



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

The Wisconsin Light

Witch Says Men Are At The Height of Their Power in June

Some call it "The Old Religion." Others speak of it as "Wicca" or "Witchcraft" and there are those who call it "paganism." But, by whatever name it goes, the faith is old, old, ancient beyond reckoning with deep roots going back into every society on earth and, today, is practiced by numbers unknown in Milwaukee, in Wisconsin and throughout the world.

This month, June, the month after the Blue Moon, is the time of one of the eight great sabbaths of the ancient ways that together, form the wheel of the year. It is the eve of the Summer solstice, Mid-Summer's Night's Eve, which begins at sundown on June 19.

In the quiet dimness of an air conditioned apartment, on Milwaukee's south side, away from the blazing heat of an early June day, Monica talks animatedly about all this and more. A tall, dark haired woman of vibrant beauty and indeterminate age, Monica, who describes herself as, "100% Polish", is a witch and has been since she was 16. Currently, she is a high priestess of her coven, has given classes on Wicca and the worship of the Great Mother at Milwaukee Area Technical College and has been arrested for fortune telling (the city lost the case.) She is proud to be called "a witch", a word, she says, that is simply a derivative of Wicca and means "wise one." Thus, the term applies equally to both sexes.



Monica

The Old Religion has special significance to Gay women and men. According to historians Arthur Evans, John Boswell and others, thousands of years ago, before the advent of patriarchalism and the sky gods, (Zeus, Jehovah, et al), humans worshiped the Great Mother. As Monica says, the goddess has ten thousand names among which are Isis, Diana, Hecate and many others.

By whatever name, her shamans were women and Gay men, the latter because it was believed that their Gayness gave them special sensitivities and powers. In ancient Babylon, for example, a Gay man was considered to be in his last and highest incarnation. According to Monica, most straight men, by the time they are 23 years-old, have let society shut down their right brains, the seat of feelings and intuition. Gay men, she says, because of what they are, retain the powers and use of the right brain.

With the coming of the patriarchal faiths, Judaism and Christianity among them, every effort was made to degrade women and eradicate Gay men, much of the hatred of whom must be understood in terms of the degradation of women. However, in the Medieval Period despite Christianity's domination of Europe, many women and Gay men continued to hold fast to the old faith. In fact, homosexuality, witchcraft, and heresy became synon-

TURN TO WITCH, PAGE 12

Jackson Campaign Betrays, Angers Supporters

By Sue Cook

Despite the hard work and dedication the Jackson campaign received from the Wisconsin Lesbian/Gay community, Polly Williams, Jackson's state chairperson, and Steve Cobble, the National Delegate Coordinator, refused to reward these efforts with a delegate spot. Even though national campaign workers promised that the Gay/Lesbian community would receive one and possibly two spots, local campaign organizers shut out Gays and Lesbians from the remaining delegate spots by selecting and endorsing others to fill these positions.



Rep. Polly Williams

Another labor representative has received the blessing of Williams and Cobble. The state chairperson from the Gephardt campaign who endorsed Jackson only a week before the primary, is to receive the remaining spot. State Representative David Clarenbach was also involved with the pre-selection of delegates.

Gays and Lesbians who attended the Fifth Congressional District Caucus on May 21 failed to get a delegate elected. However, after the election, Bruce Colburn, a representative from organized labor, and an elected delegate said that he would help the Gay/Lesbian community get a delegate elected at the statewide level. Marge Cleghorn, an elected delegate from the Black community, also expressed that she would support efforts to get a

delegate spot for the Gay/Lesbian community.

Since May 21, many promises have been forgotten. On Friday June 3, Williams, Cobble and Clarenbach decided who the delegate would be. Bill Meunier, state coordinator for the Gay/Lesbian community, was informed of this decision on Monday June 6 just minutes before the California polls closed. Cobble offered a token position on the Rules Committee, which was declined. Cobble also stated that he was not informed by the national campaign workers that Wisconsin was to have at least one only Gay or Lesbian delegate.

Steve Cobble at first blamed the lack of the delegate spot on the Gay/Lesbian community itself, stating that it should have run more people. He fails to realize how difficult it is to convince someone to go public with his or her sexual orientation; the risks involved are numerous. And it is sad to say that our community's efforts will not be recognized because the majority of the Gays and Lesbians were doing campaign work in the closet.

The Gay/Lesbian community is not about to walk away from the Rev. Jackson; Jackson has our issues in mind. However, the Rev. Jackson's message was not picked up by other members in his campaign. This was quite apparent a day before the May 21 caucus. A message was left on an answering machine that said, "Ha, ha got your letter today. No way am I going to vote for a faggot." Obviously, the caller was one of the people who attended the caucus.

Another mystery caller placed phone calls to other caucus attendees urging them to endorse a Lesbian candidate that was not even running. The caller was NOT a member of the Gay/Lesbian community and had not even spoken with the person everyone was supposed to endorse. This created a shortage of votes for the actual Gay delegate contender and resulted in the failure of acquiring a delegate spot.

Even within the "Rainbow Coalition" Gays and Lesbians have not been accepted. The hours and hours of organizing, leafletting, calling and mailing were left unrewarded.

TURN TO JACKSON, PAGE 3

Women Must Redirect Energy and Establish Feminist Centered Culture

By Julie Kleppin

Women's music festivals are a celebration of women's culture, a place where Lesbian-feminist philosophy gets serious consideration. Sonia Johnson, better known as the woman excommunicated by the Mormon Church (some might call it "graduation"), was a featured speaker June 4th and 5th at the National Women's Music Festival in Indiana. During last year's festival, Johnson released her provocative first book, *Going Out of Our Minds*. In it, she candidly relates the progress of her personal philosophy through her hunger strike for the E.R.A., her candidacy for President, her becoming a Lesbian, and her experiences in different feminist groups.

Eager to hear of new developments, some 600 women came to Johnson's talks this year at Bloomington. Though her delivery is gentle and humorous, her message to today's feminists is blunt. Women must leave the patriarchal system. It's time to give up trying to change it or interact with it. Instead, "Women must be about their own 'business'", namely, establishing a feminist culture. "We have been trying to change the patriarchy for 5000 years without success. It is a system of violence, based on domination and

submission, where women are automatically considered inferior. Within the patriarchy, men own the law. They make it, interpret and enforce it — all to protect their system of privilege and they aren't going to give that up." Women must take themselves out of this system and use their

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First in a Series

Fifth District Congressional Candidates Profiled By LIGHT



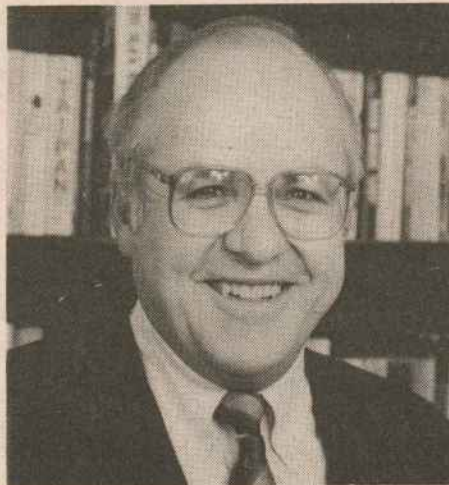
Charlie Dee

Charlie Dee is running for Congress from Wisconsin's 5th Congressional District which includes much of Milwaukee. And he is running hard.

It is a beautiful May morning, with sun streaming through plant-filled windows of his house in Milwaukee's River West sector. It is 10:00 but the candidate has been up since 5:00 and hurries into the room in short gusts, a large smile on his face as he welcomes his visitors. He is intense. That is the first impression. He has a look about him, an energy, that calls to mind the activists, the idealists, of the '60s who saw material possessions as only secondary to the quality of life.

Dee was born in St. Louis. He was one of eight children, as he describes it, a member of a family of high achievers. He took a Bachelors Degree in History and an

TURN TO DEE, PAGE 6



Fred Kessler

Fred Kessler is running for Congress from Milwaukee's 5th Congressional district. He is, as a recent edition of the *Congressional Quarterly*, called him, "among the early favorites" in the Democratic race. The seat he seeks, being vacated by Jim Moody who is running for the U.S. Senate, is not only the most German-ethnic urban district in America, but is Wisconsin's most Democratic district and is considered one of the safest Democratic seats in the nation. No Republican has been elected from the 5th district since 1952. In 1984 and 1986, the G.O.P. did not even think it worthwhile to field a candidate.

Kessler was born and raised in Milwaukee, in the 5th District whose representatives he seeks to be. He is the son of German immigrants with a long career of

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Archbishop Weakland Speaks Out on Pedophilia

By Sue Burke

Milwaukee Archbishop Rembert G. Weakland has been criticized by both the Milwaukee Common Council Task Force on Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence and by Milwaukee County Circuit Court Judge John F. Foley for his recent remarks about pedophilia and the clergy.

Weakland met June 8 at his office with a few of members of the task force to clarify his remarks that sometimes not all adolescent victims of sexual abuse are completely innocent.

Weakland made the statement in his May 26 column in the archdiocese's *Catholic Herald* newspaper.

"Sometimes not all adolescent victims are so 'innocent,' some can be sexually active and aggressive and often quite streetwise," he wrote. "Pastorally, such crimes are difficult to treat: we must not imply that the abuser is not guilty of serious crime, but we could easily give a false impression that any adolescent who becomes sexual involved with an older person does so without any degree of personal responsibility. But each case is different, we must remember."

The city's task force, in a letter requesting the meeting, said his statement "which, frankly, blames a victim for being assaulted, is ill considered and downright wrong. Members of this task force and others throughout Milwaukee have worked hard and long to overcome this misconception."

The letter said "statements of this nature coming from a person of your influence can only undo the good work of others and more importantly, may damage the credibility of teenage victims."

But except for that one sentence in Weakland's lengthy column, "the article is good," said Terry M. Perry, coordinator of the task force.

The article was also criticized in a letter to the *Catholic Herald* by Judge Foley. He wrote that Weakland was blaming some victims for assaults. He also wrote that the problem was homosexual assaults on teenage boys, not pedophilia.

Foley said priests were in a position of trust. "To cast any blame upon the child is an unfounded rationalization and nothing more than the same trite excuse that has from time immemorial been utilized by sex offenders to justify their illicit conduct," he wrote.

Perry, before the meeting with the task force, said, "Weakland has shown his leadership in addressing with compassion an important issue." She said the task force hoped for a private meeting so he and members of the task force could speak freely.

She said that Weakland had a history of great concern for people, and the task force did not want to "jump down his throat" or give fuel to his critics. "He should be congratulated for being so open and sensitive."

In his column, Weakland wrote that the issue of sexual abuse is not new, "and I am convinced there is no more among clergy than in any other profession or category in

our society."

Pedophilia was never taken lightly by the church, he wrote, but like society in general, the Catholic Church had little knowledge of how to deal with it.

Today, "psychological help is more readily available and has reached a much higher level of effectiveness both in dealing with the victim as well as with the abuser," he wrote. "It is most important that the church be equally concerned in a personal and pastoral way about the victim and family of the victim."

In Milwaukee, in cases of sexual abuse involving priests, Auxiliary Bishops Leo Brust and Richard Skiba are the first ones contacted, and they report the case to civil authorities.

Weakland said 90% of the cases he has dealt with involve postpubertal boys or girls. "In our training of priesthood candidates we must be conscious of the need to create the right conditions for healthy psychosexual development."

He said that in his 25 years as a major superior in the church, he has learned that in some cases the abuser was abused as a child, and sometimes victims are not so innocent. Each case is different, he said.

He warned that false accusations could ruin lives, and "in the fear our actions could be misunderstood, we could react too negatively toward any kind of show of affection toward children. If this results, then it could happen that children would be deprived of expressed physical affection, so necessary for their development, and we could end up with a whole new set of problems, just as dangerous, but built on fear and suppression and suspicion."

He said that while there is no cure for true clinical pedophilia, he hopes that abusers could be helped with supportive aid.

"Finally," he wrote, "I am convinced that we are far from understanding what constitutes sexual attraction and if or how it may be changed. Human sexuality remains one of God's most complex gifts; it is so intimately a part of who we are. I am sure it is also vital to our religious and prayer life."

"Slowly we will understand it better and be able to deal positively with those deviations that now cause so much suffering and prevent people from leading fully human lives."

Perry, the task force coordinator, said that through even some young people may be sexually active and even seek relationships with adults, "these young people are still kids." No one under age 16 is considered by law capable of giving consent to sex.

"The point is that the priest is an adult and has had a lot more education and training than a child. We would hope that all of us adults are able to make decisions as to what kind of behavior is appropriate and acceptable," Perry said.

Because priests have more power and influence than a child, Perry said, an assaulter "can manipulate even the most streetwise kid that this is a correct or even a proper activity."

Anti-Gay Violence Takes Dramatic Surge Over Last Year In U.S.

Anti-gay harassment and violence remained a widespread and critical problem in 1987, with incidents reported to the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) reaching a record high. Seven thousand and eight (7,008) incidents — ranging from harassment to homicide — were reported to NGLTF from across the United States, as compared to 4,946 incidents reported in 1986. Documented by 64 groups in 32 states and the District of Columbia, and by the National Gay/Lesbian Crisisline, the statistics gathered for last year account for only a very small fraction of the actual total.

While 42% more incidents were reported to NGLTF in 1987 than in 1986, it is unclear to what extent the rise reflects an increase in victimization or improved documentation of incidents to NGLTF last year observed that anti-gay violence occurred more frequently in 1987 than in 1986, and most indicated that fear and hatred associated with the AIDS epidemic continues to exacerbate the problem.

Social Context: Increased reports of anti-gay harassment and violence occur at a time of widespread attacks against members of the Arab, Asian, Black, Hispanic, Jewish and Native American communities. A report recently published by the Center for Democratic Renewal and the National Council of Churches — which cites thousands of racial, religious, and anti-gay episodes documented since 1980 — describes hate violence in America today as a "largely unrecognized cancer eating away our communities and social institutions." In addition, a 1987 Justice Department study of the criminal justice system's response to bias crime concluded

that "there is plenty of documentation to show that the problem (of hate violence) is widespread, and considerable evidence that it is increasing... Explanations for these changes include increased economic competition from minorities, visibility of Gay men, ethnic neighborhood transition, and a perceived decrease in government efforts to prevent discrimination in education, housing and employment."

Unfounded and longstanding notions that Gay people are sick, sinful, or predatory have fostered hostility that leads to anti-gay violence, and have slowed official recognition and response to the problem. Moreover, the failure of most leaders in religion, government and education to condemn anti-gay violence — and the prejudice that underlies it — has only allowed the problem to continue unabated.

Reported Incidents

In 1987, 7,008 incidents of anti-gay violence and victimization were documented by 64 organizations in 32 states and the District of Columbia, and by the National Gay/Lesbian Crisisline. Directed against persons (or their property) because they are Gay or Lesbian or perceived to be so, there incidents included verbal harassment, intimidation, assault, police abuse, vandalism, arson, bomb threats, and homicide. The reported violence was perpetrated by lone individuals, gangs, and organized hate groups — including neo-Nazi "Skinheads" and individuals with ties to the White Patriot Party. Anti-gay incidents occurred in a variety of settings — on the street, in school, on campus, in jail and prison, and even in the home.

Anti-Gay Episodes Reported in 1987

	Total number of incidents:	Percentage of total
Verbal harassment or threats of violence:*	5,463	78%
Physical assaults/objects thrown:	835	12%
Vandalism:	338	5%
Police verbal/physical abuse:	155	2%
Police harassment/negligence:**	62	1%
Bomb threats:	26	-
Arson/bombings:	4	-
Homicide:	64	1%
Other:***	61	1%
	7,008	100%

Incidents Not Counted:

This report does not document the extent of Lesbian and Gay suicide which, although self-inflicted, is frequently a response to the enormous stress of living in a society that teaches Gay and Lesbian people to hide and hate themselves. Likewise, it does not include thousands of often legally sanctioned acts of anti-gay discrimination in employment, housing, public accommodations, child custody, immigration, foster

care, the military, and other areas.

* Includes verbal abuse, threatening notes, telephone harassment, menacing actions, etc.

** Includes police entrapment, unequal enforcement of the law, deliberate mishandling of cases, failure to take reports, etc.

*** Includes victims chased, followed or intimidated with weapons/objects, attempted arson, smoke bombs, etc.

To David, My Forever Friend...

David's in heaven now, called by God... so soon to me. But he was ready and not afraid. He's at the strong hand of Jesus now, ready to rest his head gently against the Lord's hairy chest. Is he ever happy, singing in that strong baritone voice. This is not the San Francisco opera chorus he's singing for now. This is the ultimate choir. Maybe he is even able to write those heavenly cantatas. Perhaps he's waiting in the wings to take the baton and conduct the choir.

Be patient my forever friend, your time will come. We never did get to finish "Eliza and the Flower Fairies". Your charming nine-year-old daughter probably remembers her bedtime story by heart and will help to write the remainder so your buddy can illustrate it and send the completed story to the printer.

You loved so freely and gave so much. If only everyone knew how much you gave, how much you cared; everything was to US. Mom and Pop love you so much, Beth loves you, too.. and you know how I feel.

It was so brief, but oh, so pure; so complete. When you wrapped those long arms around me and we slept the night in "spoons", I felt as if I were in heaven, nestled softly in your blanket of

fur. How could it be so beautiful, so thorough and so terribly brief.

And now you're singing in that massive choir, preaching God's endless love to all who will listen, gently tailoring the flowing robes of Jesus Christ and patiently waiting for your daddy. Time has no bounds in heaven so our separation will seem but brief to you as you watch me do my drawings and paintings for your "Eliza."

The yard and house will be bountiful with flowers and herbs as we had planned. I'll complete that trellis for the yellow and red rose bush so the flowers can intertwine.

I miss you so and love you so completely. May God hold and caress you ever so gently. May he watch over us here on earth that were so fortunate to know you for those few brief years. May we continue to carry out and fulfill your dreams for a growing church where those who feel rejected can be assured that each one of us is loved and important in the eyes of the Lord.

We'll all get together and lay down to rest in that celestial field of clover. Don't forget to wink when we meet in heaven. Thank you my friend, for giving me the most wonderful two years in my life.

All my love forever.

—Vic

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The Wisconsin Light



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THE WISCONSIN LIGHT is published monthly by NOVO GRAPHICS, LTD., with offices at 1843 N. Palmer, Milwaukee, WI 53212. Advertising and copy deadline is the first Friday of the month. Opinions expressed by writers in WISCONSIN LIGHT are not necessarily those of the publisher, editor, or our advertisers. Any reference made to any individual or organization should not be construed as an indication of the same's sexual or affectional orientation or preference. All copy, text design, photos, and illustrations in advertisements are published with the understanding that the advertiser is fully authorized and has secured proper written consent for the use of names, pictures, or testimonials of any living person, and WISCONSIN LIGHT may lawfully publish and cause such publication to be made; and the advertiser agrees by submitting said ads to indemnify and save blameless the publication of any error that may be contained in said ad. WISCONSIN LIGHT does not accept any responsibility for any claims made by advertisers. The entire contents of WISCONSIN LIGHT are protected under the Federal Copyright Act. Reproduction of any portion of any issue will not be permitted without express permission of NOVO GRAPHIC, LTD. Legal venue is Milwaukee County, Wisconsin. ©1988. Printed in the U.S.A.

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Office Hours:

Monday-Friday-9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
24-hour recording

SUBSCRIPTIONS

First-class subscription rate is \$25.00 for Twelve Issues.
Third-class subscription rate is \$15.00 for Twelve Issues.
Foreign subscription rates available upon request.



EDITORIAL

STONEWALL GIVES US STRENGTH

June 28 is the 19th anniversary of the Stonewall Riots. In the wee hours of that morning what Lucian Truscott, writing in New York's *Village Voice*, called "the forces of faggotry," fought back for the first time, against the police as they raided the Stonewall bar at 53 Christopher Street, just off Sheridan Square, on the lower west side of the Big Apple.

The cops expected an easy time of it. After all, how many times had they done it in other bars, in other places before? All you did was yell at the fags, kick them out and, as they meekly faded into the night, laugh up a storm. "Wern't des nuttin' but da same kinda queers an' fruits? Nigger and spic drag queens at that!?" And everyone, every "macho" cop, knew that "pretty boys" wouldn't fight, couldn't stand up against "real men!" Who could resist straight white males who, as many of them still do, judged their virtue, virility and right to power in society on the basis of being able to accomplish something at which a jackass is their infinite superior?

But the cops did not know nor would they probably have cared if they had, that on June 27, word had been received in the City that Judy Garland had died. So, when they blundered into the Stonewall that early morning, the queens' sorrow turned to white-hot anger and Gay Liberation was born.

It is good for us, who are Lesbian or Gay, to remember Stonewall and to remember how far we have come. There were no Gay Pride marches, no Gay civil Rights laws, few organizations and only a tiny handful of Lesbian or Gay publications, to mention only a few things. We have come a long way, but not nearly far enough.

We are still a despised minority — the last in this country that it is acceptable to persecute. Violence against us increases almost daily. In Philadelphia, a young Gay man is murdered by two straight males, this throat slashed to the spine. At the trial, one of the killers tells how the young man's blood sounded like "the burbling of a foundation" as he died. That young man, they said, begged for his life. Begged for his life! But, after all, "he was a fag." In Los Angeles, a Lesbian is raped by three straights. The cops are told, "It was to make a woman of her."

