living with AIDS, Chris Fons. He did not always endear himself to the "Movers and Shakers" of our town, but he did endear himself to AIDS activists and friends.

This poem expresses my feeling about Chris:

"My candle burns at both its ends, It will not last the night.

But ah, my foes, and oh, my friends, It gives a lovely light."

Thank you Christopher for being here.

Lona Schindler Milwaukee

At an ACT UP fundraiser held in 1989 at Milwaukee's Jet's Place Bar (3B's) Chris Fons (second from

left) is shown with other ACT UP Milwaukee members and friends.





Chris Fons is shown, center, wearing his ACT UP T-shirt during the 1991 Pride Festival parade in Mil waukee.

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Christopher's Arrow Streaked Across the Sky and Gave off a Glorious Light

Commentary by Terry Boughner

I was getting off the bus by the Pabst Theatre on Sunday evening, when I heard a young woman ask, "What's going on?" She had seen the cars lined up there by the curb and all the people going in. I told her it was a funeral.

"Oh yes," she said sadly. "For Chris Fons."

Over 600 people paid their respects that night, straight and Gay, young and old. Jerry wasn't there. He had to work and I missed him. I went off by myself to watch and lose myself eventually in my own world as is my

I remembered first meeting Christopher when he worked in Schwartz bookstore. I think he had the place memorized because he hurried off and quickly returned with the book I wanted when no one else had ever heard of it before.

And I remember Christopher at the 3B's bar when he and a group of others founded ACT UP Milwaukee. I saw the fire in him then, the blaze of determination and dedication to dispel the myths about AIDS and, in the process, to save lives.

There was the time when he led ACT UP making sure that there'd be no boycott of Miller Beer here. This, despite tremendous pressure put on him from across the country.

I thought too about the time he led ACT UP in bringing Mark Belling to heel. For those of you who don't know him, Belling is a conservative talk-jockey here, man who in the opinion of many, including myself, most often mistakes stridency for profundity

Belling had been babbling on about AIDS about which, it seemed obvious, he knew little. To make a long story short, Christopher forced him into an on-air

There was so much about Christopher that I remember, like the time he joined Jerry and me to interview Dr. Anthony Fauci. Christopher questioned him

politely, but closely, very closely indeed.

Many, many saw the fire in Christopher--and certainly, it was there. But there was also a side I saw now and then, a tender, sweet, vulnerable side that was beautiful to see.

At the service Sunday evening, someone talked about his little collection of stuffed animals. That didn't sur-prise me in the least. The thing is, only someone who can cuddle a teddy bear, can go out and do battle with the Neanderthals of this world. I truly believe that.

There's no doubt in my mind that Yuri saw that in Christopher, saw in his heart the tender fire that burned there. That's what Yuri Keegstra fell in love with, I think, and became Christopher's lover, help-mate, spouse and best friend (all those things are different and sometimes don't all combine)

If you'll forgive a little history, if Christopher was Alexander, then Yuri was Haephestion, and together they stood tall.

When I heard Yuri speak that Sunday night, my heart broke for him, but yet I was glad. Yuri had loved deeply and honestly, nobly and well. He was and is, a man of great heart and caring soul. There is something so warm and good about knowing that.

I salute you, Yuri Keegstra. By your devotion, you have shown us all what love, Gay or straight, is all

And now what do I say? Only this. That Christopher shot his arrow into the sky and, yes, it may have come

down in flames, but oh, what a glorious light.

Good by Christopher. We join with Yuri in bowing our heads. We're gonna miss you badly--all of us. But the comfort for us is that I'm sure you know, the world's a better place for your having lived.



Chris Fons (right) demonstrating (1991).

Who Killed Christopher Fons?

By Yuri Keegstra

There is not a day that passes when I am not in mourning. At the age of 23, I have seen more death than people three times my age. Because of the frequency of death in my life, I never have to time to move on and thus, my world is populated by ghosts I am unable to bury. Even among this pantheon of friends and loved ones, Christopher holds an exalted place.

Christopher was my best friend, inspiration, lover, and virtual constant companion. No one has touched my life

like he did. Thus, it is hard to say what follows.

We Killed Christopher

Every person in this room contributed to his death as surely as if we had pulled a trigger, myself included. We have all gathered to mourn his death, but ask yourself this question: What did I do to help save Christopher's life? You all loved him or you wouldn't be here. Many of you contacted him at various times to ask what you could do to help. Wasn't it obvious? *Christopher needed his life saved*.

Why couldn't we save his life? Why didn't every person who was touched by Christopher join him in his fight?

Why isn't everyone trying to stop this plague?

In the lobby tonight, I was approached by someone who said they wanted to help carry on Christopher's work, but were uncomfortable with the tactics that have been used in the past. *Uncomfortable?* Uncomfortable with standing up to evil and trying to save lives? I'm uncomfortable with the fact that you'd rather watch people die than use tactics that make you uncomfortable. Are you more comfortable watching people die unnecessary deaths?

You all came here to mourn Christopher's death. If you really cared about and loved Christopher, you are all hypocrites if you don't take action and instead, allow the Christopher's of this world to die.

There are people in this room with money, power and personal contacts. If you do not put your resources to work

in the fight against AIDS, you are hypocrites.

The parents of many people in this room have money, power and personal contacts. If you do not ask your parents to use their resources to further the fight, you are hypocrites.

And when you go to use your money and power and influence, don't just ask or fight for more money for palliative measures, or for education, or for any of the other "safe" aspects of AIDS. It's all very well to make sure people with AIDS are comfortable and have housing and food and I won't tell you to ignore those critical aspects of the AIDS crisis. But, if we only take care of people and help them die, then this plague is going to continue to devastate our lives. Fight for a cure!

I have always believed that we have a moral obligation to fight for the good of the human race and do everything in

our power to stop evil. Did you fight? Did you fight to save Christopher's life?

No, not really. Only a handful of people in this room have fought for a cure for AIDS, and that's all that would have saved Christopher's life. And even those of us who did try to fight to save his life, didn't do all that we could I know my words here tonight are going to make many of you uncomfortable (there's than word again). However, I

also know that this is probably only a tenth of what Christopher would have me say if we had written this together. He died before we could do that.

If you are uncomfortable, go home tonight and think about why you are. I think you will find it's because I have spoken the truth here tonight and the truth hurts.

Please. In Christopher's name, use your money and your influence and your power. **Please**. Don't let Christopher's death be in vain. Silence does indeed equal death and action equals change.

Good-bye Christopher. You will be missed. I love you.

Editor's Note: The above is a transcript of the eulogy given by Yuri Keegstra to the hundreds assembled in Milwaukee's Pabst Theater to mourn the death of his lover, Christopher Fons.

NEEDED:

25 people to replace Christopher Fons in the fight against AIDS

Christopher Fons died of AIDS complications, but it was Corporate Greed, Government Inaction and Public Indifference that killed him. We need people to help carry on the fight that was so much of his life, the fight against AIDS.

To apply, call (414) 769-8708 or come to any ACT UP Milwaukee General Meeting. ACT UP meets every 2nd & 4th Monday, 7:00 p.m. at the Milwaukee AIDS Project, 820 N. Plankinton.

