

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



The Wisconsin Light

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Everyone Asked To Vote Nov. 8

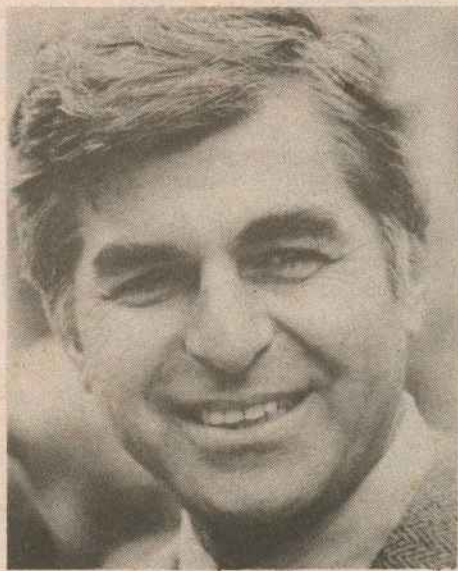
Gay and Lesbian Democrats of America (GLDA) Executive Director, Christine R. Riddiough called on Gay men and Lesbians to register and vote in this November's election. "No previous election has been as important to our community as the 1988 presidential election," said Riddiough. "No candidate has ever been better for us than Michael Dukakis." The statement followed the release of GLDA's **Voting for Our Rights: A Handbook for Lesbians and Gay Men**. The handbook is a guide for Gay and Lesbian activists and organizations on all aspects of voter registration and get-out-the-vote programs.

The handbook and voter programs initiated by local Gay and Lesbian Democratic clubs are only one part of the GLDA program in support of the Democratic ticket. Riddiough explained, "We know that the contrasts between the Democratic and Republican candidates are great. Michael Dukakis is four-square behind Gay and Lesbian rights, while George Bush opposes Gay rights legislation. Perhaps most importantly, Bush has been part and parcel of the Reagan-Bush inaction on AIDS. More than 40,000 Americans have died in the last eight years while George Bush has done nothing. Now is our chance to vote for our lives by voting for Michael Dukakis."

GLDA's program includes distribution of information on the candidates to Gay and Lesbian voters, advertising in the Gay and Lesbian media and support for the work of local clubs. Riddiough was one of more than 30 Gay and Lesbian leaders whose names will appear in a pro-Dukakis ad in the *Advocate*. More information is available from GLDA, 114 15th St. N.E., Washington, DC 20002, or call (202) 543-0298.

HELP YOUR FAVORITE ORGANIZATION WHILE SUBSCRIBING TO THE WISCONSIN LIGHT See Back Page for Details

DUKAKIS AND ENGELITER ARE DESERVING OF OUR SUPPORT



Governor Dukakis

On November 8th the American public and the Gay/Lesbian community must decide who will be the next president of the United States.

Our community is faced with a clear choice. The decision is between Governor Michael Dukakis, the Democrat, who has consistently supported the needs of our community, and there is Vice President George Bush, the Republican, who has consistently defended the Reagan administration's record on AIDS, a record that includes refusing to acknowledge the AIDS virus epidemic and refusing to allocate money to fight it. As recently as last June, Congress held hearings on why so many potential drugs had not been tested despite the allocation of money for research. The answers: the Reagan administration has refused to spend the funds.

Besides the AIDS issue which have been covered in Mr. Meunier's column and elsewhere in this issue, there is also the issue of Supreme Court appointments. Three Justices are going to retire in the next 12 to 18 months. Under the Reagan administration, we have seen the Supreme Court go from an institution that protected the rights of the people to one that protects the power and privilege of the few. Given the Reagan pattern of appointing young justices, if George Bush is elected, we could expect the high court to be hostile to us until well into the next century.

Indeed some even fear that Wisconsin's Gay Rights law could be overturned.

While Bush has not once spoken in

TURN TO DUKAKIS, PAGE 13

Men Turn Their Power Over To Women On Halloween

October, when the moon rides high and the wind is up. Clouds scud across sky like ghosts lost in the night and the trees bend and bow as if by some spirit hand. In windows and on porches, jack o'lanterns glow orange, their lights flickering in the darkness and somehow, all the old legends seem more than myth.

In the Old Religion, Wicca, from whence Hallowe'en comes, there is the belief that October is a special time, a time of endings and beginnings, when the old year has run its course and the new is ready to be born. It is a time of wondrous and marvelous quiet energy when things unseen are abroad in the land and the line between the world of humans and the spectral realm blurs and then vanishes. In this month and especially on October 31, one can never be sure just who is who, this in conformity to the ancient, unbroken harmony of all that is and lives.

Monica is a witch, a priestess of Wicca, and lest one take offense, "witch" applies to either sex. She is excited as she talks as indeed she should be, for All Hallows Eve,



State Senator Susan Engeliter

In addition to the Presidential race, an important race for the United States Senate will be on the Wisconsin ballot. Republican Susan Engeliter and Democrat Herb Kohl are the two main contenders for the right to succeed retiring Senator William Proxmire.

Light believes that both Engeliter and Kohl are fine candidates. Either would be an asset to Wisconsin if elected.

Both candidates are positive on Gay/Lesbian issues such as allowing Gays and Lesbians in the military, investigating the slow pace of the war on AIDS, Gay/Lesbian immigration law reform and a federal Lesbian/Gay rights law.

Having said that, however, Light believes that there are crucial differences between the two, differences that lead us to urge you to vote for Republican Susan Engeliter.

We believe that it is important to give our support to those who have a proven record of supporting us and Engeliter has a good and solid track record in this regard.

As a State Legislator, she voted for our Lesbian/Gay rights law. She voted for the consenting adults bill. She voted for increased AIDS funding, thus bucking her own party's platform.

In her hard-fought primary campaign against Steve King, Engeliter resisted the temptation to pander to the strong right-wing of the Republican Party. When attacked by King on her pro-Gay/Lesbian voting record, showing courage and integrity, she stood her ground, neither explaining, apologizing nor backing off. This, we believe, is the kind of Senator all

the people of Wisconsin need in Washington.

When contacted by Light, Engeliter and her campaign staff have been consistently friendly and cooperative making it perfectly clear that they value the 10% of the Wisconsin population that is the Gay/Lesbian vote. This, in strong contrast to Kohl and his people. Light made numerous efforts throughout the primary and up to press time to contact Kohl. Calls were never returned. Promises for an interview or position papers were constantly broken. The only conclusions we can reach which were confirmed by several sources are that 1) the Kohl people believe that Gays and Lesbians have no other choice than to vote Democratic and 2) the Kohl campaign does not consider the Gay/Lesbian vote all that worthwhile.

We believe that yet another important reason to support Engeliter is her party affiliation. Supporting Engeliter will send a message to the Republicans. It will tell them that Lesbians and Gays cannot be taken for granted by either party. We are willing to support Republicans who have a record of supporting our issues.

There is only one Republican Senator, Lowell Weicker of Connecticut, who has been consistently supportive of Lesbian and Gay issue. Currently, he's in a tough race and stands a good chance of being defeated. Should that happen, we won't have any advocate in the GOP Senate caucuses. Even if Weicker wins, he will need help in taking on Jesse Helms and Orin Hatch. Engeliter could provide that needed support.

Susan Engeliter has stood with us. We urge Wisconsin Gays and Lesbians to stand now with her.

California AIDS Law Threatened

By Benjamin Schatz

California Proposition 102 is due to go before the voters in the November election. The so-called Dannemeyer AIDS Initiative receives its name from its chief proponent and backer, Republican Congressman William Dannemeyer (R-Fullerton). It is far more dangerous than anything proposed by Lyndon LaRouche, representing the greatest political and public health threat to people with AIDS and HIV infection that California has ever seen. Frighteningly, it has a very good chance of passing.

Proposition 102 would eliminate all anonymous testing in California. It would wipe out the law that bars employers from forcing anyone to take the AIDS antibody test. It would allow insurers to test applicants for HIV. And it would allow testing without written consent.

Any doctor or blood bank that believed that you were HIV positive would have to turn in your name and the names and addresses of all your sexual partners within seven days on penalty of law.

The initiative gives sweeping power to doctors and health officials to violate confidentiality. If a person tests positive, doctors would be allowed to disclose test results to anyone who they thought had had sex with that person. Health officers would be required to use "every available means" to investigate "all reported cases" of HIV infection, and to inform persons known or believed to be their sexual partners.

The Dannemeyer initiative defines HIV infection as an "infectious, communicable disease." Thus, HIV infected children could be banned from the schools and all seropositive food handlers and school employees. By this initiative, employers are required to allow employees to wear whatever "protective gear" they think will protect them against AIDS.

TURN TO CALIFORNIA, PAGE 7



Monica

Hallowe'en, is, in Wicca, New Year's Eve. It is the culmination of Springtime and planting, of growth and harvest-laden barns. It is that part of the Wheel of the Year that ushers in the Months of

TURN TO HALLOWEEN, PAGE 15

OUR HISTORY



A TIME TO DIE III

Hans Survives As Thousands of Gays Are Butchered by Nazi Fanatics

By Terry Boughner

Hans was as good as his word, showing up the next morning at the Cafe St. Peter that sat to one side of the great square that was Munich's Marienplatz, arriving precisely at the appointed hour of 10:00. I had slept little the night before, thinking about what he had said at the bar, unable to get Frederick and what had happened to him out of my mind. I had a thousand questions. I mean, this man was a survivor, one of my own and I needed in a way I had never before felt about anything to find out all I could about his experiences at Dachau. But how do you ask questions of the kind I wanted to ask? As it turned out Hans made it easy, treating me indulgently like an uncle would an eager young nephew.

"It was not easy to survive," he said, speaking as he had the night before, in German and answering my first question



unasked. "At first, you know, I did not even want to do that. I wanted to die. But life is strange. Even in a place like Dachau you want to keep going, to live. I made that choice. But, at first, there was the guilt, terrible, terrible guilt. That has never left me. Why, I asked then and have asked ever since, was it Frederick and not me? And guilt because I did not commit suicide to be with him. I still think about that sometimes," he admitted. "But I decided to try and live. It was perhaps an act of rebellion, the only thing I could do. You see, I could keep Frederick alive that way. I told myself that . . . and that is why I am talking to you, why I will relive those years, to keep Frederick alive."

Immediately, Hans, along with the other Pink Triangles had been segregated, away from the "normals" in the rest of the camp. "Remember," he explained, "we were thought to be carriers of disease. The Nazis and others who believed them, thought that just a touch would be enough to become infected with our perversion."

And yet they raped Gays and . . . ?
"It made no sense. Nothing did in those years. We were sick with contagious disease, they said, but they could rape us, have sex with us, to prove their masculinity, to prove they weren't homosexuals, weren't sick like they said we were." This applied not only to the SS, but to many of the straight prisoners as well. "Whatever, anything, that was done to Pink Triangles, anything at all, was alright. You," he told me, "live in a different world. You can not imagine how they hate — hated us and how they used us."

I remember how, as he spoke, saying those words, he looked nervously about the square. It was a lovely warm, sunny day with crowds enjoying themselves while waiting for the glockenspiel, high in the tower of the Rathaus, or old city hall, to play. "It has not been long, 1969, since the law against us was removed," he explained. "The same law, 175, that the Nazis used to kill us." You are young, he told me. You, don't have to fear. "But that fear, that dread, will never leave me, never leave any of us as old as I. I think yet that someone will come for me, to take me again, to punish me for being homosexual. I live with that."

I have tried to explain to myself many times the people who did these things, he said, but I cannot. The people who allowed them to happen were just people who were told they were doing the right thing. We were a danger to the state, to society. Then it was the Jews and all the

others, but we were first, the very first.

I remember he paused and then said, there were others, of course, sick ones, haters by nature, true Nazis. I think they exist everywhere. The Party allowed them to bring out all the worst thoughts, the ones that shame hell that we all have and gave them the chance to act on them.

One of the favorite "sports" at Dachau was to use Pink Triangles for target practice, forcing them to line up and then run back and forth in front of the bullseyes that had been set up for the purpose. "Many beautiful young men died that way and many other ways as well. Like Frederick, my poor Frederick, they were killed horribly, terribly, in ways beyond belief."

He told me that it was not only the SS that did things like that. "Everyone in the camps was allowed to take out his frustrations on us, the Pink Triangles." He had read a book, he said, on the Holocaust where the author had devoted one sentence to Gays and then only to write that Pink Triangles had the best chance of survival. That, he maintained, was not true. Oh, there were, he said, a few priests, a minister or two, who was kind, but, for the most part, Gays were fair game. Gays were the lowest of the low, filth of filth. "We were not even animals. Not even as good as rats."

Older Gays and Gays who were not good looking, had little chance for any kind of survival. They died of starvation and overwork or from beatings or from being used for medical experiments, he said. But Hans was young, handsome, boyish even, and, as he said, "with a good body." He could survive, at least for awhile, by becoming a kept boy, a "Piepel", a little doll, the property of an SS man.

It happened this way. Pink Triangles were the last to be fed, having to line up to get whatever slop was left after the others. "the real men", had eaten. There was an SS guard standing beside one of the pots of "soup" watching the prisoners go by. He spotted Hans and ordered him out of the line. "Come, assfucker, filthy queer."

"I had no choice," Hans said. "I went. He turned my head this way and that, examining me," he said placing his fingers on his chin to demonstrate. "Like an animal, like some horse he was going to buy. Then he ordered me to get out of my uniform, the stripped cotton thing all prisoners had to wear, no matter what the weather. I was to be naked right there. You have to understand. There was no choice and so, no shame. I wasn't human, only homosexual."

"The first time I sucked him was the worst. There was Frederick. I thought of Frederick, oh so much. Please believe that. No one had touched me since Frederick."

But the SS man, Gunter, was young, not too bad looking and, as Hans said, being what the guard wanted, when he wanted, was a way, the only way he knew, to survive. "I knew if once I stopped thinking of survival, I would die." He convinced himself that Frederick would understand.

Gunter kept Hans with him, saw that he got decent food, warm clothing and a soft job in the camp. There was no shame for the guard in keeping Hans. Gunter was not Gay. He had a wife, children somewhere. Certainly, as Hans said, he was not the only Piepel in Dachau. Many SS guards had them. Straight prisoners, criminals, murderers, "Greens", as Hans called them after the color of their badge, had little dolls. There was no shame attached to a "normal" who used a Gay for physical release. None. It was the Gay who bore all the disgrace. He was nothing but a perverted straight.

One day Gunter was transferred out of Dachau. Hans never learned where and never saw him again. But, he was sad to see the SS man go. "It was more than only a question of survival. I had become

Gays Close F.D.A. Headquarters In AIDS Drug Protest- 176 Arrested

By John Ward

[Washington, D.C.]— Police report that 176 people were arrested on October 11 at the headquarters of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) in Bethesda, Maryland during the culmination of a week-long gathering in the nation's capital to mark the first anniversary of the National March on Washington last October.

About 1,000 people demonstrated outside the building that houses the FDA, beginning at 7:00 am and continuing until 5:00 p.m. on October 11, designated nationally as "Coming Out Day." The demonstrators, who came from all over the country, were protesting delays in AIDS drug trials and treatment.

Protesters hung President Reagan in effigy, then burned him. They also strung up banners with the slogan, "Silence=Death" from flag poles.

By afternoon protesters had blocked all the entrances to the FDA building. They chanted, "We'll let you out if you let us in." When they saw the demonstrators in the morning, many employees turned away and did not go to work.

At one point in the morning, six people broke into the building. They were arrested. 100 others were arrested for sitting down on the sidewalk in front of the building. They were charged with loitering.

Demonstrators used ladders to hang AIDS protest and ACT-UP (AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power) banners off the side of the building. They plastered "Silence=Death" stickers all over the building as employees watched from the windows.

At one point protesters walked onto an adjacent property in order to block a car that belonged to a federal employee. The man who owned the property chased demonstrators with a chainsaw. Police have not released his name, nor was he arrested. No one was injured.

The most emotional moment of the week-long event was the unveiling on

Gay/Lesbian Public Officials To Meet In San Diego

[San Diego]— The Fourth Annual National Conference of Gay/Lesbian Public Officials will be held on November 17-19, 1988 in San Diego at the Town and Country Hotel and Convention Center.

The conference brings together Gay and Lesbian elected and appointed officials, candidates, prospective candidates and campaign workers from the United States, Canada and Great Britain to discuss public policy issues and campaign strategies.

"The conference will be the first major national gathering of Gay and Lesbian leadership after the Presidential elections

October 8 of the Names Project AIDS Quilt. With over 8000 individual panels, the quilt covered an area the size of six football fields on the Ellipse in front of the White House.

Kitty Dukakis, wife of Democratic presidential hopeful Michael Dukakis, was scheduled to read from the list of names. Names Project Founder Cleve Jones said that she had problems getting a flight from Hawaii. But he said that she sincerely wished to participate.

Saturday's unveiling was followed by a candlelight march that encircled the White House and ended at the Lincoln Memorial, the site of the 1963 Civil Rights March, where there was a brief rally. Organizers estimated the crowd size to be 50,000.

On Sunday night, a gala Names Project benefit at Kennedy Center featured celebrities such as Fran Lebowitz and James Levine, conductor and musical director at New York City's Metropolitan Opera.

On Monday, October 10, over 500 demonstrators gathered in front of the Hubert Humphrey building, headquarters of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The protest was peaceful with no arrests.