The *Milwaukee Journal* reports that in Atlanta, a doctor working for the Centers for Disease Control advocates more money for AIDS research. He says the epidemic is killing Gays off and "we don't want to lose them." Shortly, come the letters to the editor saying, in effect, "Let 'em die. They're no good anyway and God hates 'em" and all the rest of the nonsense that many believers and perverters of the dominant religious theory in this country have spewed out so often before and will do so again and again. When will they stop using their version of morality as an excuse for their own disgusting prejudices?

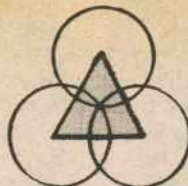
But why should we blame them? They get plenty of encouragement. In the recent Milwaukee mayoral campaign, one of the leading candidates, Martin Schreiber, told an audience that, not only had he never known any Gays, but he could not understand how two people of the same sex could have a moral relationship! Meanwhile, Senator Jesse Helms wants nothing that could encourage our existence, President Reagan seemingly doesn't care if we die while George Bush and Michael Dukakis have taken an attitude toward us that resembles vice in league with crime.

Bitter as one straight asked? Oh, yes. You bet! Bitter and sick up to here with the persecution, the patronization, the jokes, the jeers and the sly innuendos. Bitter the way anyone must be who is proud and demands to be free! That's, after all, the message of Stonewall, isn't it?

The message of Stonewall is to come out, come out every day, every way that you can. The only alternative to accepting and acting on that message, is to bow a little lower in the hope that "they" won't kick you too hard. But how far down do a proud people go? How many more must die? How many more of us must be beaten and raped? How long will we tolerate the sneers and oppression? How long will we put up with politicians who ignore us, degrade us and want us dead?

Stonewall's message is "Not one second longer."

Introspective



Another View

By John Michael Roberts

AIDS and Homosexuality are not the Same.

I hurt as I write this. I'm torn. I'm upset. Both positive and negative feelings churn within me. I know those feelings will always be there for the rest of my life — perhaps the rest of the lives of all who read this column — simply because of AIDS.

Being Gay has become synonymous with AIDS. Every publication we read is dominated by the disease. Desperately needed funds are siphoned off to a negative direction, while positive growth gains what crumbs are left. Intellectually, I know that the disease is of the utmost importance, yet I know the living are of like importance.

It's a catch 22 of the first magnitude. To everyone who is in the forefront of the AIDS battle, my heartfelt salute. Your work, alas, will increase manifold in the next five years. Already infected but undiagnosed cases will skyrocket — There is nothing we can do about that fact.

My dilemma is how we are approaching the future. For at least a decade AIDS will be an overriding concern. Now that we have started the education programs and acquainted our community, shouldn't education be turned over to the government? Wouldn't our resources best be spent on research?

Then there's the problem of what we should be doing for ourselves as a community in the meantime. Are we to sit around, be afraid of love and companionship waiting around for a breakthrough or are we to live normal and fulfilling lives, practice safely and prospering as a community.

I'm opting for the positive — We have come too far in Wisconsin to fold our tents. As I meet and greet my Gay and Lesbian friends, I find a group of people who have special talents, can discuss almost anything because they are informed and are very social people. I like that. In my

business I find that not to be true. I find narrow, frustrated and unhappy "straights" everywhere. They will do anything to get a single night out, then they party 100 mph. They might get out to bowl one night a week and get totally bombed. They follow a "pack mentality" during deer hunting season or opening of fishing. They create rituals to leave their normal, oh so normal, lives. When I take them out for dinner it's booze and broads until the wee hours again at 100 miles an hour.

The straight Yuppie and the Gays have developed a different bent towards life. However, yuppies cease to grow and develop at 30 max. Then married life, children, and yes, child support meld them into the masses.

Gays continue to have the opportunity to grow (not that we all take advantage of the opportunity). We are not so encumbered. Is it any wonder that the great theatrical achievements are dominated by Gay People? We have the affluence, the time, and life gives us the inclination to develop. Thus, where we don't have families the age-old principle of "where there is a void, nature fills it," holds true. We substitute achievement and broad interests for the confines of family. We push towards the horizon more often than not.

The rub comes in not translating our personal achievements into community achievements. We are weak and thus we rob ourselves of a better life. Working together and sharing our well-developed talents can bring about a fascinating future for us all.

Developing our own leadership and supporting that leadership with the goal of full acceptance within the larger community with full Civil Rights should be a community goal of the first order. Developing a feel for community is needed in Wisconsin. Once we intellectually realize that only in this way will we have the total strength to live a "real" life, not hiding

and not straddling both worlds, can we really be free persons.

This all requires an investment by our best people. For some it will be monetary, for others it will be assumption of leadership, for others it will be contributing to providing expertise to our organizations and for the artistic contributions towards our cultural environment so necessary to that emerging society.

Yes, I'm positive about the Gay experience. I acknowledge AIDS, I fear it, I ache for those whom it will take. Yet, I live in the world that I wish were more tolerant, would accept me for what I am and pray that I will see, along with you, a better, more livable, tomorrow.

I've made a commitment personally and financially to this community to help enhance its future. I invite your sharing of your time, talent, and/or funds depending on your circumstances.

You and I will be better off because of that commitment. We can change all things by getting involved.

LETTERS

To the Editor:

As Guy Hoffmann's article on the Ten Percent Society at UWM ended with dire warnings of "self-serving" individuals "who would destroy us from within," and as mine was the only name mentioned in the story, I felt compelled to reply.

My previous editorial chiding the Ten Percent Society for dropping "Gay and Lesbian" from its title was written to critique the political implications of the group's name change, not to attack its overall purpose or activities. I made this very clear. I attend the Ten Percent Society's events when I can and was, in fact, an officer and member of its precursor, the Gay Community at UWM, in 1977-79. As one of the most active Lesbian/Gay groups in Milwaukee, the Ten Percent Society hardly needs to defend its record. I regret that my opinion was misconstrued and obviously caused hurt feelings.

As for those "self-serving" individuals with "private" agendas, I can only say my fourteen years of organization building and consistently public pronouncements (to some people's dismay!) speak for themselves.

Finally, Guy ended by proclaiming: "In today's society, 'silence equals death.'" I'm somewhat baffled because that is precisely why I questioned the wisdom of changing the name of the Gay and Lesbian Community to the Ten Percent Society! What have the past twenty years of struggle been for if not to proudly and comfortably say who we are?

—Jamakaya
Milwaukee, WI

Jackson

Continued from Page 1

We've been had. We've been cheated. We've been left holding an empty bag. In the past blacks have been told to sit in the back of the bus. In this case, Gays and Lesbians weren't even allowed to get on.

Let us remember the actions of those who denied us representation. While some people say they support the Gay/Lesbian community and its issues, it is quite clear that their actions work against us.

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If you would like to voice an opinion regarding this issue, please share it with Polly Williams, Jackson Campaign State Chairperson, (414) 374-7474.

• • •

Follow-Up

In a follow-up to Ms. Cook's article, *Light* contacted the national Jackson campaign headquarters in Washington, D.C. A person there who refused to give her name said that "no one here is prepared to speak to you." The voice seemed harsh, and the tone, demeaning.

A call to the Jackson press headquarters in Chicago brought a laugh from a spokesperson there. When informed of the article that would be running in *Light* about the delegate selection process, it was shrugged off as unimportant and not worthy of comment. As to the work of the Wisconsin Lesbian/Gay community in the Jackson primary campaign and the promise of a delegate, it was all dismissed as a "minor squabble."

A Letter From Karen Lamb

"Summertime, and the livin' is easy... fish got to swim and birds got to fly." Oh, my goodness, this respite is heaven. Regardless of an acute need for rest, my mind floats over the miles to you, and... I wish you were here.

Each day begins before dawn. First, quiet, occasional night noises, then the birds begin to awaken. Coming down to the lake for a drink, I suppose. Beautiful. I slip down to my favorite fishing hole, and sip coffee as the world begins to wake.

The early morning sun on my back gradually fades into intense heat. Hot. Steamy. Afternoons, I seek shelter under over-hanging greenery from where I can continue to tangle my fishing lines, yet am privileged to observe Mother Nature in her full glory.

Spring has come. Never have I seen so many babies. Baby turtles. A lone baby mocking bird with his mother whose repertoire thrills. Looks like the nest is made of Australian pine, a tree some folks call dirty. Dirty? Outrageous. Even in Shangri La the human destruction of our precious environment is evident.

First, five fuzzy black balls. Mother and father feed them, between times swimming over to see what I am doing. No, I don't want your babies. A quick reference to the "bird-book" tells me I am wrong. These are not my lovely coots, but gallinules... can walk on lilly pads the book says. Isn't that fascinating? Later, the family ventures into the water, always staying close to bushes on the banks.

The Muscovite gander keeps a sharp eye on the ladies. Periodically he grabs one of them and.. what on Earth! He's dunking her head below water! I keep waiting for the sisters to gang up on him and give him a little of the same treatment. (There's a feminist lesson here somewhere... I just have to find it!)

Too hot. Fish not biting. Water full of tiny Shellcrackers, bass. Only that lazy ol' cat wants to take the hook. Too hard to clean. Put him back and ponder what will happen if it's hamburger-helper again.

Down the bank a piece, a young man, so incredibly thin, dressed in a woolen sweat suit. We smile at each other... and just keep on watching.

The turtles. So mischievous! Keep an eye on the bobber, otherwise a turtle head with a wide-open mouth will just take a taste. Such fun!

Some times I talk with Billy, who in his soft gheeche dialect keeps me abreast of the happenin's. Folks 'fraid to eat the fish in Belle Glade. Am I sure they are o.k.? Yes.

A long day in the Everglades. Raccoons, egrets, great white herons, kites, hammocks, wet prairie, mosquitoes. Two bald eagles. (We must be doing something right.) Ospreys, brown pelicans who wait expectantly for a fish. Go 'way, lazy bird, I'm having enough trouble. A dolophine family rounds up a school of mullet, and mom and baby feast, turning the water frothy white in a frenzy of pleasure.

I lie on my back and study the clouds. I think about Milwaukee, our city, and wonder how we're going to make it through.

Our home for PWA's is almost finished. I grin with pleasure over reports that people in the city have responded so



Dr. Karen Lamb

generously that the house is almost entirely furnished, and that when the guys and gals went over to clean the house even they became excited. See? I told you it was beautiful!

I think of the need for more homes. A story in the Wall Street Journal (yep, it too makes it into Shangri La) tells of all the babies without homes in the east, of all the babies in hospitals with no folks, of hospitals over-loaded, under-staffed, and bureaucratic entanglements. I think about how we are all little children when it comes to sickness and how much we all need loved ones with us. I can't wait to go home.

The papers report that the Surgeon General will mail AIDS information to every home in America. Now, let me see. 1981, 1982, 1983, 1984, 1985, 1986, 1987, 1988. Thanks. And Reagan's commission made 600 recommendations. What's this? Acknowledged that discrimination was a problem with controlling the epidemic? The report "came one day after the National Academy of Sciences and Institute of Medicine made a similar plea." Billy asks in that same gheeche: "What did they do? Stay up all night copyin'?"

There are only three little gallinules now, snakes probably got the other two. But these three have grown into fine young teenagers, ready to make their own way in the world. And one of our sister geese this morning presented four fluffy babies to the world. When I told Billy that another name for the gallinule is a Moor hen, he asked if we could eat it. I'm still laughing and dog-gone near as hungry myself. Dark now. This eel on my line makes me think of snakes and crocs and other critters that have their place... on the other side of my fishing hole, please.

Yes, it is time to go home. In this battle, we all must have a break. I feel good, rested and happy, and only want to take you fishing. My mind wonders if our local AIDS project couldn't arrange a trip for us. Leave early in the morning. Rent a boat. Five dollars if you row it yourself (twenty-five with a motor, so what if we splurge!) Under the bridges, some so low you'll have to lie down in the boat to get under, through the beautiful Wisconsin channels, water lillies. Perhaps we can find a gallinule or similar bird that walks on top of lilly pads.

Miss you. Love and Kisses.
—Karen

Jerry Johnson

Local Hospital Plays Out Grotesque Comic Scenes for AIDS Patient

By Alyn W. Hess

Here are some grotesque comic scenes I played in at the "all the world's a stage" hospital. With my acting ability that's about as far as I'll get acting.

I had made sure that a special note was made on my records which indicated that I am a hepatitis carrier and HIV+. That way, if I were to forget, or be unconscious, staff would be alerted.

I had a catheter inserted to drain the bladder when there was an infection in the prostate. It had been inserted at the Emergency Room and then taken out. Over a month later it was reinserted and taken out at the out-patient clinic, three more times. A total of over 8 nursing teams worked on me. Most put on gloves but some did not, even if they were about to draw a blood sample. I stopped them and reminded them to put on gloves.

There were two comedy nursing teams for whom the world is not a stage and whom we hope they do not take their acts on tour. They came into the little examination room and proceeded to put on gowns over their hospital baggies and tunics, then put on two sets of plastic gloves. That made tying on their face masks somewhat of a blind fumble. Over-sized, plastic, wrap-around goggles were the final extravagance! It was so hilarious I could not keep a straight face (if I had one). I joked with them about their appearance and how funny they looked. Were they going to the Mardi Gras? Or readying for a date with a Martian? Was it getting chilly in the room? Did they have something they were afraid I might catch?

I hoped that they would get my message, that I had received their message of homophobia and AIDSphobia.

All they were going to do was remove the catheter and a small bag into which it drained which I had thoughtfully emptied, for them while waiting to be called in. A virtually empty plastic bag with a little urine in it is not likely to burst all over them nor an empty bladder erupt geiser-like.

As chance would have it I got the second comedy team a second time to again remove the catheter and bag. They did their elaborate comedy dress up act again right there in the room with me. Either they did not get my comic message that they were taking comic extremes of protection, or they were expressing full blown AIDS-homophobia. I questioned did they really think they were in such grave danger that all those precautions were necessary? Had they not yet been vaccinated for hepatitis? No answers.

I explained I was not about to have an

orgasm which could splatter them with semen right after the catheter was removed. I expected its removal would make me feel better, but not that much better!

Each person has the right to protect himself as they see fit. But does it not indicate some measure of change? And some measure of unchanging?

My openly gay friend Louis was diagnosed as having epithelial (on the surface) cancer of a lymph node in his neck. When the HIV blood results came back a week later from the state laboratories as negative, he and his friends and his doctor were all somewhat relieved.

He was then referred to a cancer treatment specialist at the same hospital I had been playing my scenes. The specialist's response that a public gay had a negative test was to doubt the test's validity and to order a second test to be run! Even though that test too was negative, the specialist ordered his staff to use rubber gloves while giving Louis radiation treatments not involving any body fluids. So sure was he of his hidden diagnosis of AIDS that a gay man could not have just cancer. Bad enough. But the confirmed cancer was given two more weeks to grow before treatment was started!

This raises some questions now. Will gay men ever be allowed to die from anything other than AIDS? Even now some, both within and out of the Gay/Lesbian community, believe that all Gay men will eventually die from AIDS. And there are some for whom that would be an answer to their prayers. Is any known Gay man who is not well automatically suffering from AIDS? Here's some of what I've heard:

"People don't die from TB any more. It was more likely AIDS."

"He committed suicide after he found out his AIDS test was positive."

"Well they told the family it was pneumonia and they put it on the obituary that way too to put a straighter face on his death. But it was probably AIDS. Why the way that girl had whored around 'she' had to have had it."

"That wasn't emphysema, it was AIDS." You can fill in other diseases. You too have heard some comments like these. Each one is one more indication of some measure of change.

Write for Light!
Call 372-2773

Cream City Foundation Adapts Ambitious New & Expanded Program

Milwaukee's Cream City Foundation's (CCF) annual meeting centered on new initiatives for the community for the balance of 1988, rather than just a review of its past year which is the custom in most businesses and non-profit annual meetings.

Some of the initiatives will be: 1) Opening and developing the Foundation Community Center to accommodate more and larger groups (6800 sq. ft. are available, with 3 possible meeting rooms and desk space for small businesses and community organizations).

2) Adaption of AD2000 — a program to, A) set goals for the community based on input from leading individuals and organizations, and B) Backing up that planning with funds through CCF's Community Grants Program.

3) New ways and means to raise the (approximately) \$15,000 needed to be able to meet CCF's commitments towards "Building Community".

4) Wider dissemination of the highly acclaimed "Tri-Cable Tonight" TV show on Milwaukee Channel 14.

5) Vigorous recruitment of volunteers to man the upgraded program.

6) Expansion of CCF's Board from 10 to 15 members to recruit specially skilled persons in areas much in need of leadership.

7) Working to make the former Calandring sessions into true community forums to implement AD2000 and have a constant medium for the exchange of ideas to carry this community forward.

Current President Don Schwamb was elected to a fourth term. CCF welcomed Chuck Brotz as newly elected Vice-President, and Ron Peierl as Treasurer and Warren Breitlow as Secretary.

The meeting closed with a challenge from the President to continue to push, with all possible effort, to meet the goals the Board had set for itself for the next six months.

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POLITICALLY SPEAKING

State Races Heat-Up As Elections Near

By Bill Meunier

The Democratic Congressional race in Wisconsin's 5th District continues to heat up. Many who are involved are getting very upset with candidate Charlie Dee.

Dee, an instructor at the Milwaukee Area Technical College (MATC), has leveled personal attacks at some of the other candidates. He accused Charles Sykes of a conflict of interest because he appeared in commercials sponsored by the Social Development Commission after Sykes had announced his candidacy. In his attack, Dee did not mention that, when he (Dee) announced his candidacy, his listed his MATC officer number and address on his announcement.

Dee has also been attacking candidate Fred Kessler claiming that when Kessler ran for judge against Christ Seraphim, Kessler promised not to run for any office except for judge. What Kessler really said was that the 5th District Congressional seat was the only other office he would be interested in.

Some are concerned that Dee's incessant attacks, while not helping him (he's given little chance to win), will only serve to detract from the real issues of the campaign and tarnish the reputations of a very fine group of candidates.

The Wisconsin Democratic Senate primary contest took a surprising turn when Milwaukee Bucks owner Herb Kohl entered the race. While stating that he did not want to be seen only as the guy who brought the Bucks, Kohl refused to state any positions on the issues, claiming that it was too early. Kohl's candidacy will hurt Milwaukee Congressman Jim Moody who is also running for the Senate. Kohl's popularity in the Ceam City will undercut Moody in his home base.

Former Wisconsin Governor and current Senatorial candidate, Tony Earl continues to hold the lead in the early polls. Earl is very popular among Democratic loyalists, but many worry that nominating Earl in September will spell defeat in November. Earl has a very high disapproval rating among voters as a whole.

Kudos to Congressman Jim Moody for caring enough to take time out of his busy schedule to come to the AIDS Memorial Service on Memorial Day.

In the Presidential race, it appears as though Mike Dukakis will win the Democratic nod. Dukakis recently met with Gay/Lesbian leaders in California, promising them that Gays and Lesbians will be "very important in everything we do." Lesbians and Gays for Jackson, however, are not throwing in the towel. Said one, "We want Jesse's voice heard. We want his platform adopted and we want Jesse on the ticket and we're preparing to fight to achieve those ends." It appears as though Dukakis has recognized the power and potential of the Gay/Lesbian vote.

Dukakis has jumped out to a good lead over Republican George Bush in the national polls. That bodes well for the Massachusetts Governor should he be nominated in July. When the candidate of the party in power finds himself behind this far in advance of the election, he's in big trouble.

Quote of the Month: "A Gay or a Lesbian Republican is the lowest form of life in our community. With hundreds of thousands of us dieing, with a complete reversal of all the process we had made at the Federal level, I can't believe anyone would even think of voting Republican. It just shows you how stupid some of us are."

The Case For Block Voting

By Bill Meunier

It has become quite fashionable in some Gay/Lesbian circles to either a) not vote, or b) vote on issues other than Gay/Lesbian concerns. It seems that some of us have such low self-esteem that we willingly put the interests of others ahead of our own. In so doing, we seriously damage the efforts of our leadership to show Gays and Lesbians as a potent political force.

It is true that when we have a clear choice between a supportive candidate and one who is not supportive, the overwhelming majority of us do vote for the one wearing the white hat (as seen in the 1986 Governor's race and the 1988 Milwaukee mayoral race). But those types of races are becoming fewer and fewer. Most candidates have gotten the message by now. Very few are going to be as foolish as Martin Schreiber was in alienating us. They will pay lip service to us, tell us how they will vote for this or support that and then try to get us to vote for them on the basis of other issues.

What we all need to understand is that even when 6 or 7 candidates are all telling us they will vote for our legislation, there are differences between them on our issues. We need to look at where we fit in on their list of priorities.

Until our politicians get the message that we want more than co-sponsoring deals which are never voted on, more than invitations to fundraisers more than mouthing of platitudes about how terrible AIDS is, more than a superficial appeal for our vote which is almost always followed by dead silence until the next election, we will never get anywhere.

One need only to look at the Jewish vote to see how potent block voting can be. Jews in this country have a legitimate concern for the survival of Israel. They have learned how to differentiate between candidates who give lip service and those who really support religious liberty and Israel's survival. They put their votes, their

time and their money where their hearts are and they have a big impact. In the recent New York primary, Dukakis, Albert Gore and Jackson spent every other minute telling everyone how much they supported Israel. The sad part is that Gays and Lesbians heavily outnumbered Jews in New York and didn't get nearly as much attention.

If America's Gays and Lesbians had the kind of high turnout at the polls that America's Jews can boast of, if we voted our interests as they do, perhaps there wouldn't be an AIDS crisis. Perhaps our political leaders, in fear of their careers, would have responded much more quickly to the disaster than they have.

