

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



The Wisconsin Light

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"Cool Things"
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Substance in Urine of Pregnant Women May be Crucial in AIDS Fight

New York, NY—Something in a pregnant woman's urine can wipe out tumors of Kaposi's sarcoma, an AIDS-related cancer, and suppress HIV itself. But what is it?

After a false start, scientists, including Dr. Robert Gallo of the University of Maryland's Institute of Human Virology, say they're on the trail to finding out.

It all began with a chance observation a few years ago in a study of Kaposi's, a potentially lethal disorder that causes disfiguring skin lesions in people with AIDS. Researchers were creating Kaposi's in mice for study, and they noticed they couldn't get the disease to develop in pregnant females.

Apparently, something related to pregnancy was quashing the disease. A hormone called human chorionic gonadotropin, or hCG, is produced early in human pregnancies, so it seemed like a good candidate. Researchers reported in 1995 that doses of commercial hCG preparations killed Kaposi's cells in the laboratory and shrank Kaposi's tumors in mice.

The following year, scientists reported that injecting commercial hCG preparations into tumors could often make them disappear in human patients. In addition, in studies where patients got the preparations injected in their blood streams, they sometimes showed a decline in the amount of HIV in their blood.

But almost from the time of the first mouse study, researchers became suspicious about whether hCG itself was really doing all this. Commercial preparations are derived from pregnant women's urine and contain many contaminants, so one or more of these impurities might really be responsible.

Some recent studies have pointed to a contaminant, though nobody has actually identified it. The latest chapter of the story appears in the April issue of the journal *Nature Medicine*.

Scientists present evidence that an unidentified substance they call HAF is responsible, and that hCG is just a red herring. HAF can be found in hCG preparations and in urine from pregnant women, they reported.

Nelson Cites New Poll on Needle Exchange to Challenge Mayor Norquist's Position

Milwaukee—A majority of Milwaukeeans support needle exchange programs to fight AIDS and believe that tax revenue should help pay for them, a poll indicates.

The poll paid for by the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin (ARCW) and done by the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee's Institute for Survey and Policy Research said 57 percent of those responding approved of needle exchange programs, 36 percent opposed them and 7 percent were undecided.

Asked whether government AIDS prevention money should be used to fund needle exchange programs, 55 percent said "yes," 40 percent said "no" and 5 percent were undecided.

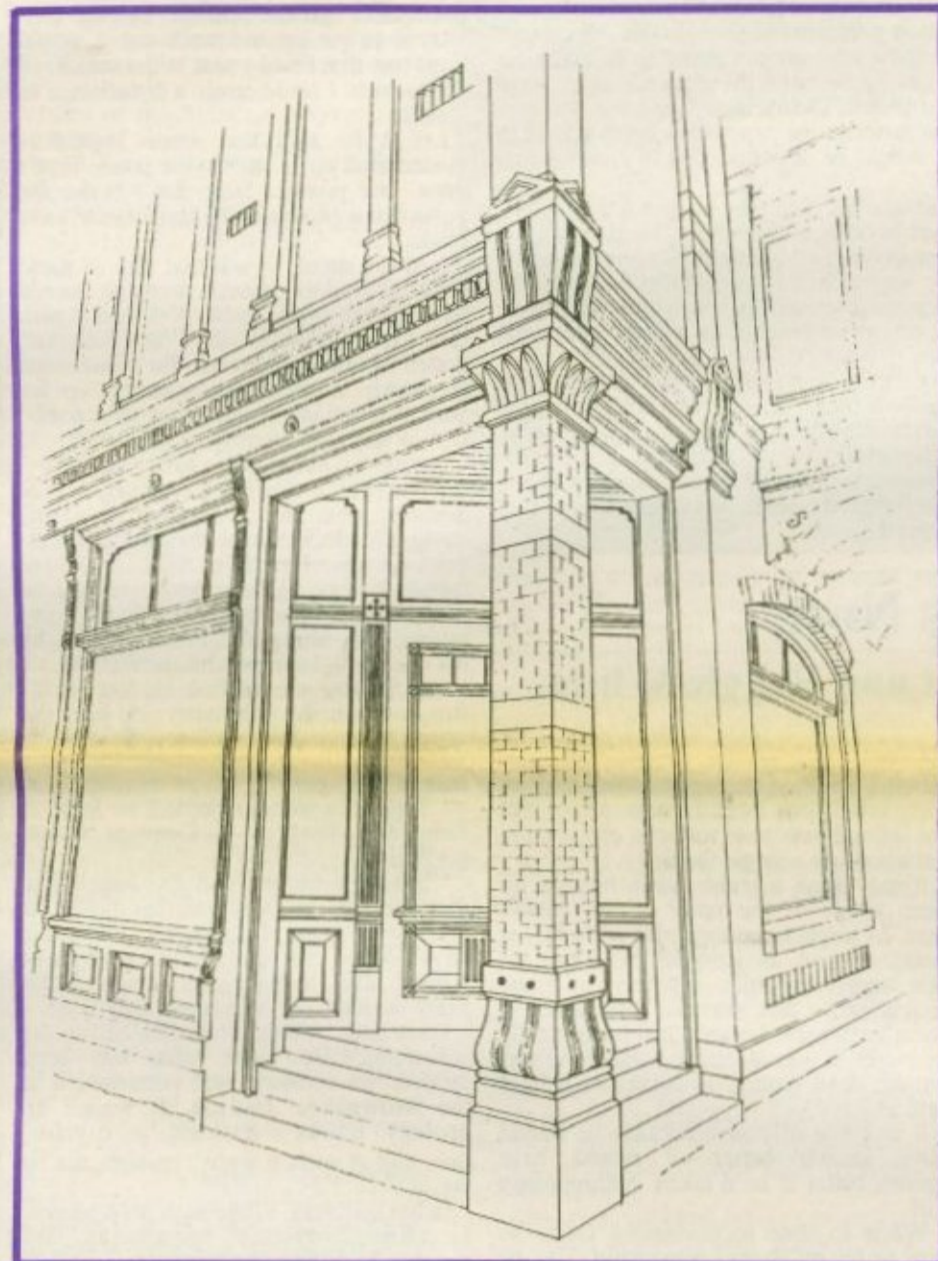
Health officials say one way in which HIV, the virus that causes AIDS, is spread is when drug users share needles contaminated with blood.

