



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

The Wisconsin Light

AIDS PATIENT MEDICAL CARE: NATIONAL DISGRACE

Two Milwaukee Nursing Homes to Accept AIDS Patients March 15



J.P. Barnes Photography

David Ceasarini (left) stars as Billy Bishop and John Wilson plays the piano player in Theatre Tesseract's current production of "Billy Bishop Goes to War." The play runs through March 19 at Milwaukee Lincoln Center for the Arts, 820 E. Knapp St.

State Refuses Sale of Health Insurance Without HIV Blood Test

By Bill Meunier

[Milwaukee]- In a move found to be almost inconceivable by many observers, the Wisconsin State Insurance Commissioner's Office has refused to allow the sale of a health insurance policy that would not require applicants to take the AIDS blood test. The Golden Rule Insurance Company, the nation's largest seller of individual health insurance, was denied permission to sell the new policy.

Under the terms of the proposed policy, Golden Rule would not require any applicant to take the HIV blood test for AIDS anti-bodies. There would be no coverage for AIDS if the disease (not exposure to the disease) had its onset during the first year of the policy. After

the first year, full coverage of up to \$1 million would be provided to anyone who was diagnosed as having the disease.

In a letter to Golden Rule, Susan Abdel Moneim, Director of Marketing for State Insurance Commissioner David Haase, stated, "Since Wisconsin law permits insurers to test applicants for AIDS, we believe insurers have the responsibility to screen applicants during the underwriting process before the policy is issued." Moneim's letter also states, "It continues to be our position that policies containing limitations related to the treatment of AIDS or ARC will not be approved for sale in Wisconsin."

The rejection has provoked outrage
TURN TO INSURANCE, PAGE 11

Green Bay and Milwaukee MCC's Receive Commissioned Status

[Green Bay]- As the result of several months of intensive work, Green Bay's Angel of Hope, Metropolitan Community Church (MCC), submitted its formal petition for Commissioned Status to the Great Lakes District Committee of the United Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches (UFMCC) at the District Conference held at Peoria, Illinois, during October, 1988. It was supported by an extensive list of supporter's signatures.

The Committee, on review, approved and granted Angel of Hope, MCC, Commissioned Status with full voice and vote. This represents a significant achievement for the Green Bay church. New Hope, MCC, Milwaukee, received approval for Commissioned Status at the same time.

Angel of Hope, MCC, has been functioning in Green Bay for over two years. Initially the church was an extension of Good Shepherd Parish of Chicago. In May, 1988, the church was granted New Wing status, and all memberships were transferred back to Angel of Hope.

The new status grants Angel of Hope permanency in Green Bay and allows greater independent influence in local church affairs.

Angel of Hope joins other Commissioned Churches of UFMCC. The denomination has member churches throughout the United States, Canada and in over 13 foreign counties. The church is totally inclusive and open to all Christians.

He is young. He is living with AIDS.

Beyond his closed hospital door he hears the sound of plastic scraping on the tile floor. With great effort, he lifts his weakened body out of the bed and goes to find his dinner tray left there for him to retrieve himself. That's the way it always is at breakfast, at lunch, at dinner, everyday.

An older man, an AIDS victim, awakens in his own home in great pain with a fever of 105. It is late, but he calls his doctor only to be told to "see me in the morning." When he protests, he is told that "You brought this on yourself."

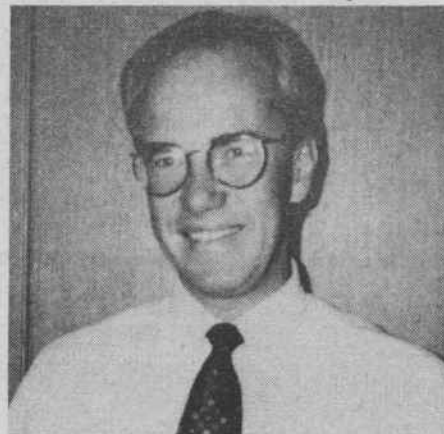
According to the AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power (ACT-UP), 3,000-4,000 AIDS sufferers live homeless on the streets of New York because there is no one willing or available to care for them.

A recent broadcast of CBS-TV's "West 57th Street" confirmed this, noting that 3-4 percent of American doctors are caring for 60-75 percent of AIDS patients. In future years, those percentages, according to the report, are not likely to change. This means that more people with AIDS will receive less care or none at all if something is not done.