Protesters held a mock trial of the Reagan administration, finding it guilty of murder in its handling of the AIDS crisis.

A final protest was held on Wednesday, October 12. Demonstrators surrounded the Capitol building to condemn the recent watering down of the D.C. Gay rights law by Congress. The D.C. Gay rights bill was diluted by exempting religious educational organizations from its coverage.

Gays and Lesbians from all over the country lobbied their Congressional representatives on October 6 and 7. 50 people attended training for lobbyists.

The week-long event also featured various AIDS conferences and services, including a gathering of radical AIDS groups such as ACT-UP.

and will undoubtedly include how to deal with the new administration," according to Laguna Beach, CA Councilmember Robert Gentry and St. Paul MN Human Rights Commissioner Sharon Day, the conference co-chairs.

The conference will feature addresses by national leaders and appropriate panels and discussions on topics ranging from AIDS to developing campaign organizations.

For more information about the convention and how to register, write Neil Good, P.O. Box 33332, San Diego, CA 92103 or call (619) 235-8136.



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EDITORIAL

GENOCIDE TREATY REMINDS US OF "HUMAN PHENOMENON"

"Carthego delinda est!"

Every day Cato would rise from his seat to address the august Senate of ancient Rome and always, no matter what the subject under discussion, he would begin his remarks with these words. "Carthego delinda est!", Carthage, Rome's chief enemy, he would remind his colleagues, must be destroyed. They finally listened to him.

In the same way, but for a nobler purpose, Wisconsin's senior Senator William Proxmire every morning for 19 years, opened the Senate's sessions with a speech urging the approval of a treaty outlawing genocide, a treaty that had been sent to the Senate 40 years ago by President Truman. Finally, on Friday, October 14, the Senate listened to him and the United States joined 97 other countries who have ratified it.

The treaty arose out of revulsion to the Holocaust, which *The Milwaukee Journal* defined as "the killing of millions of Jews, among others, by the Nazis in World War II." Proxmire himself is quoted as saying, "They were gassed, lined up and shot . . . Why? Only because they worshiped God in a different way."

The *Journal* and Proxmire are both perfectly right. The Nazis did exterminate 6,000,000 Jews, an atrocity unparalleled in modern times. But why have we Gays and Lesbians again been ignored? Somewhere it must be mentioned that we were the first victims of Hitler's insane drive to "purify" the German nation. It was us, Gays and Lesbians, who were led off to the camps first. Dachau, Sachsenhausen, Flossenbürg, Auschwitz, Neuwied, and dozens of others where our anonymous martyrs were done for death for loving who we do, should be branded on our memories with fire. As can be documented, it was the system set up to exterminate us that was later used on all the others. Why has that been forgotten? Why has that been swept into history's limbo? Why?

The treaty defines genocide as "acting with the intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnic, racial or religious group." Into which of those categories do we Gays and Lesbians fall? Or, should we assume that the strictures against mass murder don't apply to us here in this country or anywhere else?

The sad, sad part of all this is that the probability is that not Proxmire, not our liberal senatorial friends, not even many of our own Gay/Lesbian people know about the Pink Triangle and what it means. This ignorance is combined and works hand in glove with those bigots who would have us die in the back allies of history and consider it a good thing for society.

Be not deceived. Hitler and the Nazis were a **human phenomenon**, not something uniquely German. Anti-Semitism, racism and homophobia are different branches of the same root and it could all happen again. If we do not know, if we do not remember, if we do not care, it will.

MIKE DUKAKIS IS THE BEST CANDIDATE FOR PRESIDENT

By Christine R. Riddiough, Executive Director
Gay/Lesbian Democrats of America

On November 8, 1988 millions of Gay men and Lesbians will have a choice. That choice is clear: we must elect Mike Dukakis the next president of the United States. Mike Dukakis is the best candidate Gay men and Lesbians have ever had. This election is the most important election our community has ever faced — it is a choice between better lives for the millions of Gay men and Lesbians in the United States or years more of stagnation and defeat.

This Summer Gay and Lesbian Democrats of America (GLDA) endorsed Mike Dukakis for president. We made that endorsement because the records of the two candidates are clear. Mike Dukakis supports Gay and Lesbian rights and more effective programs and policy on AIDS; George Bush opposes Gay and Lesbian rights and has participated in the malign neglect of AIDS of the Reagan-Bush administration.

Michael Dukakis has said, "Every American should have the opportunity to live his or her life fully and openly — and to contribute and participate in the life of our country — without fear or intimidation. Our civil rights laws acknowledge that discrimination on the basis of race, sex, religion, age, national origin or disability is fundamentally unfair. Discrimination against an individual because of his or her sexual orientation is no less unfair . . . That is why, as President, I will fight for federal legislation to add a prohibition against discrimination based on sexual orientation." Meanwhile George Bush says, "We do not believe in codification of laws relating to homosexuals." and "I don't think American society should be asked to accept that homosexuality is a standard which should be held up for acceptance."

The Reagan-Bush Supreme Court has, in *Hardwick v. Bowers*, denied the privacy rights of Gay people. The next president of the United States will appoint at least three new justices and shape the court well into the next century. George Bush will appoint people like Robert Bork and Edwin Meese; Mike Dukakis will appoint people like Thurgood Marshall and William Brennan. The choice is clear.

Mike Dukakis recognizes that AIDS is a public health crisis and says, "AIDS is the most serious threat to the public health we have faced in our lifetime. It must be conquered . . . As President, I will provide leadership to meet this crisis. I will commit the resources necessary to prevent the spread of the virus, find a cure, develop a vaccine, and care for people with AIDS and ARC. We will have a national strategic plan to guide us in the war on AIDS and we will have a President leading the charge." In contrast, George Bush says, "Ultimately we must protect those who do not have the disease. Thus we have made the decision that there must be more testing."

More than 40,000 people have died from AIDS in the United States during the eight years of Reagan-Bush inaction. The choice is clear.

Mike Dukakis supports efforts to eliminate discrimination against Gay men and Lesbians in immigration laws. He believes that violence against Gay men and Lesbians should be treated as a civil rights violation. George Bush supports neither. The choice is clear.

The Democratic Party supports an end to discrimination against Gay men and Lesbians while Republicans fail to speak out.

Almost 100 openly Gay men and Lesbians were delegates to the Democratic National Convention in 1988. No openly Gay men or Lesbians were Republican delegates. Four openly Gay people were members of the Democratic National Committee, none are members of the Republican National Committee. The Dukakis campaign has three openly Gay staff people at the national level; the Bush campaign has no openly Gay staff people.

The choice is clear. Four more years of Bush-Quayle, like eight years of Reagan-Bush, will doom hundreds of thousands of people in our community to illness, death, loss of jobs and homes. We cannot sit out the election on November 8 — we must vote and when we vote, we must remember that we are deciding our fate and those of millions of others.

WE MUST VOTE FOR MIKE DUKAKIS!

GUEST EDITORIAL POLICY

The *Wisconsin Light* welcomes guest editorials. Such are expressions of personal opinion on community, local ornational issues of interest to Lesbians and/or Gays. They should be typed, double-spaced and be no longer than 400-600 words.

OBITUARY POLICY

Wisconsin Light publishes obituaries of members of the Lesbian/Gay community as both news and a community service free of charge. In many cases, we depend on relatives and/or friends of the deceased to

LETTERS

TO THE EDITOR:

First, I am very grateful to receive your periodical, and find it very useful for morale, as I shall further explain.

I am a 32-year-old Gay male (I care not to have my name exposed) and incarcerated. I would like to educate you and your readers of the sagacity one endures if one is Gay in a correctional facility.

I read in your periodical numerous articles on the disease of homophobia and while reading, grit my teeth in hopes no one will observe myself reading your periodical. Being in prison I really appreciate your educating your readers to this disease.

Here in this venomous environment, homophobia is as common as cold weather is to winter. I have met only a handful of Gays in this prison, although I believe there are many more. If we Gays consult the institution staff, they blame it on us. They say, "It's our own misdeeds." There is no way we Gays can express ourselves as Gays. Every other minority here, Blacks, Indians, Veterans, Latins, Europeans and other cultures can get together to talk about issues pertaining to their existence. But none for the Gays.

One might think, what is he complaining for? He's surrounded by men. What more could a Gay man want? Well, I'm sure if you have been out of the closet and have been open about your sexuality, you know how oppressive it would be to go back into the closet. It is harder than coming out in the first place. Also, many might say, well it's his own responsibility for error and he got himself into that situation, so what! Well, I can't agree more, but let me tell you I know I have made a grave falsity and though I am incarcerated, I still am a human with emotions of a Gay.

—Name and location withheld upon request.

Editor's Desk

This biweekly business, although I've been told by an editor friend of mine never to use "biweekly." He says it's suggestive. Oh well. But to Ron Geiman: how have you done it so well for so long? Shall we reserve a padded room? Or would we find our mutual typesetter already there? Oh well.

A word from Karen Lamb. For those of you who have missed her column — and, from the phone calls, a lot have — Karen is in Atlanta with her family. But, via a phone call, she sends her love and promises to have "Big News" for all her readers when she returns. Have no idea what that could be.

One reminder about the subscription drive. It really is a great way for a group to get some money. Out of a \$15 subscription, \$5 goes to the organization of your choice — if your choice has signed up, that is (Check this issue for participating organizations). So, how about subscribing — and urge all your friends, relatives, etc. to do it too. One thing I've found out is that for people who have left Wisconsin for other parts, **Light** makes a wonderful gift. Keeps 'em up on things, lets 'em know what's been going on. So, with Christmas coming on, **Light** makes a delightfully inexpensive way to remember your favorite group and a far away friend.

I can not believe it. Next issue marks our first anniversary. One whole year of the paper. I suppose I should go in for some kind of reflection — or deep meditation — but there's no time for that. But it really is a great feeling to have come this far. Still, the paper, though it has indeed come far, still has a long way to go. Look, if you have any thoughts or suggestions, let me know. We want to make this one of the best Lesbian/Gay publications in the country — but it can't be done without your help.

In line with that, for those who do write for the paper or contribute their time and effort in a thousand other ways, all I can say is "thanks." I have heard it said so often in so many places that the writers for this paper stand second to none in quality and excellence. Wisconsin can be proud, very proud of them, of the talent they possess and the community spirit that they show in their willingness to use it. Wisconsin should also know and be exceedingly proud of how much work each of these writers put into their columns and

TURN TO EDITOR, PAGE 15

A BOY OF SUMMER

Red, Red Wine

By Morgan Summer

I finally got in touch with my boyfriend at 11:00 at night.

"Find a party?," I asked him on the phone in my dorm room.

"Yeah."

"Get bombed?"

"A little."

"That's my boy," I said, and after a few more bits of talk we hung up. Yeah, he'd found a party, he'd told me this afternoon while we were eating an early dinner at a campus dining hall that that was exactly what he intended to do tonight, Thursday, it being the unofficial start of the weekend here on my college campus. I didn't doubt then that he'd find one, and I wasn't surprised when he confirmed the fact.

By a party, it is understood here at my college that "a gathering with beer or hopefully stronger alcoholic beverage in large amounts and free" constitutes a party. They start, as a rule, on Thursdays, and can be found through Saturday night. And my boyfriend found one, okay. I didn't because I was studying.

And because of another reason. I don't really like most of the parties here because most of the people who go to them purposely drink to excess. I am talking puking drunk, he said with a straight face.

In fact, puking is sort of a recreational sport on my dorm floor. A neighbor of mine has set up a "Yak-Master" ("Yak" meaning puke) contest and also a monthly list of honors such as Meanest Drunk and Quantity (this month's winner, he notes, "filled three garbage cans") and Witty Remarks Made Whilst Intoxicated (just tonight I heard a guy down the hall say, "Let's trash the bathroom!").

That strikes me, most of the time, as pretty funny; a corollary to the guys on my floor when they're drunk is that their sense of humor becomes quite open to anything. So up to a while ago, I didn't think much about it and since I have my own room, I didn't have to be awakened by a drunken roommate.

Now, after I hung up with my current boyfriend, I thought. I thought back to a time when I was in seventh grade, starting junior high school. After the final bell, I would stride towards home, always,

And Your Embrace

A few Saturdays ago, I went over to the campus bookstore to pick up some soda and a folder for my English class. It was still rather warm, so I wore shorts, a short-sleeve T-shirt, and my gray Reeboks with no socks.

While I was looking through the folders, I noticed that a very cute student was looking through the poster display a few aisles over from where I was. He was blond, skinny, with a fading/gone tan and was by himself. I thought, well, maybe I'll see him at the Gay Student Union one of these days.

I poked through the folders for a bit longer and when I walked to the cash register, the boy I had seen was nowhere to be found. I paid for the twelve-pack of Sprite and the folder with a five dollar bill and left.

As I went through the exit doors, there was the blond, and being bold, I glanced over to where he was, on my left, standing near a tall, plastic trashbasket in the lobby of the store. He met my eyes with such a look of sex that I thought "Holy shee-it! This guy is Gay!" and then I walked out of the bookstore, rather overwhelmed, with the pack of soda, a forgotten weight on my right arm.

You know the look; I think anyone who is Gay does. It is intense, with a look in the person's eyes that say, "sex" hot and fast.

Before this turns into a porno movie, though, I thought of another thing that Saturday afternoon: it was sex, absolutely, but it was not safe sex. Hell, no! That look, man, that look was pure, unbridled fucking and you know it. And that thought made me think. There is no doubt in my mind that the guy I saw is Gay. I will also guarantee that he has had many sexual experiences, probably with a lot of people. I don't know what I think about that, but I feel . . . well, sort of sad, I guess.

But, there is one more guy who fits in with the boy mentioned above. He lives on my floor, and knows I'm Gay. This boy — and I know I should be saying "man" or



Morgan Summer

always noting the guys around the inlet street to the school standing in a rough circle, wearing jean jackets. I felt bad then. I didn't like seeing friends I had known for years start killing themselves slowly. What I felt then, I realize now, is that they were losing their innocence.

But college now, like I've stated, is a toughening of innocence. And in the social circles, alcohol — in most cases, beer, no pun intended — is very big.

I also thought about an incident that occurred on my floor just a few days ago. A group of boys were bringing up four cases and two six-packs of beer in the hall elevator . . . and the hall director got in with them. They had to pour each bottle down the sink of our floor's bathroom, prying off the caps with an opener and chugging it down the drain. Over a hundred bottles, the way I hear the story, they were stocking up for the weekend.

And finally, I thought of my boyfriend. I knew that he liked to have a good time, as did I, but I didn't quite know what to think after I got off the phone with him. Something bugged me, I'm not quite sure what it was.

But, for the most part, I accept drinking as a facet of college life — ignore it, do it or whatever, but it's there.

A popular song on campus is "Red, Red Wine" by UB40. The lyrics sing the praises of the beverage mentioned in the title. It is often played on party nights. That's appropriate for it is an apt metaphor/music background for the drinking here . . . and you know, also for the puking.

"young adult" or something to that effect, but with these two I can't quite — is as cute as the one I saw in the bookstore, but not as intense. His name is Tony and he has brown eyes, brown hair that is long in back and has a personality that you could get to like very fast. And also, he has had sex before. Just as an example, in early September, I was walking back to my room from the hall showers and I saw him leaving his room with a girl who had obviously spent the night. And I thought, "Oh, well." But I didn't really know him then and I don't really now, but I do know him better.

Like most guys on my floor, he says "Hi" when he passes me. But his eyes say, "So you're Gay, huh . . . you want to, um . . ." but then he passes, and his thoughts are broken off. I admit, in Tony's case it may be wishful thinking, but . . . I don't think so.

OKAY, SO WHAT do these two have in common, other than their good looks? I look at a lot of guys at my college every day and very rarely do I see guys who can say so much with their eyes. A word would be seductive.

Or maybe innocence lost, which I am tempted to say. But then I would again be a hypocrite. They are probably just as toughened as I am and college will serve to further build up, well, the toughening of innocence.

In any event, I would like to spend some time with them, alone. Not sex, I don't think, but to talk about something that cannot be talked about. I wonder if they feel any emotional commitment other than sex . . . do they feel love? Or pain? Or even jealousy?

I don't know. I am not like them. Still, a sort of mental image comes to my mind when I talk about boys like this. I can see them and another male in the dark of a dorm room at night, the window shut because the weather is cooling. The sex is over and they are silent and I wonder if one of them asks the other for a hug, or a kiss? I wonder what would it be like to have their love and their embrace?

And sometimes I think I would like to find out.

Do the Working Class Enjoy the Fruits of Liberation?

By Thomas J. Rondy

A "sumptuous buffet?!" Gag me with a fucking spoon!

For those of you who may have missed the last two issues of the *Light*, what I'm referring to is some ritzy buffet which ended up costing \$25.00 a plate. The most unforgivable aspect of the whole charade was the miserable attempt to pass it off as an activists' event. How stupid does the bourgeoisie think we are?

Yeah, I know, I sound like a back issue of the *Workers' Vanguard*. Cliches aside, though, there seem to be some things which simply weren't considered by the organizers of this event.

One factor is the rightful resentment felt by the not-so-rich among us at being excluded on the basis of the size of our bank accounts. This outrage was eloquently expressed by Jamakaya in the last issue of *Light*.