I guess the difference between us is that the Jewish people underwent a terrible holocaust. They know that it pays to take time to vote for the candidate who will best represent their interests. We Gays and Lesbians shared with the Jews the horrors of the Nazi holocaust and now are undergoing another. I just hope that millions of us don't have to die before we realize what we have to do about it.



Congressional Lobbying Oct. 6-7 Set

The National Gay & Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) has announced plans to organize two days of Congressional lobbying in support of Gay and Lesbian rights to take place during October 6-7, 1988. The National Lobby Days for Lesbian and Gay Rights will mark the third time Gay rights supporters have lobbied Congress en masse. During last year's March on Washington, NGLTF and Mobilization Against AIDS organized two days of constituent lobbying in which over 900 people participated.

"In 1988, we are coming back to Washington to demand legislative change," said NGLTF Lobbyist Peri Jude Radevic. Added Jeffery Levi, NGLTF

Executive Director, "The Lobby Days must become an annual tradition."

The National Lobby Days will have a twofold focus. First, constituents will press legislators to enact bills in the final days of the 100th Congressional session. Secondly, activists will evaluate the performance of their elected Representatives with the presentation of Report Cards. NGLTF has begun preparation of the Report Cards which will detail members' voting records on key issues of concern to the Gay/Lesbian community.

An information packet to prepare for the October 1988 Lobby Days is available upon request from NGLTF, 1517 U Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20009, (202) 332-6483.

Republicans Hear Gays At Hearing

Kansas City, Mo, May 31... In a history-making appearance, the Human Rights Campaign Fund — the largest Gay political action committee in the U.S. — testified for Lesbian and Gay civil rights and responsible AIDS policy at the Republican Party platform hearings here today.

A national Gay civil rights and AIDS organization has never before testified at a Republican platform hearing. John Thomas, Human Rights Campaign Fund board member and leading Republican Gay activist from Dallas, Texas, represented the nation's approximately 20 million Gay men and Lesbians at the hearing.

At the testimony, Thomas called on the Republican Party to:

- Support Gay and Lesbian anti-discrimination legislation and reject anti-Gay bigotry;
- Keep AIDS at the forefront of campaign issues;
- Help eliminate anti-Gay exclusionary policies in immigration and the armed services;
- Push for legal recognition of Gay domestic partnerships.

"Our political agenda is not a partisan agenda, it is not a liberal agenda, it is not a conservative agenda," Thomas told the Republicans. "It is an agenda grounded in the Bill of Rights, the Constitution and in many of the laws and traditions of our democracy."

Bills In Congress of Interest to Gays

Immigration: To, among other things, repeal the law which bars Gays from immigrating to the U.S.

H.R. 1119. Barney Frank (D-Mass.). Vote expected in middle June. S. 28 Daniel Moyhihan (D-NY). Awaits action in Senate Judiciary Committee's Subcommittee on Immigration and Refugee Affairs.

Hate Crime Statistics: To collect data on number of crimes motivated by hatred of minority groups, including Gays.

H.R. 3193. John Conyers (D-Mich.). Passed House by vote of 383-29 on May 18, 1988; amendment to exclude crimes against Gays was defeated by vote of 384-30. S. 2000 Alan Cranston (D-Calif.). Awaits action in Senate Judiciary Committee.

Fair Housing: To create penalties for

discrimination in the rental or sale of housing because of handicap.

H.R. 1158 Don Edwards (D-Calif.). Passed House Judiciary Committee by vote of 26-9. Twice defeated Dannemeyer amendments to exclude people with AIDS. Expect floor vote and attempt to omit people with AIDS in middle June. S. 558 Edward Kennedy (D-Mass.). Awaits vote in Senate Judiciary Committee.

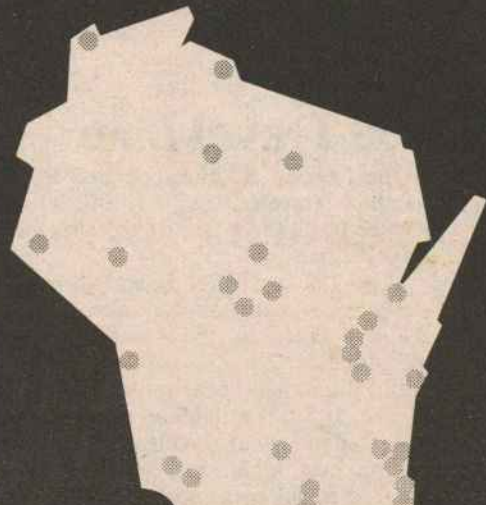
AIDS Research/Services: To direct federal funds to escalate research and services for people with AIDS.

H.R. 3825 Henry Waxman (D-Calif.). Remains in House Subcommittee on Health and Environment. S. 1220 Edward Kennedy (D-Mass.). Passed Senate by vote of 87-4, April 27, 1988 with amendments including one to censor education (71-18).

AIDS

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Wisconsin Department of Health and Social Services, Division of Health

A BOY OF SUMMER

HETEROSEXUALS

By Morgan Summer

I WILL BE graduating from high school soon. It has been the longest school year of my life, and I am very relieved that it is almost over.

The key word is "almost."

I think that high school creates a feeling of wanting to "get out," to graduate. The teen years are hard for most everybody, and going through it with one thousand other kids is not easy. It seems that to be popular, you have to be good at sports or wear a denim jacket and smoke Marlboro cigarettes and drink whiskey. Oh, and have a girl friend.

If you are smart, you may be tolerated. Your books will be dumped, and you might get harassed in the lunch room and gym class, but you're no serious threat, so you can get by; unfortunately, America is the only country where education is taken for granted, and even scorned, compared to football, basketball, and Jack Daniels.

But, I'm not here to be a mini-Alan Bloom. I'm here as a Gay teenager, and one that is leaving high school.

As a Gay teenager, and because of my being Gay, I've attended two high schools. For three years and ten weeks, I went to my pristine, lily-white, uptight and outcast suburban school. At the beginning of my senior year, I made it known that I was Gay. For example, if anyone asked, "Are you Gay?" I would say, "yes."

Over a period of nine weeks, I was harassed and verbally insulted more than I had ever been in my lifetime; it was as if I was personally responsible for all their problems. Let me say that this was in no way the fault of the administration; they did what they could, but the students were not really under control. There were some gleaming exceptions, but generally, the student body that I had known for years turned into a group of vicious, snarling bastards and bitches.

So ten weeks later, thanks to what had to have been some incredible string-pulling by the administration, I transferred to a Milwaukee high school. It was odd not being called "faggot" in the halls. It was odd not flinching every time I passed an athlete, in fear of getting smashed across the face. And it was a relief.

I caught on to the ins and outs of my "new" high school soon, and gradually became immersed in school life. I did not tell anyone I was Gay.

So I survived. A few times I wore a pink triangle pin to classes, pinned to my Levi's, or dropped some light innuendo, but I mostly kept my mouth shut.

I found out at a Gay Youth Milwaukee meeting that a kid I knew at my Milwaukee high school was Gay, so that was a good thing to know.

Then I found out that a kid I knew at my suburban high school was Gay. He filled me in on what had happened since I had left, and one of the more interesting things was that a fellow I was not on the best of terms with had found out that I wrote a column for a Gay newspaper in the Milwaukee area. He recognized me from my picture, he claimed... but I don't know



Morgan Summer

why he picked up a Gay newspaper in the first place, if he was as rabidly heterosexual as he claimed to be.

Anyway, during this kid's lunch hour — let's call him Saul, for clarity — he Xeroxed fifty copies of my second column, in which I told you about my longing for a friend I had at my Milwaukee school. He then distributed them, according to my Gay friend. Just to make sure that all the students knew how well I could write, I'm sure.

That started a new wave of hate against me. You see, even though I had changed schools, I still lived in the suburb. To this day, teenagers pass me in the street in their cars and yell names at me. It doesn't happen often, but enough to keep my anger and persistence alive. As for Saul, well, he's not going to change. And he gives his breed and those like him a bad, bad name.

SO I TRANSFERRED high schools and met Todd, Rob, Tracy, Craig, Greg, Mark, Matt, Cynthia, Sam, Dave, Dan, Amy, Brian, Bill, and Kevin. So I transferred schools and left behind Tracy, Craig, Greg, Mark, Matt, Anthony, Paul, and Dave. For better or for worse.

I have also read a lot about Gay history and Gay culture, and I am ready to talk intelligently with those who are prejudiced. And win. I know the arguments, and I know how to win them.

In the future, I imagine I'll look back on these years as probably the worst in my life. But now they're almost over, and a new future for me is dawning. College. I have decided to be open about my Gayness for the rest of my life. That includes college, and I am anxious to get started.

These last four years were the worst; I am told, and believe, that the next four will be the best. I'll tell you about them often, through these columns.

As for high school, it's almost done; I have a few things to finish, then I can rest. I am not sentimental, nor will I miss it. I am glad to be leaving, and glad to be free.

SO BETWEEN NOW and college, I will enjoy. I will meet new friends, and do new things. I will eat pizza, bar-b-que'd hamburgers, potato chips and Pepsi. I will wear shorts, look at boys, and see what develops. Now I am happy, for a simple reason.

Summer's coming.

New 800 Travel Line

The Lambda Hotline, operated by The Lambda Traveler, Ltd., is officially in service for toll-free use by the nationwide Gay/Lesbian public.

The Lambda Hotline is an 800 number designed to help the Gay/Lesbian community plan their travel with ease and affordability. Operators can help the caller with information about most destinations in the U.S. The hotline service offers information about hotels, guesthouses, resorts, bars, nightclubs, tours, car rentals and the travel agent nearest the caller to help them with their special accommodations.

The Lambda Hotline Network is sponsored by community businesses around the U.S. that have a special interest in accommodating the Gay/Lesbian lifestyle.

The Lambda Traveler, Ltd. is a travel consulting company dedicated to the Gay/Lesbian community. It publishes a bi-monthly travel newsletter, **The Lambda Travel Club**, and runs the Lambda Hotline.

The Lambda Traveler's business hours are 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Monday through Friday and 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Saturdays (Eastern Standard Time). The Toll-free number is 1-800-874-7429.

Dee

Continued from Page 1

M.A. in American Studies before he went to live in San Francisco. He came to Milwaukee in 1975 and has lived here ever since, teaching English and History at the Milwaukee Area Technical College, a profession he "loves."

First impressions are often correct and this time is no exception. Charlie Dee is an activist, a description which he accepts rather than that of "professional politician" for which he has an aversion similar to that of James Madison or Thomas Jefferson. He has been a board member of Jobs With Peace, an officer of American Federation of Teachers Local 212 in addition to being a part of numerous other groups.

Now he is running for Congress. Why? The answer comes quickly and firmly. "Moody (Congressman Jim Moody current holder of the 5th Congressional seat and a candidate for the U.S. Senate) is not perfect, but", Dee adds with conviction, "he is the best Congressman. None of the other candidates (now running) is as good as Moody." Dee leans forward in his rocking chair. "I did not plot a political career. I'm not trying to build a (political) career. If there were someone running who would do as good a job as I (believe I can) I would not be running and an activist can do what a politician can not. And," he adds strongly, "I'm tired of professional politicians and I think a political leader should be a leader in other fields. I've done that in education."

As far as Gays/Lesbians are concerned, he has, he says, supported Gay/Lesbian issues for a "long time." "I had a Gay roommate. I worked to mediate between Gay/Lesbian and Latino groups in San Francisco." He smiles thoughtfully and says, "That was tough but I got them to cooperate." He has had a Sunday talk show on Milwaukee radio station WKTI and regularly discussed Gay/Lesbian issues and, he points out, he was the only Congressional candidate at Milwaukee's "Make A Promise" dinner. So, he considers himself quite familiar with the Gay/Lesbian community.

If elected, he would, he says, work closely with Lesbian and Gay organizations, be an "open advocate of Gay issues" such as the Gay/Lesbian Civil Rights Bill (HR 709). "We need that," he says. He would also "openly advocate" a presidential order banning discrimination against Lesbians and Gays. He would have no trouble appointing qualified Gay or Lesbian people to his staff. He adds that he has "a number" of Gays and Lesbians on his campaign staff now. He applauds Lesbian and Gay organization for "the victories" that have been won. For example, the defeat of Bork was a "major victory" as was the public health pamphlet now being mailed to every household in the U.S. "Your community owes a debt of gratitude to Gay activists," and he would like to cooperate with them for further victories.

As regarding AIDS, "of course" he would push for more money for research and education. "We need much more (educational promotion) in the mass media and among "all high risk groups." Then he says, "If it would help, I would have an AIDS test taken at a press conference."

Dee admits that in this election, he is the "underdog." He lacks name recognition and money, but, he says, "I can go against money. I've done it all my life." Other factors lead him to be optimistic about his chances. One is the recent election of youthful leaders such as John Norquist and Dave Schulz both of whom he praises highly and would work closely with to help "define the direction Milwaukee is going."

He believes the voters are ready for "youth and energy." He believes they are tired of the "reactionary agenda" of Wisconsin Governor Thompson. He believes the electorate is tired of "wishy-washy Democrats" who will not take a stand on unpopular issues. "That's the reason Republicans win," he says. "Because Democrats have spent the last 12 years with the idea that moving to the center and looking like Republicans is the way to win elections."

It is the "gutless Democrats," he says, who have helped give the country massive military budgets at the expense of social programs. Cutting military spending, he says, "is the centerpiece of progress." He proposed a cut of 10% a year for five years. This would not "endanger one iota" of our national defense because "13% of the Pentagon's budget" goes for national defense. "The rest goes for offensive planning and intervention in the Third World."

Kessler

Continued from Page 1

public service. He was elected to the Wisconsin State Assembly in 1960 and served for five terms. In 1972, the Governor appointed him to the bench as a Milwaukee County Judge, a position for which he won a six-year term in 1973 and was re-elected in 1979. After an unsuccessful bid for Moody's seat in 1982 (Kessler came in against the popular Congressman a close second), he challenged Christ Seraphim, considered then to be one of Wisconsin's most powerful and popular jurists. Kessler won. Today, Kessler is the only candidate running from the 5th District to have held elective office.

Sitting in *Light's* offices, Fred Kessler, looking very much like U.S. Chief Justice Rhenquist, comes across as a man of open and friendly manner with the ability to put anyone at ease. One senses a quiet confidence about him, someone whose competence and abilities sit easily on his shoulders and gives his listener, whoever that might be, feelings of comfort and respect.

Kessler is no stranger to the Gay/Lesbian community for, as he says, "I have been on the cutting edge of all minority issues," and hence, has done much to help us, as well as others, in our fight against discrimination. He would have no problem with having openly Gay and/or Lesbian staffers. He has no difficulty with same-sex marriages — an issue that the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force has defined as one of the key issues that will confront our community in the '90s.

If elected, Kessler assumes that his background and experience would place him on the House Judiciary Committee. In which case, he says, "I would be the prime force" behind the passage of a national Gay/Lesbian Civil Rights law.

In other matters of concern to the Lesbian/Gay community, "I would take my direction from the Gay/Lesbian community." However, from his long experience in working with the community, he defines several matters that he believes are "very important issues." One is in the area of AIDS which he advocates more money for research and education. Another is in the general area of discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation which he thinks must be ended. A third is in the realm of discrimination in the military. "This is terrible and something must be done." Finally, when it comes to immigration policy, Kessler believes that people should not be denied entrance to the United States because they are Lesbian or Gay.

Beyond issues of importance to Lesbians and Gays, Kessler believes that the matter of greatest significance to the 5th District as well as the state and region is that of economic development. "The single most important thing that Congress can do is to secure jobs."

To increase employment, Kessler would focus on Milwaukee's Mitchell Field airport. He points out that Chicago's two airports are overbuilt. A third is needed. Thus, Kessler would seek to make Mitchell Field so attractive that there would be no need for a third Chicago air terminal. To do this, he would develop surface transportation from Milwaukee to Chicago, put in another runway at Mitchell Field and work to secure Milwaukee as "more of a hub city." In his opinion, not only will this create a great number of jobs but will make Milwaukee more attractive as a corporate headquarters.

As he talks Kessler gives the impression of being, not only a student of public affairs with a strong sympathy for the Gay/Lesbian community, but a legislative craftsman and a political tactician as the *Milwaukee Journal* called him in 1982. He also comes across as a man of high principle, something very much of an idealist with, however, a pragmatic bent.

Why does he want to be a Congressman? In answer, he remembers back to the time when he was 15 and a Congressional pageboy. He remembers thinking that, one day, he would take his seat in Congress, walking in the footsteps of the great legislators who have felt it the highest honor of their lives to sit in the Congress of the United States. Kessler says, "I've been state legislator. I've been a trial judge. Now, there is no other office (other than Congressman) that I want to hold."

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MISHIMA

By Terry Boughner, Ph.D.

The Japanese teenager sat in his high school class. He was a pretty youth, as delicate as a willow bough and trying as hard as he could to concentrate on the lesson, but his eyes and his thoughts kept straying to the handsome, muscular young man sitting so maddingly nearby. How he could love him! How he could give that splendid athletic body pleasure! How he hungered to lie beneath him, be under the young athlete, between his powerful thighs as he waited for the first thrust that would both violate him and complete him.

By great force of will, he turned away, opening his notebook to a blank page and running his slender fingers over its smooth, untouched surface. Then, head bent forward, he wrote, releasing himself in words.

"Your hand trembles in mine
Like a frightened pigeon, I fear
Your pink beak will peck
My youth, the sole fruit I have."

The young poet was Ykio Mishima (1925-1970) and he would become one of a handful of Japanese writers to gain recognition in the West for his brilliant and powerful novels such as *Forbidden Colors* and *Confessions of a Mask* to name only two. He was Gay. There is no doubt about that at all. His books reflect it in every scene but that is only a small part of what makes his work interesting. What raises his writing to the level of great art and gives it a universal fascination is the deep, agonizing, inner tension that is an integral part of his Homosexuality and which we see in his account of his schoolboy crush on the young athlete.

Heterosexual commentators misunderstand completely, attributing his storm-tossed, tension-filled writing to guilt over his Homosexuality. This is not it at all. For one thing, he was born and raised in a society that did not know nor understand guilt, only shame, and Mishima felt no shame over the fact that he was Gay. As he once wrote, "I understand that what I feel when I see a beautiful young man, his skin glowing, his body throbbing with sexuality, is perfectly natural."

In this understanding, he was at one with his culture. Historically, the Japanese have always accepted Homosexuality both male and female as a simple variant of human sexuality. Like the Arabs and the ancient Greeks, both of whom Mishima admired, there is ample poetry, literature and art of attest to the natural beauty of a man's love and desire for another man. As in both the Arab and Greek military tradition, the old Japanese warrior class, the samurae, esteemed Gay love as a source of bravery and courage.

Mishima was powerfully attracted to the stories of the samurae. Perhaps, in part, it was because of the Japanese defeat in World War II. Young Japanese like Mishima felt deeply the shame of their country's loss. But for Mishima, a Gay man, there was much more to his attraction to the samurae than this. To him, the samurae were the very definition of masculinity and his whole being ached for the love and passion of that type of man.

This was the artistic tension in Mishima that is in many of us and that the straights, in their attempts to interpret us and what we do, miss completely. This same tension is in many Gays and Lesbians in history, especially the artists and geniuses among us. It is an exquisitely delicate sensi-

tivity that longs to be held, dominated and crushed by a masculine figure whose suprbly muscular biceps and thighs exude power, energy and authority. We can see this desire, for example, in Walt Whitman, Andre Gide or Eleanor Roosevelt.

Mishima sought out the young punks, those he called, "sheer animal flesh unspoiled by intellect." This type of male character appears over and over again in his novels.

In his thirties, Mishima began to rework himself to fit the image of his own longing. He took up weight lifting, developing the smooth, rippling, muscled body that so attracted him in others. There was a wonderful pain in punishing his protesting flesh to respond, bulging under the pressure of weights, and a sensuality that he had not realized in posing, nearly naked, for the camera, a latter-day samurae, stripped for exposure to the violence of battle. There is no greater feeling in the world. None.

In his high school years, Mishima had seen Guido Reni's painting of St. Sebastian. The beautiful young saint, naked except for a cloth draped about his slender hips, stands against a tree, his arms over his head and tied at the wrists. Two arrows pierce his flesh. Mishima thought this the most erotic painting he had ever seen and had a picture of himself done in the exact same pose. In the painting, the saint, with a look of ecstasy on his face, gazes toward heaven. Mishima looks upward at the ropes which bind his wrists, the look in his eyes a combination of yielding resignation and pain as if he is being tortured by some unseen master.

His recreation of himself resulted in a tremendous literary output. In addition to writing plays, essays, stories and film scripts, he was creating three novels a year. His fame spread beyond Japan to the world where readers were fascinated by his Gayness and his trying to come to terms with its expression.

By the middle of the 1960's, Mishima had decided to strike out against what he saw as the flabby weakness of Japan caused, as he thought, by "the heterosexualization of my country and the consequent glorification of women as sex objects." He formed about him a group of young men, strong, handsome, athletic. They were to be modern samurae and he, their daimyo or lord.

In 1970, they seized the Ministry of Defense and demanded a return of Japan to samurae values. Troops surrounded the building. In a last act of defiance, Mishima knelt on the floor, opened his jacket and shirt and strove a ritual sword into his hard-muscled belly. As his blood gushed forth onto the modern tile floor, a young man, one of the group and his lover, took his sword and sliced off Mishima's head. Then he knelt to cover himself with his lover's blood.