In a televised interview for the program, a Phoenix, Arizona doctor affirmed this, saying, "My colleagues have a lot of ways of shunting a person with AIDS to me; to any doctor they think is Gay. But, no matter what reason they use, what words they say, what they're really telling me is, "Take him. I don't want him. He's yours anyway. I'm stretched to the limit now." he said.

Milwaukee is no exception to the rest of the country where discrimination against AIDS patients can be overt, but is more often subtle.

Family and friends of AIDS patients tell of doctors who can't be found to discuss the case; nurses who, out of fear or for other reasons, are less than helpful.



Jerry Johnson

Doug Nelson

Sources in Milwaukee close to the situation say that AIDS sufferers are too often at the end of the line when it comes to medical attention and care. One noted that the discrimination is subtle, "so subtle that only people directly involved all the time can see it."

They went on to note that often people with AIDS, like others, are so unfamiliar with the medical system that they don't know what they should expect in the way of care. Hence, they are not aware that they are being discriminated against. Even when this is not the case, AIDS victims, like many other people, are intimidated by doctors and the elaborate technology of modern medicine and are afraid to speak up for their rights.

Doug Nelson, Executive Director of the Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP) pointed out that "There are many wonderful doctors and hospital nurses going above and beyond." But, he admitted, there is a problem with institutional discrimination. The health care industry, hospitals and nursing homes, in many instances, are

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not sensitive to the care needs of AIDS patients and, in fact, there are many examples of "gross discrimination."

Recently, after strenuous negotiations by MAP and the AIDS Coalition of Milwaukee, the nursing home industry yielded and, for the first time, conceded to a limited response to the AIDS crisis. Two nursing homes agreed to open their doors to AIDS patients. This will happen on or
TURN TO AIDS CARE, PAGE 12

Educational Employees In Madison Organize

A teacher wakes up as a rock is thrown through her window. A note "Lezzie Bitch" is left in her mailbox. The principal claims it is not a school matter, even though similar notes have been intercepted in her classroom.

A teacher pulls into the parking lot at school to see his name painted on the side of the building, calling him a "fagot."

A teacher receives harassing phone calls from another school staff member.

A teacher is denied bereavement leave to be at the side of his hospitalized partner.

Are these scenarios possible in the only state with a Gay rights law? Are they possible in a city with a stringent non-discrimination policy? Unfortunately, yes!

In response to these and other incidences of harassment, a group of Lesbian and Gay school staff from the Madison area in the Spring of 1988, formed the Gay and Lesbian Educational Employees. As a result of these meetings, a delegation presented a list of concerns to the director of Madison Teachers, Inc. This was done to make him aware of our presence and our needs.

Since the beginning of the 1988-89 school year, the group has met on a biweekly basis to provide a safe place for staff to come together, to encourage a sense of community, to combat isolation, and to validate our worth as educators and support personnel. Discussions have focused on difficulties and prejudices encountered by Gay and Lesbian members of school systems. Activities have included speakers from Madison AIDS Support Network, PICADA, PFLAG, and the County Board as well as a lake-front picnic and potlucks.

One accomplishment of the group was to make the Madison Metropolitan School District aware of the need to re-examine their policy of bereavement leave, in order to bring it into line with the City of Madison. The group has recently received a grant from the New Harvest Foundation for the purchase and dissemination of educational materials.

Anyone wishing further information should write: Gay and Lesbian Educational Employees, c/o Madison Teachers, Inc., 821 Williamson St. Madison, WI 53703 or contact Doug or ; volunteer at the United, (608) 255- 8582.

OUR HISTORY



A TIME TO DIE XI Rudolf Is Stunned To See Two, Young "Jew-Queers" Lynched

By Terry Boughner, Ph.d.

When Frau Schmidt returned, she told Rudolf that she had had little success in finding any information about Ferdi. But, he said, "She assured me in her dramatic way that it was only a matter of time. She maintained, she had the instincts of a reporter."

"I believed her," he said, "But after the second day and she had no information, I decided to try on my own. Frau Schmidt was very much against that. She warned me how dangerous things could be. The Gestapo were everywhere. Anyone could be an informer. She was right, of course, but I ignored her warnings. The truth was, I needed to get out on my own for awhile."

When night fell, he left, going out among the sights and sounds of his home city. "It made me so sad," he said, "to see all the old familiar scenes. As I



walked, I felt like something dying was following me. I kept thinking, the last time I was in this place or that, Ferdi was here. I kept looking at strange faces passing me in the night. I think I believed that one might be Ferdi. Quite by accident, I would find him and we could flee together. Of course that didn't happen."