Another thing not taken into account was who the enemy really is. Yes, you read me right; the **enemy**. In our activism, not to mention in our daily lives, we are combating an oppressor who divides people along the lines of race, gender, and sexual preference. What makes these dividing lines important is their input in determining the composition of the ruling class. This ruling class is generally white and has every intention of remaining so. Granted, the wives of the bankers and captains of (non) industry are members of the ruling class, but, as I have said in an earlier column, the relationship between man and woman in a **conventional** Western marriage resembles the relationship between the bourgeois and the proletariat. That is where this whole icky scheme of things, as I have also said earlier, becomes relevant to us as a people. Queers aren't real men and dykes aren't real women according to this canon, so we must be excluded, excommunicated. By looking at the big picture, one can easily see a common source for all sorts of injustice and oppression.

There are those who painstakingly avoid looking at the big picture. This enlightened bunch seeks only the least comprehensive package of rights for our people, "paper rights," as Karl Marx called such shallow packages. These same people also prefer to use these cursory

acknowledgments of our humanity as a basis for trying to get the well-off among us assimilated back into the bourgeoisie's secure little world.

For one thing, this plan effectively excludes the Lesbian/Gay contingent of the working class from enjoying the fruits (no pun intended) of liberation. There should be absolutely **no** tolerance of such flagrant classism in **any** liberation movement.

Also, this shallow plan would isolate the Lesbian/Gay community from the related struggles against racism, classism, sexism, and U.S. imperialism. These things are all part of the same filthy package and we must remember that it is this very thing against which we fight.

It is at times like these that we must reaffirm our commitment to ending all forms of oppression. Those who follow the mass media's glittering promises of assimilation via social conformity are making a grave mistake. I believe it was Benjamin Franklin who said that if we do not all hang together, surely we will all hang separately.

Hasta la victoria siempre!

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MEDICALLY SPEAKING

HIV Positives Must Protect Themselves During Flu Season

By Roger Gremminger, MD

In this article, I wish to discuss a bit about the future of AIDS. As was pointed out, the average incubation period for AIDS has now been established both for transfusion — transmitted AIDS and for sexually transmitted AIDS to be about 8 years — i.e. the time from initial infection to the time of development of AIDS. Certainly we all hope that this time will be extended with attentive self-care by those infected as well as by attentive medical care and by advances in care developed by science. Certainly we all hope to contain the further spread of AIDS. This leads to two important considerations. How do we take attentive care of ourselves? Where is the AIDS virus, HIV, continuing to spread and how can we help to contain it?

I would like to take the last consideration first — where is the virus continuing to spread? We must remind ourselves that since the average incubation time is 8 years, by looking at the present AIDS statistics and basing our response to prevent the further spread of AIDS on those statistics, we are really about 8 years too late. This was the problem for our Gay community and the National Gay community in 1983-84 as was so poignantly articulated in the **Band Plays On** by Randy Shilts. So why do we have to keep making the same mistake for other segments of society? What we truly need is a very large study of the general population (seroprevalence study) to find out who are infected now. But this is wrapped in controversy.

The Stockholm Conference in July gave some startling glimpses into the future look of AIDS which I would like to share with you — and they concern youth, both future Gay youth and future heterosexual youth.

Among the differences in AIDS occurrence and sexual transmission between adolescents and adults are these:

A greater proportion of adolescents than adults with AIDS are female [14 vs. 7], are Black and Hispanic [53 vs. 38], and got AIDS through heterosexual contact [9 vs. 4].

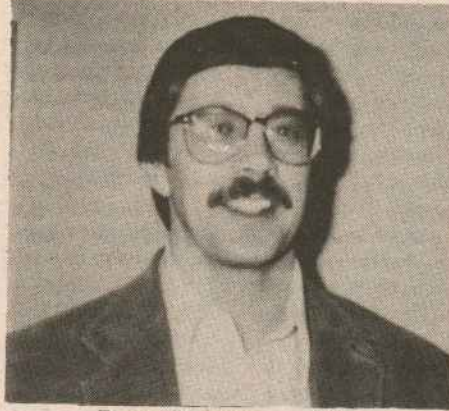
A smaller proportion of AIDS in adolescents than in adult males is attributable to homosexual or bisexual contact [49 vs. 65], but where it is, a larger proportion are Black [36 vs. 15] or Hispanic [17 vs. 10].

A large proportion of adolescents than adults with AIDS attributable to IV use are Hispanic [56 vs. 29].

JAMA August 12, 1988 p. 758.

Doesn't it seem ironic that while society argues about the content of school sex education classes for youth or even sometimes the possibility of classes, the youth of society are getting infected and many will die early deaths. How long can we tolerate this? After how many lives?

And the youth who are irrevocably Gay by psychological make-up are being taught the evils of a lifestyle they are destined to enter in order to find those sustaining and satisfying relationships they need to mature and develop into whole, loving individuals. But, in being warned of the evils, their self images are being sorely wounded, perhaps to the point that they will never find those relationships. And with their wounded egos, they enter the lifestyle with reckless abandon seeking only immediate pleasure and relief and getting also in many instances, early death. We see this and we contribute either by encouraging the wrong behaviors or failing to warn. We need to provide the parenting they have never received and role modeling they never knew existed. Can we help them to find the sustaining and satisfying



Roger Gremminger, MD

relationships they need?

The second point, how do we take attentive care of ourselves? I have addressed this in the past and will continue to address it in the future. But one timely point must be made now. The influenza season will state in late November or December. It is a harsh respiratory disease and we are coming due for a particularly bad season. These viruses are also able to change, but more slowly than the HIV virus and when the influenza viruses change significantly more people contract it for lack of immunity. We become immune only to the strains we had in the past. But the new strains can cause disease in all not exposed to that particular strain of the virus. Illness can be devastating even for the healthy and usually requires 2 to 3 weeks for recovery for the healthy person. It is even worse in those already compromised — elderly, asthmatics, those with immune compromise for all reasons, etc.

The CDC strongly recommends that all individuals infected with HIV and still asymptomatic be immunized prior to the season to prevent this possibly deadly disease. I would strongly encourage everyone who knows they are HIV positive but without symptoms to go to their doctor and request that he/she provide you with this immunization. The relationship with the private sector is very important and one should start there. If, however, you do not have a private doctor or even if you do, you may still get the immunization from the health department. The Milwaukee Health Department has the following criteria: a person must be a resident of the city and must be either over the age of 55 or have a chronic disease. If you do go there, you need only say that you have a chronic disease. Nothing more need be said.

The City of Milwaukee Health Department will hold immunization clinics for city residents on Thursday, November 3 and Friday, November 4 at five City Health Centers. The cost of the influenza immunizations is \$4.00 per person. Clinics will be open from 8:30 am to 5:30 p.m. and are located at: Northwest Health Center, 7630 West Mill Road; Keenan Health Center, 3200 North 36th Street; Lake Health Center, 4001 South 6th Street; South Side Health Center, 1640 South 24th Street; and the Municipal Building, (lobby), 841 North Broadway.

At these same clinics, pneumococcal vaccine to prevent many types of pneumonia will also be given. The cost of this vaccine is \$7.00 and both immunizations can be received at the same time. General information on influenza and pneumococcal immunizations can be obtained by calling (414) 278-3616.

If you have any friends who you know are HIV positive, please call their attention to this important prevention measure so that they have the option of receiving one or both immunizations.

Take good Care. Love, Roger

MASN Conducts Safe Sex Survey Among Men

By Jeff Kirsch
for SPEAK ITS NAME

[Madison]- A Madison AIDS Support Network (MASN) survey conducted of 210 sexually active Gay/bisexual men has revealed that 82 percent find themselves at least "moderately comfortable" with their knowledge of HIV infection, AIDS and methods of risk reduction.

Fifty percent of the total indicated that they are "very comfortable" with their level of understanding, while only 7 percent said that they are "not comfortable."

Forty-three percent reported that they use condoms when engaging in anal intercourse "at least half the time." Twenty-eight percent of the total always use condoms, while one-quarter admitted to "never or seldom" using them. An additional 31 percent said that the question of condom usage "does not apply" to them.

MASN Public Health Educator Sue Krause, who carried out the survey, says, "It is not clear whether these men (the 31 percent) are not engaging in anal intercourse or if they are in a relationship in which both partners are (HIV) antibody negative/mutually monogamous and considered that the question of safety did not apply to them."

Krause says that the safest kind of condoms are made of latex (rubber), not animal skin. Recently, condoms have been manufactured with nonoxynol-9, a spermicide that kills the HIV virus in a test tube and may provide extra protection if a condom breaks during intercourse. Nonoxynol-9 is also included in some lubricants or jellies. Lubricants with oil or grease, such as Crisco or Vaseline are not recommended, since they can weaken latex to the point of breakage. Water-based lubricants, such as KY or H-R jelly are preferred. (In Madison, a wide variety of condoms and lubricants are available at WSA Pharmacy).

In questions dealing with degree of risk, a clear pattern emerged. Anal receptive intercourse without a condom was considered by more than 80 percent of the respondents as a high-risk activity.

Most respondents also indicated that they believed that insertive anal intercourse (top) presents less risk than receptive (bottom). Eighty-six percent nonetheless said they considered insertive anal intercourse "somewhat risky."

"Whether or not this belief translates into behavior," says Krause, "this finding raises a concern about the receptive partner. Bottoms need to be protected."

Tim Tillotson, coordinator of the Blue Bus Clinic in Madison, says that although "single-time, unprotected sex presents more risk to the receptive partner," there is no data on the breakdown of people who have contracted the HIV virus through receptive vs. insertive anal sex. While affirming that anal sex is the most frequent mode of transmission among Gay men, Tillotson notes that other factors are involved, such as recent findings that an infected person's ability to transmit the virus to a partner increases with the length of the infection.

Responses about oral sex showed a mixed opinion. Thirty-four percent considered this "somewhat risky," while 40 percent believed it to be a "higher risk." Most safer sex guidelines consider that oral sex without ejaculation into the mouth is "possibly safe." (Ejaculation into the mouth is considered unsafe.) Tillotson says that "while probably not zero, the magnitude of risk associated with oral sex is much less than that associated with anal intercourse." Again, he adds that long-term studies intended to identify frequency of modes of transmission have yet to be completed and that "new information is going to come."

Almost 20 percent of the men surveyed reported participating in an activity in the past month that would put them at risk for HIV infection. Seventy-two percent said they had engaged in no risk during the same period of time; nine percent were uncertain if their sexual activity had put them in danger of contracting the infection.

When asked to answer the question, "Do you feel you need to change your behavior in some way to reduce your

chances of being exposed to HIV infection?", 52 percent believed they did not have to, while 44 percent responded that some behavior change was necessary for them.

Sixty-nine percent of those surveyed said they believe that it is becoming easier to find partners who practice safer sex. Eight percent disagreed.

Forty-eight percent of the men use alcohol or drugs before sex at least half the time and 20 percent of the total reported usage almost always. Seventeen percent indicated that they never use drugs or alcohol before sex.

Two-thirds of the men surveyed said that they have known someone with AIDS.

All men surveyed are residents local to the Madison area. Eighty-six percent indicated some college education or technical training. Fifteen percent reported an annual income over \$30,000 a year; 56 percent, between \$10,000 and \$30,000; and 29 percent, under \$10,000. Ninety percent of the respondents were white, 3.4 percent Black, 3.4 percent Native American and 2.4 percent Hispanic.

Sixty-five percent of the men indicated that they were single. Twenty-nine percent are in a monogamous relationship and 6 percent in a non-monogamous relationship.

The survey was conducted during July and August, 1988. Respondents were chosen at random at Madison's Rod's Bar, the New Bar, the MAGIC Picnic and the UW-Madison's 10 Percent Society Dance.

Krause said that this was the first such survey done by MASN and that "people were very open to it." She expects to conduct a similar survey in the Summer of 1989 for purposes of comparison.

She adds, though, "that I hope to see changes in the results. I was really concerned that 20 percent had put themselves at risk during the previous month and I was discouraged by the amount of alcohol use indicated in the survey. Alcohol impairs judgment."

Tillotson adds that preliminary findings of a laboratory study that appeared in the **Washington Blade** show that the HIV virus may well grow faster in blood that contains alcohol.

According to Tillotson, all potential sex partners should share information about their antibody status and sexual history, as well as consider safer sex guidelines. "But the most important thing is to stop all unprotected anal intercourse. This, I'm sure, would cut new cases of HIV infection by a factor of ten."

Funding for this article was provided by a grant from the New Harvest Foundation.



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POLITICALLY SPEAKING

Is Presidential Candidate Lenora Fulani Too Good To Be True?

By Kris Kleindienst

An Openly pro-Gay, black, female presidential candidate who campaigns at Gay Pride rallies? A powerful, independent political party whose platform calls for civil rights for Gays and Lesbians? Is this for real? If it sounds too good to be true, it just might be.

Across the country, Gay and Lesbian communities are being courted by members of an organization calling itself the "only pro-Gay, black-led, woman-led, multi-racial" political party. The New Alliance Party (NAP), as it is generally known, is campaigning under the name "Committee for Fair Elections" to put its presidential candidate, Lenora B. Fulani, into the forefront of the public eye. New Alliance Party canvassers were a visible presence at the October, 1987 March on Washington although the organizers of the March were strongly and openly opposed to their participation.

NAP people were at the Democratic National Convention in July where Gay/Lesbian representatives were warned against them. Indeed, many Gay, Lesbian and progressive activists are skeptical, if not of NAP's stated positions, of their perceived tactics and background. They charge that far from being a democratically run, black-led independent party, the NAP is little more than a fringe cult group carrying out the political agenda of Fred Newman, a white, radical extremist with historical ties to Lyndon LaRouche notorious for his right-wing extremism. Newman is Fulani's campaign manager.

These ties have been carefully documented by Chip Berlet in a paper titled *Clouds Blue the Rainbow* published in 1987. Berlet is a researcher for Political Research Associates, a progressive think-tank in Cambridge, Massachusetts. In the paper, Berlet documents Fred Newman's affiliation with LaRouche.

Berlet writes that even though Newman officially broke with the LaRouchites in 1974, he continued to debate LaRouche over issues of shared political ideology. This, after the rest of the American Left had denounced the LaRouchites as either proto-Nazi Brownshirts or a "sick political cult."

Dennis Serrette, a black activist and NAP 1984 presidential candidate who broke with the party calls NAP "a sexist, racist therapy cult." In a published statement, he writes, "During the entire two and a half years I sat on the Central Committee of NAP, there was never a single debate . . . once Newman made his position known."

Serrette, Berlet and others are highly critical of NAP's link with yet another Newman organization, The Institute for Social Therapy and Research which operates therapy clinics in 14 cities including Chicago. Newman founded the Institute and Fulani is its director of community clinics. Critics charge that the Institute does little more than recruit "emotionally vulnerable" people to do the grunt work for Fulani's campaign, a claim which NAP members deny.

Criticism of NAP within the Gay/Lesbian community has come from, among others, Sue Hyde, director of the Privacy Project for the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF). Last May, Hyde sent a letter to 13 Gay and Lesbian newspapers across the country expressing her concern that NAP "could subvert an autonomous grassroots Lesbian and Gay movement." She cites personal experience as well as many of the same criticisms made by Serrette and Berlet.

Joyce Hunter is an Executive Committee member of the National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights and is director of social work services for the Hettrick-Martin Institute which serves Lesbian and Gay Youth in New York City. She calls NAP's explanation of homosexuality "incredibly homophobic and condescending."

Fulani's campaign manual defines homosexuality as pathological and describes it as historical and political in its origins. "Being gay is a radical statement . . . Gayness is, in fact, a statement by a broad mass of people who cut across class and race lines in this country about lifestyle and the right to privacy. It is a protest against the repressiveness of our society . . . It isn't a narrow genetic thing, or . . . simply a statement about

sex" the manual asserts.

"In the context of contemporary America, being gay is a statement about the right to privacy because of the existence of sodomy laws. It is therefore a political statement, whatever the intentions of the individual gay person," the manual continues. "What Fulani means by being pro-gay is that she supports the right to privacy . . . in the sense that she supports the protest (emphasis in the original) that is gayness."

Hunter adds, "Basically what it really is is that old Marxist line that if everything was well with the government, then the family would function. They are saying that the family is dysfunctional and that Gay people are Gay by political choice. They reduce our humanness to a political ideology. In terms of adolescents, they act as if it was easy to give up your family and put yourself at risk for violence."

When questioned about this definition of homosexuality, Ed Patuto, a Gay man who is a campaign organizer for Fulani in the Midwest, and who says he has been active in NAP for 8 years, said that "in a less repressive society more people would be Gay." When asked how he could draw such a conclusion from reading the above-quoted passages, Patuto responded, "I don't know what more I can say."

Cathy Burack, director of the Women's Center at the University of Missouri in St. Louis, was initially enthusiastic when contacted by NAP last July. However, after some experience with the party, she changed her mind. "I started reading their paper, *The New Alliance*, which I thought was terrible and saw ads for Farakhan who's never been a big supporter of women's issues."

Minister Louis Farakhan is a black muslim leader who has called Judaism a "gutter religion" and is known to be anti-Gay. Fulani supports him.

Hyde, Hunter and Berlet and others have all expressed concern that NAP has spent more time attacking the Left than working with it. "They only attack left and liberal organizations," says Burack. "They never talk about the Republicans. One of their goals is to destroy the Democratic party." Fulani has frequently said in public appearances that "we should be prepared to cost the Democrats the election."