The world gasped at the act, looking in horror at the pictures of the incident published in *Life*. Many muttered dark things about this magnificently handsome man committing suicide because of his guilt over his Homosexuality. They did not understand. Others said that he was lost in a fantasy but they did not realize, as they seldom do, that the Lesbian/Gay world is one of tension between fantasy and reality and out of that friction many of us create beauty — whether that beauty is ourselves or art.

wanted concrete directions. How does one start living a new life with totally different values? Just what does one do? Johnson says the right question is more likely: "How shall we be?" We are pioneers and there is no "one" answer. Johnson recommends first "We must find that woman we love inside. When we love and respect ourselves, like a nuclear-free zone, if only for a few inches. And, working with other women, we can extend this through our home and community. Only when we are loving of ourselves can we be truly open to our community, considering all ideas and methods, searching together for solutions which respect all women. Having grown up immersed in patriarchy, we will make mistakes and must be able to admit that, to forgive ourselves and go on with our minds more open.

In the last hour of her second workshop, Sonia Johnson asked participatns to share their ideas and experience with feminist



Mr. International Leather 1988 Michael Pereyra, (Center); first runner-up Peter Morrison (right) of the Gauntlet II, Los Angeles; second runner-up Brian Dawson (left) of Floyds, Long Beach, Ca.

Mr. International Leather 1988-89 Selected in Chicago Contest

The tenth annual International Mr. Leather Contest and celebration, called by *Drummer* magazine "The Academy Awards of Leatherdom", was held in Chicago May 27-30. Produced by Chuck Renslow with Dom (Etienne) Orejudos as Chief Judge and official artist, it had among its 39 sponsors, Madison's Rod's bar.

The purpose of the contest is to choose the International Mr. Leather who becomes "The official representative of the leather community, the leatherman who best reflects the diversity of the leather brotherhood."

Contestants, from all over the world, — this year including Spain and Canada, are judged according to the official Olympic Scoring System, the same method used in the World Olympic Games.

There are three categories for a total of 100 points; the leather image, physical appearance and attitude and personality. Judges and observers are cautioned "not to look for the handsomest face or the most muscular body, but rather, the man who best typified the ideal Leatherman, someone whose poise and self-assurance is imbued with the special quality of Leather."

While the contest itself was held in the Clubland at the Vic Theatre, many of the some 1500 people who came as viewers or participants, stayed at the Executive House hotel. It was fascinating, exciting and made this Gay man proud to see men and women in full leather sitting in the lobby, riding the elevators, enjoying themselves, caring not at all for the looks from straights.

Saturday night, May 28, there was a press reception in the hotel. There is no way whatever to be objective about the magnificent examples of simmering male sensuality in the room. If such interests you, imagine yourself in a smallish room surrounded by and wedged in with 60-70 lithe, suprbly supple muscled bodies dressed in leather or uniforms of one kind or another. It's enough to send one's heart — and a few other parts of the anatomy — high into orbit and keep them there. Imagine yourself in a crowded elevator with the tall and the blond or the darkly handsome ones whose physiques bulge with sexuality. If you're look for reportorial objectivity, forget it. There is no way.

Sunday evening, Chicago's Vic Theatre was packed with a capacity crowd. Among the 42 contestants, were Carl Cliver, number 9, sponsored by Madison's Rod's bar. His tall, slender, wonderfully sculpted good-looks and sunny personality were a

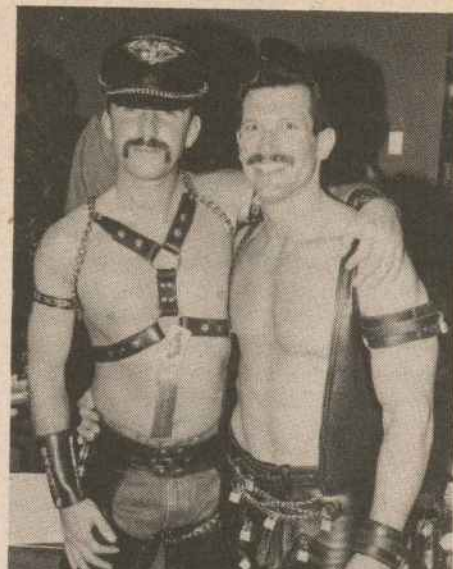
projects. She left the Festival with a group of women going to Cincinatti to study a women's housing cooperative which has drawn United Nations attention. Begun and run by poor women, the cooperative is attempting to provide adequate housing for women and children in the lowest income categories, while teaching participants building trades, management and finance skills. Johnson says she is well into her second book, writing about this and other women's projects, the new wave of women's culture she is seeing in her travels across the country. Women interested in discussing Johnston's philosophy and the possible applications in Milwaukee should contact me at 962-6788.

definite favorite with the crowd. As someone said with an admiring shake of his head, "Wouldn't you like to die and be reincarnated as his bicycle seat?"

The winner was Michael Pereyra, number 16, of Hard Labor and San Diego Leathermen. Darkly handsome with a chest like a Roman breastplate that was covered with a thatch of black hair, his eyes flashed like the sky in an eastern evening full of stars, like a Latin prince proudly in command of all he surveys.

In confirmation of the fact that the brotherhood of leather transcends all boundaries, women were featured prominently. Ms. International Leather was introduced and gave a rousing and enthusiastic speech. The delighted audience gave her a standing ovation. The popular Lynn Lavner shared emcee duties with actor, director, Al Parker while Dena Kaye provided a splendid program of country/western music.

Other entertainers included New York's Village People singing all of their most popular and traditional songs such as "The Y.M.C.A." and others.



John from San Francisco and Carl of New York.

While the contest was a splendid success, the only adverse comment that was heard was that it was too long, beginning at 8:00 and ending at a little before 1:00.

The final comment that might be said comes from Chuck Renslow. "Leather is a way of life, a way of being. It speaks of bonding through a unique sexuality, and of the trust which is basic to that sexuality. It recognizes the power and strength in submission as well as dominance, and draws from that recognition, love."

Johnson

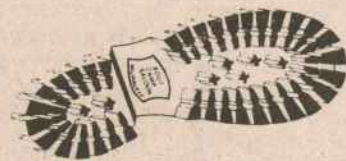
Continued from Page 1



Sonia Johnson

energies and resources to establish a culture which affirms feminist values, where "... power is generative, creative, positive, does not hurt anything."

While Sonia Johnson's audiences were in enthusiastic agreement, many women



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AIDS Cases Will Rise Dramatically by 1991 Scientists Fear

By Roger Gremminger, MD

In this article, I would like to give a State of Wisconsin report about AIDS. There appears to be good news and bad news. The good news is that the State of Wisconsin is still a low incidence state according to the Atlanta Centers for Disease Control's (CDC) publication of November 2, 1987. Wisconsin had a cumulative incidence of AIDS cases of 33 per million population. This compares favorably with all surrounding states (Ill-103, Minn.- 58, Ohio- 45, Mich.- 43, Indiana- 38) except Iowa which has an incidence of 21.

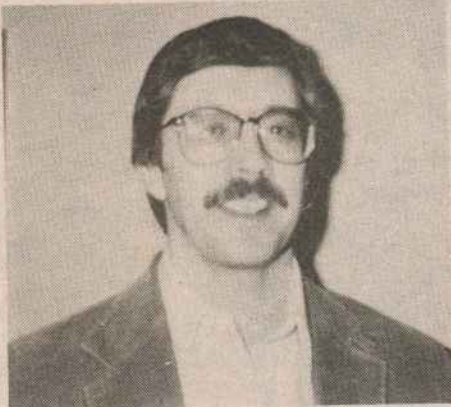
There are several factors that have contributed to this low incidence. Wisconsin and Milwaukee never had the amount of sexually transmitted diseases in the late '70s and early '80s as other states and cities. This was to our advantage. The Gays in Wisconsin were always more relationship oriented and a study done in 1982 for planning vaccination strategies for Hepatitis B showed that already, at that time, 25% of Gay men in Wisconsin were in monogamous relationships of at least six months duration.

The Wisconsin Gay Rights Law also contributed to our low incidence status perhaps in two significant ways. First, Gay men (and Lesbians) felt safer living together in monogamous relationships. Second, Gay men (and Lesbians) felt safer to volunteer time to be involved in Gay and Lesbian organizations including Milwaukee's Brady East STD Clinic (BEST), the Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP), as well as all the other Gay and Lesbian organizations — sports, social, business, support and special interest groups. These organizations have been our strength and have contributed significantly to the quality of life for Gay and Lesbian individuals.

Now for the bad news. The number of new AIDS cases per million population is rising each year — 1985- 4, 1986- 9, 1987- 20. We are on the rise of the epidemic curve and have not reached the leveling off portion. Jeff Davis, the Wisconsin State epidemiologist, projects by the use of a model similar to the one used by the CDC to make their projections for the United States for 1991, that Wisconsin will have 575 new cases of AIDS in 1991 and that there will be a cumulative total of 1790 cases of AIDS by that time. Can we change this? Can we halt the spread of the virus? Can we help to keep infected individuals healthy? Where must we apply our efforts? How can we affect the greatest benefit? Who are at greatest risk? These are just some of the questions that the staffs and boards of Brady East STD Clinic, MAP, and Milwaukee's St. Anthony's STD Specialties Clinic continually ask as they search for ongoing answers and strive for solutions. Some data has been collected and is becoming available. From the HIV Alternate Testing Sites, we know that the positivity rate for St. Anthony's which sees a good percentage of Gay men — especially those in relationships is 3.5%. The overall positivity rate for Brady East STD Clinic is 7.8%. But the rate found for the bar-outreach testing done by BEST was 17%. Clearly, the highest risk group among Gay men are the single, uncommitted Gay men who are dating in the bars.

What can be done? The message of safer sex must not only get out to each and every person in the bars but must also be consistently and conscientiously practiced. This means no exceptions. Those in the bars must help to educate all the others they meet in the bars and insist on only safer sex practices if they do have sex themselves. All Gay men and Lesbians who have friends who go to the bars must encourage these friends to play safe because they really care about their single friends. Unfortunately, not everyone is knowledgeable about safer sex guidelines and even more unfortunately, not everyone who knows the guidelines, uses them.

And what about heterosexuals? We also know that the AIDS virus, HIV, is present in the IV drug using population and has been spread heterosexually here in Milwaukee. There are infected female prostitutes in this community and not just the street walkers. Although the rate of infection is much lower than for Gay men, it is starting to spread. So what does this mean? We all have straight friends and if we truly care about them, we will educate them as well about safer sex. HIV spread



Roger Gremminger, MD

first among Gay men and it is the greatest problem for Gay men. But on the other hand, Gay men are the most informed members of society. And, as informed members of society, we have the opportunity and perhaps even more so, the responsibility to share our knowledge and concern with our heterosexual friends so that they too do not have to go through what we are going through now. Sharing knowledge about AIDS may be uncomfortable and even seen as involving risk for you. I am not asking you to take big risks of disclosure. But we can each find small ways and take small but relatively safer risks to spread the word and I ask each and every person who reads this to do so. Then we are all contributing not to the problem of AIDS but to its solution.

New Drugs May Halt AIDS

By Ronald Stanley

For many months the Centers for Disease Control has estimated that as many as 1.5 million Americans may be infected with the AIDS virus! Many of these persons will develop ARC or AIDS. For those who test positive for HIV, there may now be some hope. Since 1981 the prognosis for infected persons has been changing from only a minority developing AIDS to most infected persons eventually developing ARC or AIDS itself. Instead of sitting and worrying, it may be possible to hold off the disease for months or for good, by taking AZT or some other antiviral agent.

A recent study in the British medical journal "Lancet" states that AZT lowered virus levels and shrank swollen lymph nodes in 18 infected men who did not yet have AIDS. They were given the drug for 24 weeks.

AZT (azidothymidine) has been used since 1985 to prolong the lives of persons with AIDS. To date most drug research has focused on those already sick (60,583) in the U.S.

Using the drug on healthy persons is both new and controversial, because of the possible serious side effects of the drug, which could harm the health of otherwise healthy individuals.

The National Institute of Health (NIH) is sponsoring one AZT experiment involving 1,600 infected persons who have no symptoms, or some with just swollen lymph nodes. The NIH hopes that AZT may work better in persons who have tested positive, but who have not developed the disease, because their immune system is still working and their ability to better tolerate the drug.

At the University of California at San Francisco, an epidemiologist, Mr. A. Moss, just completed a study that suggests that about 50% of all infected persons will develop AIDS within 6 years of becoming infected and 25% will contact ARC.

Many AIDS patients are holding out longer after bouts with pneumocystis carinii pneumonia due to AZT. Another drug helping extend life is pentamidine inhalant, which helps prevent the pneumonia that is the most frequent cause of AIDS deaths. (See Wisconsin Light March '88 issue for detailed information on pentamidine therapy.)

Would you volunteer to be a test subject in such a study? A healthy person may be at risk taking a dangerous drug, not knowing if it were the drug or a placebo. If you want the drug AZT you can get a prescription for it from any willing doctor, but it will cost you about \$8,000 a year. The AZT that the NIH gives out is free to test

TURN TO AZT, PAGE 9

Boston Health Conference/AIDS Forum Opens July 20

By Jamakaya

The Second International Lesbian and Gay Health Conference and AIDS Forum will be held July 20-26, 1988 at Boston's Park Plaza Hotel and Towers.

The conference, entitled "Our Experience of the 80's/Our Mission for the 90's," is sponsored by the American Association of Physicians for Human Rights, the George Washington University Medical Center and the National Lesbian and Gay Health Foundation, which is celebrating its tenth anniversary this year.

The weeklong event is really a series of conferences and institutes incorporating over 550 workshops and plenary sessions. Presenters will include physicians, leaders of America's Gay community health clinics and international health experts and researchers. Programming is aimed at medical professionals, community activists and clinic volunteers, people with AIDS (PWA's) and just about anyone concerned with Lesbian and Gay health issues.

Full day pre-conference institutes on July 20th will focus on "Grieving and Loss," "Spirituality," "Gender Issues of the 90's," and "Youth: Problems and Issues in Service."

The AIDS crisis will be the focus of much programming, with a daylong "AIDS Update" on July 25th including experts like Dr. James Curran from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control. The most up-to-date information on antiviral therapies, the epidemiology of HIV and management of opportunistic infections will be addressed. A special presentation on "Couples with AIDS" is planned, and a meeting of the National Association of People with AIDS will focus on improved service provision and empowerment of PWAs.

A Daylong education conference on July 24th will present strategies for educating the media, teachers, legislators, religious institutions, businesses, police and health care and social service agencies about Lesbian/Gay lifestyles and health issues.

This program is sponsored by the Fund for Human Dignity, a national group fighting anti-Gay bigotry through education.

Lesbian health workshops include those on OB/GYN health care, artificial insemination, couples' lifestyle issues, aging, intimacy, sexuality, social stress and incest recovery. Numerous workshops on substance abuse in the Lesbian/Gay community will focus on codependency, addictive behaviors and treatment methods. AIDS and racism, minority Gay issues and special aspects of Black and Hispanic AIDS education and service delivery will also be discussed.

Medical practitioners will investigate case management, medical treatment and alternative therapies, physician training and hospital care. Attorneys will be available during the conference to address legal issues and to search for possible test cases of rights or ethics violations. Community groups can get organizational assistance through workshops on proposal writing, volunteer recruitment, board management, market research and program evaluation.

This Second International Lesbian and Gay Health Conference and AIDS Forum is sure to be an historic event. It will provide an opportunity for networking among Lesbian and Gay health workers, inform participants about the latest research findings and educate medical professionals about Lesbian and Gay health concerns.

A registration form can be obtained by writing to: NLGHF/AAPHR Registration, Office of CME, George Washington University Medical Center, 2300 K Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20037. Or call George Washington University at (202) 994-4285. The registration deadline is July 5th.

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LaCrosse County Health Dept.
785-9723

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437-7400

Press Association Conference Addresses Excellence

With a theme of "Addressing Excellence", the Gay/Lesbian Press Association (GLPA), held its eighth annual international convention in Chicago May 27-30, 1988.

The convention was held in the Executive House hotel and was attended by over 60 publishers, editors, writers and advertising managers representing the Gay/Lesbian press from the United States and Europe. These included **This Week's News [TWN]**, Miami, **Frontiers**, Los Angeles, **Philadelphia Gay News**, [PGN], **First Hand**, New Jersey, **Chicago Outlines**, **Windy City Times**, Chicago, **Gay Chicago**, **Gayly Oklahomian**, **De Gay Krant**, Holland and others including **Wisconsin In Step** and **Wisconsin Light**.

Convention organizers had planned a series of seminars and workshops on subjects ranging from advertising sales, reporting, developing in-house libraries, newspaper and magazine design, among others, all geared to assist publications in their efforts at informing their respective Gay/Lesbian communities, offer solutions to common problems and to facilitate exchanges of information.

Speaking to the seminar on political reporting, Urvashi Vaid of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force stressed the importance of the Gay/Lesbian press as "an advocate press." Vaid cautioned assembled editors, reporters and writers against being "too bland" and said that "the Gay press must serve, not only to inform, but to critically examine the Gay and Lesbian community itself." She also called for more "in-depth and investigative reporting" by the Gay/Lesbian press.

Robert Bray of the Human Rights Campaign Fund told the convention that, "While AIDS will continue to remain an issue in the '90s, the Lesbian/Gay press must be prepared to deal with such questions as same sex marriage and the definition of the family" which Bray said will be among the key concerns of the Gay/Lesbian community in the coming decade.

At a meeting of the general membership chaired by Don Volk, President of the GLPA, there was general consensus on the need for a wire service, more active participation by the membership in GLPA activities and great communication among Gay/Lesbian publications.

Perhaps the most stirring part of the convention came at the banquet held in the hotel on Saturday night. Entertainment was provided by singer Lynn Lavner presenting her original compositions which displayed a fine, satirical wit. But, then she presented a song telling of her reactions to seeing the Anne Frank house in Amster-



Cleve Jones

dam. Her intensity was telling. One could not help but think as she sang, of the Holocaust and of the Pink Triangle and feel with Lavner, the anger, rage and stark sorrow that Anne Frank too was us.

The keynote speaker was Cleve Jones whose thoughts, one "dark and foggy" night led to the beginning of the AIDS quilt. Jones said that, as of now, dozens of panels arrive in San Francisco every day and that, by the time the quilt is again displayed on the mall in Washington, D.C. this October, it will take 5000 people to unroll it and that it will stretch from the Washington monument to the steps of the capital, a distance of 1/2 mile. Following his speech, Jones received a standing ovation from the assembled convention.

At the banquet, the GLPA presented its annual awards for excellence. There were 8 awards given to publications. This year, the **San Francisco Sentinel** swept the field, taking awards for local news reporting, overall design for a publication and for cultural reporting. Others included L.A.'s **Frontiers** received the award for national news reporting and L.A.'s **The News** for excellence in photojournalism. A ninth award, for the electronic media, was not given. According to Volk, no program met the judges' standards of excellence.

GLPA presented 8 awards to individuals. These included, Don Volk for national news reporting, Tommi Avicoli for the PGN for local news, and Victoria Brownworth of PGN for ongoing coverage of an individual and Daniel Mangin of **The San Francisco Sentinel** for cultural reporting.

On Sunday, GLPA's annual elections were held. Robert Pela, Editor-in-Chief of the **Phoenix Resource** was chosen to replace out-going Don Volk. Tracy Baim, editor of **Chicago Outlines**, was chosen as midwest regional representative to the GLPA board.

person with the skills, and training necessary to assume this demanding position. We have every confidence in Lynn and expect the transition to proceed smoothly as we conduct our search for a permanent Executive Director."

Hauptert indicated that the Board of Directors is conducting a nationwide search for an Executive Director and expects to announce its decision by late summer.

Author Grumley Dies in N.Y.

By Geno

Michael Grumley, author and artist, died recently in New York City of complications from AIDS. Although the 46 year old writer lived and worked in Manhattan, he had several ties to Milwaukee and Wisconsin.

He attended the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, and several stories in his collection called **Night People** are set in Milwaukee and the Middle West. The story which he also illustrated entitled "Talcum Powder" describes two men, one who works the night shift in a factory which packages talcum powder, and the other, his lover, an artist who paints at night. It's very satisfying to read a well written story with references to Downer Avenue, Channel 4, and the Layton Art School. At the end of the story Ben comes in with a bottle of beer and stands with his arm around Patrick's shoulder, the two of them looking at Patrick's finished painting:

Two people can hold fast to an ideal more easily than one person alone. The painter creates only out of his own psyche, only from his own rarefied spirit. But his lover enhances his spirit

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and by reinforcing his life reinforces his art.

Other books by Grumley include "The Autobiography of a Search," "Hard Corps" and "Atlantis," the latter written with Robert Ferro whose novel, "Second Son," the story of two men fatally ill with AIDS, was reviewed in last month's Lively Arts section of **The Wisconsin Light**.

Michael Grumley is survived by his mother, Elizabeth, of Racine, Wis., and three brothers, one of whom also resides in Racine.

The warmth and honesty of Michael Grumley's work as shown in the quotation above is a lasting legacy.

AZT

Continued from Page 8

subjects.

No one in the NIH experiments suggests that persons with positive HIV test results, but who are otherwise healthy, go out and purchase AZT. First, this is an experiment and there is no data that AZT CAN PREVENT AIDS. Second, AZT — remember — is a dangerous drug with dangerous side effects. AZT can starve the bone marrow, which can lead to serious leukopenia or anemia, along with headaches and nausea. The person with positive HIV and their doctor should consider the "trade-off" to be acceptable or not. However, when a person's health starts to fail they then may feel the "trade-off" may be the way to go.