He went on until he was within a few blocks of the main railway yards. Suddenly, he heard voices, the sound of a crowd, coming toward him.

Quickly, he ducked into a near-by ally and waited, watching in the glow of street lights as a crowd of perhaps 50 or so surged past him.

"They were carrying electric torches and shouting things like 'Jew-Queer' and 'Assfucker' and other such names."

At first he did not understand what was happening, but then he saw in the middle of the mob, two men being dragged along by ropes around their necks. Their arms were bound behind them.

"I was terribly frightened," he said. "My legs were shaking and my stomach was in knots. Yet, when the crowd had passed, I followed them. I could not help myself."

Shortly, the mob reached a bridge over the railroad tracks and came to a halt in the center.

"I got as close as I dared, enough to see. Below me I could hear the sound of the trains going back and forth. Everytime an engine passed, its smoke billowed up and shrouded the bridge in a dark, sulphurous cloud. I could hear the whistles. I have not forgotten how mournful they sounded. Not like your American engines, but like spirits screeching in the night."

He inched closer, fearing at any moment to be discovered, but no one paid him any attention. All eyes were on the two men who now stood, their backs against the railing.

"Under a bridge light, I could see them clearly. They were both young-looking, perhaps handsome. It was hard to tell for they had been beaten terribly. I think one may have had a broken leg. It did not make any difference. It was night. They were homosexuals. They were going to die."

"One of the young men started to beg for his life. 'I do not want to die,' he cried but the mob drowned him out with howls of laughter and derision.

"The other bowed his head. I think he was praying. Someone shouted, 'God doesn't hear Queer-bastards.' Another cried, 'There's no help for you,

Assfucker!'"

"I think it was then that I realized, My God! They want to kill us all. I felt so isolated."

Grasping hands reached out, clutching the two young men, ripping at their clothing until they stood naked in the cold.

"All the time there were those who shouted 'Kill them' and 'Don't let the Queers live.' These were not men only, but also women, girls and boys. These were good Germans, good people, ordinary people. They were people among whom I had grown up. I could not forget that."

"But the Gestapo, the Party?" I asked. "They had whipped them into a frenzy and..."

Rudolf nodded with bitter look on his face. "Yes," he agreed. The Gestapo, the SS. It is easy now to blame them. But later I came to understand that the blame was not theirs alone. Even in Hitler's Germany, even in the camps, it was possible to make a moral decision. The price was great, but it could be done. Life is never easy, humh?" I watched him as with great deliberation, he stubbed out his cigarette.

"They took the homosexuals and sat them on the bridge rail. The ends of the ropes that were around their necks were tied to that railing. They were pushed over, falling backward and plummeted down. Someone screamed or perhaps it was a train whistle. I could not tell you now."

"Suddenly I felt someone grab me. I tried to pull away, but could not. They said, 'Don't you want to see the dead Queers?' I had no choice."

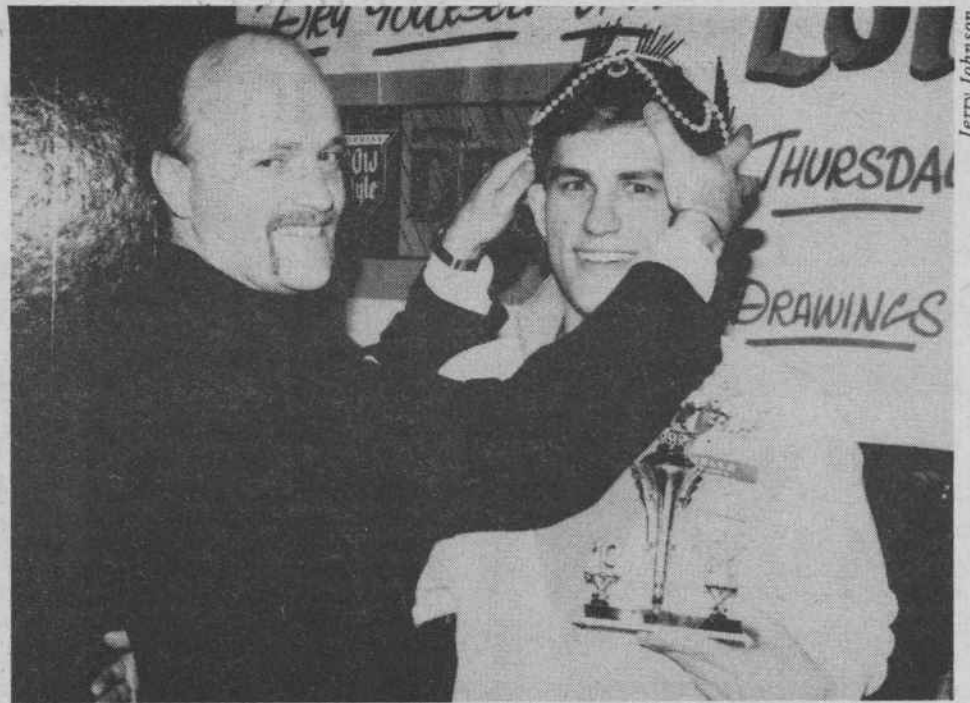
"I was pushed forward until I could look over the railing. There, about half-way down, I could see them dimly by the yard lights; dark objects, two homosexuals turning slowly in the air. Then a train came and their bodies were hidden by the smoke. I was sick, vomiting onto the wagons rushing by below."