Fred Newman and his followers have been around for many years. Currently they operate through the auspices of various organizations — NAP, Committee for Fair Elections, the Institute for Social Therapy, or the Rainbow Alliance. The Rainbow Alliance has no connection whatever with Jesse Jackson's Rainbow Coalition. Jackson officials vehemently deny any connection between the Alliance and the Coalition.

Our community is particularly vulnerable because of the problems posed by our own invisibility: social isolation, cultural alienations, the absence of a clear and strong political identity and leadership on any level.

Gays and Lesbians are not used to the kind of sweet talk the NAP has to offer. We have had to work long and hard on our own for what gains we have made in this country. It is now up to our community to take a long, critical look at what lies behind NAP's beguiling words before we give over our unquestioning support.



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Jesse Helms Moves to Sabotage AIDS, Hate Crime Bills

By Lisa Keen

[Washington, D.C.]—As if the news of Congress gutting two D.C. Laws protecting Gays was not bad enough, it has now become evident that Senator Jesse Helms (R-NC) has moved to sabotage a recently passed AIDS bill and a bill to document crimes motivated by hatred of Gays.

As of October 6, Helms was holding up final action in the Senate on two bills: the Hate Crimes Statistics bill (S. 702) and the AIDS Research and Education bill (S. 1220).

According to Peri Jude of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, Helms is holding up the Hate Crimes bill which passed the House in May, saying that he wants to make at least three changes in the legislation, one of them concerning "anti-sodomy."

Jude said Helms is also challenging the bill's stipulation of verbal harassment or intimidation as a crime and the validity of using the current crime data collection method.

Helms' press secretary Barbara Lukens said on October 6 that she did not have any knowledge of Helms' opposition to the Hate Crimes bill. But a legislative aide to Sen. Paul Simon (D-ILL), who is chief sponsor of the bill, said Helms has informed the majority leader, Sen. Robert Byrd (D-WV), that he has "problems" with the bill. A number of Capitol Hill observers said Byrd is unlikely to let any bill go to the floor in the final week of the 100th Congress that is controversial and likely to take up a lot of floor time in debate.

Helms staffer Lukens said she was also unaware of the senator's opposition to the AIDS bill; but, a spokesman for Sen. Edward Kennedy (D-Mass), the chief sponsor of that bill, said Helms has been threatening to filibuster to defeat the legislation.

The House passed a comprehensive AIDS bill (HR. 5142) on September 23, providing for expanded testing with counseling and confidentiality protections, expanded and expedited federal research, and a national AIDS advisory commission. The Senate passed its AIDS bill (S. 1220) in April, calling for expanded education and research.

The House and Senate versions of the AIDS bills were supposed to go to a conference committee in the first week of October to work out one version that would include provisions of both bills. However, a number of sources reported this week that Helms was threatening to filibuster the measure and had successfully stalled Majority Leader Byrd from even appointing Senate conferees to meet with the House.

Chai Feldblum, a lobbyist for the American Civil Liberties Union which is helping to push for the AIDS bill, said on October 6 that Helms apparently wants to make a last ditch effort to attach mandatory testing and reporting measures onto the AIDS bill and to

eliminate from the legislation the protections the House bill contains concerning confidentiality.

Helms would have three attempts to filibuster the AIDS bill on the Senate floor, said Feldblum, and each filibuster would take a minimum of 3 days to stop, according to Senate rules. Meanwhile, Congress has agreed to try to close out its 100th session by October 17 at the latest. Under current circumstances, said Feldblum, Majority Leader Byrd is not likely to allow the controversial measure onto the floor.

The *New York Times* reported on October 6 that the House had passed its employee rights resolution with a provision to allow discrimination based on lifestyle. However, that report turned out to be wrong.

The House did pass a resolution on October 4 protecting Capitol Hill employees from discrimination based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex (including marital or parental status), handicap or age. And the resolution did provide for exemptions based on jurisdiction of residence and political affiliation. But, according to Barry Toiv, press secretary to Rep. Leon Panetta who sponsored the resolution, it does not explicitly designate an exemption based on lifestyle.

Toiv said the resolution was based on the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and case law interpreting that act. That law does not include prohibition of discrimination based on lifestyle or sexual orientation. There are bills in the House and Senate which seek to amend the law to include such protections.

The *New York Times* said the House voted on October 4 to permit "members to refuse to hire anyone whose life style they decide is unacceptable, a framework interpreted as including men and women who are gay." Toiv said the *New York Times* has agreed to run a correction.



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Love Story of David and Jonathon In Today's World

By Jay Clark

In a previous article I said we would look at a love story that needed to be told. But before we do, I would like to ask you for your help. I don't mean financial, but instead I am asking you for your prayers. For you prayer warriors out there, Saving Grace Tabernacle is in need of a place to hold worship and also to form a board to be recognized by the state. God has placed this burden on my heart, so I'm asking that you may pray for us as a family. There are a lot of Gay people who can not or will not accept God. But many more who do. Please pray for our needs and for me as a Pastor. Now to our story.

To most heterosexuals, the story of David and Jonathon appears to be a story of great friendship between two men. But with the guidance of the Holy Spirit, let us examine this love story as a Gay love story.

In 1 Samuel, 18:1, the Bible tells us that it was love at first sight between David and Jonathon. When they met, the immediate bond was set, a bond of love. These two men made a covenant or what was known as a "soul" bond between them. Because Jonathon loved David as he did himself, nothing was too good or too much for him. In verse 4, Jonathon shows his love by giving David the robe off his back as well as his sword, bow and belt. These items were dear to Jonathon, each had in its way, protected his life, and their gift was a true testimony of love.

Jonathon's father was Saul, King of Israel and David became Saul's assistant. So dear was he to the king that Saul offered him his daughter Michal in marriage, a marriage which David accepted.

But, as time passed, Saul realized the nature of the bond between his son and David and sought to kill the young man. With Michal's encouragement, David fled for his life.

In 1 Samuel, 20, we read that David and Jonathon met. David asked the young prince, "What have I done that has gotten your father so angry that he wants to kill me?"

Jonathon replied denying that the king wanted David dead because he was sure his father would have told him had it been so.

But David rejoined, "Of course he did not tell you that. He knows perfectly well of our friendship. Your father would not tell you because it would hurt you."



Pastor Jay Clark

Jonathon answered, "Tell me what to do and I will do it for you."

I would say, by the Lord of my own soul, that these words of Jonathon's could only have come from someone passionately in love and wanting to prove it. I would also say that Jonathon is searching for the same type of response from David. Perhaps he was showing some jealousy, but, if so, that emotion, in small doses, can be a positive force, reinforcing feelings.

In 1 Samuel 20:40, we read one of the more moving and lovely moments that these two young men had together. Here, the desire to be alone was great and they kissed each other and wept, knowing that this would be the last time that they would be together on the earth.

When Jonathon was killed, David mourned him in song, saying in 2 Samuel 1:26, "How I weep for you my brother Jonathon. How much I loved you and your love for me was greater than that of a woman."

Now, if we take this story out of Biblical context and put it in an evangelical fundamentalist paper or placed it on TV, how they would scream that the tale was evil, sick, perverted and all the rest of the homophobic garbage that comes straight from the pits of Hell. God help them! Unfortunately, to most straight Christians, it is impossible for two men or two women to be in a Christ-centered relationship one on one.

Does the Bible support me in my life? Quite obviously, yes!

For help, info or prayer requests, feel free to write to me, Pastor Jay A. Clark, Saving Grace Tabernacle, P.O. Box 837, Antioch, IL 60002-0837.

Most Questions Have Simple, Down-To-Earth Answers

By Fr. James Arimond

How will your congregation react if I come to church with my partner and we sit next to each other, kiss during the 'kiss of peace' and so forth?

I've seen many Gay/Lesbian couples in our congregation over the past 15 years and they have done all of the above and more. Never once in all those years have I ever heard a murmur from the rest of the congregation. Many people kiss in church now days: Mothers/daughters, Fathers/sons, brothers, cousins, friends, etc. . . . I kiss some of my male and female friends and, as far as I know, no one has ever raised an eye-brow. At least if they did, I wasn't aware of it.

What if my Pastor is homophobic?

We don't go to church simply because of the pastor. The church is the fellowship of all the believers. The songs we sing, the prayers we say, the gifts we give, the scriptures we share, the communion we receive, the fellowship we participate in, the projects we involve ourselves in, are all the spiritual activities of the church. The pastor is only one element.

If, however, the pastor is fanatical about this issue, there are some other options.

1) Find a prayer or scripture group within that church where there is more intelligence.

2) Speak to the pastor. Some of those pastors think that they have never met a Gay/Lesbian person. Many times your warm personality, willingness to get involved, or your appreciation of the work he/she is doing in a particular area, etc., may be the moment of grace he/she needs in order to arrive at openness and illumination. It's very hard to attack someone when they are your friend.

3) If the pastor is really insane on this issue, write a letter to the congregational head stating your concerns and address a copy to the pastor. (Or send it to the Pastoral Council or Church Board.) No pastor wants to be "reported" to a superior or have something on his/her record.

4) Find another church to attend. I think this should be a 'last resort' because I know that Gay/Lesbian people have changed the hearts and minds of many religious people. I have seen many homophobic pastors become "fighters for sexual liberty" simply because they meet a Lesbian/Gay person who became their friend.

What does the Bible say about Homosexuality?

This question has been dealt with hundreds of times, but it always comes up so it deserves an answer. This is the most concise answer I can find.

The Gospels never mention sexual acts between two men or two women. In Paul, Timothy and some few Old Testament texts where sexual acts between males are mentioned, they are set within three contexts: (1) as acts of violence, (2) as acts of lust, and (3) as acts of scared ritual in fertility cults. They are never mentioned as acts of love.

Christian tradition says that sexual acts must be responsible: serving the causes of life and love. I really feel this simple mandate must be the criteria by which we judge and evaluate our sexual activity as well as all other human activity. Some critics may see this as being too vague or simplistic and would like some more strongly defined precepts to follow or impose on others. When Jesus was asked what one had to do to become a member of the Kingdom of God, he said, "Love God with your whole heart, mind and soul and love your neighbor as you love yourself." While these mandates may be simple, they are not easy to apply and take an entire lifetime of struggle.

The moment we try to apply strict laws and evaluation to specific activity, we move from the objective realm into the subjective. Precepts are, by their very nature, objective and general. The responsibility of each individual is to apply them to themselves in their own subjective situation. Most people, if they are really honest with themselves, know well when their activity is loving and life-giving: e.g. when we think more of the other or create new life. The age-old tradition of our community is that we must, when all is said and done, follow our honest and informed consciences. No one can do this for us nor can we shift that

responsibility to someone else's shoulders.

Would you please write something about prayer.

I'd like to thank this woman for asking this question. Prayer is something that I take very much for granted in my life, but we often don't talk about it with others. I don't have the space to deal with it here, but soon I'll write a whole article on the subject and share my own experiences with you. Thanks for the inspiration.

I appreciate your questions so please keep them coming. If you wish to send them to me directly instead of the paper, please write to, Fr. James, 4611 S. Kirkwood Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53110-1492. Thanks.

New Hope Church Growing

By Virginia Pultz, Interim Pastoral Leader

[Milwaukee]- Is Milwaukee's New Hope M.C.C. growing? YES, we're growing!

Since the death of its Founder and Pastor, Rev. David Luther Callentine, New Hope M.C.C. has been meeting the challenges and needs of the Milwaukee community and will soon begin its THIRD year with many civic and religious activities which have recently taken place and are planned in the next few months.

The New Hope Congregation co-hosted and provided worship space for the 1988 Annual AIDS Memorial Service held on Memorial Day. New Hope was a co-sponsor along with Dignity-Milwaukee and Lutherans Concerned of the interdenominational religious service held at the Village Church on September 18 as part of the First Annual Milwaukee Lesbian and Gay Pride Celebration. Chocolate cake was furnished by New Hope and served on Friday, October 7 at the Glass Menagerie restaurant in the M&M Club in celebration of the 20th Anniversary of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches (U.F.M.C.C.).

Some of our members are involved in many other civic activities within Milwaukee's Gay and Lesbian community. These include: membership and participation in the Original Fest City Singers who have recently completed a 3-weekend show entitled "Abra-Ca-Dazzle" at the Ballgame, membership and active participation in the Milwaukee Lesbian/Gay Pride Celebration Committee, participation in various activities of the Cream City Foundation and the Foundation Community Center including the current fundraising campaign and many other community organizations too numerous to name.

During the weekend of October 21, four members of New Hope's Congregation and Board will be going to the Great Lakes District Semi-annual Conference of M.C.C. to be held in Peoria, Illinois. The reason for this trip will be to complete the application process for Commission Status of our church in the U.F.M.C.C. In addition, New Hope is presently counseling four couples who will soon celebrate Holy Unions. Yes, we do Holy Unions — one was performed last month.

New Hope is sponsoring an "Election Night Costume Party" on November 8 (after we have voted and helped others to do so as well), a "Campy-Fire" party on Saturday, November 19 and we are currently planning to celebrate our Second Anniversary in early December in the form of a Grand Christmas Party to be held at Jet's Place here in Milwaukee.

Is New Hope, M.C.C. growing? Not only have we grown in the last year, but we're involved in and a vital part of your community. We'd like you to share the experience, grow with us and learn more about us at 6:30 p.m. any Sunday at the Kenwood United Methodist Church, 2319 E. Kenwood Blvd, Milwaukee (across from the UW-M Student Union). Our phone number is (414)442-7300.



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The Light LIVELY ARTS

Madison's Womansong Growing Into a Strong Choral Group

By Karen Lucas
for SPEAK ITS NAME

"Womansong has defined for me what magic is. It is real, not illusionary. It is creating something, a whole which is greater than the sum of its parts."

Phenomenal, spectacular, political, visually stunning, and entertaining — these are a few of the adjectives which have been used to describe Womansong, Madison's all-woman choir.

How is it that this choir inspires such description? Perhaps it is the vibrantly colorful array of clothing the members wear in a performance or their dance-like movements on stage. Maybe it's the personal introductions given before each song, or the song choices, which range from political songs which inform, educate and move the audience, to love songs, and non-western styles of music. Or perhaps it is the obvious pleasure that they take in making music together.

Womansong has performed in a variety of aesthetic and political settings which range from West Towne Mall to the National Women's Choir Festival in Minneapolis. The group sings at festivals, benefits, conferences and special events, and has given as many as twenty performances in a year.

Although Womansong has not received much critical attention, *Hot Wire*, a magazine which focuses on women's music, gave a rave review of the choir's performance in Minneapolis.

After the 1978 dissolution of Anacrusis, a predecessor women's choir, fifteen women coalesced to form Womansong.

Over the years the size of the group has varied. Membership presently stands at about sixty.

The group includes singers, arrangers, composers and accompanists. Although some women teach, conduct, arrange or compose songs as well as sing, no auditions are required to join, and many women in the choir do not read music. "A unique aspect of Womansong," Kate Lyn Hibbard points out, "is that women who don't read or write music are able to bring music into the group and teach it in an oral, folk style."

Because such wide range of skill levels exist within the group, Womansong provides an opportunity for learning and developing musical skills. Lynn Fendler had conducted other people's arrangements, but had never arranged a song before joining Womansong. "Now I feel like I have a lot of arranging skills. I've recognized that as a bridge to composition and I've been able to write my own songs from there," says Fendler.

Womansong is a good place for members to develop non-musical skills as well. "Choir is a safe place to experiment with talents you think you might have or talents you want to develop," according to Hibbard. "Choir is an organizational outlet and a creative outlet for me. There is a lot of potential for creativity because of the flexibility of the group."

Decisions are made during the hour-long business meetings that take place after every rehearsal and, ideally,

TURN TO WOMANSONG, PAGE 12

Theater Tesseract Explores Lively Look at Friendships

By Geno

Milwaukee's Theatre Tesseract opened its season premiere of "The Common Pursuit," a British import by Simon Gray. It's a lively look at friendships, friendships that continue for a period of over twenty years. We first meet six Cambridge University students in the process of starting a literary magazine called "The Common Pursuit" in honor of their literary idol, F.R. Leavis. All is bright hope and anticipation as the six make ambitious plans for the magazine and their futures. The dialogue is witty, fast-paced as the characters establish themselves in the audience's mind.

Throughout the rest of the play, we see the literary journal in financial trouble and finally folding, and we witness the changes that the passage of time has elaborated in the characters and situations — ideals are compromised, betrayals occur, and life goes on. Bo Johnson as Nick becomes a BBC TV personality and James Bond as Peter makes a cushy living as a writer of "pop" phil/psych books. Both are charming rogues. Sharon McQueen as Marigold, the only woman in the cast, is a catalyst whose strong presence helps define the men and their relationships to one another. David Cessarini and Jonathan Smoots, as the magazine founders, bond the company of six actors into a believable ensemble who make this production so satisfying.

The play is billed as a tragi-comedy, and the most tragic aspect of the action comes in the last act as the friends plan a funeral service for Humphrey, the clever outsider played by Chris Flieller. Humpty, as they call him, was found murdered in his rooms, beaten to death by someone he had picked up. The revelation of his death is doubly shocking since his homosexuality has never been openly referred to — it's because his friends, English to the bone, have simply accepted his sexual preference without having to discuss it.

The set constructed by Jon Herold and Chris Flieller is a marvel of ingenuity that allows the two settings to practically dissolve into one another. This allows the closing of the play to make an imaginative transformation in time which provides a dramatic and very moving sense of beginnings and endings.