So far the benefits of AZT to starve off AIDS is an impression and not fact. The NIH study of 1,600 healthy virus carriers may produce proof.

Farm Workers Name Gay Activist

San Francisco—According to the **California AFL-CIO News**, Howard Wallace, a longtime Gay labor activist has been named as a full-time national field representative for the United Farm Workers of America (UFW). The selection was made by UFW President Cesar Chavez. Chavez said that Wallace's duties will include promoting the UFW's boycott of table grapes and will speak out as UFW representative in support of Gay/Lesbian issues.

The UFW has a long history of activism on Gay/Lesbian issues. Chavez spoke at the October March on Washington.

"I have been very impressed in how organized the Washington march was," said Chavez, "and of the high quality of

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Lesbian and Gay leadership." The long-time labor leader said also that "We (UFW) want to expand our relationship with the Gay community. Wallace is our bridge to that and not just a token."

Wallace was Northern California coordinator of the Coors beer boycott. He is a founding member of the Gay/Lesbian Alliance of San Francisco as well as being a long-time peace activist.

The table grape boycott aims at halting use on grapes of five pesticides known to cause cancer and birth defects among farm workers and their families. Consumers are also heavily exposed to the toxic chemicals.

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MAP Acting Dir.

The Board of Directors of the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin, Inc. has named Ms. Lynn Syverson to the position of Acting Executive Director. Ms. Syverson assumed the position on Friday, June 3, 1988, for a term to extend until an Executive Director is hired to replace Ms. Susan Dietz who has accepted a position with the Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta.

The AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin, Inc. is the state's largest AIDS education and care organization operating the Milwaukee AIDS Project and the Southeastern Wisconsin AIDS Project which serves Racine, Kenosha and Walworth Counties. It conducts general and targeted educational programs in addition to providing case management and services to clients with AIDS and AIDS Related Complex (ARC).

Ms. Syverson has been a professional staff member of the Milwaukee AIDS Project for the past ten months assigned to the Community Health Education Department. Her primary responsibility has been to fulfill the terms of an ongoing service contract with Milwaukee County for AIDS education. Prior to her employment with the Milwaukee AIDS Project, Ms. Syverson served as the Wisconsin State Director for Quality Child Care, Inc. a national non-profit human services agency. In addition, she has served in the capacity of Social Services Worker for the Waukesha County Department of Human Services and as a Public School Educator.

ARCW President Marc Hauptert, speaking for the Board of Directors, stated, "We are extremely pleased to have on staff a

BOOKS

Oscar Wilde Book: A Notable Achievement in Biography

Oscar Wilde
By Richard Ellmann
Alfred A. Knopf, 1988, \$24.95

By Shawn Duffy

The life of Oscar Fingal O'Flahertie Wills Wilde was, as he intended, his greatest work of art. Unhappily the life, unlike his other masterpiece, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, turned out to be a tragedy.

"What is true in a man's life," Wilde said, "is not what he does, but the legend which grows up around him..." He began to create his own legend while still at Trinity in Ireland, and when in 1874 at age 20 he entered Oxford, he became almost entirely preoccupied with this act of self-creation. That is perhaps the primary task of every undergraduate, but Wilde carried it to new extremes. He became a national figure (if primarily a figure of fun) while still at Oxford, variously mocked and admired for his flamboyant costume, his explication of the aesthetic movement, and his outrageous wit. (It was at this time that one of his remarks in particular gained currency as an example of the often amusing excesses of the aesthetes: "I find it harder and harder every day" he said, "to live up to my blue china.")

By the time he left Oxford for London in 1878, Wilde had written little except some verses, prize-winning at the time but for the most part now forgotten. It was his reputation as a drawingroom wit and critic that gained him entry to the circles of John Ruskin, Walter Pater, Whistler, Sarah Bernhardt, Ellen Terry and Lilly Langtry. The Prince of Wales, the future Edward VII, asked to meet Wilde, saying "I do not know Mr. Wilde, and not to know Mr. Wilde is not to be known." It was notoriety, rather than fame, that made possible his successful 1882 American tour, during which he lectured on "Beauty" and "The Aesthetic Movement."

One of the sources of his notoriety was the strong element of homoeroticism that pervaded some of his poetry. This, combined with a purposefully cultivated effeminacy of manner and the fact that he routinely surrounded himself with beautiful young men, led to a good deal of speculation regarding his private life. It was almost certainly in part to quiet such rumors that Wilde married Constance Lloyd in 1884, although there is no doubt that he had also a genuine affection for her. She bore him two sons in quick succession.

In 1892, Wilde began his famous romance with Lord Alfred Douglas while the latter was still a student at Oxford. Douglas was already a dissolute and cruel but beautiful young aristocrat with a most unjustified high opinion of himself. Their



relation was a stormy one and brought Wilde great unhappiness even before the famous denouncement; he came near to breaking with Douglas on several occasions, but always took him back in the end. Douglas also introduced Wilde to the world of male prostitutes, both in London and abroad.

In 1894-95, in the midst of growing troubles with Douglas and his father, the Marquis of Queensberry, Wilde wrote his greatest work, *The Importance of Being Earnest*. It opened on St. Valentine's Day, 1895, and was an immediate success. Only four days later, Queensberry left at Wilde's club his card with the insulting inscription "To Oscar Wilde posing Somdomite" (accurate spelling was not one of the Marquess' accomplishments).

The tale of how Wilde (urged on to the quarrel by Douglas) sued Queensberry for libel, lost, and was subsequently arrested, tired on sodomy and other charges and found guilty in a second trial (the first resulted in a hung jury), is the best-known part of Wilde's life. It was the trial of the century in the English-speaking world.

After his release from serving two years in prison in 1897, Wilde lived on for three years, of which three months were spent with Douglas near Naples; they parted in November, 1897, and were never again on very good terms. Wilde returned to Paris where he was for the most part snubbed by the English and ignored by the French until his death, probably of tertiary syphilis, on November 30, 1900. Robert Ross, who was with Wilde at his death, was to have his own ashes interred in the monument that was later erected over Wilde's grave.

TURN TO WILDE, PAGE 10

New Charles Laughton Biography Is Light-Weight Effort

Charles Laughton: A Difficult Actor
By Simon Callow
Grove Press, Hardcover, 318 pp. \$18.95

By Jeff Kirsch

Simon Callow's new biography of this "difficult" actor makes for a generally boring read, unless one is a devotee or connoisseur of Laughton (1899-1962) and his career. Those interested in Laughton's cinematic history will find a well-researched and informative study of it, if some unfortunate stylistic and grammatical turns. Those interested in the psyche behind the widely conceded unattractive face will learn little or nothing of it. Callow glosses over Laughton's childhood, relies to heavily on the autobiographies of Laughton's heterosexual spouse, Elsa Lanchester and indulges in simple-minded psychologizing when he has to.

Laughton's homosexuality — not even a well-kept Hollywood secret — can't be ignored by any legitimate biographer, but Callow does his best. The following — perhaps for the better — is about as much as we hear on the "nasty" subject:

"If he had hoped that marriage would divert his desire, he was disappointed. His need for sex with men had not cleared up like acne, he was still impelled to find young men and sometimes even to bring them clandestinely home. Elsa Lanchester

believes that these encounters were furtive and inspired by self-lacerating guilt: that Charles needed to sin, like a minor key version of that figure of whom he sometimes seems to be a thwarted alter ego: Oscar Wilde."

If you can get past the content and style of this paragraph you'll soon come to the very brief scene where Laughton is being blackmailed by a young trick and has to come out of the closet to his wife:

"Elsa immediately reassured him that it was 'all right.' Her politically radical background, her Bohemian circle of acquaintance (including not a few homosexuals) and her own instinctive permissiveness, all theoretically, disposed her to treat the news lightly. She simply asked whether he had had sex with a man in their house. He had. Where? On the couch. Very well. Get rid of the couch."

"Nothing more was said. Ever."

Lanchester was smart; she knew Laughton was her bread and butter. Callow, who says little more on the subject, as a biographer is either less smart, lazy or playing to a heterosexual audience that thinks the less said about the topic, the better.

An actor, Callow has appeared in *Amadeus*, *A Room With a View* and *Maurice*. In the future, may he stick to acting.

Sensual Celebration of Truth Found In Letters

Letters to Marina
By Dacia Maraini.
Translated by Dick Kitto and Elspeth Spottiswood. The Crossing Press. 208 pp. \$24.95 (cloth), \$8.95 (paper)

By Barbara J. Palecek

Letters to Marina escapes from the usual novel format by presenting itself as a series of letters from Bianca, who has been jilted by another woman. This is a translation from the Italian and a very good one at that.

The letters are really not about the broken love affair, but about Bianca's life. It seems that Marina never cared too much about what Bianca had to say, so Bianca essentially fills her in with her letters.

Bianca, who usually lives in Rome, has taken a small flat in a seacoast town to write a novel. During the long months she writes these letters to her ex-lover while she labors over her project. What she is really doing, we see, is taking the time to decompress and examine her life.

The chapters (letters) move along from day to day, week to week. We get to go along on a progressive discovery of long-buried memories that make up a lifetime.

The letters are very tight, complete thoughts, sleepily rhythmic but astonishingly powerful. They speak of dreams, childhood hurts and loves; of associations made with neighbors, visitors during Bianca's stay at the flat, and admissions of human fallibility.

What is so remarkable about these letters is that they express feelings. These feelings are not over-sentimentalized; there is an aura of raw and clear sensuality.

Bianca's vignettes of her life and her present associations are common but frightening at the same time. She writes about Basilia, who lives in the next flat. While her spoiled, ever-consuming boys sleep or while her brutal husband is working, Basilia comes to Bianca's flat and over coffee, tells Bianca ancient stories from the hills. She takes to massaging

Bianca about the neck and shoulders, deeply, as if to make some real contact with another human being in the midst of her dour and sacrificial life. Bianca knows that this same woman who loves her bloodsucking family beyond reason can also summon some ancient female part of her and kill them. Bianca feels Basilia's tension.

All kinds of sensuality abounds in *Letters*. One night Bianca leaves some menstrual blood on the bathroom floor. Ants have gotten to it by morning, and when she disturbs them she astutely notes that in the ants, "There is panic, but no confusion." The letters so wonderfully capture nuances of feeling.

Adolescent love affairs in a girls' school are rediscovered with new-found clarity, not sentimentality. She also tells us about her exotic, cruel grandmother, who, when Bianca was a child, spun glamorous lies about her own childhood, not for Bianca's pleasure, but because Bianca had ears. In her more psychotic moments, the grandmother kicked her out of bed. The letters open her feelings about these wrongdoing, this old confusion about people who were supposed to love her.

The father, we learn, is a dilettante who only showed affection to Bianca to show off. Her mother was mostly busy with men. The most vivid thing that Bianca remembers about her mother is her red mouth kissing her before going out on dates. In some of her letters, Bianca works through her incestual feelings for these two. No wonder, healthy parental love was never consummated with the child.

It hits the reader very suddenly near the end of the series of letters that nearly everyone in Bianca's life has rejected her. Yet, this does not make this a depressing novel, and indeed does not seem to depress Bianca. She has come to this place to discover this rejection. It is a sensual celebration of the truth.

After Bianca embraces the truth, she leaves to go back to Rome. Her job is done. We know she has never sent the letters to Marina, because they were for herself.

Gay Student Murder Basis Of New Mystery

Goldenboy
By Michael Nava.
Alyon Publications
Hardcover, 216 pp., \$14.95

By Jeff Kirsch

Inspired by a real-life case in which a high school student committed murder when his homosexuality was exposed, *Goldenboy* is Michael Nava's second effort at the mystery genre and a good one. His first novel, *The Little Death*, brought a fresh voice to Gay fiction, flattering reviews and an unbelievable climax. With *Goldenboy*, Nava further hones his many skills.

Although not touted as such, *Goldenboy* marks the beginning of a new "series" of Gay mystery novels, since it takes two to begin one. A few have prematurely begun a "series" with a first novel — Samuel Steward's *Murder Is Murder Is Murder* and Stephen Lewis' *Cowboy Blues* — never to see a second one and probably for the better. A series that made it to number two but shouldn't have, is Tony Fennelly's "Matt Sinclair Mysteries." Its second installment, *The Closet Hanging* easily brought us not only the most racist novel of 1987 but an anti-Gay "Gay" work right out of the '50s.

As for successful Gay sleuth series, there's the "grandfather" of them all, Joseph Hansen's "Dave Brandstetter" novels, begun in 1970, always a safe bet for lovers of the genre, though lately a little uneven. The most popular, witnessed by four original Ballantine paperbacks, is Nathan Aldyne's series *Vermillion*, *Cobalt*, *Slate* and *Canary*, always full of bitchy and rough characters, but lately on the decline. It's hard to sustain the quality and certainly the freshness through any string of books — even Armistead Maupin's (non-mystery) "Tales of the City" series.

Without doubt, the best Gay gumshoe yet to see the light of publication is Richard Stevenson's *Donald Strachey Death Trick*, *On the Other Hand*, *Death* and *Ice Blues*. And if Michael Nava continues to improve,



Michael Nava

he may well join the ranks of the best, if he hasn't infiltrated them already.

Nava's novels feature Henry Rios, like this author, a second-generation Mexican-American and a lawyer. Nava, who served for three years as a prosecutor before going into private practice, brings a legal expertise of which few other writers can boast and on which hinges the crux of his first novel and an array of details in the second.

As in his first novel, the lawyer becomes a lover who becomes a detective — in other words, Rios get emotionally entangled with one of the parties involved and, with a new personal motivation, turns to sleuthing. In *Goldenboy*, Rios is called in to defend a teenager caught with a knife in his hand and charged with the murder of a co-worker who had taunted him about his homosexuality. The teenager, Jim Pears, is totally uncooperative.

It doesn't seem that this plot thread can go far. In fact, it doesn't, but a dozen others spinning off it do. Readers, like this

TURN TO GOLDENBOY, PAGE 14

WORLD VIEWS AND OPINIONS

MEXICO CITY

By Francis J. Reich

Exclusive to Wisconsin Light

All sorts of information has come out recently on the state of AIDS (SIDA in Spanish) here in Mexico, so I am devoting this month's column to this morbid, but necessary, subject. It's interesting to see what another country is doing in the way of public enlightenment on this, especially one that is as traditionally conservative and Catholic as Mexico is.

Government figures released in March show that there are now over 1,200 confirmed cases of the disease, most occurring here in Mexico City, and then Guadalajara and the northern Mexican states which border the U.S. Officials at the Health Secretariat suspect that the actual number of cases might be at least 50 times more, however. The confirmed number of cases is presently doubling every seven months, and it is feared that in four years Mexico will have 100,000 victims on its hands. The U.S., with three times the people, now has something like 25,000 confirmed cases.

The breakdown of cases goes like this: 60 percent involve Gays, 24 percent bisexuals (much more than is admitted to at home, but then there seems to be a lot more of that down here), 7 percent are straight, .5 percent intravenous drug users, 1.6 percent drug users who are also Gay, and the rest are victims of contaminated blood. Hard drug use is not very common in Mexico, hence the small percentage. I think almost a fifth of U.S. cases involve drug use. Marijuana seems to be the drug of choice here, also inhalants — cement and thinners — and cocaine is gaining ground among those who can afford it. Mexico likes to point out, whenever the U.S. complains about drug production here, that the real problem is the massive drug consumption north of the Rio Grande, and they've got a point, but they need to admit to the growing problem here as well.

Despite vocal opposition from groups such as the National Pro-Life Committee and the National Women's Civic Association, who complain that kids are being encouraged to have sex or to become Gay (sound familiar?) — the president of Pro-Life said, "Sex is taught worse than if we were animals" — the government-funded Committee on AIDS Prevention (CONASIDA) has initiated a dramatic education campaign on the use of condoms and safe-sex. TV and radio commercials encourage the use of disposable plastic needles for injections, having sex with only one partner and using condoms when with others. They ask

people to "enjoy love, but with responsibility". Full-page newspaper ads across the country last month promoted the use of condoms, proclaiming that "AIDS is not a moral problem but a health problem." Leaflets are being prepared for schools and several "high-risk" social groups, including teenagers and foreign tourists entering the country, which will discuss AIDS and safe-sex frankly, without sensationalism.

This all sounds rather open and progressive — and successful, when you hear that 96 percent of the population is aware of the disease and how it is prevented. The problem here is that, so far, very few people are bothering to do anything about it. The National Center for AIDS Research warns that only one person in ten currently practices safe sex. Discussions with people I know here bears that out — that despite this almost universal awareness, despite all the money the government is spending on education, many, many people continue to indulge themselves, sans protection. Hundreds of Gays cruise the streets of the Zona Rosa section of town every night, and so many of them are already infected and don't care. It is a disturbing reminder of the fatalism and the otherwise endearing "live for the moment" syndrome that is so much a part of the Mexican psyche. This is the home, after all, of a well-known Latin American author who recently proclaimed AIDS to be a very romantic way to die, to die as a result of love. Incredible!

Pro-Gay groups do what they can, but resources are limited and their numbers are few. Benefits are held for AIDS victims, the current issue of *Macho Tips*, a local Gay magazine/bar guide, includes a free condom. The Foundation to Help AIDS Patients lobbies for more government spending, TV and rock stars here are getting into the act, making public service announcements and participating in fund-raising events. One hopes that more people in this country are paying attention.

One particular word of warning to anyone visiting this country: Mexicans who are concerned for their health tend to avoid contact with Americans, since that's now considered risky. So if someone here is anxious to have sex with you, be wary. Also remember that people here are rather worldly-wise and — this is true — tend to think of Americans as naive and even stupid. Organized and efficient, but stupid! So don't believe someone who says he's had an AIDS test and passed — ask to see the test results, and then still protect yourself.

DENMARK

By Poul Burke

Exclusive to Wisconsin Light

Sometimes I feel as if life has left me behind somewhere. Perhaps, that's why I left England for Denmark. I wanted a new start, a new beginning, a place where I could open up my Gay self and let it expand as a blossom in the sun.

Maybe it's wishful thinking, but here in Denmark, I thought — or think — I could find the man of my dreams. Not in England where I have been hurt so many times, where the pain became such as I became too shy to try any longer.

I am young, but not too young to know that love has become the most important single fact of my life. Should that be so? Should I wish for a man who is kind and gentle and a real person? Not just a boy...

I am going to make my stay here in Denmark a long one. I want to become a Dane, a part of this lovely country with its musical language, by heart and feeling. I want to be here where Gay men and Lesbian women can be legally married; where they — we — can and do have

acceptance; where we can express affection openly and in public. Not like in England where they criminalize us and treat us as the scum they think we are. In Denmark it is different.

In this free Danish air, will I find the man of my dreams? Will I find he who I call to in the night, who lives in my head when the stars shine in the dark sky?

It is easy here in Denmark to meet someone. Just walk up to him and talk. Maybe yes, maybe no, but you can talk openly and see his blond, viking hair, tossed in the wind and look into his blue, blue nose eyes and admire his firm, blond body, thinking if he is kind and would be warming in your arms.

I have had my times of being alone, of times of parting when the hurt staggers me. Here in Denmark, I will find love, have found it, and, away from England's fog and dark, I bask in Denmark's sun. I will be the strongest and greenest plant growing in the sun of love where, in England, I would have died.

into pluses and minuses awarded to this person or that creed. Wilde was a moralist, in a school where Blake, Nietzsche, and even Freud were his fellows. The object of life is not to simplify it. As our conflicting impulses coincide, as our repressed feelings vie with our expressed ones, as our solid views disclose unexpected striations, we are all secret dramatists. In this light Wilde's works become exercises in self-criticism as well as pleas for tolerance."

This book is a significant contribution to the study of the history of gay life as well as a superb example of the art of biography.

INDIA

Special to Wisconsin Light

By Sandeep

In a country as large as 800 million people, India's Gay life presents a very poor picture. But then, to expect Gay life to form an important aspect of life in a country where even "straight life" is hard, is stretching out a bit too far. As the Kinsey Report said, every society has at least 10% Gays. That would mean that, in India, there are about eighty million Gays. Looking around, one tends to believe that not even 1% of these Gays will admit to being so, not even to themselves.

It is not surprising, therefore, to come across a Gay who is yearning for masculine company, but who will never approach a desired person, leave apart the question of coming out.

Gays have the reputation of being promiscuous because there are no legal or social bonds. But, in India, promiscuous Gays are a minority. That majority go in for an occasional one-night-stand after which, one, if not both parties, sulk as if they have done something wrong to themselves and to their religion (though Hinduism is not as anti-Gay as Christianity or Islam).

Though it is hard to form a permanent relationship, if two Gays carry their relationship beyond the one-night-stand, it tends to stabilize due to our cultural heritage.

Indians are very good lovers — a lot of affection devotion and yielding are thrown into the act of love. Again, this is because of our heritage where the lover or spouse is the equivalent of God.

Marriage is another problem. There is tremendous pressure upon us — an obligation to fulfill the desires of our parents. A few courageous ones do refuse, but pathetically, many marry women and pretend. Ironically, if a Gay holds a big

post, say a government minister, then he can easily live with another male and get away with it. Anyway, many Gays, are married. Like them I did not have the courage to resist as I was just 23 and unaware of the implications. Like me, they live a life of frustration and deceit, hiding from wives, fantasizing about men when making love to her and leading a double life. Since then, I have tired of the lies and have left my wife for another man. I am happy at last.