They, those young men hung that night, were only two of millions, but I have never forgotten them. Were they lovers? I do not know."

"The mob dispersed quickly. I thought about going back to Frau Schmidt's, but could not face her right then. I decided I needed a beer, perhaps several. That was a mistake, the worst I have ever made."

Next: Rudolf pays for his beer.

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If your name is Bob you were likely at Milwaukee's first annual Gay Bob party, held February 21 at the Triangle and C'est La Vie bars. Shown above is Bob Scholl, the winner of the Mr. Gay Bob Contest being crowned by, well, er, Bob!

Is Milwaukee Nearing Third Class Status as A Community?

John Michael Roberts

Some encouraging signs indicate that the Milwaukee Gay/Lesbian community is shaking off the Winter doldrums and taking a harder look at their missions. This comes none too soon as we have been perched on the edge of becoming a third class community.

Milwaukee, in living in Chicago's shadow, has always been in second place. So too with the city's Gay/Lesbian agenda. In recent years, Madison, with a well-funded Foundation, The United, and recent massive efforts for a Gay/Lesbian Pride celebration and march, has taken initiatives in the State toward accomplishing our agenda.

With a larger Gay/Lesbian community, Milwaukee should, at least, be sharing in that leadership. But we seem to have been marking time and even slipping behind in these past months.

The Lambda Rights Network has recently announced efforts to work with the Police Department to sensitize them to the community. Let's hope that this isn't just for public consumption and that the Department will fully cooperate.

Tri-Cable Tonight is adding a male co-host who should be a big plus for this already outstanding program.

The Brady East STD Clinic (Best) is reaching out more with on-site testing programs to compliment a good, sound and steady clinic program.

The Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP), after losing its way and hopelessly bogging down, has, under its new Director, regained its purpose and has cleared up many of its problems.

The HIT Tournament, in November, ran its largest-ever tournament and is allowing new leadership to move up in the organization. Our other sports leagues are active and very much alive.

The Metropolitan Community Church (MCC) is holding its own after the death

of its pastor and has several pastors participating on a volunteer basis to fill the gap. Dignity is adjusting to the Archdiocesan rules on its activities forced on them by Rome.

We still have a lot of things to look to, however. The Cream City Foundation is one of the smallest such organizations in the country; even much smaller than Madison's.

Our Gay Pride Committee recently lost one of its co-chairs, but still has the ambitious goal of having the Milwaukee Pride Celebration coincide with the national effort in June.

The Cream City Business Association (CCBA) is languishing as are several other organizations.

What seems to be needed is for boards of directors to buckle down, bring in new blood and allow new leadership to emerge. Each board member should look at their organization and ask themselves the following questions:

- 1) Is our leadership tired or is it competent and willing to lead?
- 2) Are we losing key leadership? If so, are we able to replace them?
- 3) Are we losing members?
- 4) Is our funding increasing, decreasing or holding its own?
- 5) Do we have an adequate volunteer network that is trained and has clear reporting avenues?
- 6) Is everyone fully informed or are boards and members told only what the leadership wants them to know about all or certain aspects of the organization?
- 7) Can we stretch ourselves more than we have in the past?
- 8) Is anything getting done at meetings?
- 9) Is there a counterpart to my organization in the state? Is it better or worse than ours? What makes them better or worse — Staff? Funds? Participation? Dedication to mission or programs?