The play runs through October 30 at Lincoln Center for the Arts, 820 E. Knapp St., Milwaukee. Performances are Thursdays and Fridays at 8:00 p.m., Saturday at 5:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m., and Sundays at 7:00 p.m. For reservations, call (414) 273-PLAY.

The word "tesseract" was made popular in Madeline L'Engle's *A Wrinkle in Time* which describes a tesseract as a theoretical fifth dimension vehicle that allows voyagers to travel quickly through time and space.

Friendship Group Plans Star-Gazing

One of the more exciting and, certainly, interesting groups is the Metro Milwaukee Friendship Group (MMFG). As noted in the last issue of *Light*, the group is an excellent way to meet people, make new friends in a non-bar and congenial atmosphere and enjoy some good times.

For example, this month, in addition to the regular monthly meeting, the group attended the Cream City Foundation's Movie Night Fund Raiser and enjoyed an all-you-can-eat pizza and pasta dinner at Milwaukee's Giacamo's restaurant. At press time, the group was planning a trip to the UWM Planetarium followed by dinner at William Ho's Chinese Restaurant. These are only several of the activities that make MMFG a fun group to belong to.

For those interested in more information, MMFG may be contacted at P.O. Box 93203, Milwaukee, WI 53203.



Cast members of the National Touring Company of "Cabaret", Steve Potfora, Fred Corti, Doug Freidman and Stan Chandler enjoyed themselves at the M&M Club after their final Milwaukee performance.

Cabaret's Clown-Hitler Emcee Has Message For Us, Says Joel Grey

Late Sunday afternoon and I'm standing in an alley, but oh, well, that's where I said I'd meet him — and I don't even know his name. I should say, I don't remember it. I'm not even sure I remember what he looks like except that he's young, good looking — I think — and, if I remember right, built. Why do I get myself into these things? Meet some guy in a bar on Saturday night and . . . dumpsters all around bearing labels from a dozen different shows — including this one. "Kit Kat drums", one says, another, "Fruit Shop." I try to think where the contents might fit in the production. After all, *Cabaret* is one of my favorite musicals.

Then, promptly at five, the stage door opens and a smiling, vaguely familiar face appears. "Have you been here long? I hope I haven't kept you waiting. C'mon in."

I've been to Milwaukee's Riverside Theatre before as part of the audience, but now, as I follow my guide, threading my way through a jungle of props backstage, I feel like, well, a little kid let early into the front parlor to see how mom and dad do all that Christmas magic.

"From an actor's point of view, this is our favorite house," Steve says with a sweep of his arm as we walk on to the large, empty stage. I nod, looking out over the vast array of seats all rich in red, banking away toward the rafters. I am thankful that he's introduced himself — or had he already done that at the Triangle the other evening? But Steve continues. "Look how close the front seats are. That's really wonderful. When you're on stage, you really feel like you have an audience in front of you. You're not working in a vacuum. You can see faces." He may be thankful. I'd be scared out of my mind.

The Riverside, Steve says, is small so everything that will be used during a performance has to be in its precise place, the whole fitting together like the pieces of a puzzle. Since the men's dressing rooms are 9 floors above the stage level, two make-shift changing areas are set up. It's all dim and empty now, but I try and imagine what it must be like — and will be like in a few short hours — when all 51 members of the cast and crew will be making the show go on. "It must be a mad house," I observe not too originally.

Steve smiles indulgently. "No, everyone knows what they're doing and it's fun. Besides," he adds, "I've done this show 600 times." I gulp and he nods. "I love it. I haven't been home to New York, the Big Apple, since May and won't see it until we close in Boston in December, but I love it, love the traveling. I didn't know much about the country before I started doing *Cabaret*. You know," he says with a beguiling grin, "Is there life west of the Hudson? That sort of thing."

"Is that why you do it, to travel, see things?" I ask, trying to comprehend a life of strange hotels, new places all the time, eternally on the move.

"That's part of it, but . . ." He pauses and then says, "Why don't you ask him."

I turn and coming toward me is a thin little man hurrying toward us, almost lost in a long, off-white coat. He looks like a sparrow or a chickadee as he bounces along. No, I'm not too great on the pick-up sometimes. It is Joel Grey. But he *doesn't* look like . . . I mean I thought he'd be . . .

There are introductions. Have I said my

TURN TO CABARET, PAGE 14

Clavis Opens In New Location

[Milwaukee]- Clavis Theatre will celebrate its sixth season on November 11 with the opening of its new permanent theatre in Prospect Mall, 2239 N. Prospect Ave., Milwaukee.

A three-year lease has been signed on the 4000 square feet facility. Extensive renovations have been made on the lower level of the mall to house the theatre's performance, rehearsal and office areas.

According to Neal Brenard, Artistic Director of Clavis Theatre, "With this new theatre, Clavis continues to play a leading role in Milwaukee's ongoing theatrical renaissance. This facility will provide a base for us to develop our various outreach programs and offer our audiences and Resident Ensemble the benefits of a permanent home."

Added Brenard, "We feel the space is particularly suitable for our bold and adventurous performance style as it is both intimate and flexible, allowing for a variety of staging possibilities."

Clavis will become a major tenant in the Eastside mall, located minutes from Milwaukee's downtown. The new theatre is accessible by public transportation and close to many restaurants, clubs and entertainment spots.

Clavis' new theatre is located just three blocks from its former quarters on North Summit Avenue. Previous homes were located in historic Walker's Point and at UW-Milwaukee.

Clavis Theatre, Milwaukee's professional off-Broadway theatre, has been consistently at the forefront of innovation in Milwaukee's theatre scene, premiering such plays as *Execution of Justice*, *The Normal Heart* and *Lemon Sky*. The Clavis has also presented numerous productions such as *The Normal Heart* either with Gay/Lesbian theme or of particular interest to the Gay/Lesbian community.

The new theatre will officially open with a revival of its smash hit, *Cloud Nine* which will run from November 11 to December 18. Season subscriptions are still available. For more information call the Clavis Box Office at (414) 272-3043.

Historic Milwaukee Features In Dynamic, Bright Future

"I love Milwaukee," said St. Paul Mayor George Latimer looking out over his audience. "It's a wonderful city, a beautiful place, bright and full of promise with a great past and a brilliant future." Latimer addressed his fond remarks about the Cream City to a conference of nearly 150 Milwaukee business and professional leaders meeting at the Pfister Hotel on October 11, 1988. He spoke on the subject, "Essentials For the Downtown of the Future."

The all day conference on Milwaukee's present and future development was co-sponsored by the Building Owners and Managers Association, the East Town Association, Historic Milwaukee, Inc. and the Wisconsin Trust for Historic Preservation. The theme was "Preserving and Developing Your Downtown." The aim of the conference was both to promote historic preservation and to show how old buildings restored and put to new use can add grace, beauty and character to a downtown area.

Latimer who has been mayor of St. Paul since 1976 told the conference that much of his own inspiration for renovation and development in his Minneapolis home town came from the efforts of former Milwaukee Mayor Henry Maier. Latimer praised Maier for his foresight and leadership during his 28 years in office in guiding Milwaukee through its renovation, a renaissance that has preserved the old and integrated it tastefully and excitingly with the new.

"Milwaukee is special," said Latimer continuing his paean of praise. Because of historic preservation, "Milwaukee is filled with marvelous places, splendid old buildings, a great variety of architecture which is the sign of a great downtown."

Speaking of Milwaukee's future, Latimer praised newer developments such as the Grand Avenue Mall and the vision that was responsible for it and other projects like it.

However, Latimer cautioned, "humanity requires that a downtown must have a place for the poor and homeless." He admitted that many people would like to sweep the less fortunate away, but this should not be. He cited St. Paul's efforts in providing low cost downtown housing for the poor.

Latimer also praised the skywalk system in St. Paul (known there as "skyway") and Milwaukee and advocated its future expansion.

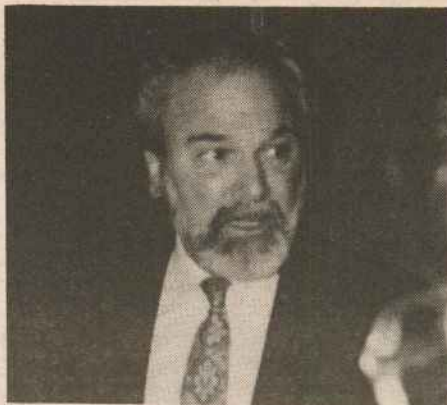
When asked by *Light* if he thought skywalks detracted from the street life of the downtown area, Latimer admitted that might be so. But, he said, "The price you pay is worth the result you get." He said that in cities like Milwaukee and St. Paul where the winter weather can get fierce, skywalks allow more people, especially senior citizens, to come into the downtown area and shop comfortably. He said that skywalks should have shops, jugglers, musicians, "all kinds of life, all kinds of new things for people to see." He pointed out that every new building in St. Paul wants to be part of the skywalk system which is open from 6:00 am to 2:00 am and recommended that Milwaukee consider the same thing.

Latimer also spoke about the development of the river front area. It should be an area of parks, he said, where people can walk, an area for concerts. He decried the trendy shops that often spring up in such an area. "There shouldn't be another boutique or candle shop built in America," he said.

Latimer's address was followed by a panel of Milwaukeeans praising the city's progress and indicating future trends for development.

Jon Wellhoefer of the Milwaukee Redevelopment Corporation echoed Latimer in his praise for the Grand Avenue Mall, calling it the "centerpiece of the new downtown" and spoke of the "splendid success" of the Yankee Hill development which consists of high rises as well as townhouses. There were many, who thought that Yankee Hill would never work, never attract many to live there, but today, Yankee Hill boasts 97-99 occupancy Wellhoefer said, 65 of whom are single. Yankee Hill is the first choice of people coming to live in Milwaukee from outside the city and state, he said.

In the near future, more developments like Yankee Hill are planned. Milwaukeeans can also anticipate the expansion of the Grand Avenue Mall in



St. Paul Mayor George Latimer

the area around the Michigan Avenue entrance. Offices and/or a new hotel are planned there. The current two and a half mile skywalk system will be expanded. Wellhoefer said that as the skywalk expands, there will be "a lot of openness, a lot of glass with a lot of escalators to get to street shops."

Professor Harvey Z. Rabinowitz of the School of Architecture, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee spoke of the need for a new and modern transit system for Milwaukee. Rabinowitz told *Light* that Milwaukee's population density did not warrant a heavy rail system such as the Washington, D.C. Metro, but a light rail or a trolley system could easily work.

William Drew told the conference that the immediate future for Milwaukee would see continuing development of Old World 3rd Street as well as the old Schlitz brewery complex which he sees as a "major employment center." The city, Drew said, is developing in a north-south direction. Development will continue north along Wisconsin Avenue toward Marquette University. There also will be "significant marina development northward along the Milwaukee River as well as new construction and new uses for old buildings that will grace the Milwaukee River north to the North Avenue dam."

Drew told the conferees that all this growth and development was possible because of the "healthy partnership between the public and private sectors" in Milwaukee.

Over lunch, Milwaukee State Senator Barbara L. Ulichny called the Cream City's downtown "our heritage" meaning the many wonderful old buildings that tell, by their very existence, the city's history to generations present and future. Historic preservation, Ulichny said, is good for the city. "Rehabilitation of old buildings creates new jobs and attracts the tourist dollar." "Tourists", Ulichny told the conference, are looking for the "authentic America." If they want to see that, it's right here in Milwaukee.

Pride Committee Thanks Milwaukee

The 1988 Milwaukee Lesbian/Gay Pride Committee would like to take this opportunity to publically express its sincere thanks and appreciation to those organizations and their members who made the 1988 First Annual Pride Celebration a huge success. Organizations are named below in alphabetical order and individuals will soon be receiving personal letters from the Committee.

Alpha Composition, Beer Garden, Beer Town Badgers, Black and White Men Together, Boot Camp, C.S.P. Inc., Chicago's Gay Pride Planning Week Committee, Cream City Business Association, Cream City Chorus, Cream City Foundation, Dignity, Fest City Singers, Gay People's Union, Holiday Invitational Tournament, *In-Step Magazine*, Jet's Place, Lambda Rights Network, Lutherans Concerned, Meridian Music, Milwaukee GAMMA Inc., New Hope M.C.C., New Moon Productions, Saturday Softball League, Shadows II-Top Shelf, Shafer Design, Station II-Eastern Connection, 10 Percent Society at UW-M, Talisman Press, Triangle, Tri-Cable TV, and *Wisconsin Light*.

We estimate that over 1,500 people in our community participated at or were involved in some part of the events that made up Milwaukee's Lesbian/Gay Pride Celebration. It was certainly a good beginning and we look forward to an ever-increasing community awareness and involvement in the celebration of community Pride in future years. **THANKS MILWAUKEE!**

Jerry Johnson

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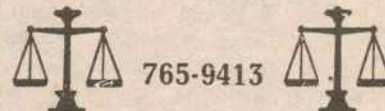
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Rep. Dannemeyer Sues San Francisco's "Bay Area Reporter"

By Charles Linebarger

[San Francisco]- Right wing Republican Rep. William Dannemeyer (R-Fullerton) the chief backer of an AIDS reporting and tracing initiative on the California ballot this November, has filed a \$1 million lawsuit against one of the nation's leading Gay and Lesbian community newspapers, the *Bay Area Reporter* (BAR).

The suit against BAR was filed in Sacramento Superior Court on Wednesday, September 14, and is based on a story that appeared in the BAR on October 8, 1987, titled: "Republicans Plan A Scare Campaign." The story, which ran as the lead story in that issue of the BAR concerned confidential memos by a San Francisco consulting firm which had apparently been hired by state Republicans to work on the Proposition 102 campaign. (See *Light* this issue).

A complete memo was printed alongside the BAR story which was allegedly authored by "CR" or Charles Rund of the Charleton Research Group in San Francisco. The memo, dated September 17, 1987, apparently referred to a meeting on Proposition 102 in the office of state Sen. John Doolittle (R-Sacramento). Dannemeyer is described in the memo as "terrifying, practically foaming at the mouth any time anyone made an even slightly sympathetic reference to people with AIDS. Some one like Dannemeyer is a live grenade on this issue and far too emotional to do any good. Indeed, I fear that he would scare a lot of people."

Dannemeyer is contrasted in the memo to State Sen. John Doolittle, another champion of the California political right wing. "Doolittle's approach is far better: sound reasonable, play the emotion and, above all, make it appear as if the party is responding to a public groundswell rather than inciting one . . ."

Charles Rund, the alleged author of the memo, has recently told the *Sacramento Union* that he did not write the memo and he did not attend the meeting in Doolittle's office.

But, according to the BAR story last October, "The internal memos were provided by an aide on the state level who is Gay, but has not come out to his employer. He said he could not tolerate the exploitation of people with AIDS for the sake of the ballot box."

Again quoting from the BAR story by BAR journalist Jay Newquist, "The memos reveal that the presidential campaigns of Vice President George Bush

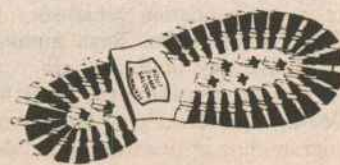
and Rev. Pat Robertson, as well as the Republican campaign for governor in Washington state, are considering a plan to use the AIDS crisis for political gain."

Dannemeyer's suit states that the memo the BAR printed alongside the Newquist story implied that Dannemeyer had "emotional instability, lack of compassion and is possessed with a frightening effect on constituents." According to the suit, the story caused Dannemeyer to suffer shame, loss of reputation, mortification and hurt feelings.

In another part of the memo which BAR printed, the consulting firm allegedly discussed the usefulness of the AIDS epidemic to Republican electoral chances in November.

Stated the memo: "Not only could the AIDS issue help us to gain ground in '88, but it might help us hang on where some of our people are in trouble. Again, the Republican Party must never seem to be inciting a reaction — only responding to it. If we are low key, logical sounding and stressing the importance of protecting families from the disease, then we could find ourselves in excellent shape in '88."

The memo was given wide press coverage in San Francisco in the months following its appearance in the BAR and observers wonder why Dannemeyer is bringing suit against the paper now, just before the November election. According to one local political strategist, it might have been hoped that the BAR, as the Gay and Lesbian newspaper with the widest circulation in Northern California, would be so busy worrying about the lawsuit that it might not have the time to fight Dannemeyer's pet project — his draconian AIDS initiative, Proposition 102.



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“20 Stonewall: A Generation of Pride” 1989 Theme

During the long weekend beginning Thursday evening October 6 through Sunday, October 9, the St. Louis Lesbian/Gay Pride Celebration Committee hosted the Seventh Annual International Association of Gay and Lesbian Pride Celebration (IAG/LPC) Planners Conference. Nearly 90 delegates represented many cities across the United States and Canada. This included Milwaukee, Madison, Duluth/Superior, Chicago, Minneapolis, New York, Boston, Los Angeles and Toronto among others.

This planning conference included two and a half days of workshops and open forums to exchange ideas and learn more about various local activities connected with Pride Weeks held in the U.S. and Canada. Any person affiliated with a Pride Committee was eligible to attend and, after meeting certain certification requirements, could vote.

Some of what was learned is that most groups use the term “Gay and Lesbian” or “Lesbian and Gay” in their name. All of them have a formal structure with “corporate” status and board membership. Some cities begin to celebrate with activities beginning as early as May while others celebrate as late as August.