But life is not as gloomy as it looks. More and more Gays are coming out. The media sometimes comes out with a few Gay stories. Ironically, AIDS has done a lot for us. People are aware that millions of Gays exist in India and we are not a problem that can be brushed aside just like that. Gays here are happy to know that we are so many. There soon will be a Gay newsletter here (in India) that will reach out to Gays, telling them they are not alone and helping them to turn their frustrations into courage.

Recently, two Lesbians married each other. A lot of hue and cry followed the act but, when they stuck to it, the outcry subsided. More of this will happen in the future.

I look forward to speaking to you in Wisconsin regularly. Until the next time, love.

Editor's Note: The writer is an activist working under great difficulties. In a covering letter, he says that Gay literature of any kind is "non-existent" and would welcome anything someone might like to send that they could distribute to fellow Indian Gays. His address is P.O. Box 61, Patna-800004, Bihar, India.

MALAYSIA

By Eugene Chan

Pink Triangle

Special to Wisconsin Light

An organization now exists in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia providing a comprehensive bona fide counselling and health services to the local Gay community.

The organization began in April 1987 when a group of persons, concerned at the total absence of any counselling and health advisory services for Gay people in Malaysia, got together informally to plan a community-based, volunteer, non-profit service.

In November of the same year, the organization moved into its own premises and began to offer a well-trained telephone counselling service. It has also worked out a long-term strategy to help the Gay community in a number of ways, particularly, in dealing with the threat of AIDS. Today, the organization is legally registered as the *Pink Triangle Sendirian Berhad*.

Its aims and objectives include the following:

1. To provide a comprehensive telephone and/or face-to-face counselling service.
2. To disseminate information on safer sex within the Gay community as part of the effort to minimize the spread of AIDS in Malaysia.
3. To collect and disseminate information on other health and related issues.
4. To establish a resource center.
5. To establish an AIDS Support group.
6. To establish encounter groups.
7. To establish links with similar groups elsewhere in the world.

There are two clauses in the Pink Triangle's "Preliminary Constitution" which bear quoting in order to allay any fears that the organization might be doing anything illegal. One clause specifies "that the Pink Triangle will try to effect these aims (and any other aims) that the group might later pursue within the ambit of the Law of Malaysia." The other clause specifies "that the group... does not intend at all to abet or procure the practice or act of homosexuality. Its aims... derive simply from the fact that homosexuality does exist in Malaysia, and from the conviction... that many homosexuals have acute anxieties and problems arising from their homosexual identity which are not catered for by any existing organization."

By April 1988, Pink Triangle has achieved several objectives. It has:

1. Produced a Safer Sex pamphlet in 3 languages (Bahasa Malaysia, English and Mandarin) which has been distributed free of charge.

2. Conducted a workshop on AIDS.
3. Launched its counselling service, with some 24 men and women (straight as well as Gay) working as volunteers.
4. Organized its own Variety Show Troupe to stage shows for publicity. So far, the troupe has staged two very successful shows to put across the message of safer sex, and is about to produce another show in the very near future. These shows help to generate the revenue necessary for Pink Triangle to provide its non-profit services.
5. Operated a small-scale AIDS blood testing service since October 1987.

The Pink Triangle is currently working to-

1. Provide more extensive counselling hours.
2. Organize or participate in workshops and conferences on AIDS and related issues.
3. Expand its blood-testing service.
4. Collaborate (if only unofficially) with the Health Ministry and other official agencies in the fight against AIDS.

It should be added that the Pink Triangle also provides well researched legal information on homosexuality in Malaysia. The volunteers involved in the Pink Triangle projects include medical personnel, lawyers, and other professionals as well as ordinary but caring members of the community.

(In order to function effectively, it is necessary for the organization to legally register under a commercial law as The Pink Triangle Sendirian Berhad. By no means, however, does the registration imply homosexual practices have been legalized in Malaysia.)

Editor's Note: Eugene Chan is the publisher and editor of *Dear Friends*, a Malaysian Gay newsletter which was established in 1987. The newsletter is the only Gay or Lesbian publication in the country where practicing or writing about homosexuality is strictly illegal. As Chan says, "We don't talk about human rights here." Therefore the newsletter is, as Chan says, "very much an underground operation."

Subscribe to
Wisconsin Light

Wilde

Continued from Page 10

Richard Ellmann completed this biography just before his own death in 1987. It will almost certainly become, like his biography of James Joyce, the most important work in its field. In *Oscar Wilde*, Ellmann has masterfully, and in a style worthy of his subject, related and analyzed the complexities of the life of a great artist born out of his proper time:

"Wilde could see that life's complexity could not easily be codified into thirty-nine or even forty-nine articles, into ten or twenty commandments,

SPORTS NEWS

Chicago and New York Win Softball Classic; Milwaukee Finishes 3rd

By Jerry Warzyn, Sports Editor

The hottest weather of the year did not deter play as 18 teams participated in the 9th annual Milwaukee Classic softball tournament over Memorial Day weekend. Temperatures in the mid to upper 80's failed to slow down the action as teams from out of town took top place trophies home. A crappy team from Chicago Side Track fought its way through the consolation bracket to take 1st place in the competitive division. Meanwhile, a strong team sponsored by Ty's Chelsea Transfer — New York played undefeated to take 1st place in the recreational division.

Events began Thursday evening as the visiting teams checked into the host hotel, the Hyatt Regency. There they received welcome packets containing information about the tournament and the city, as well as complimentary drink tickets from participating Milwaukee bars. Out of town teams included Rumors and Twin City Storn from the Twin Cities, 1270 from Boston, Ty's Chelsea Transfer from New York, and Impact, In Exile, Old Tymers and Side Track from Chicago.

Softball play began at noon on Friday with most teams playing one game. On Friday night, the Saturday Softball Beer League (SSBL) sponsored "A Taste of Milwaukee" for players and fans. This event featured foods famous to Milwaukee and Wisconsin as prepared by member teams of the SSBL. The evening was topped off by entertainment under the direction of Jim Mierzwa. Doris DeLago and his performers kept the large crowd on its feet with well choreographed and crisply executed numbers. The show was worth the price of admission alone. George Prentice of La Cage donated a portion of the proceeds during the event back to the SSBL.

Play resumed on Saturday at 8:45 a.m. at Mitchell Park with a full slate of games there and at West Milwaukee Park. Opening Ceremonies were conducted at 2:00 p.m. All participating teams were led on to the fields by a color guard and the national anthems of the United States and

Canada were performed by the Cream City Chorus. An abundant supply of food, soda and beer was on hand thanks to the capable supervision of Scott Burac and his hard-working crew. Saturday night was open for the participants to sample the city on their own. However several host teams sponsored welcome parties and food for the visiting teams.

Sunday saw the final action of the tournament. In the recreational division, Boston 1270 missed its opportunity to retain the championship trophy as they lost to Milwaukee's La Cage Blueboys. However, the Blueboys had to settle for second place as Ty's Chelsea Transfer from New York proved to be unbeatable.

In the competitive division, Your Place Flamingos from Milwaukee were defeated twice by Chicago Side Track in the championship playoffs. Finishing third was Milwaukee Raiders.

The tournament was capped off with a banquet and awards ceremony held at the Top of the Marine in Milwaukee. Pre-banquet entertainment was supplied by Michelle Currie of Boston, a noted cabaret performer in the Boston and Provincetown area. During dinner a slide show organized by Stephanie Hume and several numbers from Holly Brown entertained the players and fans. Later participation awards were presented to all teams by the SSBL officers and traveling trophies were awarded to Chicago Side Track and New York's Ty's Chelsea Transfer. The food and service at the Top of the Marine proved to be excellent.

Overall the tournament appeared to be a great success. Events were well organized and well attended. Milwaukee's bar owners and volunteers from the community contributed long hours and money to ensure that players and fans had a fun tournament. As players departed Milwaukee on Monday following several farewell parties and cookouts, plans were already underway for Milwaukee Classic X.

GAMMA Announces Social Outings

Milwaukee GAMMA, a nonpolitical social and sports organization has announced several events for the month of June. On Tuesday, June 14, a miniature golf outing will be held at Johnson Park, 7350 N. 76th (north of Good Hope) at 7:30 p.m. On Sunday, June 12, the GAMMA group will be traveling to Great America in Gurnee, Illinois. GAMMA members will meet at McKinley Marina at the Lakefront at 8:30 a.m. to car pool to the event. Attendees are requested to wear red shirts. Upcoming events will be a GAMMA night out at Summerfest on July 8, the Madison MAGIC Picnic on July 23, and the always fun Iroquois Boast Cruise on August 13.

For more information about GAMMA, please write to: Milwaukee GAMMA, Inc., P.O. Box 1900, Milwaukee, WI 53201-1900.

Saturday Softball Beer League Standings

[As of June 11, 1988]

WOMEN'S DIVISION	Wins	Losses
Beer Garden	4	3
Flaming O's	2	4
Fannies	2	4
Station 2	2	5
COMPETITIVE DIVISION		
Raiders	6	1
Your Place	5	1
Ballgame	4	4
RECREATIONAL DIVISION		
La Cage	7	1
M&M Clun	6	2
Club 219	3	5
Wreck Room	3	6
Cream City Foundation	0	8

3 Biking Trips Planned

The Gay Bicycling Network is getting into high gear for the summer; our next trips are: Sunday, June 26, 1988 from the East Side to North Lake for GAMMA's Water Frolic. Leave at 10:30 AM — we can stop in Wauwatosa to pick-up a second group. GAMMA members only; call Bob (963-9833) for details. Sunday, July 10, 1988 — our "naughty-park" ride will leave from Estabrook and head west to Underwood Creek Parkway; hosted party to follow. Jim (332-8049) has the plans. Finally, Fish Day at Port Washington is July 16; we'll leave from Lake Park Pavillion at 11:00 AM for a fifty-five mile (fairly flat) jaunt; Bob (963-9833) is making arrangements.

GAMMA Sponsors Social Volleyball

Milwaukee GAMMA is sponsoring social volleyball at UWM's Englemann Gym every Thursday night from 8:00 to 10:00 p.m. Cost is \$1.50 for members and \$3.00 for non-members. This is an opportunity to get in shape for all those beach volleyball games.

Chicago Tournament Bowls June 23-26

Metropolitan Sports Association of Chicago is sponsoring a bowling tournament, the Chicago Pride-Week Invitational (CPI), June 23-26, 1988, during Gay Pride Week. The CPI is a benefit sponsored by MSA's Athletes Against AIDS (AAA). One-half of the proceeds will be donated to AIDS-related agencies. Bowling will take place at Marigold Arcade Bowl, 828 W. Grace Street in Chicago. For information contact CPI-MSA at P.O. Box 409549, Chicago, IL 60640-9549, or call Dick Uyvarti, Tournament Director, at (312) 769-5115.

Runners Urged to Join In "Proud to Run" Race in Chicago for Pride Week

Metropolitan Sports Association of Chicago ("MSA") invites all area runners to join in the 1988 "Proud to Run" race. The seventh annual race will be held on Sunday, June 26th, in Chicago as part of the Gay Pride Week events.

This year's race consists of two events. A 10K (6.2 miles) competitive run begins at 8:30 a.m. and a 1 mile fun run follows at 8:40 a.m. Both runs begin south of the beach house on Foster Avenue and north Lake Shore Drive. Packet pickup for all pre-registered runners will be from 7:30-8:15 a.m. The 10K race will have awards for male and female age divisions as follows: 18-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50+. There are also separate corporate, men and women team awards. An awards presentation will be held following the race by the district Alderman, Kathy Osterman.

Witch

Continued from Page 1

A Mid-Summer Nights Dream is June 19

ymous with each other. If you were a witch, it was assumed you were Gay and were tortured, burned alive or done to death in a number of other terrible ways. To Church authorities, Wicca was the religious expression of "sodomites", a challenge to their power and hence, the work of the devil.

Wicca, taught then as it does now, that there was an underlying harmony and order to nature with which people should attune themselves; that there were forces, life, prevailing all reality; that the spiritual did not transcend the material but was related to it and could be integrated into human life. According to Margaret Murray in *The God of the Witches*, there was in Wicca, a respect for human sensuality which was considered a natural force to which no shame should be attached and which should be expressed.

Wicca worships two deities, one male, the other, female. As has been noted, the female is the Great Mother. The male is, according to Monica, "The Great Horned One." Like his feminine counterpart, he has many names, among them, Sernunous (Celtic) and Pan (Greek). Writing in *The American Journal of Archaeology*, Dr. Phyllis Bober says that he is as ancient as the Great Mother Herself and calls him "Lord of the Dead." His color is black which, Monica says is the color to "ground and control sexuality." The ancient Roman historian, Diordorus, records that he was specially sacred to Gay men. Christianity turned him into the devil.

According to Monica, the two divinities are consorts and equals of each other. Believing in them, she says, is "like recognizing a part of one's self." Besides the two gods, there are other beings. The trolls are the spirits of the earth and fairies which are the fates. She goes on to add that "as long as a person lives who calls the name of a god, that god lives."

While witches meet at every full moon, "esbat", the 8 holidays or sabbaths, have special significance. Each marks a point in the rhythm of the agricultural or natural year. Midsummer's Night's Eve, the celebration of which begins at sundown on June 19, is a great celebration of thankfulness for Summer's life. On that night, all rejoice in the maturation of the goddess who brings the bounty of the earth. It is also a night for the granting of wishes, for "blasting" rapists and all men who exploit women and marks the high point of male power which, in the Medieval Period, meant Gay men.

Monica explains that the year is divided into the "Mouths of Sun" and the "Months of Moon." The male sign is the sun and from December 21 (a day for the telling of the future) to Hallowe'en, men are powerful and rule the coven. Things change on All Hallows Eve (New Year's Eve in Wicca) and women become dominant, receiving from the male witches the symbols of rule; the rock, sword, cup and shield. Twice during the year, men and women are equal in power. These are at the Spring and Autumnal equinoxes.

A bonfire which symbolizes the sun, is a part of every celebration as is the circle which, in its endlessness, represents eternity. Monica says that for a witch, "casting a circle" is "going to church." Within the circle is the pentagram, a five pointed star. This corresponds to the

Entry fee is \$11 prior to June 13, and \$13 thereafter. An additional \$3 fee is required if packets are to be mailed. There is no day of race registration.

The event is a fundraiser for the Howard Brown Memorial Clinic and the Chicago House. 1987's race raised over \$7,800. Runners are encouraged to solicit pledges for the race.

Race entry forms can be obtained locally from Jerry at (414) 672-6866 or by mail at the following address: MSA Proud to Run, Peg Grey, Race Director, 840 W. Ainslie #B-1, Chicago, IL 60640. Entry forms are also available at M&M Club and the Beer Garden in Milwaukee.

For further information, contact Billie Hunt at (312) 561-0829 or Peg Grey at (312) 325-6277. Lets see a good turnout from Wisconsin.

witch's body that is, or becomes, a conduit for the earth's energy and it is within the circle that witchcraft is practiced, that the spell is cast. What that really means, Monica explains is a "play-act", where the witch does in a small space (the circle) what is to happen in a large space.

According to Monica, the wicked witch of myth and fairytales casting terrible spells is a construct of patriarchy which felt threatened by any woman who had power. She admits that a witch can do evil, but they had "better be ready to pay the price themselves." That price is heavy. In Wiccan belief, anything you send out comes back to you three times. Also, central to Wicca are the two commandments that are not to be violated. "Do what thou wilt and harm no one," and "Mind your own business."

Still there are spells. For example, if someone is bothering you, take a piece of tape and put in on a chair where they will sit. Once they have done so, take the tape, stick it to a slip of paper with their name on it, cut it up and put the pieces on ice. That will, she says, in effect, "freeze" or stop them from acting against you.

Other spells involve colors. To make someone helpless, wear a pink shirt when they are around or burn a pink candle. If you want growth, energy or prosperity, green is good while people suffering from disease should wear red, either clothes or stones — rubies, etc. If you want to sharpen your intellect, use yellow.

As to love potions, Monica suggests patchouli oil which, she says comes from graveyard flowers and rouses some men. An oil with a far more powerful effect as a male turn-on is pure Himalayan musk oil.

Today, Wicca has long since ceased to be what it was in the Medieval Period, the religious expression of Gays and Lesbians although there are still many of us who practice it. There is a network of covens called "Tayu" in which Gay men worship the Mother Goddess. While the Dianic covens are dominated by Lesbians, Wicca has a ceremony of marriage called "hand fasting" which is open to Gay and Lesbian couples.

What attracts people to it, authorities suggest, is the uncomfortable feeling, held by many, witches or not, that there is something inhuman about 20th Century society. We have built an urban, technological world in pursuit of which we have violated and destroyed nature. It has been done with the sanction of Western religion, but, in so doing, we have actually created something foreign and even hostile to us. Many also feel that the scientific, rational worldview, is somehow inadequate to explain reality. That there is much in the natural rhythm, much about humans themselves and their bodies, that the ancients understood and accepted and which many of us have forgotten or denied. This, in part, is what Wicca is all about.

If you want to know more about it, Monica will be speaking on June 29 at Crystal Dreams on Farwell Ave. at 8:00 p.m. If you would like to read, get a book called *Witchcraft and the Gay Counter-culture* by Arthur Evans. It can be ordered at People's Books on Farwell. However, on June 19 when the sun goes down, remember, whether you believe in its meaning or not, that once upon a time, it was a holiday of our people.

The Light LIVELY ARTS

Women's Music Festival Attracts Thousands

By Jamakaya

Thousands of women — 90% Lesbian according to my Lesbo-ometer — descended on the Bloomington campus of Indiana University for the 14th National Women's Music Festival June 2-5th. The diversity of both the performers and participants made for an exciting experience of growth and celebration.

The Friday Mainstage concert began with Canadian Lucie Blue Tremblay crooning love ballads, one to her homeland, others to female companions. She credited Meg Christian with influencing her music and went on to sing lovely renditions of Meg's "Truning It Over" and "Joanna" in French. Composer-pianist Adrienne Torf, who often accompanies Holly Near, played selections from her recent album *Brooklyn From the Roof*. Her piano and synthesizer arrangements are richly layered and her keyboard style is intense. She brings great passion to her music.



Kitty Barber and Sherrie Shute.

Deidre McCalla, a Milwaukee favorite from her days with Breakwater, did a lively set of songs from her award-winning LPs *Don't Doubt It* and *With a Little Luck*. Deidre was hysterically funny, at one point mugging and jamming with a rubber guitar. She told the audience of her new support group, Adult Victims of Felines, and related how she had to explain S&M camping to her 63 year old mother who attended the New England Women's Festival last year!

Chicago's Pride Week Begins 10 Day Run on June 17

By Geno

Chicago Pride Week this year extends from Friday, June 17th through Sunday the 26th of June. The ten-day celebration has three or four events scheduled for each day, and a phone call to the Pride Week Committee 1-(312)-348-8243 will bring a full calendar of events to your home. Here are some of the highlights of Chicago's 19th annual Gay and Lesbian Pride Week celebration:

Many Wisconsin natives make the yearly trek to Chicago for the gala entertainment offered with most interest focused on the final weekend culminating in the impressive Gay Pride Parade which ends with a huge rally in Lincoln Park. Several Milwaukee organizations will participate in the parade including the Fest City Singers and the Cream City Chorus.

Each year Chicago's two Gay Men's Choruses present a concert marking the end of their year's activities. The Windy City Gay Chorus will present its concert on Friday, the 24th at 8 p.m. in Orchestra Hall. This concert is planned to be lighter in tone than the concerts of earlier in the year, featuring the Windy City Slickers and a jazz group. Phone 1-(312)-477-9380.

Friday, June 17 events kick off with a benefit auction featuring such items as autographed hi-tops belonging to Martina Navratilova. The auction will begin at 8 pm at Ann Sather's, a marvelous restaurant where the food is excellent, plentiful and relatively inexpensive. The ambience and

Teresa and Toshi

Teresa Trull followed Deidre and delivered a high energy mixture of rock and rhythm and blues from *Unexpected* and *A Step Away* (a great dance album). She drew perhaps the biggest laugh of the night in one of her song intros: "I don't have relationships," said Teresa waiting a beat, "I take hostages." She had the audience sing along to "Natural Woman" and gave generous recognition to her able accompanists, Julie Homi on piano and Toshi Reagan on guitar.

Toshi was everywhere at the festival, playing backup for Teresa and Casselberry-Dupree, and performing with her own band at Thursday night's dance. Toshi's jamming and dynamic presence drove the crowds wild.

Saturday's show opened with Canadian Connie Caldor belting out great country and pop ballads. She accompanied herself on piano and guitar. During songs like "Bird on the Wing" from *Moonlight Grocery*, the power and clarity of her voice shook the hall. Jazz-blues vocalist Rhannon, formerly with Alive, transfixed the audience with dramatic acapella scat improvisations. She brought the audience to its feet chanting to a moving rendition of the Pointer Sisters' "Freedom," which she dedicated to Jesse Jackson.

Casselberry-Dupree

Casselberry-Dupree got the audience dancing with their synthesis of reggae, blues, and African and Latin rhythms. Accompanied by the able Annette Aguilar on percussion, they played selections from *City Down* and showcased several new numbers as well. Politics is central to their music, whether it's about South Africa or oppression here in the U.S. Apparently pleased by the diversity of music and women at the festival this year, J. and Jaque encouraged those present to continue to "build coalitions."

Jasmine, the jazz-pop duo from St. Louis, opened Sunday's Mainstage. I was frankly surprised at how good they were. Their album, *Wild Strings*, has always

TURN TO FESTIVAL, PAGE 16

the clientele are always fascinating. (*The Light* will do a review of this restaurant in an upcoming issue.)