It is my feeling that Milwaukee should be first class. We are smaller than Chicago and not subject to all the resulting politics. We are larger than Madison with greater available funds and talents.

Are we just satisfied to only exist or are we truly challenging ourselves to progress?

Some hopeful signs are there, but others show complacency, complacency, complacency. A new decade is almost upon us.

LET US MAKE THIS OUR DECADE MILWAUKEE!

Activist to Meet

The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) has announced that its annual conference for Gay and Lesbian activists and organizations will be held during Veteran's Day weekend on November 11-13, 1989. The NGLTF Creating Change Conference will be held in Washington, D.C.

Sessions are designed to foster skill and resource sharing among Gay and Lesbian activists who are engaged first hand in civil rights battles at the state, local and federal level.

For further information, write NGLTF, 1517 U St. NW, Washington, D.C. 20009.

Milwaukee AIDS Project Fighting AIDS through effective service:

Education and Prevention

- AIDSline—the latest information on AIDS
- Library/Resource Center—Wisconsin's comprehensive source for articles, pamphlets, books and videos on AIDS
- AIDS prevention education for people engaging in risk behavior

Life Care Services

- Home care support
- Support groups
- Counseling
- Case management
- Medical, psychological and spiritual referrals
- financial assistance
- housing assistance

If you have questions, concerns, or need assistance, call
Statewide: 1-800-334-AIDS
Milwaukee: 273-AIDS

The Milwaukee AIDS Project
We support learning.
We promote living.



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

The Wisconsin Light



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Institutional Member



EDITORIAL

February 23, 1989—March 8, 1989—WISCONSIN LIGHT—3

THE ILLS OF THE WORLD ARE GIVEN US BY A LOVING GOD

The other morning someone came to our door from a local church asking if we'd "found Jesus?" In the course of what was a lively debate, we told him we were Gay. He replied, "God'll get you. AIDS is God's judgment on you all."

Later, that same morning, a radio newscast announced that chicken pox is on the rise among children.

Perhaps most would not see a connection between the two, but the lesson seems to be clear: chicken pox is God's judgment on children.

Now, before you get all discombobulated, look at the logic. If AIDS, as the door to door preacher said, is the Deity's judgment on Gays, then it has to follow that sickle-cell anemia is God's judgment on Blacks, malaria is God's judgment on people who live in warm, moist climates, mildew is God's judgment on the English and, perhaps the French and senility is God's judgment on the elderly.

Heavens to schmerekase the wonder of this reasoning goes on and on. The CIA is God's judgment on Nicaragua and dozens of other places, the Soviet Union is God's judgment on Poland and numerous other nations, places, people hopes and dreams, the Pope is God's judgment on people of good sense, the Arabs and the Israelis are God's judgment on each other and the Ayatollah Khomeini is God's judgment on everybody. So, finally, chicken pox is God's judgment on children.

The peregrinating preacher kept saying that God loves everybody, so that's got to mean children. But, while God may love children, He obviously does not approve of the things children do and so, in His wisdom, He sends chicken pox so they will utter the requisite "mea culpas", dump ashes on their little heads and repent.

Oh, you can hear the arguments now. Children did not choose to be children and therefore, can not be punished for it. The reply is simple. Yes, children did not choose to be children, but they can decide whether to act like children or not. It is then not the condition that God judges, it is their life-style that comes from that condition.

Now there must be a new purpose. We must educate children to this fact and get them to promise never to do it again.

WISCONSIN NEEDS A LONG TERM CARE AIDS HEALTH FACILITY

The situation is bad and getting worse. Across the United States, the numbers of people living with AIDS is on the increase. There is no end in sight. To make matters worse, ignorance and prejudice abound.

The result is discrimination and all too often, a horrifying insensitivity toward people who are battling for their lives.

Wisconsin is no different from anyplace else.

The care needs of people with AIDS is staggering, going far beyond what families and friends can supply.

In this crisis, it is our community which must bear much of the burden of response. We have already done much. We must do more.

What is needed is a long-term care facility. It would be a place in which skilled, compassionate and understanding professionals and volunteers would offer love as well as care for AIDS sufferers. It would be a place of color and light, where people living in crisis would be treated with tenderness and acceptance. It would be a place where hugs were common and no dinner trays were left outside bedroom doors.

This is an enormous project, but one of great, compelling urgency. It is one that every Lesbian/Gay organization, club, business and group throughout Wisconsin should support.