Because of the cooperation of all participants at the conference and the commitment to exchange information during the coming year, we’ll be able to tell you about each city’s events by March, 1989.

On Saturday, the Milwaukee contingent led a workshop on the “Consensus Process”, a process used to reach a decision which requires opinion from everyone, resulting in a unanimous consent. The process works well. Many disagreements, concerns and attitudes were voiced, but the result in all cases was agreement by consensus with agenda items being disposed of promptly and fairly. No matters were left undecided since this group will not meet for another year.

Each geographic area (East, Midwest and West) has an opportunity to host the conference on a roughly rotating basis. The 1989 conference will be held in Vancouver, B.C. In 1990, the site will be Minneapolis with the 1991 conference being hosted by either New York or Hartford.

Milwaukee and/or Madison has a good chance of being host to the 1993 conference during the FIFTH year celebration of Milwaukee Pride.

Milwaukee businesses take note. This conclave can add better than \$20,000 to the local economy (not including transportation costs) over four days with most of the money spent in the Lesbian and Gay community.

The St. Louis conference opened on Thursday night with a welcoming party (complete with flags, banners, signs, food and beverages) hosted by a local Gay bar at no cost to the participants. Another evening was spent by everyone in the group on a bar crawl to all the bars via buses and vans.

On Saturday, during the last business session of the conference, as was customary, the conference chose the theme for the following year. 21 themes were discussed. Finally, the theme presented by the New York delegation, “20 STONEWALL: A GENERATION OF PRIDE”, was selected by consensual agreement. In this process, each delegation, regardless of size, can cast three votes. In round one, by roll call, each delegation casts a vote for each of its top three choices — or one vote for its top choice if there is agreement within the delegation. In round two, the top five choices are voted on by the same method. This process permits consensus for the top choice.

A real treat was in store for us on Sunday at the Swap Meet where we could take all the stuff we have to pay dearly for all year long: buttons, T-shirts, caps, posters, coffee mugs, Boston’s Pride Postcard (a real collector’s item). It was all free for the trading. We would like to have a display available for the community to see at some future date.

As a result of ideas gained from the conference, the Milwaukee Committee has decided to hold a local poster contest to come up with a local theme and design for 1989. All the details and rules will be available soon but local talent will be asked to submit camera-ready designs for competition based on use of the theme and text within the design.

The Milwaukee Pride Committee announced at the Celebration 88 Dinner with Mayor John Norquist that Milwaukee would join other major cities in celebrating the 20th anniversary of Stonewall in 1989 at the same time as the National Pride Week. Saturday, June 17th through Wednesday, June 28th have been picked for Milwaukee’s Celebration of Lesbian and Gay Pride. Mark your calendars now and plan to be part of it.

In future press releases and conferences, we will be providing you with a lot more information about who, what, when, where and why. More importantly, we’ll be giving you a lot of information about Stonewall’s SW’s. In addition, you’ll be seeing us on a regular basis with more information about the 1988 events and giving you peeks at the June, 1989 calendar.

We’re Proud as hell and want the entire Community to know it.

Lies, Innuendos And Half Truths

By Bill Meunier

You can tell that the Republican Party has started to take the Gay vote seriously by the way George Bush and the Republicans talk in this campaign. They are afraid of the retribution of the Gay/Lesbian community over their policies during the last eight years.

Suddenly, after eight years of neglect, AIDS is a top priority despite the reality that the Reagan administration still refuses to spend what Congress allocates to fight it. Suddenly Bush has compassion for the persons with AIDS.

This Republican effort is helped by those in our community who would delude themselves into believing that George Bush really is their friend so that they can justify voting for him.

You see there are those in our community who have to rationalize voting for George Bush. They seem to have talked themselves into believing that AIDS doesn’t affect them or their friends, that Bush really does care about them and that even if Bush isn’t pro-Gay/Lesbian, that Dukakis isn’t either. These so-called “Gays and Lesbians — and I used that term to describe them even though their lack of understanding and apparent lack of concern for the community would justify the use of several other choice words — are promulgating their propaganda all over the place.

George Bush suddenly feels it is wrong to discriminate against persons with AIDS. This from a man who has consistently defended the Reagan record on AIDS. In the second debate Bush called Dr. Anthony Fauci of the National Institute of Health a “hero” for his work on the “terrible AIDS disease.”

This is the same Dr. Fauci who has come under much attack from Gays and non-Gays alike for his handling of the AIDS research team. Under his tenure, AIDS research experiments were sabotaged and the program has often seemed adrift, without adequate leadership or direction.

While George “Preppie” Bush has been so recently converted to the cause against AIDS, his friends and allies have been doing a number on Mike Dukakis. This includes rumor mongering, spreading half truths and outright lying to either discourage Gays and Lesbians from voting or to convince them there really isn’t such a big gap between Bush and Dukakis.

For example, the Bush supporters would have us all believe that Dukakis isn’t really for Gay/Lesbian rights. The record speaks otherwise. As a freshman legislator, Dukakis wrote and was the sole sponsor of a Massachusetts Gay/Lesbian rights law. As governor, Dukakis issued an executive order banning discrimination against Gays and Lesbians.

The Bush people want us to believe that they have done all they can to fight AIDS, (they also want us to believe that they are environmentalists) and that Dukakis hasn’t. The reality is that even now, Congress allocates money to fight the AIDS virus and the Reagan administration refuses to spend it. Congressman Henry Waxman recently held hearings demanding to know why, despite a Congressional allocation for over 100 drug testers, so many potential AIDS drugs hadn’t even been looked at. The Congressman was told that the Reagan/Bush administration had not released the funds.

By contrast, Dukakis signed a budget that included money to fight the AIDS epidemic well before the Reagan administration even allowed an allocation to pass through Congress. That first Reagan allocation, by the way, went unspent for 18 months. Bush supporters also would tell us that Dukakis is against Gay/Lesbian parents. They cite a case where a child was removed from a Gay foster home on the Governor’s orders.

The facts are otherwise. Yes, Dukakis shouldn’t have allowed the removal of the foster child. But, as any foster parent knows, foster placements are not permanent. Dukakis had not ordered that children be taken away from their Gay or Lesbian adoptive or natural parents. Gay and Lesbian couples were put at the bottom of the list of those eligible to have foster children. There weren’t eliminated from it. And how many states even allow Gays and Lesbians to be considered as suitable foster parents? The child in question was not the natural child of

either of her foster parents nor was she adopted.

The Bush folks tell us that if Dukakis is elected our taxes will go up and this will cause an economic catastrophe, implying that there will be less money for things, such as finding a cure for AIDS. The reality is that they are not spending the money allocated now and that increased spending on weapons that don’t work and that we don’t need will certainly cause an economic calamity.

The fact is that when you compare the records of the two men side by side, you see the most pro-Gay/Lesbian candidate ever nominated by a major party up against a wimpy, grandstanding, Vice President trying to cover his tracks as best he may.

We should be flattered that Bush has so much respect for us that he has paid us some attention, but by no means should we be amused.

Nor should we let anyone within our community talk us into voting against our own best interests. If you want to vote for George Bush, go ahead, but don’t consider yourself part of the Gay/Lesbian community, for by voting for Bush, you have separated yourself from it.

Women’s Cabaret Live Nov. 18

[Milwaukee]- WOMEN’S CABARET LIVE, a celebration of Milwaukee area women’s talents will be presented on November 18 at the Toad Cafe, 618 N. Broadway in Milwaukee as a benefit for the Women’s Crisis Line.

There will be two shows, one at 7:30 p.m. and the second at 10:00 p.m. Come and join in the fun while supporting the Women’s Crisis Line.

Advance tickets are available from Clear Horizons, Lavender Unicorn, Outpost and People’s Books. Call (414) 937-5452 for more information.

CALIFORNIA

Continued from Page 1

In spite of the dangerousness of the initiative, and the opposition to it by groups such as the California Medical Association and the California Nurses Association, its chances for passage are good. Unfortunately Congressman Dannemeyer, while just as extreme as LaRouche, appears more “respectable” because of his office. His position as a well-connected Republican Congressman gives him access to large sums of money. Dannemeyer’s pandering to insurers and employers who want to require testing provides the initiative with another significant funding base.

While chances for the defeat of Proposition 102 appear bleak, Gay/Lesbian groups across the state have mobilized to fight it. And they do with a certain sense of deep frustration. Even if this initiative is defeated, the Gay/Lesbian community will face more battles, and then more. And as more of us become ill, those of us who are healthy will have to work harder. For the easier prey we become, the more opportunists will arise and prey upon us.

Editor’s Note: The author is the Director of the California AIDS Civil Rights Project and the National Gay Rights Advocates.

Madison Cable “Nothing to Hide” Celebrates 10 Years

[Madison]- **Nothing to Hide** (NTH) is a TV show aired over cable TV, Cable 4, the public access channel. NTH, which will celebrate its 10th anniversary in ’89, started as a Gay male focus, but has now broadened to a rainbow collection of issues.

On the last Wednesday of the month at 9:00 pm is a women’s show. It is supported, in part, by a grant from Madison’s TV regulatory agency, The Innovative Producers Fund. These shows will be archived at the Women’s Studies Dept., University of Wisconsin-Madison, while some others will be in the Earl Greeley Library at the United (Madison) where one can also find many of the first Wednesday of the month Gay male shows, as well as in the Wisconsin State Historical Society’s library.

NTH also receives funding from the New Harvest Foundation (Madison) for archival TV. Most of the shows aired on the first Wednesday of the month come from the National Conference of Black and White Men Together. These shows, like NTH programming in general, do not deal exclusively with Gay/Lesbian issues, because our issues tie in with a rainbow of concerns which have a direct impact on us even though we may be unaware that they do.

The National Endowment for the Arts has given us a grant for producing TV of Gay/Lesbian culture from all over the USA such as choral and theatre groups.

The shows aired on Wednesday’s (9:00

pm) in the middle of the month, focus on Labor Union issues, academic issues at the University of Wisconsin System and political issues presented by Rep. Bob Kastenmeier. Bob plays a key role in writing federal legislation for public access TV. **Remember** Public access TV is your “First Amendment” in TV. There is damned little freedom of expression when giant media companies own most of the networks. The piper plays the tune.

The major source of NTH’s funding comes from the labor of volunteers who do coat-check at the two Gay bars of the Hotel Washington in Madison. (Volunteers get the tips).

Another source is the volunteer labor given at the annual Gay/Lesbian MAGIC picnic in July at Madison’s Brittingham Park. Yet another chunk comes from NTH’s producer, Dave Runyon, a UW-Whitewater professor and director of the University’s Art Gallery at UW-WW.

These moneys pay for expensive shows produced out of town like Minneapolis, Milwaukee, Chicago, Boston, Florida, Washington, D.C., New York City, etc.

NTH has a working co-operative relationship with its counterpart in Milwaukee, Tri-Cable, as well as with the National Gay Cable Network.

The production of NTH is a one man show, so if you wish to produce your own TV show, call (608) 274-WYOU or Dave (608) 241-2500. We’ll be glad to help you get started.



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Relationships Featured In Two Lesbian Books

Lesbian Couples
By D. Merilee Clunis and
G. Dorsey Green
Seal Press, 1988
251 pp., \$10.95

Unbroken Ties: Lesbian Ex-Lovers
By Carol S. Becker, PhD.
Alyson Publications, 1988
217 pp., \$7.95

By Barbara J. Palecek

Lesbian Couples reads like a textbook. It is dry and colorless, and there is no message. With the help of this veritable encyclopedia we can learn about living together or not living together, monogamy and non-monogamy, Lesbians with children, alcoholic Lesbians, Lesbian couples who mix class, race, and age, friendships and any other possible categories of Lesbian lifestyles.

Most unfortunate is that **Lesbian Couples** has no voice, as say JoAnn Loulan's **Lesbian Passion** where Loulan's catchy pride for women-loving women burst through everywhere while still providing guidance. **Lesbian Couples** has no personality.

Millions of care stories are represented in the most superficial manner. There's Donna and Ireme, Marjory and Nancy, Benita and Ellen, Samantha and Erin and any combination of Lesbian individuals who just happen to exactly fit a particular subject. Then, at the end of every chapter is a section which generalizes to wit's end.

In a chapter about money matters the reader learns nothing more than the obvious. The authors write, "As long as both partners are good money managers, communicate well, and are happy in the relationship, the problems are minimal. However, if one partner is an impulse buyer, forgets to note checks written or just has very different spending habits than the other, resentments are possible." No kidding.

The silly flow charts and Cosmopolitan-type lists in **Lesbian Couples** are a bore. And there's just too much information.

Consider a topic like incest. Incest is too complex a happening to be treated so matter-of-factly. Serious problems and neutral conditions are given equal weight. Probably the best thing that can be said about **Lesbian Couples** is that it contains an

extensive bibliography that can be used as a sourcebook.

Perhaps **Lesbian Couples** was meant to be an encyclopedia of topics for Lesbians. In that case, one must concede that it is extensive.

Unbroken Ties: Lesbian Ex-Lovers is much more focused. Not only is it about ex-lovers, it is about ex-lovers afraid to let go once relationships have ended. There is a rudiment of experience in the author's voice.

Unbroken Ties is clear and realistic. Believable case studies acknowledge both the pain and joy of shifting relationships. Unlike in **Lesbian Couples**, the Dianes and the Angelas seem to work for the central ideas of the book.

Breakups are very complex. Becker points out that we employ a variety of strategies to avoid all the stuff that is part of a breakup. So, we tend to remain in relationships that are unsuitable for us out of fear of our own selves. Being tied to past images of ourselves and our lovers is very tragic. We leave no opportunity for growth.

Lesbians will recognize many of the feelings that are examined in **Ties**. The Invisible Experience of a Lesbian Breakup is instantly familiar. Not your mother, not your straight friends, perhaps no one asks how you are getting along. They may not even know you have called it quits with your lover of three years. The world does not care to care if you are not talking about a husband or a boyfriend. **Ties** eases this loneliness by identifying the problems of everyday existence for Lesbian women, even though no solutions are offered. Instead, the author gets us to look at things from another perspective.

Why do things get so uncontrollable during a breakup? It isn't just the loss of a partner. Breakups ignite old emotional injuries perhaps left over from childhood. From a certain point onward, Becker begins to talk about the positive aspects of a breakup. A breakup gives some women the chance to work through old, unrelated injuries, to make choices they may not have felt free to make with their partners, or to gain some distance from and respect for their ex-lovers.

"The loss and pain of a breakup leads Lesbian ex-lovers into realms of self-discovery." **Unbroken Ties** explores this hopeful idea with a passion.

Provocative Book Examines Male Erotic Poetry and the Poets' Lives

Articulate Flesh: Male Homo-Eroticism and Modern Poetry
by Gregory Woods.
Yale University Press, 279 pp.
By Geno

This provocative book is a study of male-male erotic poetry as ultimately "an articulation of the flesh," considering the male body as a source of artistic creativity. **Articulate Flesh** is intended primarily for students of literature, yet it has much to say to the intelligent, questing reader. The entire first half of the book, for example, is a wide-ranging discussion of a large body of male homo-erotic poetry based on such mythological figures as Narcissus, Ganymede, St. Sebastian, Hercules, and Jesus Christ. This section also provides a beautiful, sympathetic account of male comradeship in wartime as the physical and emotional inspiration for poetry which celebrates this love.

Fresh insights occur on every page. Woods shows, for instance, how "The Love that dare not speak its name" found ways, even in repressive times, to express itself — Queen Victoria loved "In Memoriam", Tennyson's long poem mourning the death of Arthur Hallam, and many early critics did not understand convoluted allusions in Hart Crane's poetry to his Gay lifestyle. The author also often refers to parallel sensibilities in Lesbian writing, and homo-erotic, as distinguished from homosexual, deals with same sex attraction regardless of whether the attraction expressed itself in physical coupling. He is concerned with the emotional, creative impulse and not with where the poet's "genitals were wont to keep house."

Have you ever wondered about the title of **The Boys in the Band** since none of the characters in the play/movie seems to belong to a musical group? Woods' discussion of the Theban Sacred Band, an invincible army of male lovers married to each other, who fought to the death against Alexander the Great, suggests to me that **The Boys in the Band** is an ironic allusion to this ancient Greek band of lovers whom their conqueror mourned and honored and whom Plato similarly honored in his **Dialogues**.

The five concluding chapters deal in detail with the poetry of D.H. Lawrence, Hart Crane, W.H. Auden, Alan Ginsberg and Thom Gunn. Lawrence whose work



abounds in a fascination with the male body and male bonding (remember the nude wrestling scene in **Women in Love**, **The Prussian Officer** and poems celebrating the phallus) considered himself heterosexual in spite of this attraction. Hart Crane and W.H. Auden were closeted and often changed the sex of the objects of their desire to hide their true nature, while Ginsberg and Gunn were exultantly out.

Woods sympathetically explicates the homo-erotic themes of these five different poets in language that is clear, candid and explicit (e.g., "Auden was oral. He liked sucking cocks"). Yes, such out-spokenness in a Yale publication!