There will be a Senior Prom '88 sponsored by Gray Pride Chicago at Paris Dance; the seniors always have an unusual float in the parade, too. Acupuncture Workshops for persons with AIDS and Service Providers, and a Massage-a-thon against AIDS will be given by students of the Chicago School of Massage Therapy. A phone call to 1-(312)-327-6437 will get you further information.

The rest of the week features brunches, reunions, workshops, plays and forums, an entire spectrum of events. Since Chicago has planned and conducted Pride Week for 19 years, their experience should suggest many ideas for those planning Milwaukee's Gay Pride activities.

If you missed their show when they appeared in Milwaukee this spring, the Chicago Gay Men's Chorus will present their Gay Pride Concert entitled "They Dance So Well, Why Must They Sing?" Saturday evening, June 25 at the Vic Theatre, at Sheffield and Belmont. The program will feature a medley of dance tunes in pop culture called "At the Hop" which includes the cult favorite, "The Homecoming Queen's Got a Gun." The CGMC will be joined by the Chicago Gay and Lesbian Chorus and by Encore, the specialty group making their debut. Phone 1-(312)-477-9380 for ticket information.

Make a Promise Dinner Draws Record Crowd

By Geno

The Make a Promise dinner was a success, and Patrick Prudlow and his committee members are to be congratulated. The posh Wisconsin Club is the perfect setting for an elegant evening like this, and to open the massive oak doors and be greeted by the music of Wynne Hackett at the piano sets the mood for the entire affair. Wynne has been a jewel in her tireless support of the Gay community — yes sir a jewel.

The silent auction this year offered real antiques (the clocks drew a great deal of attention), as well as fun items like a fur hat and a vintage tuxedo. The bidding at times was spirited.

The staff at the Wisconsin Club is efficient and friendly (the old women who check coats are a delight), but the food disappointed some of the diners. The portions of prime rib were generous, but most of them were served practically in a raw state — jokes about the meat about to get up and moo went the rounds of various tables. The fish on the other hand was excellent, and diners should be given a choice of entrees. How about something like Chicken Kiev, Beef Stroganoff or dishes that have been properly cooked for next year's dinner?

The evening's entertainment was ably handled by Emcee Debbie Young of radio station WOKY, a real pro who can ad lib her way through waits between acts and stay jolly even when the sound system presents difficulties. The Fest City Singers



Patrick Prudlow and Ronnie Marks.

and the Cream City Chorus both did their thing independently and also joined in singing a Disney medley and "Together." Real crowd pleasers. And so were Kathy O'Hara and Diana Laffey who could have gone much longer to the delight of the audience.

Scott Sowlles, Mr. Gay Wisconsin appeared in his jammies for "Mr. Sandman" and also sang "Midnight" from "Cats."

The rest of the entertainment was largely dependent on lip-synch. Surely the community has talented people who can perform live, who aren't dependent on recorded music. An effort to engage live entertainment next year should turn up some real talent.

12 Day Pride Celebration Opens In Superior June 16

Gays and Lesbians in Duluth-Superior are planning a 12 days celebration in honor of, June, Gay Pride Month. The festival begins on June 16 and will conclude on June 27, the anniversary of the Stonewall Rebellion.

(Editor's Note: There has always been some confusion as to the accurate date of Stonewall, the 27th or the 28th? That's because the riot actually started past midnight in the wee hours of June 28. Thus, some cities celebrate on June 27, others, on June 28.)

The celebration kicks off on June 16 at 7:00 pm at Superior's Main Club with "Bob Night." Bring a Bob or be a Bob!

Friday, June 17th is the Pride Kickoff with hors d'oeuvres from 8:00 pm to 11:00 at the Main Club.

Saturday, June 18 is the Picnic at Billing Park, noon-9:00 pm. There will be softball, canoeing and people games and events.

With Sunday a "day of rest", Monday, June 20 continues the celebration with a seminar on Homophobia from 7:00 pm to 10:00 pm at the Main Club. Inez Wagner will facilitate the discussion.

Policy Statement

This is the second appearance of *Wisconsin Light's* Lively Arts section. This expansion of the paper enabling us to devote more space and attention to the arts and the cultural scene, has been made possible by the 900-Number ads at the back of the section. A practical trade off, we think — the ads pay the freight for broader coverage of plays and new books, opera, art exhibits, dance theatre, even architecture and restaurants. We will continue to report on social events as well as upon the national and international art world.

Our criterion for covering these activities is not whether they are Gay or produced by Gay individuals or groups, but simply whether they will interest an adult, perceptive audience interested in the lively arts. In other words, when we review an artist's work or a theatre company, it does not mean that they are Gay, though often

they may be Gay sensitive. A reminder: *The Light* and the Lively Arts section are distributed in Gay establishments, but they are now also available to the community at large in Schwartz's Bookshops, the Oriental Theatre, Webster's, La Boulangerie, Video Adventures, and similar outlets not necessarily Gay-oriented.

Individuals and groups who want news of their activities to appear in *The Light* should send information to the editors at 1843 N. Palmer, Milwaukee, 53212. Telephone (414) 372-2773. If you write your own copy, it should be written in standard journalistic style — that is, in the third person and that it gives all necessary details. Articles written in the first person (Hello! I'm going to tell you about...) must be signed by the writer. Just give the facts, just the facts.

Deadlines are as follows: For the Arts and Entertainment Section, the Third Friday of the month.

— The Editors

MUSIC

Milwaukee Choruses Cooperate But Will Retain Separate Identities

By Geno

Milwaukee- The Fest City Singers (FCS) and the Cream City Chorus (CCC) recently joined their voices to sing together at the Make a Promise Dinner at the Wisconsin Club, and both groups also sang for the annual AIDS Candlelight Memorial Service at Kenwood United Methodist Church. These joint appearances have given rise to expectations within the Gay community that the two singing groups might eventually merge.

Nothing could be further from the truth. Milwaukee now has two choruses, each with its own distinct identity, its own taste in music, its own concept of its role in the community. About a year ago when the split occurred, bitterness, hurt feelings, even some broken friendships were the result. But this situation was not unique to Milwaukee.

A bit of background may help to put things into perspective. According to GALA (Gay and Lesbian Association of Choruses), choral groups have been splitting up like amoebas in various parts of the country. These breakups have taken place in New York City, Denver, Texas, and Los Angeles, among others. Recently, David Runyon, the founder of Madison's Gay Men's Chorale, withdrew from that organization to found the United Fruit Co., and Tossed Salad Singers which he describes as "A democratic group, straight and Gay, a fun/people oriented group rather than one too seriously music oriented." And in Chicago, the Gay Men's Chorus (CGMC) led by music director Kip Snyder formed in 1983 to sing at "Come Out and Sing" in New York City, GALA's first international Gay choral gathering which the Windy City Gay Men's Chorus declined to attend. Today each Chicago chorus has its own unique personality.

Whether these breakups arise from political power plays, personal antagonisms, or other differences, a distinct pattern emerges along artistic lines. One group devotes itself to serious music, the other group sings lighter musical fare, introduces dance and novelty numbers, presents scenes from musical comedy. The Windy City Chorus, for example, sings in Orchestra Hall to the accompaniment of harpsichord, a brass ensemble, hand bells, and harp. The CGMC, on the other hand, likes to step down off the riser to present "flash, dash, and an occasional bit of trash." Of course, the Windy City also has its lighter moments with its Windy City Slickers and also dips into light opera; the CGMC too will sing Gregorian Chant most movingly (all 100 men dressed in nun's

MAP AIDS Forum

The Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP) has announced the second meeting of its Gay Community Advisory Group to be held on June 13, 1988 at the MAP offices at 315 W. Court Street at 6:00 p.m. All are invited to attend.

Goldenboy

Continued from page 10

reviewer, who prefer "easy" mysteries, may wish there were a few less threads. But for those addicted to the complexities of the genre, *Goldenboy*, with its suspenseful and satisfying denouncement, should please most.

Like Hansen, Nava places his stories in California and generally adheres to a "classical" mystery tradition — in the twentieth century, one thinks of Chandler or Hammett. Although he lacks the wit and pizzazz of Richard Stevenson and the bitchiness of Nathan Aldyne, Nava is by no means humorless; his humor simply tends toward dry.

If there's any one irritant in this novel, it is the all-too-frequent references to Rios' "extremely good looks." This, however, is admittedly minor and not totally without relations to the plot: the good guys as well as the bad guys want to seduce him and you can learn more — at least as regards the unsolved mystery — from the bad. But Rios isn't the type to bed down thugs; he remains pure and true to his recently found beloved. He's upright, wholesome and sentimental. As long as Nava doesn't make him too good, Rios shouldn't become a bore. And with Nava's talent, neither should this series.

Look for this one and more.

habits) and then segue smoothly into other songs from "The Sound of Music."

The same pattern along artistic lines is evident in the way that both Milwaukee choruses have developed since the split. According to Scott Stewart, music director of the CCC, "We perform think pieces," and this concentration upon serious music is evident though occasional selections like a Walt Disney medley or a novelty number by Scott Sowles, Mr. Gay Wisconsin, will enliven the program. The Fest City Singers tap dance and sing "When You're Smiling," play kazooes, and produce the Fest City Frolix, yet can be appropriately serious singing for the wake of Wayne Sternhagen or for the Bob Urvari Memorial Service singing Mozart, or "I Believe" and "Family" under music director, Bim Florek.

Since the breakup, each chorus has served the Milwaukee community generously and in its own way in a variety of appearances. The CCC had a Christmas concert at Milwaukee's La Cage/Dance, Dance, Dance, while the FCS sang in the rotunda of Milwaukee's Grand Avenue Mall and the Bayshore Mall gigantic Christmas tree stage, then sang early morning carols over radio station WOKY. The FCS sang at St. Mary's Hospice and St. Elizabeth's Home for the Elderly, and the CCC sang for AIDS Recognition in Madison. Both groups went caroling to most of the city's Gay/Lesbian bars. The CCC sang for the Martin Luther King Memorial and the FCS sang for Galano Commitment '87 and performed with Fest City Frolix, even taking the show on the road to Appleton. The list could go on at greater length — it demonstrates that both groups have now established themselves as independent entities.

The bitterness which once accompanied the split has now largely evaporated — the Fest City Singers donated an ad to the CCC in the program for their joint concert with the Chicago Gay Men's Chorus in March, and the CCC has reciprocated with an ad in the program for its spring concert. Each has wished the other the best of luck. Fest City Singers as a group attended the CCC Christmas Concert, and other similar gestures of good will have been extended.

So Milwaukee, count your blessings! You have two Gay/Lesbian singing groups, each serving the community, Gay and straight, in a variety of ways, willing to lend its talents to entertain and foster Gay pride, to present an admirable Gay image. Support them both equally and wholeheartedly!"

Dinner Theatre Opens in July

By Geno

Plans are rapidly moving forward for another theatre enterprise to be added to Milwaukee's already flourishing theatre scene. John Bohan, the producer, has announced a dinner theatre scheduled to open by mid-July at Oscar's Supper Club, 7330 N. 76th Street. Bohan and Kenneth Norman, the restaurant's manager and chef, plan to offer a meal and a show for an admission price under \$20. Four plays and musicals, including the hilarious hit *Nun-Sense* are being considered.

Oscar's housed a dinner theatre in the 1970's and is physically adapted to the new troupe. Bohan is hiring actors and singers from the Milwaukee-Chicago area, and those wishing to try out are asked to phone him at (414) 357-8014.

Bohan has performed and directed for numerous area theatre groups and is currently a teacher at Cedarburg High School as well as artistic director for the Jewish Community Center Theatre.

CORRECTIONS

In the last issue of *Light*, Vol. 1, No. 7, credit for the art work for "Aunt Jessie" was omitted. The artist is Mary Shafer of Shafer Design of Milwaukee.

The writer of the article, "Milwaukee's 10% Society Active, Involved and Concerned" is Guy Hoffmann, not "Hofman" as was printed.

The photo credit for the Cream City Foundation Casino Night was omitted, the picture was taken by Cheryl Franklin.

ALBERT HERRING Excellent In Skylight Production

By Geno

Milwaukee- The recent production by the Skylight Comic Opera Company of Sir Benjamin Britten's opera, *Albert Herring*, serves as a reminder that Britten wrote a number of operas with homosexual overtones about boys or young men as the central characters. But *Albert Herring* is a comic opera with a happy ending unlike the other works including *Peter Grimes*, *Death in Venice*, *The Turn of the Screw* and *Billy Budd*, all of which end with the young men's tragic deaths. Although *Albert Herring* is a comic opera which contrasts the somber tone of the other works, the opera has its grimmer side as Britten stairizes the small mindedness of the Suffolk villagers who run things.

The comic flavor of this opera arises from the premise that since the town can produce no suitable maidens to be Queen of the May, Albert, a naive country lad is chosen to be King of the May. The young man is forced into accepting the role reluctantly by his domineering mother, but when he becomes drunk on the local vintage and disappears, the peaceful village is turned topsy-turvy. At the end, Albert has declared his independence from "Mum" and the village elders.

Skylight's production was outstanding for the excellence of the singers, all of them of high professional calibre with considerable stage experience. Because Albert is such a wimp, the role does not offer the leading singer much opportunity for vocal fireworks, but David Rice in the role of the butcher's shophand, had the energy and engaging stage presence that overshadowed the title character at times. Rice, appearing for the first time on the Skylight stage though he has performed extensively elsewhere, should be welcomed back again for the coming season. John Kuether, as always, presented a fully rounded character as Superintendent Budd, one of the sympathetic town figures whose suggestion that Albert be crowned King of the May had a subtle intimation that his interest in the lad may have had its personal aspect, though he ends up marrying the schoolmistress.

The Skylight Comic Opera Ltd. is currently seeking subscribers for its autumn season, a very exciting season that begins with *Die Fledermaus* and continues with such favorites as *The Fantasticks*, *The Threepenny Opera* and a *Cabaret Review*. The box office phone number is 414/271-8815.

Capote Was Eccentric Character

Edmund White reviewing *A Capote Reader* in the *Times Literary Supplement* (London) makes some shrewd observations about the late Truman Capote and his work. He points out that Capote's frequent eccentric appearances on television shows and his extravagant behavior made him a celebrity or a "character" in the United States though he is regarded as a major American writer in Europe, especially in France. A *Capote Reader* give ample evidence of his genius in its 722 pages.

Among the patterns that White sees in Capote's writing is the sense that children and loving but sexless eccentrics (like himself?) are good, while adults represent evil, yet Capote gives these memorable lines in *The Glass Harp* to Judge Charlie Cool: "It may be that there is no place for any of us. Except we know there is, somewhere: and if we found it, but lived there only a moment, we could count ourselves blessed."

White's keenest assessment deals with Capote's inability to come to terms with

homosexuality in his writing though he made no secret of his own sexual orientation. Given that Capote was writing at a time when sexual explicitness was not as taken for granted as it is today, White nevertheless sees his euphemistic way of dealing with sex as a form of dishonesty. He gives an example from "A Diamond Guitar" where the writer deals with homosexual attraction in the following manner: "Except that they did not combine their bodies or think to do so, though such things were not unknown at the farm, they were as lovers." White concludes that Truman Capote was gifted but blocked.

Still, he gives high marks to the prose and fiction in the collection; Truman Capote could tell a good story, collected unusual personalities, and before he died seemed to have opened up in dealing with the jet set, people he knew intimately. White concludes: "Too bad Capote didn't stay sober long enough to betray his friends more thoroughly."



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TRAVEL

Maritime Museum: A Discovery of the Powers of Lake Michigan

By Mary Shafer

For those winter-weary city dwellers who are up for a trip out of the metropolis but don't have time for a whole weekend away, our fair state offers a wide range of nearby diversions. A host of interesting and exciting "road trips" awaits the adventurous of Milwaukee — not the least of which is the little-known Maritime Museum.

Established with the purpose of documenting the history of one of Wisconsin's greatest industries, the Museum is located in the town of Manitowoc, the site of one of the most thriving ports at the turn of the century. The driver who longs for a leisurely trip along the scenic Lake Michigan shoreline can take Route 32 north. For those preferring to shorten the trip and save time for the museum itself, I-43 is a straight shot (pardon the terminology) up to Manitowoc. After exiting on State 151 (Calumet Ave.), follow 42 north and the nearly "unmissable" green tourist signs that guide you to the museum.

Touring the museum is a real treat for history buffs, shipbuilding enthusiasts, and the just plain curious. Those who have already visited the museum before this year are in for a special surprise. All those exhibits you enjoyed in the old location are still there, enhanced with newly-constructed backdrops and concise presentation plaques.

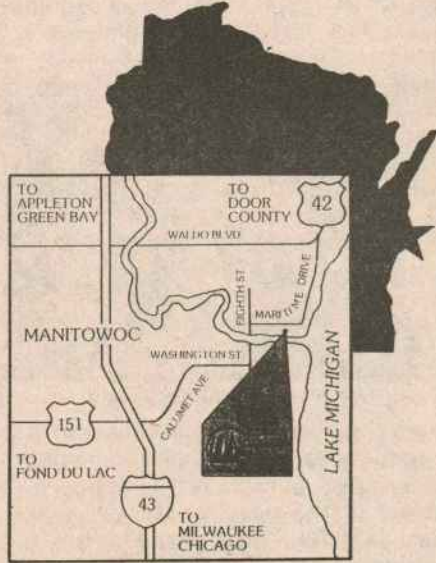
The new building has allowed for expansion of exhibits to include a "Special Exhibit" area, located centrally on the first level, along with a related video presentation adjacent, in a small, but easily accessible, corner. At this time, and running through the end of the year, this special exhibit is "Shipwrecks of Lake Michigan," a fascinating documentation of one of our greatest natural resource's darker facets. A thoroughly researched presentation, the recovered artifacts of discovered wrecks mingle with their harrowing tales of terror and lost life.

A haunting sense of "having been there" descends upon you as you read the stories about how each of the twelve vessels plunged to their watery graves and view the fragments of lives prematurely ended — a spoon, a clay pipe, a Dutch Bible. The atmosphere is made complete by the ever-present but almost subliminal strains of soft, sea-like music wafting through the rafters.

The attendant video, 12½ minutes long, is an excerpt from the documentary "The Mystery Ship," about the discovery and subsequent raising of the Alvin Clark. This 200 ton cargo ship was sunk on June 29, 1864, by a severe squall in 110 feet of water in Green Bay. Artifacts from this wreck serve as the centerpiece for the entire exhibit. Perhaps the most poignant part of this presentation is the tale of the sinking of the "Christmas Tree Ship," which is one part of the enduring legacy of the Lake Michigan legend. I'll leave that one for you to discover.

As you move on to the rest of the museum, the music mysteriously dies away, replaced by the "screes" of sea-gulls, noticed hovering and wheeling overhead. They fly toward the East wall, which displays a bright, wonderfully executed mural depicting a few stevedores loading cargo onto a ship, which is silhouetted against a dying sunset. This backdrop leads onto the wooden sidewalk that begins a permanent exhibit: the recreation of a turn-of-the-century Manitowoc street.

This faithful reproduction (which will put Milwaukeeans in mind of our own "streets of Old Milwaukee" wing at the Public Museum here) includes a dry goods general storefront, complete with actual old-time cans of vegetables; a ship chandlery displaying all sorts of nautical



paraphernalia and yard goods; a second-story brick hardware store; and the office of the Goodrich Transportation Company, which was THE popular steamship line in Manitowoc. (Antique lovers beware: it'll be hard to restrain yourselves from crashing through the plate glass picture window to get the dark-oiled walnut pigeonhole desk and wall clock!) All of these businesses actually operated in Manitowoc during the heyday of Great Lakes shipping.

Turning from there, one can view a full-size cutaway of a schooner under construction. Continuing through the downstairs, you can move through a thorough history of shipbuilding and commerce from sail through steam to today's diesel bulk freighters and pleasure yachts. A beautiful old pleasure cruiser, complete with varnished mahogany hull, polished brass fittings and genuine leather upholstery will be a delight for anyone who appreciates the days when craftsmanship was truly job #1.

One of the unique facets of this museum is its display of model ships. These models, accurately scaled and intricately detailed, belie their heritage of literally thousands of hours of hard work which went into their construction. And yes, there are even a few Ships in bottles!

My personal favorite attraction is the guided tour of the USS Cobia, a WWII submarine which is permanently moored next to the museum proper, and which has been designated as a National Historic Landmark. It reigns as one of Manitowoc's prize possessions, since it is reminiscent of 28 like vessels that were constructed right in the town and used to sink many an enemy ship during the fiercest battles of WWII in the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans.

This tour (at least when I went) is given by an "old Salt" who obviously knows his stuff. His colorful talk throughout the tour is at once informative and entertaining, and makes this one of the things you'll remember for quite awhile. His anecdotes will make you really feel the tension that actual sub crews must have felt in their close quarters, anticipating engagement in battle. War may not be pretty, but no one can deny that it's exciting.

If you'd like to do the sub tour without doing the actual museum, the admission charges are separate, but with both tours costing less than \$10 per adult, it's a more than reasonable amount for a long afternoon of learning, history and entertainment. I highly recommend this little jaunt to anyone who has only an afternoon to spend, and a budget to match.

Oh, and just a little extra that I'll let you in on: If you're really into history, check out the fossilized limestone that is used as decorative groundcover on the side of the building — absolutely thousands of petrified little creatures just waiting to be explored!