The one thing that unites and characterizes all Lesbian and Gay people is the desire for love, hearth and home. Let us then, in Wisconsin, unite to give to those with AIDS what we, ourselves most want.

If not us, then who?

LETTERS

TO THE EDITOR:

I would like to suggest a fund-raising idea for the Gay and Lesbian community.

The Jewish community has begun a movement and organization called "Mazon" (the Hebrew word for "food") to combat hunger. The essential idea is to solicit a voluntary 3% tax placed on the cost of celebrations which, for Jews, usually involve food, to be redistributed through Mazon to organizations combating hunger. Our community could productively start a similar movement to "tax" bar expenditures on behalf of Gay and Lesbian organizations.

The Gay bars are clearly central social institutions for a significant portion of the Gay and Lesbian community, and substantial amounts of wholly discretionary funds are spent there regularly. In fact, the bars probably represent a more central institution than any other in our community and probably also the major target of our Gay-oriented expenditures.

Unfortunately, the community's support for Gay and Lesbian causes and organizations is meager by contrast. In part, this lack of support reflects a combination of the lack of a well-established, widely recognized device such as a Gay United Way to solicit and collect funds, a lack of the man and woman power to mount such a sustained, systematic drive and a lack of community consciousness among the rank and file Gays and Lesbians such as the typical bar-goer. I believe my proposal would address these several problems.

I propose that we start a drive or movement whereby any drinker who so chose — it would be strictly voluntary — would pay the bar an additional "tax" in the amount of some percentage of his or her drink or tab which would be earmarked to help support the Gay and Lesbian community (10% would be both a significant and meaningful amount, though perhaps a bit too high to be widely effective). The bars, in turn, would be responsible for collecting and turning the moneys over to either the respectively ear-marked institutions or a central

distribution fund. Substantial amounts could feasibly be raised.

Such a drive, or better institutionalized movement if it caught on, would have the further advantage of increasing the bar-goers consciousness of and solidarity with the organized Gay and Lesbian community.

AIDS related organizations would clearly be popular recipients, but they are already relatively well supported by the community. I would hope, therefore, that other organizations such as the Cream City Foundation would be primary beneficiaries, so that this fund raising device could become a keystone in strengthening the community's identification with the organized community as a whole.

—Name withheld upon request.

TO THE EDITOR:

Editor's Note: The following letter was sent to President George Bush on February 12 and to other Gay/Lesbian papers including *Wisconsin Light*. The writer, 33, lost his lover and many friends to AIDS. In 1985 he was diagnosed with ARC and has been told by his physician that, as a result of his fast, he will almost surely develop AIDS. After passing the bar exam in 1986, he applied to numerous law firms, but was turned down each time because he openly stated he was HIV+. Last year Republican Governor Deukmejian vetoed a bill that would have banned discrimination against those who have tested positive for the AIDS virus. McDonald vows to continue his fast until the Governor relents or until he [McDonald] dies. "I am no stranger to death," he said.

Dear Mr. President,

In an attempt to help relieve the desperation, hopelessness and suffering of a very large segment of this state's (California) Gay population who are falling through the social cracks in alarming numbers, and in a country that doesn't seem to care at all, I began a hunger strike on January 2nd to convince our Governor, George Deukmejian, to publicly commit himself to support and

sign previously vetoed state legislation which would redress anti-Gay and AIDS-related forms of discrimination. It is an act of desperation, because nothing else has worked, and no one has been listening. It is the minimum of what we need.

The only other events that would cause me to quit the hunger strike would be: 1) that I could be assured that there are enough legislative votes to over-ride a veto, or 2) you came out in support of comprehensive, anti-discrimination legislation (with the same protections for Gays and those with AIDS, ARC, or a positive HIV status) on a federal level.

Please consider this request for those federal protections carefully and, as soon as you can. It has now been 41 days since I began this hunger strike. Time is getting very short — for me and for thousands of innocent Gay people who have run out of hope.

Please help us. The real need is on the federal level anyway. Our very lives are in your hands.

—Stuart A. McDonald
Attorney at Law
San Francisco

TO THE EDITOR:

In regard to *Light's* review of "The Torch Song Trilogy" I completely disagree with the reviewer's opinion of Anne Bancroft in the mother's role. She portrayed a Jewish mother to a tee.

I am from a household with such a person and she couldn't have done a better job. If I didn't know any better I would have thought that she was a Jewish mother with a gay son. The relationship between the parents and children were very realistic.