This book deserves a review on its own merits as a study "that aims to integrate homosexuality as an integral part of our collective cultural and psychological heritage," according to James Saslow, author of **Ganymede in the Renaissance: Homosexuality in Art and Society**. It is also a meaningful illustration of how prestigious, even staid, publishing houses are issuing serious books which deal forthrightly with the Gay/Lesbian experience. A quick look through the extensive Gay/Lesbian section of Milwaukee's Schwartz's Bookshops, for instance, will turn up important studies and fiction with such imprints as Knopf, Macmillan, Washington Square, as well as over a dozen presses like Alyson, Naiad, Cleis, and Lyle Stuart which are devoted almost exclusively to Gay/Lesbian literature. The last issue of **The Light** featured John Champagne's article on "How to Publish a Gay Novel," and since he and Terry Boughner will soon have their books published, a follow-up article on the vast activity in the field of Gay/Lesbian publishing will appear soon.

Poet-Author Mark Doty To Do Reading In Madison

[Madison]- Poet-author Mark Doty will read from his works at 8:00 p.m. on Wednesday evening, October 26, at Pres House on the State Street Mall in Madison. The reading is sponsored by The Writers' Place. Beverages will be served after the reading. The public is welcome to come and visit with the author.

Doty's first book, **Turtle, Swan**, was published by David R. Godine in 1987; to was praised by **The American Poetry Review** was "a stunning arrival," and **The Boston Review** noted its "imaginative range and emotional force rarely found in a first book." A second collection, **Bethlehem in Broad Daylight** is

forthcoming from Godine in 1989.

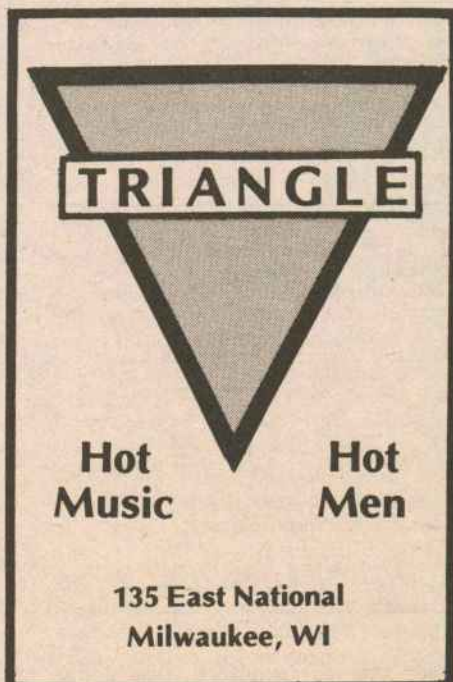
Doty's poems have appeared in **Poetry**, **The Yale Review**, **Poetry Northwest**, **Ironwood**, **Crazyhorse**, **The Iowa Review** and other magazines, as well as **The Pushcart Prize Anthology**. He has received grants from the Massachusetts Artists Foundation and the Vermont Council on the Arts, and received a National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship for 1987.

Doty studied at Goddard College where he now teaches. In addition, he is a faculty member of the Vermont College M.F.A. in Writing Program. He lives in Montpelier, Vermont.

Zipter at Room Of One's Own

[Madison]- Chicago columnist Yvonne Zipter will be signing books at A Room of One's Own Bookstore, 317 W. Johnson St. in Madison from 12:00 to 2:00 p.m., Saturday, November 5. Zipter's first book, **Diamonds Are A Dyke's Best Friend**, hot off the presses from Firebrand Books, will be available. People interested in meeting softball aficionado Zipter, or sharing their experiences on the field, are invited to attend.

Diamonds Are A Dyke's Best Friend contains "Reflections, Reminiscences, and Reports from the Field on the National Lesbian Pastime." Zipter gives us an insider's look at all the doings, on and off the diamond. With an occasional cartoon, photo, poem or song highlighting the questionnaire responses, background information, feminist commentary and Lesbian humor. **Diamonds . . .** is a fun and fact-filled read.



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A Lack of Paid Staff Hurts Organization's Growth

By John Michael Roberts

We walk with one hand tied behind us and a broken leg when none of our 20 organizations (except those with medical orientations) have paid staff members; not one between them.

The Lambda Rights Network is seeking to implement the goals of its preliminary report as presented to Mayor Norquist and County Executive Schultz. Who is going to do the day to day lobbying with politicians? Volunteers work days after government offices close.

Milwaukee's Cream City Foundation is attempting to develop and enhance the Foundation Community Center. This is being done on behalf of our entire community. Presently the Center is staffed by a volunteer working four hours a day with an occasional volunteer working in the evening.

The Milwaukee Lesbian/Gay Pride Committee is attempting a bigger and better schedule of activities next year and in June, not September. This means that this all-volunteer group has three months less for planning.

The Saturday Soft Ball League is losing teams of major stature at the Milwaukee Classic. The all-volunteer effort is great, but other cities have been catching the imagination of major teams and they go elsewhere.

Milwaukee somehow has fallen into the age old trap that labels "staff" as "overhead" when, in truth, good staffs pay for themselves, make organizations far more efficient and involve more volunteers in carefully directed and

purposeful ways. It is the staff that follows up and follows through on programs in a timely way. Staffs are available to represent the volunteer board to government bodies, foundation boards and large donors so that programs and funds flow to those organizations.

The Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP) is a good example. Without staff, do you believe that the grants MAP has received would have been attained? Do you believe that dinners and events MAP sponsors would all have come off so well? No way Milwaukee.

It is time that our organizations realize that they are hurting themselves by not putting a paid staff position in their budgets.

OR are our volunteer boards so good or are they so afraid of letting go of some of their power by delegating day to day conduct of affairs that a paid staff member(s) would handle? Let's grow into the big time Milwaukee Gay/Lesbian Boards. Why are we crippling ourselves? Don't be afraid of charges of "Overhead." Get a good paid staff member and you will show all the doubting Thomases through increased, better and more efficient programs that they have been saving pennies and losing dollars.

We have major, difficult and complicated programs underway that we need for everyone's benefit. Pure volunteerism is a wonderful ideal, but the hard work of the trenches demands a good paid staff person to make those volunteer efforts more effective.

World Jewish Congress Sets Harvey Milk Yahrtzeit Observances

The World Congress of Gay and Lesbian Jewish Organizations has announced its members plans to observe the tenth yaahrtzeit — anniversary of the death — of Harvey Milk on or about the 27th of Heshvan, the anniversary of Milk's death on the Hebrew calendar, which this year coincides with November 6-7.

Harvey Milk became the first openly Gay Jewish elected official in the United States in 1977, winning election to the San Francisco Board of Supervisors. The following year, on November 27, 1978, both Milk and Mayor George Moscone were assassinated by Dan White, another San Francisco Supervisor. White subsequently served a sentence merely for manslaughter, and, after his release, took his own life.

In a resolution adopted at its Board meeting in August, the World Congress noted that Harvey Milk was a true leader

in Gay history and an advocate for the rights of Gay people, building a coalition of Gay men, Lesbians, Bisexuals, and other progressive groups. The World Congress determined that it and its member organizations would observe Harvey Milk's yaahrtzeit through services and programs that celebrate his life, contribution, and legacy and invites other groups and individuals supportive of the rights of Gay men, Lesbians, and Bisexuals to join in these observances.

The World Congress is an umbrella organization of more than two dozen Gay and Lesbian Jewish groups across the United States and around the globe. For specific information on area observances of Harvey Milk's yaahrtzeit, contact your local Gay and Lesbian Jewish group or write the World Congress at PO Box 18961, Washington, D.C. 20036.

WOMANSONG Continued from Page 8

include every member of the choir. Mary Sykes says, "Choir helps me keep all those skills honed that center on being part of a collective endeavor, such as listening and facilitating. It's that fine balance between having a place to voice my opinion and also being respectful of others' opinions."

"Methods of interaction and decision-making used in choir are different from undercutting, competitive methods of mainstream society," agrees Cindy Baurle. "Womansong is a supportive environment in which women are concerned for each other and enjoy each other's company. Choir is the way things ought to be."

Choir, ideally, is a safe way for women to express diversity. Because Womansong is an almost entirely white group, in which about half of the members are Lesbians, it follows that women express dissatisfaction and concerns around issues such as separatism, homophobia and racism. "If we had dealt successfully with racial issues, we wouldn't be such a white group," Hibbard observes. These concerns and others present an ongoing struggle which affects many dynamics, including where the choir performs and what it sings.

Womansong's musically unique repertoire includes political songs such as "Bread and Roses," a historical piece about women textile workers' strike and "Biko", a Sweet Honey in the Rock song about anti-apartheid activist Steven Biko. It also sings playful songs such as the Four Seasons' classic "Sherry (Baby)", as well as songs in other languages such as "Mwo Li Hwa" in Japanese.

"Singing in other languages is a way of expanding minds," says Fendler. "Pronouncing the sounds works like mouth yoga. The vibrational result is liberating; it activates different neural patterning. One becomes more sensitized to different ways of living, thinking and perceiving by singing in different languages."

Sykes, a member who has sung in school and church choirs, says, "When I became a feminist in my politics and stopped going to church, I wanted some other singing outlet, so when I heard about Womansong, it seemed perfect. It's an opportunity to sing on a regular basis and I really like what I'm singing. It's a neat way to sing and feel good about the content of the songs."

Fendler also comments on the political aspect: "The kind of association we have — personal, spiritual and musical — and the fact that we manifest in sound is probably the most politically powerful thing that can be done."

Fendler's conducting style is another unique aspect of the choir. She draws an

analogy between the conducting property of metal and what she does: "A conductor metal has no resistance and is grounded. I come into the conductor/choir relationship that way."

"In the mainstream culture, if people are singing, the assumption is that you are very polished and that you are a performer," says Sykes. "We pick out people who are performers and we put them up on a stage and we listen to them and watch them and we don't engage in it ourselves, together. What I think Womansong brings to a performance is the ideal that singing should be part of all of our lives. It's an example or a challenge to people to do that make music for themselves as well. We are not a stereotypical choir. We don't dress uniformly. We move on stage. We make music informal and down-to-earth, and the music is good."

Womansong has recently made a commitment to create and perform in a multi-media event now known as "The Celebration" for international Women's Day in March, 1989. The idea originated with one member who, after seeing "My Name is Alice" and "Women Behind Bars," thought that this would be a new area for Womansong to branch into.

The celebration will include music, drama, poetry and dance and will be structured around various themes: women in history, women and work, international women, and women and play, among others.

Says Hibbard, "It's an exciting concept and I think it's going to be a lot of fun and a powerful and good show."

Women who are interested in joining Womansong may call (608) 246-2681.

Editor's Note: The author, Karen Lucas, is currently a member of Womansong.

This article has been funded by a grant from the New Harvest Foundation.

Dukakis AIDS Plan Highlighted

Below is an outline of some of Democratic Presidential candidate Michael Dukakis's AIDS strategies as described by his wife Kitty during her visits with PWAs, medical professionals, volunteers and others involved with AIDS. As President, Michael Dukakis will:

1. Issue an Executive Order and support federal legislation to prohibit discrimination against people with HIV infection.
2. Encourage the development of AIDS education programs beginning early in primary school.
3. Encourage the availability of resources for nationwide anonymous testing sites.
4. Advocate the centralized coordination and funding for AIDS research.
5. Work with the FDA to shorten the time it takes to make new drugs and treatments available.
6. Assist communities to establish coordinated networks of AIDS-related services.
7. Support legislation to mandate universal health care for all Americans.

DUKAKIS AND BUSH COMPARED ON CIVIL RIGHTS

GEORGE BUSH	GAY AND LESBIAN CIVIL RIGHTS	MICHAEL DUKAKIS
Position: Opposes gay and lesbian civil rights as awarding "special privileges" to one group.		Position: Supports civil rights bill and immigration reform bill. Supports non-discrimination with regard to security clearances. Opposes executive order protecting government employees.
Record: Reagan-Bush administration supported Supreme Court Hardwick decision denying Constitutional protections to gays. The administration has not opposed the immigration reform bill.		Record: As Massachusetts legislator, introduced state gay rights bill in 1974. As governor, he has lobbied for the bill.
HATE CRIMES		
Position: No known position.		Position: Supports legislation providing specific penalties for violence against gays and lesbians.
Record: The administration has indicated it may support collecting statistics on crimes against gays and lesbians.		Record: Supported Massachusetts law that helped to define an assault due to sexual orientation as a civil rights crime.
AIDS TESTING		
Position: Advocates confidentiality of HIV test results; supports mandatory or routine testing for military, immigrants, marriage licenses, those seeking assistance for sexually transmitted diseases and drug dependence and prisoners.		Position: Supports increased voluntary, confidential counseling and testing; advocates mandatory testing of military personnel and immigrants.
Record: The Reagan-Bush administration has left issues of confidentiality and availability to the states. It requires testing for military personnel, immigrants, Peace Corps and Job Corps workers, foreign service employees and federal prisoners.		Record: Dukakis issued regulations banning testing for health and group life or disability insurance. Allows life insurers to require test for individual policies over \$100,000.
AIDS PREVENTION		
Position: Believes people should be educated about AIDS, but prevention efforts should stress traditional moral values and strengthen the concept of "family." Content decision should be made at local level.		Position: Believes that AIDS education, including explicit information on sex and drug use, should begin in primary school with information based on age and ability to absorb material.
Record: Under the Reagan-Bush administration, a nation-wide mailing, originally conceived in the mid-1980's, was not sent until June 1988 due to political in-fighting over contents. The administration refuses to provide information on sex and drug use.		Record: Massachusetts was the first state to do a house-to-house AIDS prevention mailing.
AIDS DISCRIMINATION		
Position: Supports federal legislation outlawing discrimination based on HIV infection status.		Position: Supports federal legislation outlawing discrimination based on HIV infection status.
Record: The Reagan-Bush administration opposes efforts to enact legislation to prohibit discrimination based on HIV status.		Record: Endorsed Massachusetts bill to protect people with AIDS, HIV or perceived to have AIDS against discrimination.
PRESIDENTIAL HIV COMMISSION'S REPORT		
Position: Endorses the recommendations of the Presidential AIDS Commission. However, his campaign rejected endorsing the report in the Republican Platform.		Position: Endorses the recommendations of the Presidential Commission on HIV infection.

1534 W. Grant, 383-5755
1 Block N. of Lincoln, 1 Block E. of 16th

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WORLD VIEWS AND OPINIONS

Fantastic Nightlife Awaits Visitors to Tokyo

By Clarence Tan

A British newspaper recently described Tokyo as "the Gay capital of the world." Maybe that's an overstatement, but this city's large, well-established Gay scene can be quite a fantastic experience for the visitor from the States.

Where else can you find over 400 bars and clubs within an area of two square kilometers? What's more, you'll find all tastes catered for, from the "conservative" to beefcake, leather and what-have-you.

Experts will advise you to head for the Shinjuku Ni-chome District, served by a metro station with the same name or other public transport. Needless to say, many of its bars get busy only after dark.

The Fuji is probably the best known bar for the East to meet West. Young Japanese mingle there with Americans, Europeans and Australians. As in most bars, there's no cover charge but drink prices are higher than you might expect. A soft drink or alcohol costs 700 yen (about \$4.00 US). But you get a small bowl of what Americans call potato chips.

Although larger than the average bar, the Fuji still only holds about 50 people. There is no dancing. Japanese law restricts the sale of alcohol and dancing on the same premises with the result that there are few discos.

The GB (formerly the Fire Island) is bigger, holding about 150 customers. As in the Fuji, bar staff speak some English.

World Wide News

By John Hubert

The Grupo Orgullo Homosexual de Liberacion (GOHL), the seven year-old Lesbian and Gay liberation group of Guadalajara, Mexico, has announced that they are opening a home for Gay youth who have been abandoned or are without means to support themselves, some of whom have been turned out of their homes by their parents at an early age because they are assumed to be Gay.

The project, to be administered by professionals from GOHL and funded by anonymous friends of GOHL, will provide a roof and food as well as medical, psychological, and educational services for Gay and Lesbian youth whose lives have been endangered physically and mentally by some form of discrimination.

NEON Magazine of Thailand has arrived in the USA and is available from the publishers of Passport at IWI, 2215-R, Market St., #236, San Francisco, CA 94114. NEON, the #1 Gay male publication of Thailand, has 130 pages with 13 pages in English on Gay Bangkok. This first issue, actually issue #33, arrived by airmail and costs \$7 including postage. Passport says future issues will be less expensive. Passport also is offering free of charge a map of Gay Tokyo with the addresses of Gay locations and tourist offices. Just send a stamped self addressed envelope to the above address for your map of Tokyo.

Milwaukee Gay/Lesbian Cable Wins Awards

[Milwaukee]- Producers and crew from Milwaukee Gay/Lesbian Cable Network received several awards at this year's 3rd Annual Community Programming Banquet and Awards Ceremony of the Milwaukee Access Telecommunications Authority (MATA), October 14 at Centennial Hall.

The annual competition is a local version of the Emmy Awards with juried contests in 19 categories. The actual award is called the "Philo", named after Philo T. Farnsworth, the inventor of television. The award is a 2' solid polished brass engraved cube.

About 50 producers submitted over 100 programs in competition for the coveted Philo Awards which are given annually for "Outstanding Achievement in Community Programming" in each of the categories.

Producer Bob Fish won a Philo in Performing Arts for his program, "A Layman's Guide to Safe Sex," a theatre production by Chicago's Lion Heart at Milwaukee's Ballgame bar.

GB's crowd tends to be younger. Outside — as with many Tokyo bars — you'll encounter some young guys hanging around. Some of them may be "rent."

Yet as one visitor said, "You don't need to buy company in Japan. They come to you." What he meant was that Westerners will be accosted almost anywhere in the city by people wanting to speak to you "to practice English." Don't assume too much, though. Some of them mean only just that!

