

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

# Wisconsin Light

## GOP ATTACKS CLINTON'S ANTI-BIAS ORDER

By Bill Meunier

Washington, DC—The latest of what some are calling "a barrage of attacks on America's Gays and Lesbians," from Republican Congressional leaders was launched on June 24 when four Republican Congressmen including the Majority Whip, Tom Delay, announced an effort to derail President Clinton's Executive Order banning federal job discrimination based on sexual orientation.

In a letter sent to other members of the House, the four, Delay, Joel Hefley, (CO), Robert Aderhold (AL) and John Hostettler (IN) asked their colleagues to support a resolution introduced by Hefley that would in effect overturn President Clinton's anti-discrimination directive. *Wisconsin Light* was able to obtain a copy of that letter.

In it, the four claim that Clinton's order would "greatly expand affirmative action" and may require private companies, as well as state and local governments to conform to Clinton's directive.

In a speech to the House, Delay said, "The American people do not want quotas, they do not want special preferences, and they certainly do not want affirmative action based on sexual orientation."

If passed, Hefley's resolution would be attached to the Postal-Treasury Appropriations bill. Technically it would not overturn Clinton's mandate, but would render it meaningless by prohibiting the use of any federal funds to enforce it.

The Republican attacks were quickly met with criticism from Democrats, national Gay and Lesbian organizations, and the White House itself.

Dick Gephardt, (D-MO) promised a fight against the Hefley amendment saying, "the Executive Order they seek to undo ensures equality and fairness throughout our federal civil service, it does not create special privileges as they allege."

"This is about discrimination," said Nanda Chitre, a White House spokeswoman. "If this is what the Republicans want to focus on, we're willing to engage on this issue because we are anti-discrimination."

Hefley's amendment would not make anti-Gay discrimination legal in the Federal government, according to David Smith, Senior Strategist for the Human Rights Campaign.

Smith told *Wisconsin Light* that, shortly after Clinton took office, his appointees at the White House office of Personnel and Management made a ruling that an anti-discrimination Executive Order issued by then President Jimmy Carter included Gays and Lesbians.

Smith said that the problem with that ruling was that Carter's Executive order did not specifically include the words "Gay, Lesbian or homosexual."

Because that ruling could be easily be overturned by any future President, and because many Federal Government agencies had their own policies, HRC, and others, urged Clinton to issue a sweeping across-the-board directive that specifically named Gays and Lesbians. That would provide a uniform policy for all federal agencies.

The Hefley amendment follows closely on the heels of other anti-Gay actions, some of which have been denounced even by other Republicans.

- These include:
- A public statement by Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott that homosexuality is a sin and that those "with this problem," should be treated.
  - The refusal of the Republican leadership in the Senate to allow a vote on confirming James Hormel, an openly Gay man appointed to be the United States Ambassador to Luxembourg.
  - The exclusion of the Gay and Lesbian Log Cabin Club from the Texas Republican Convention. Smith said the Hefley resolution and other recent Conservative

Please see GOP Attack, Page 7

### In This Issue...

**Madison Billboard Controversy**  
**STATE BRIEFS**  
Page 12

**Northeast Wisconsin's ROW Pride Picnic**  
Page 5

**"NEW" Positive Outlook**  
Page 10

**Chicago Pride Photos**  
Page 14



**Madison Reps 30th Year SPOTLIGHT SECTION**  
Page 15

**Dear Ruthie SPOTLIGHT SECTION**  
Page 27



Colors of Pride—Marchers at the 1997 Madison Parade proudly carry the rainbow flag.

## MADISON PRIDE

Madison—Mad Town will be the LGBT capitol of Wisconsin from July 16 to July 19, as it celebrates Pride in a big way with a slate of activities that combines parties, politics and just plain old fun.

The schedule of events is highlighted by the two major events, the MAGIC Picnic, which is celebrating its 25th anniversary on Saturday, July 18 and the GALVANize Pride Parade and Picnic on Sunday, July 19.

These two events anchor a schedule of activities that displays the diversity and commitment of the Madison LGBT community.

### THE CONCERT

Perfect Harmony, Madison's Gay men's choral group has the honor of opening the celebration. The group will present its second annual Summer Concert at the First Baptist church, 518 N. Franklin, at 8pm on Thursday, July 16.

In its three-year existence, Perfect Harmony has succeeded in making a name for itself by offering polished performances of quality music. This concert promises to be no exception.

Entitled "From Baroque to Be-Bop" the performance will feature an eclectic mix of selections that will fully demonstrate the abilities of this talented group.

The concert is free but donations will be accepted at the door.

### THE UNITED AWARDS DINNER

The United's Sixth Annual Awards Dinner highlights the contributions made by outstanding businesses, individuals and organi-

zations.

The dinner will be held at the Sheraton Hotel, which is located across from the Dane County Coliseum.

The keynote speaker will be Madison Mayor Susan Bauman. *Wisconsin Light's* newest columnist, Tina Fleschman, will provide entertainment and will emcee the event.

Tickets—\$35 per person—are available by advance purchase only. The menu features three dinner choices, Southwestern Chicken, North Atlantic Salmon or Stuffed Acorn Squash.

All proceeds benefit the United.

### DANCING WITH PRIDE

There will be two dances to help celebrate Pride on Friday, July 17.

The 10% Society Dances are one of Madison's biggest monthly events. Normally they are held at the UW Memorial Union but for Pride Weekend, the 10% Society has decided to "do Monona Terrace."

The first ever 10% Society Dance at Madison's sparkling new convention and community center will take place on Friday, July 17 from 8pm to midnight. There will be a cash bar, a DJ and augmented sound. Admission is \$5 at the door.

If country western is your thing then you should join the Dairyland Cowgirls and Cowboys at their "Open Country Dance."

Members of this growing group of Country Western dance fans will be strutting their stuff at the Sapphire Ballroom, 1133 N. Sherman Avenue.

Please see Madison, Page 16

## Havlicek, Keegstra join the Wisconsin Light

Milwaukee—Annabelle Havlicek has been appointed Director of Sales of *Wisconsin Light*. Currently, Production Manager at *The Paper*, Havlicek is excited about rearing her talents to the LGBT Community. Yuri Keegstra will be joining the staff as Production Manager and will function as editor of the new HIV/AIDS section "Positive Outlook."

Havlicek & Associates (H&A), the public relations and advertising agency started by Havlicek in 1988, first became known in the LGBT community when it acted as public relations counsel for the 1989 Milwaukee Lesbian/Gay Pride Committee.

For more than ten years she's remained an ally, continuing to do publication projects for a variety of organizations, including the annual Pride Guides since 1996.

In 1991, H&A began providing ad services to *In Step* magazine. Four years later, H&A took up permanent residence in their offices and Havlicek's role was expanded to include ad sales and soft editorial. In July of 1995, when Ron Geiman, publisher and founder of *In Step* became ill, he handed the reins of publishing over to her for safe keeping. Havlicek continued to publish *In Step* until February of 1996 when it went up for sale.

It was at that time that Jerry Johnson asked

Please see Wisconsin Light, Page 13