—Robert J. Scholl
Milwaukee, WI

Madison Expects Thousands May 6

[Madison]- They will be coming from all over the Midwest and points beyond including New York and California.

Their destination: Madison, capital of the nation's Gay Rights State and they'll be coming in their thousands for the city's Lesbian/Gay Pride March and rally to be held May 6, 1989.

The sponsoring group, the Gay and Lesbian Visibility Alliance (GALVANize) began planning the March and rally last May with a threefold purpose: to increase awareness about the number and diversity of Gays and Lesbians, to work for our civil rights and to form coalitions with other groups that consider themselves oppressed.

GALVANize co-ordinators told *Light* that they want all people — Gay, heterosexual and bisexual — who support Gay/Lesbian rights to attend the March and rally. Richard Kilmer, a coordinator of GALVANize said, "We need to show strength so that people feel safe with their sexuality. If the mayor and the chief of police and anyone who supports Gay/Lesbian rights are at the March, that's going to be a strong sign for people who are scared about being Lesbian or Gay."

Kilmer said that GALVANize realizes that many Gays and Lesbians don't feel safe, that they fear for their jobs and families. Those Gays and Lesbians are being encouraged to march wearing masks.

Featured speakers at the pre-March rally will be State Rep. David Clarenbach (D-Madison), author of Wisconsin's Gay Rights bill whose record as a fighter for and supporter of civil rights is luminous; Dane County Sup. Tammy Baldwin, 8th District, Madison a long-time fighter for equal rights. Kilmer told *Light* that GALVANize has hopes of bringing civil rights leader Jesse Jackson to speak. As of press time, Jackson has not said that he will appear, but his staff has talked to members of GALVANize.

The May 6th March will be surrounded by a number of related events including a workshop given by Milwaukee Lesbian activist Miriam Ben Shalom and the unfurling of part of the Names Project Quilt. The Quilt covers some 10 acres. 6,600 square feet of it will be displayed in the UW-Madison field house May 5-7.

To generate enthusiasm for and participation in the March, GALVANize is sending outreach teams throughout Wisconsin and to many cities in the Midwest. All Gay/Lesbian bars, clubs

TURN TO MADISON, PAGE 8

RELIGIOUS OUTREACH

The Antichrist Will Appear After The Rapture of the Saved

By Jay A. Clark

ANTICHRIST=one who is against or instead of Christ. The word "Antichrist" may mean either an enemy of Christ or one who assumes Christ's name and rights. The definition of Antichrist is found in I John:2:18, 22, 4:3 and II John, 7. But the idea appears throughout the Scriptures. It is evident from the way John and Paul refer to the Antichrist that they were aware of a tradition well-known in their time.

The Old Testament gives evidence of a general Jewish belief in a hostile person or power who, in the end time, would mount an attack on God's people, an attack that would be crushed by Jehovah or His messiah. (See Psalms 2; Ezekiel 38 and 39 and Zachariah 12 and 14 and Daniel 11:36).

In the Book of Revelations (13:1-8), we see the Antichrist described as "the beast" whose animal-like appearance is hideous and to whom "the dragon" (Satan), gives his power. Mankind will worship the beast who will blaspheme God as he makes war on the saints and conquers them.

The description in Revelations was prefigured in Daniel, Chs. 7, 8 and 11.

We should not take the animalistic qualities in the description of the beast literally. If you read the verses of Scripture that I have mentioned here, you will see him spoken of as looking like a leopard, a bear and a lion. What it means, as I think, is that being like a leopard, he will conquer his enemies quickly. He will be fearless and strong like the bear and be proud and regal as is the lion.

The Antichrist will appear after the rapture of the saved. The unsaved (sinners), already spiritually blinded, will see no evil in the Antichrist and follow him willingly.

Then, as if one "superman" isn't enough, the Antichrist will have a right-hand man known as the False Prophet. In Revelations 13, we read that the False Prophet comes from the earth (The Antichrist is said to come from the sea). That the False Prophet will have two horns like a lamb suggests a suave, refined and even gentle person. He will have the power to perform unnatural wonders designed to convince people to worship the Antichrist.

Such will be his power that he will be

Origin and Purpose of Clerical Celibacy To Be Examined

By Fr. James Arimond

Editor's Note: The following article is the first of a series of three. Each one by Fr. Arimond will deal with clerical celibacy and will appear in *Light*.