Saugatuck Summers: Surf, Sand, Sun and Sex

By Rex Wockner

Jack and I are casually downing a couple of veggie omelets at an outdoor cafe in "the Fire Island of the Midwest," "the Russian River of the Heartland." The laid-back resort atmosphere invites a second cup of coffee as we lounge in shorts and sweatshirts. The sweatshirts will come off as soon as the sun clears a few harmless clouds.

Saugatuck-Douglas, Michigan are two very tiny towns (the year-round population is almost 2,000) which swell in the summer with artists, yacht enthusiasts and enough Gay people to keep churches of fundamentalists praying until the second coming.

The draw is Lake Michigan. It looks, acts and feels like an ocean. There are waves, tides, sunsets, beaches, dunes, and flotsam. And not even on the clearest of days can you see across the lake. If you turn your head ninety degrees and take in the coast line of jagged cliffs and greenery, it's easy to believe you're in Oregon or Puerto Vallarta.

The city of Saugatuck is build around a wide spot in the Kalamazoo River known as Lake Kalamazoo. This leave the Lake Michigan coastline relatively unspoiled by civilization. In fact, the only way to Lake Michigan from Saugatuck is to drive all the way around Lake Kalamazoo or take a hand-cranked chain ferry. The bridgelessness definitely enhances the ambience.

The Oval Beach is the main public beach. It costs \$5.00 to take your car in, but foot or bicycle entry is free. The best way to get there is to climb the 288 stairs to the top of Mt. Baldhead and hike down the other side of the dune to the beach. I held onto Jack's pockets for the last few flights of stairs, but the panoramic view from the top was worth the pain.

The city of Douglas also has a public beach. Unlike in Saugatuck, the Douglas beach is at the bottom of some 40-yard high cliffs. It's less crowded, more remote.

Downtown Saugatuck features about ten blocks of not-all-that-expensive boutique-type shops with something for everyone. Ice cream shops are currently the rage, and the current culprit in my battle with my 31 inch Levis. How is a mere human supposed to resist chocolate chocolate chip?

Although gay people are ubiquitous in

Saugatuck-Douglas, a few establishments stand out as particularly Gay-directed. The Douglas Dunes is a hotel/restaurant/bar with a pool, a disco and a huge outdoor deck. Saugatuck Lodges is a Gay motel with individual cabins for rent, but the cabins are still in the process of being renovated. A couple of guest houses and a campground cater only to Gay clientele as well.

The biggest draw for Gay people in Saugatuck, though, is the private beach. Although a few heterosexuals find it a pleasant place to procreate, it is 90% Gay mating ground. Located immediately north of the public Oval Beach, the private beach has several components.

The beachfront itself is perhaps a mile long and 75 feet deep. Where the beach stops, 75 feet inland, begin endless dunes that are the real lure of the locale. The winding due ridge closest to the lake front is particularly popular. Gay men, some Lesbians, and just a few heterosexuals compete for the best blanket positions. Nude sunbathing is the norm.

At a couple of places along the ridge, well-trampled trails lead back to more remote expanses of dunes where one finds only Gay men, mostly nude, often on the cruise, mostly for safer sex. These far dunes offer casual encounters with new acquaintances although there is one even further locale.

From the far dunes, one heads downhill to a small timber/swamp. Where the trails bump into the swamp, libidos flare. This is the most common spot for breaking the sexual ice with a new acquaintance. You must, however, watch out for poison ivy and bring along some Off.

Such is Saugatuck — surf, sand, sun, sex, dunes, dreams, and dancing. And I suppose more than one man or woman has met Mr./Ms. Right, perhaps in the dunes or perhaps at this sidewalk cafe where I'm sipping my fourth cup of coffee.

At the moment, the only heterosexuals in sight are two couples of Greek retirees speaking some perplexing version of Greeklish. "Oh, honey," the most colorful of the foursome said to the smiling waitress, "the omelette with the double cheese, that's the one for us!"

Check out Saugatuck. Even heterosexuals seem transformed by the place.

All About Wisconsin Friendly Bars Are Waiting to Serve You

By Bob Melig

As good weather approaches, you might want to visit other cities and sample the hospitality offered there. Both in Central Wisconsin and in the North, you'll find genuinely nice and friendly people. Here's some places to try.

My favorite two bars are tied for first in my mind. The "R" Bar in Wausau and the Napalese Lounge in Green Bay are tops. The R Bar is newly opened and the owners try very hard to make everyone at home. They get to know you and about you. The atmosphere is surprisingly attractive, having been completely built from scratch by the owners. Your glass never gets warm at the Wednesday beer bust and it just seems that everyone is friendlier here than any other in Wisconsin.

The Napalese Lounge is lots of reds and black woods, a bit out of the Matador age of furnishing, it its folks are neat. Here too they get to know you and the natives aren't hostile. A discussion on almost any topic can be had except from 5:30 to 6 when all stops so Mel the owner can watch National News on TV. The rest of the time piped music and videos comfortably play in the background which aren't intruding on what you are saying.

For a really interesting time in a mostly straight bar (some Gays, but basically straight) try Cleo's in Appleton. You'll be amused by the decorations, and decorations and decorations. Drinks in big rocks

glasses are only \$1 from 4 to 7 at happy hour. Conversation is the ticket here. Everyone talks to everyone else and you're never a stranger.

Thursdays in Green Bay everything stops until after midnight so that nearly everyone in town can go to WHO's for the female impersonators show. Every bar should close down from 10 to 12pm and even earlier since everyone is getting primped for the weekly show and can't patronize the other bars. This is the event that night.

One of the most interesting owners in the state is Tim at Grand West in Green Bay. Want to know anything about Sky Diving on a world class level? He knows and he knows everyone in the sport. That isn't all he knows about, he is one of the really concerned persons who has wide interests.

Haven't been able to make it yet, but Stevens Point has an unusual arrangement. Both Monday and Friday two different straight bars, rent their bars to the Monday Dance Club Group (who are picking a new name since its no longer appropriate.) Everyone tells that people come from miles and miles and that they really draw a crowd.

There are other places and other great people — we'll talk about them another time. If you are up north — you can't go wrong at these bars. If your tastes differ, they will direct you to what might suit best. Good traveling.

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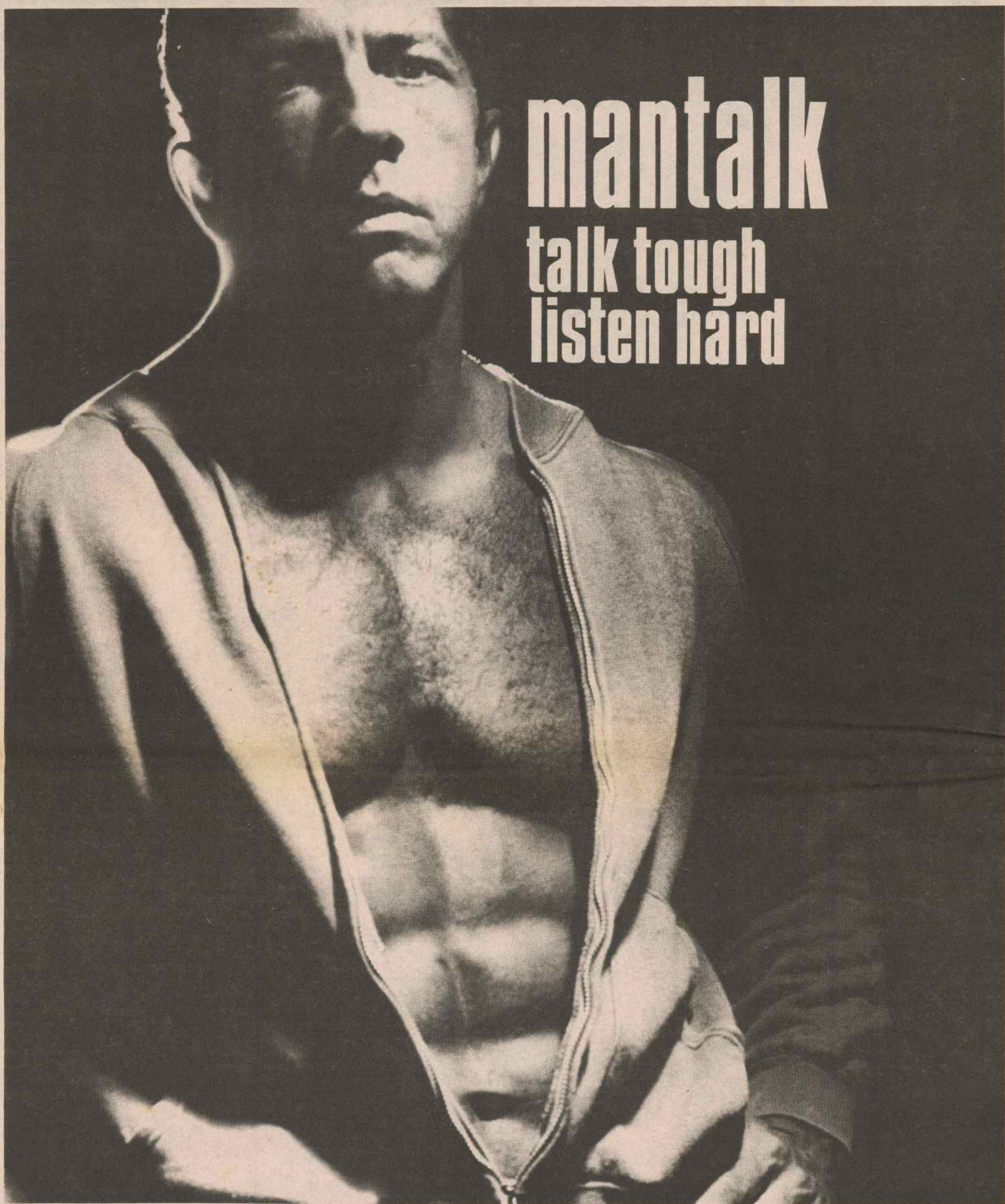
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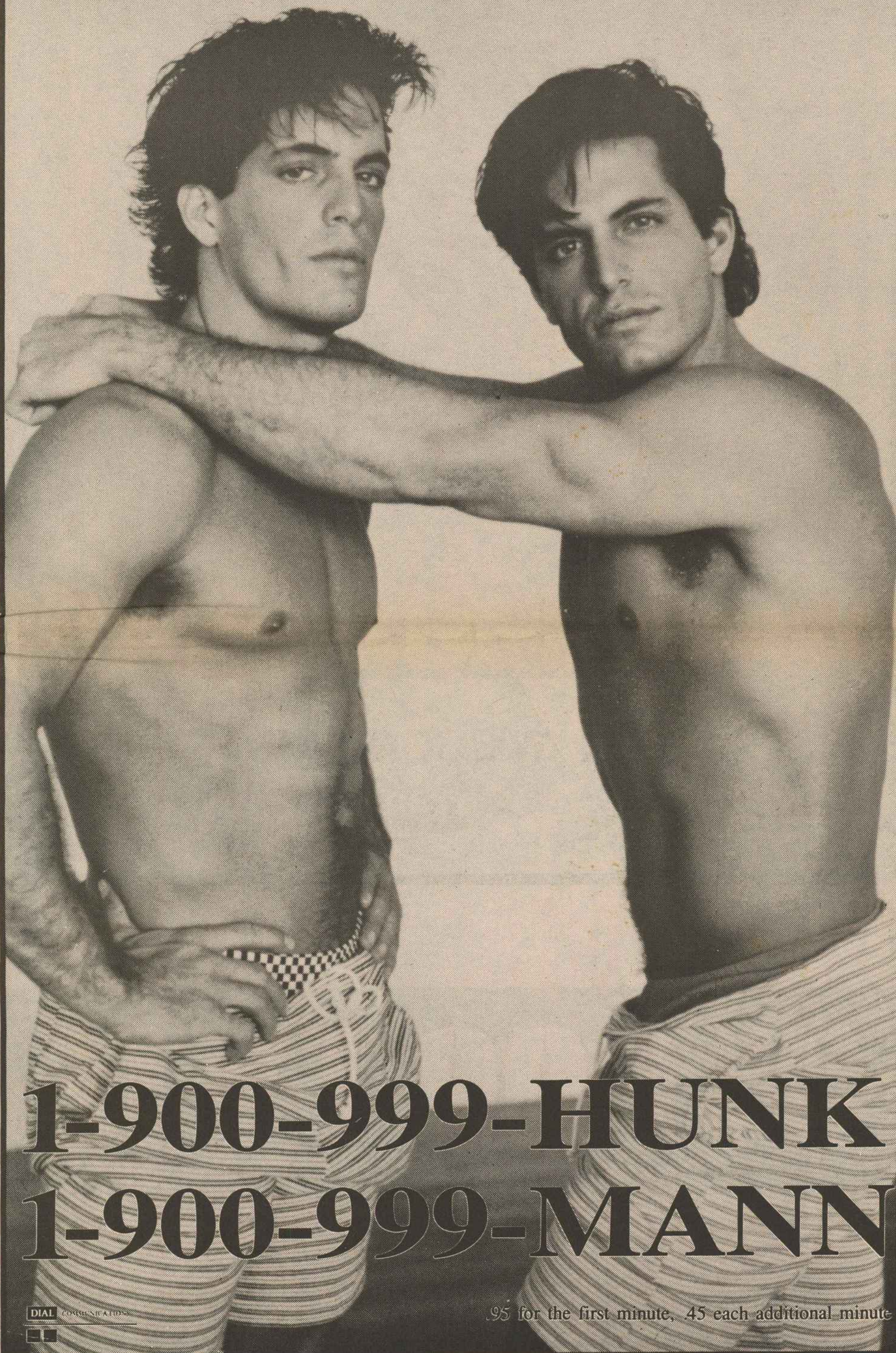
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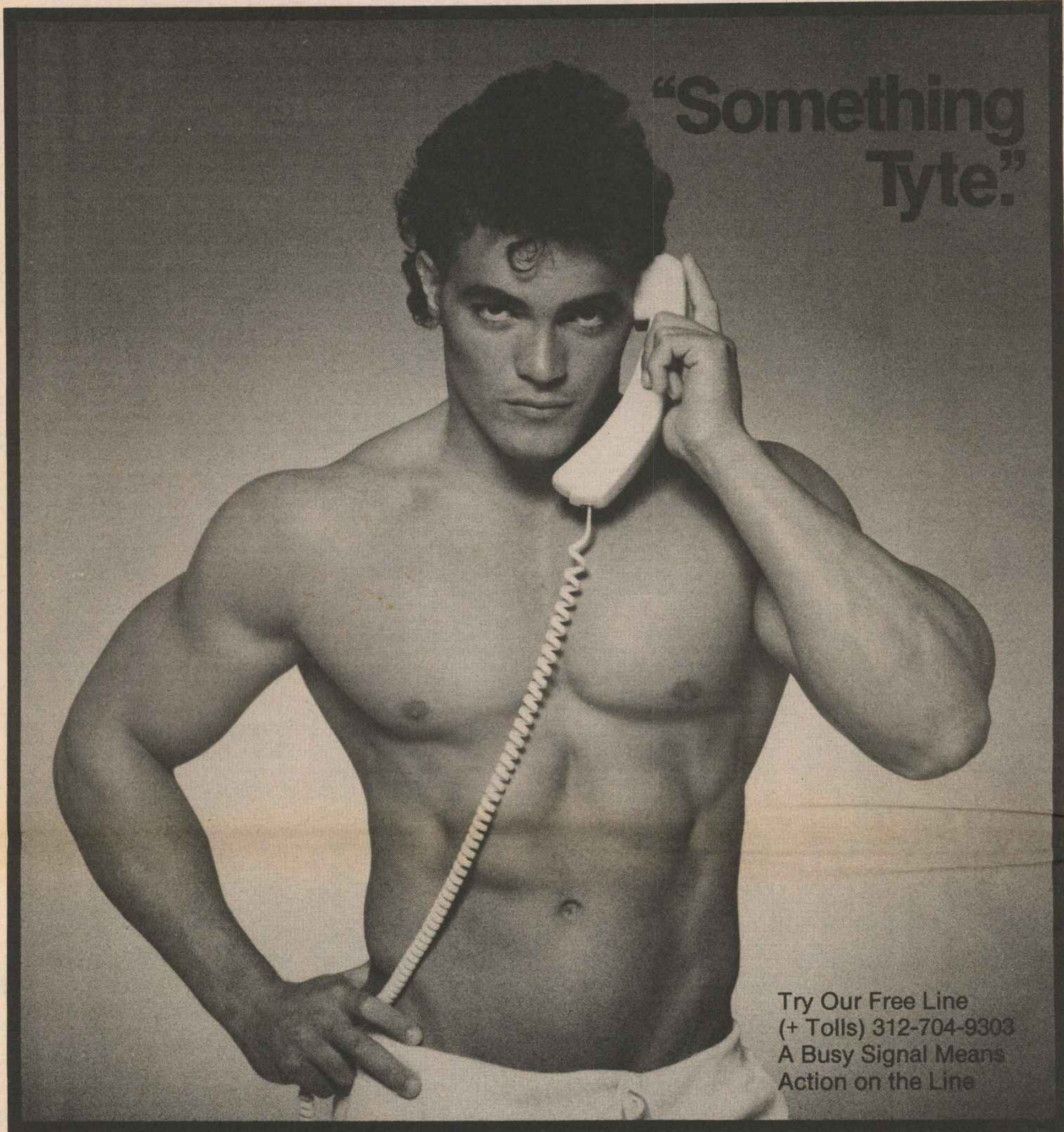
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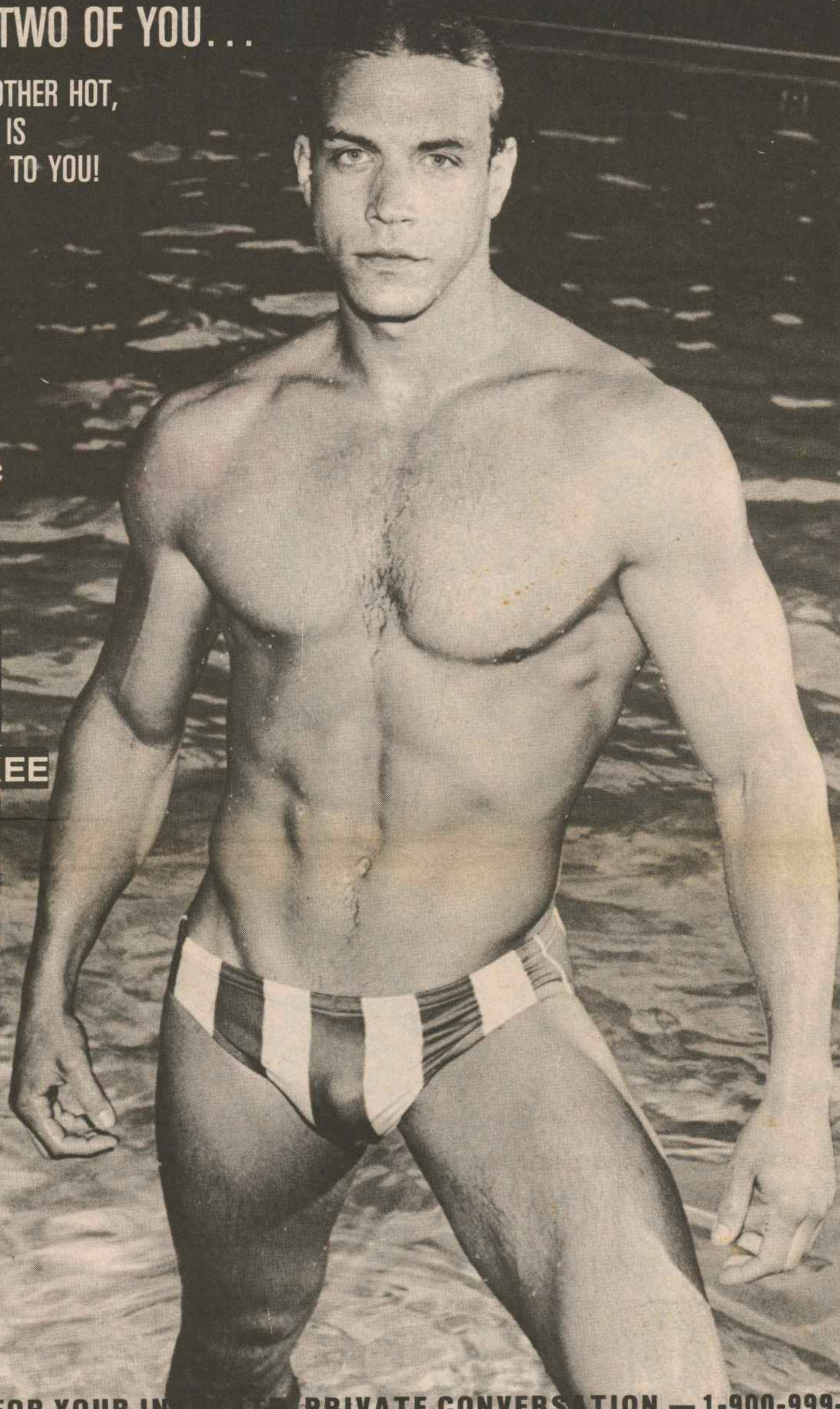
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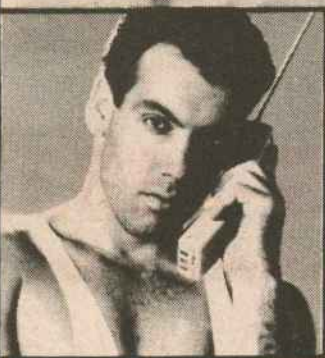
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