The poll of 409 randomly selected adults in December was listed as having a margin of error of 4.9 percentage points.

The American Medical Association, the American Public Health Association, the National Academy of Sciences, the American Bar Association, the U.S. Conference of Mayors have endorsed needle

La Cage's \$750,000 Renovation Project Nearing Completion

Exterior Restoration, New Upstairs Performance Space
New Bar Design Called "Exciting", "Outstanding"



A New But Old Look — Above is a drawing of what the main entrance to La Cage will look like once the exterior of the building at 801 S. Second Street, Milwaukee is fully restored to its original appearance. The exterior restoration is part of a \$750,000 restoration and remodeling project. The project includes remodeling of the basement bar area, the main floor bar area and adding a new club/live performance area on the second floor. For details see you lead story in this issue.

An Exclusive Wisconsin Light Report
By Bill Meunier

Milwaukee—Whoever said that you can only depend on two things in life, death and taxes forgot to include La Cage's remodeling projects. Over fifteen years, the bar has had several makeovers. But all of them pale when compared to the 18 month effort to restore and remodel the La Cage building located at 801 South Second Street.

The latest version of La Cage is scheduled to come fully on line by early Summer. Even before it is completed, the \$750,000 project is winning praise from local politicians, neighborhood activists preservationists and others.

The project includes an exterior restoration of the building to the appearance it had when it was constructed in 1887, the addition of a new dance club and performance space on the building's second floor and a major remodeling of the main floor and basement dance and bar areas.

According to Co-owner George Prentice the work should be finished by late June but then he adds the inevitable words "give or take a few weeks. It's hard to be on schedule with all the work that is being done here."

When the work is finished the neighborhood will have a fully restored 111 year old building that preservationists call "exciting architecture," the community will have a new, badly needed space for live performances and Milwaukee's Gay and Lesbian bar scene will have two new spaces including a new upscale downstairs bar designed by nationally known bar and restaurant designer, Gary Wolf.

The Exterior Restoration

The restoration of the building's exterior has been a major undertaking. The work has included stripping off the old lead based paint, (every scrap of which had to be collected and disposed of as a hazardous waste) cleaning the bricks, installing traverse windows, putting in two new entrances, resizing and installing new windows on the first floor and redoing the building's trim.

When asked why he would want to go to

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Reggie White Issues Apologia as Furor Over His Assembly Speech Continues

"Bigger Slaves Were Pretty Much Used as Studs," White Says

Milwaukee—Reggie White says he's sorry if he offended anyone in condemning homosexuality and using racial stereotypes in a speech, but a spokesman for a Gay rights group Friday remained upset with the football star.

"Mr. White chose not to temper his anti-Gay remarks in the same fashion he chose to temper what were perceived to be racist remarks," said David Smith of the Human Rights Campaign.

"It is very sad that Mr. White is justifying his anti-Gay bias under the guise of religious beliefs," Smith said.

But Rabbi Abraham Cooper, associate dean of the Simon Wiesenthal Center in Los Angeles, said White's "apology was appropriate."

"Whatever he wanted to say, the way it came out had a tendency to reinforce some of the very stereotypes he has worked so hard to tear down," Cooper said. "He is a big enough man to admit

the mistake and I think he learned an important lesson."

White received the center's "tolerance award" in 1996 for his "commitment to fostering tolerance and pursuing his vision for a better America."

The defensive end of the Green Bay Packers faxed a statement to the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel late Thursday, saying he did not intend to slight anyone during a March 25 speech before the state Assembly.

"I must stress that I in no way intended for my comments to personally hurt anyone, and for that, I apologize," White said. "But I do not apologize for standing on God's word when it comes to sin in my life and others. My attitude is to hate the sin and love the sinner."

White used racial stereotypes in explaining the "gifts" of different races and ethnic groups, saying blacks were gifted worshippers, whites were good at tapping into money and American Indians weren't enslaved because they knew the territory and "how to sneak up on people."

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