Visitors will find Tokyo very enjoyable. They will find quite a few good-looking Japanese of any age group to their liking. It is helpful to learn a little Japanese in advance as language can be a problem. Japanese people are very polite, but also quite sexy when it comes to the "nitty-gritty."

English speaking Gay visitors planning a visit to Japan are advised to contact International Friends, CPO Box 180, Tokyo 100-91. (tel. 03-453-1618). They have well attended monthly gatherings on each first Wednesday where you'll get to meet people and make friends. If you write for information, I suggest you enclose four international reply coupons (from your post office) for reply.

Some further tips. The two Gay saunas in Tokyo are good, but the current AIDS crisis means that they do not admit Westerners as they did before. Remember also that homosexuality is completely legal in Japan between adults.

DUKAKIS Continued from Page 1

favor of Gay/Lesbian rights, Dukakis has done so on numerous occasions as has been chronicled in this paper. It comes to a point where one can almost believe that George Bush thinks Gay rights is the right to be happy at a party.

For the last eight years, not only have we been ignored, we have been the victims of policies that can only be seen as genocide being practiced against us. The failure of the Reagan/Bush administration to react to the AIDS crisis (They knew about it back in 1981. When did you find out?), has cost us tens of thousands of lives and, according to current estimates, will cost us hundreds of thousands more.

Yes, we have a choice this election. We have a choice between more of the same or a new direction, a direction towards fighting discrimination, fighting AIDS and the appointment of Supreme Court Justices who understand the Bill of Rights and the rest of the Constitution.

We urge you to help America to take that direction. We urge you to call your friends, your relatives, your co-workers. This election is too important to sit out. Wisconsin is too important to both campaigns to leave anything to chance. We urge you to pay them back for the lives we have lost and the lives we will lose.

WE URGE YOU TO VOTE FOR MIKE DUKAKIS FOR PRESIDENT.

Producers Bryce Clark and Mark Behar won Philos for Tri-Cable Tonight in the Series Programming category which featured excerpts from the best of the series over the last year and for the September, 1988 Tri-Cable program in the Cultural Focus category which highlighted, among other things, interviews with members of Black and White Men Together at their annual picnic.

In addition, Milwaukee Gay/Lesbian Cable Network (MGLCN) producer Karen Sherer was recognized with a wall plaque for her contribution as a MATA volunteer. The Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP) received recognition with a special Video Educator Award plaque for their ongoing AIDS programming.

The Network's ability to successfully use access facilities to portray the Gay and Lesbian community was praised by MATA staff and board members as well as competition judges. Earlier in 1988, MGLCN won the Cream City Business Association's President's Award.

Reactionary Measures Spurred By English Clause 28

By Victoria A. Brownworth

[London]- It is simply called "the Section" by London Lesbians, Gays, feminists and any other liberal thinker with a conscience. It has had several incarnations over the past few months, beginning as Clause 27, then finally Clause 29 as it moved through what passes for democratic committee in Britain.

It is the section of the Local Government Act that effectively makes the open discussion of homosexuality - in print or electronic media, books, film, theatre, music or dance - essentially "banned."

What it effectively states is familiar to any American who has heard of Jesse Helms: any local council, organization, school, governmental program or those connected with such groups through either funding or other means are prohibited from "promoting homosexuality."

What this means in English Common Law is that precedent is waiting to be set, which is expected within the next month - either at the upcoming Lesbian and Gay film Festival or with the opening of the new theatre season which will bring performances of Gay-themed dance, music and drama.

If the law is effected, it would mean the banning of teaching about any persons who are known to be Gay - which in Britain could well be interesting given the history of blatant homosexuality in the kingdom. In the extreme, Galileo and King Edward II become immediately expunged from the history books while such literary luminaries as Shakespeare, Shelley, Byron, Woolf, Wilde and dozens of others would get the anti-Gay axe.

Her Majesty's Government have stated that the Orwellian will not happen. However, laws are enacted to be used. And in a country where it is still illegal for men under the age of 21 to engage in consensual sexual activity - even with members of their own age group - it is

quite likely that prosecutions and enforcements will result.

The section is yet another anti-Gay tool of the Thatcher-Tory (conservative) bastion that London has become and, as in the U.S., an anti-Gay stance is applauded for all the wrong reasons and the much deflated Labour Party has been billed as the architect of the homosexual promotion movement.

For now London Lesbian and Gay groups are actively working toward educating people about the section and attempting to gain support for repeal. But, in an overwhelmingly Tory government such action is not likely to be achieved in any immediate future and the law is there for now - and possibly for good.

Support Your Favorite Organization While Subscribing to the Wisconsin Light See Page 16 For Details!

VOLUNTEERS SOUGHT
The Cream City Foundation, serving the Gay/Lesbian community of Milwaukee seeks volunteers for it's Board of Directors for the following positions:

- Legal Advisor (Attorney)
- Human Resources Chairman, Volunteer Coordinator
- Major Gifts and Development
- Chairman Membership Committee
- At Large Directors

Qualified Gay/Lesbian persons should send a resume listing volunteer history and skills to:
Cream City Foundation
225 S. 2nd St.
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Mr. Triangle Chosen In First Annual Contest

By Terry Boughner

[Milwaukee]- I like men. Black men, Oriental, Hispanic or White, it makes no difference. I like men, hot, young studs with lots of talent and bodies of such a simmering sensuality reminding me somehow of lithe, muscular jungle cats; bodies that can send your mind spinning with thoughts that would shame heaven and grace hell.

So, it was with eager anticipation and bated breath that I awaited Al Thomas's First Annual Mr. Triangle Contest held at the Triangle Bar on Thursday, October 13. My eagerness was all the more heightened by the fact that Al had invited me to be one of the five judges in the affair.

11:00 p.m. and the bar was jam-packed, barely an inch of space anywhere, as I wiggled my way to the front where the judge's tables were set up. Somewhere in there I managed to grab sustenance, a beer, of course.

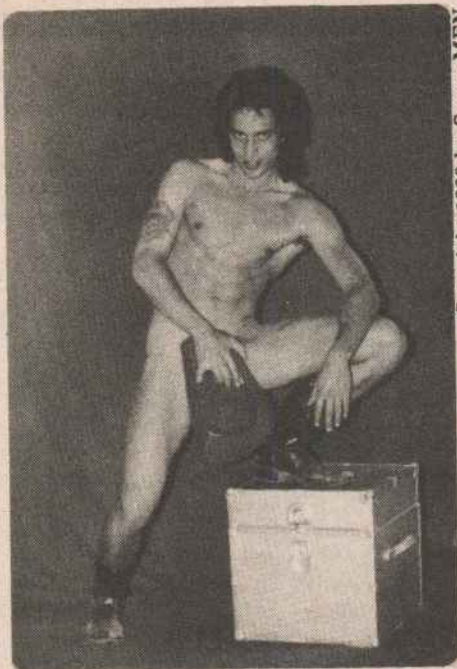
Just before show time, I got a chance to glance around. There was Dona Mae with John. There was Little Mark and Jack of the rugged good looks and Curt behind the bar. Each one, like the Triangle itself, is an anecdote of Gay life — if you know how to read them.

Then it was time and Al, a bit nervous but in good spirits as always, announced that there would be eight contestants with the winner representing the Triangle at the upcoming Pageant at the Marc Plaza — that in addition to the other prizes.

The contest itself was everything I had hoped and then some. There was entertainment by three of Milwaukee's leading female impersonators, Mary Richards, Tania Michaels and Ashley Michaels.

There were the contestants. What can I say? They are all very talented, but heir to the temptations of the flesh as I am, the swimsuit competition was my favorite far and away.

Needless to say, the choice was hard —



Carl

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did I say that? — but, in the end, it was made.

First place went to Carl whose sterling good looks made him a crowd favorite at the International Mr. Leather Contest in Chicago last May. In addition to representing the Triangle at the Pageant where he will be competing for the title of Mr. Gay Wisconsin, Carl won \$100 in cash and a \$100 bar tab.

Squeller took second with a \$50.00 cash prize and a \$50.00 bar tab while Terry was third place winner with \$25.00 in cash and a \$25.00 bar tab.

So the evening ended as so many times at the Triangle with a good time being had by all — as they say — and we left, my other half and I. But why is it, after a night at the Triangle, I always feel like Toulouse-Lautrec leaving the Moulin Rouge?

Grey, a real honor. That's what I think the theatre is all about, the message and working with artists like him."

Later, at the cast party at the M&M Club, others will echo Grey about the play's message. Jim Corti, who plays the gorilla and is Joel Grey's understudy, talks about Cabaret as a "very special show" for a Gay man to perform in. "We're very fortunate to appear in something so important to Gay history, then and now," he says.

Steve shows me the costumes and is particularly proud of the one he wears as a member of the ensemble in the Kit Kat Club. He has a superbly muscled body and I try to imagine him in drag. I can't and can't think either how the flimsy dress he holds up could cost \$1200 — or the wig he uses, all of human hair, which runs an equal cost. Why did I think that shows were a little paint and what you could raid from the local second hand stores?

That evening at the M&M Club, there's champagne, hors d'ourves, cake and delightful music by Faron Evans at the piano. The troupe from Cabaret comes fresh from their final performance in Milwaukee. Tomorrow it's off to Rochester, New York and then Buffalo and then . . . and then . . . But tonight, there's time for a party.

Paula Leggett (one of the Two Ladies) and Jerry Ball (Max) have nothing but raves for Milwaukee. Jerry says, "It's the nicest town we've been in so far." Paula agrees, adding that "It's so clean." Doug Friedman (taximan, waiter, sailor) extols Milwaukee's food. "It's a food town beyond belief," he says, explaining that his favorite is Edward's Pizza. I'm a little taken aback by that, but say nothing. Steve, my guide earlier whose last name I finally discover is Potfora, wonders at how safe the city is. Earlier at the theatre he had asked me in all seriousness if he could walk to M&M without getting mugged. Even now, he hangs on to his jacket explaining somewhat abashedly that "I can't get over New York habits."

Many of the rest talk about how "lucky you are to live here." and rave about the friendly people they've met. Fred Barton, the Associate Conductor says, "It's a fun Gay town. M&M is great and so is the Triangle. So unbelievably different from New York."

I nod, accepting the sincerely meant praise of my city. It's been a fascinating day, but I'm glad I'm home.

Madison Needs Volunteers To Assist With HIV Care Programs

By Tim O'Brien

Recently while having a conversation with a friend, we began to talk about Madison's response to the AIDS epidemic within the Gay community. I mentioned that I was concerned. She asked why? I said that we need more Gay men who are interested in providing emotional support to people with the HIV infection, more Gay men interested in organizing a Gay and Lesbian pride march in Madison, and more Gay men volunteering at the Madison AIDS Support Network and other support agencies in the Madison area. I told her that it seemed to me that many Gay men are dealing with the AIDS issue alone, our people are getting ill and dying and we are acting as if nothing has changed.

It has been my experience that the majority of the Gay community has yet to mobilize themselves in response to the AIDS epidemic. So, they just don't care about AIDS? I don't think so; in the conversations that I have had with Gay friends, there has been a high level of interest and concern surrounding the AIDS crisis. What doesn't seem to be happening is a sharing of this concern with others and acting on this fear within the Gay community. Our fear, denial and pain in dealing with AIDS has led to individual isolation within our community.

NAZI

Continued from Page 2

attached to him, and, I think he was to me — a little bit." Sometimes even after all these years, Hans said, he thought of Gunter and wondered about him. He was, he admitted, grateful to him.

After Gunter, there were others. He was passed on from one man to another, fortunate that he was able to keep his looks. That's how he survived, by being a whore.

How many Pink Triangles were in the camp?, I asked.

I remember Hans shaking his head. He did not know. Hundreds, thousands, it varied from time to time. But every week, then every day new transports would be brought in, more filthy queers to be stripped of their clothes, their hair, their names, everything that had meant anything to them. "In the outside, these were respected people, many of them, good and decent people, doctors, teachers, sons of fine families. But in Dachau, they were nothing, worse than nothing."

And, he told me, it had to be remembered that Dachau, though the first camp, was hardly the last. Others, dozens of others were set up to hold Gays, Jews and all the others who the Nazi Reich had determined to extinguish from the face of the earth. Many times, transports loaded with Pink Triangles left Dachau. A selection would be held, prisoners picked to go. At those times, he was more afraid than at any other for it was common knowledge that there were camps more terrible even than Dachau. These were death camps, Totenlager, as opposed to Dachau which was a work camp, an Arbeienlager. At least at Dachau, he said, he thought he would have some kind of a chance. In a Totenlager, he believed, he would have none.

Nevertheless, the humiliations were terrible. No Gay had a name. Instead, he was given a number and when called, was forced to answer "Queer 4962", for example. In the barracks where the Pink Triangles were, no one was allowed to sleep with his hands under the cover, not even in the coldest weather. The Nazis thought that if Gays were allowed to do that, they would masturbate which, it was believed, only Gays did. Masturbation, Hans said, was said to be a sign of the homosexual disease.

If you were caught trying to keep your hands warm, the punishment was immediate and hideous. The guards seized one man and forced him to stand naked in the snow while buckets of cold water were thrown over him. In another case, Hans said, a man was hung up by his wrists while his testicles were dipped alternately into ice water and hot water. His screams echoed through the camp. In still another case, a man was hung by his testicles and beaten. He was left to hang there until he died.

The Nazis, Hans said, thought all Gays were sex-crazed, that if Gays in the barracks and outside in the camp, were not watched constantly, there would be

This is what concerns me. It is dangerous. The vast majority of us in the Gay community know someone with the HIV infection, some who are ill and some who have died. This on top of the increased homophobia within our society leads to some very difficult situation wounds that are impossible to heal in isolation. We need each other. We all go through periods of denial, fear, anxiety and pain. How much easier it would be to go through it together as a unified and strong community.

Empowerment plays a key role in dealing with the AIDS epidemic, the death of our friends and the possibility of our own illness. We must meet AIDS head on as a unified community. There are many things we can do: 1) educate ourselves and others, 2) work on the Stop AIDS Project, 3) volunteer at the Madison AIDS Support Network, 4) work on next Spring's march committee, and 5) be honest with ourselves about our response as a people thus far. We need to come together as a proud and somewhat frightened people. Only then can we really start to make a difference in dealing with AIDS.

In short, AIDS has the ability to 1) isolate us, even within our own community, or 2) unify us and empower us. So far the former is winning. We can change. We must.

orgies. But, there were none. "You lose all desire under such privations as existed." However, there was love. Many Gays paired off. In fact, Hans thought that most did, seeking comfort and some little human dignity in a loving look, a quiet, stolen smile.

These pairs, couples, never survived very long, having, Hans said, the highest mortality rate. They could not hide what they meant to each other and always there was someone, a Capo, a prisoner, to inform.

Capos, Hans explained, were camp inmates placed over others by the SS. They got good food — "Do you know how easily you would sell yourself for food?", he asked, holding up a brown, crusty roll. I did not. There was so much I didn't know.

He nodded, acknowledging, I suppose, my ignorance as he turned the bread slowly in his gnarled hands, looking at it as if, in that loaf, were all the demons that haunted him. Then he put it back on the plate.

Capos who were in charge of Pink Triangles were always straight, not like Gunter and others who had little dolls, but homophobic straights who were, if that were possible, he said, worse than the SS themselves. In the end, a Capo was always killed. The SS never trusted anyone very long.

The guards took special delight in finding out about lovers from the Capos. Then they could torture and rape one while the other watched and kill them both before each other's eyes. Some broke, Hans said. One lover would denounce the other or even participate in his torment out of promises for an easier life. These promises were never kept. But some yielded.

However, most did not. "You see," he said in words I will never forget, "even in Dachau, even in Germany in those years, it was possible to choose right. I did not. Many did. I can never forget them."

I asked him if he ever prayed? He said, no, not at least in any formal way. His family had been religious, but he had early given it up. Besides, he said, he did not think praying would do any good.

And your family?, I asked. I have never seen them again, he replied. Afterward, he did not want to find them.

Sometime toward noon, I think it was, Hans had to leave, to keep an appointment, he said. I asked him if he would be at the bar that evening. He said he would not, that he rarely went and that last night had been an exception. However, if I wanted, he would give me an address where I could write to him if I wished. Then, as if fleeing, he left.

In Chapter 4, the search for the reality of the Pink Triangle begins. Hans, I knew even then, had told only a small part of the story. There was so much more I had to find out, from books, anywhere I could, about the Holocaust of the Gays.

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CABARET Continued from Page 8

name? What am I gonna ask him? Should I try for an autograph? But he begins, thankfully, to talk, giving me time to reconvene myself.

"I believe in this play," he says. "That's why I'm doing it. I believe in the message it has to offer. The character I play, the emcee, is really a clown Hitler, evil, cynical who's presiding over the end of good times, open times. That has something to say today."

He asks me if I know who wrote the book from which the play was taken? I do. It was the openly Gay writer, Christopher Isherwood. "So you see," Grey says, "the Kit-Kat Club was a good place for Gays, but there was a dark cloud on the horizon, the Nazis. No one could believe what was coming."

Then with a few more words about how much he really loves Milwaukee, a smile and a firm handshake, he is gone. I didn't get my autograph, but, I decide, asking for it would have been gauche. Looking after him, Steve says with awe in his voice, "It's a real honor to work with Mr.

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