• • •

I received a number of letters asking about "celibacy for ministers" in my denomination, the Roman Catholic Church. Most of the letters asked things like, "Why does the Church want a celibate clergy?" "Are they really celibate anyway?" "Will that rule ever change? Where did the idea of a celibate clergy come from?" etc....

I don't think I'm going to be able to answer all of these questions in just one column. I hope you bare with the inconvenience and read my columns in the next few issues.

First of all, as I'm sure most of you know by now, a non-celibate or married clergy was once very common in the Christian church (And, of course, in many Christian denominations, it still is). However, it is also obvious from history that celibacy or virginity was also an early ideal in the church. St. Paul in his letter to the Corinthians: (I Cor. 7:25 ff.), urges those who are not married to remain celibate.

This admonition is not directed to just the "presiders" or presbyters (priests) of the church, but rather to all the unmarried or widowed.

On further study, however, we realize that the admonition to celibacy was postulated on the belief that the "second coming of Jesus" was right around the corner and that marriage would interfere with a person's preparation for that coming; "An unmarried person can devote himself/herself to the Lord's affairs...whereas a married person had to



Pastor Jay Clark

able to convince people erect an image of the Antichrist, an idol, and worship it. This image, according to Revelations, will be a talking idol, a visible and audible reminder of who the people are to worship. Remember that this will be a world-wide phenomenon.

The Bible says that the False Prophet will speak like a dragon. But since the dragon is a common symbol for the Devil, this suggests that the False Prophet will be Satan's mouthpiece.

At the same time, demonic spirits will be let loose. They will cause kings (national leaders) to gather their armies for a great battle against God and the saints. This will be the Battle of Armageddon, a Greek word for the Plain of Maggedo in northern Israel. It is here, at this battle, that the contest between good and evil will reach a final decision. The end result will be, according to Revelations, the destruction of the Antichrist, the False Prophet and all their followers and works.

You should not be upset about the horrors of the reign of Antichrist, because you won't be around to see any part of it except their defeat. You won't, that is, if you get ready and stay ready for Jesus. Take a close look at your life right now. Make sure Jesus is your Lord and Savior. If you would like to read further, try Revelations 11:17, 13:8-17, 19:19-21; I Timothy 4:1-5 and II Timothy 3:1-5.

If you would like more information on this or any other topic, write to me at Saving Grace Tabernacle, P.O. Box 837, Antioch IL 60002.

bother about the world's affairs and devote him/herself to pleasing their spouse."

This "raison d'etre" for celibacy is still used by Church writers when they expound the virtues of celibacy. Of course, a very dedicated and active non-Catholic married clergy has somewhat tarnished the brilliance of this argument. Still, despite the evidence to the contrary, there are "die-hards" who feel that only a celibate clergy-person can give themselves totally to the ministry of the Church.

Besides St. Paul and his personal feelings on the matter, there was also a strong gnostic movement in the early community. The Gnostics felt that all sexual activity, including the procreation of children, was sordid and was really not in keeping with the "spiritual" ideals of the gospels. This was a very strong movement, especially among the intellectuals in the large urban areas. (Members of the early church did not have as deep an appreciation of the incarnation as we have today. They didn't understand that if you believe that God loved His creation so much that He became part of it, then all creation must be good. Sexual activity is therefore "Good" because God made it. In short, God loves sex or there wouldn't be any!)

In the 4th Century, the Council of Elvira, Spain, imposed celibacy on all bishops, priests and deacons. As most of the clergy were married during this period of history, it seems that the strong condemnation was directed more towards sexual intercourse than it was to the state of marriage. Other church councils were far more lenient on this subject: they merely denied promotion to those

TURN TO CELIBATE, PAGE 8

Unitarian Church Leads Way In Accepting Lesbians and Gays

By Sue Burke

A few denominations have no bar against Lesbian or Gay clergy. The United Church of Christ and Metropolitan Community Churches are the best known.

But only the Unitarian Universalist Association actually opposes discrimination against Lesbian and Gay clergy. It is one of the few to offer ceremonies of union to Gay, Lesbian or bisexual couples.

A recent survey of members found that while a majority supports such ceremonies, some are opposed. But most of those opposed believe that marriage is an out-of-date custom for all people.

The denomination is proud to be liberal and seeks not just to tolerate, but to welcome Gay people as members.

"In Unitarian Universalism, Lesbians, Gays, bisexuals and transexuals find the unique opportunity to be a visible part of a religious denomination in a supportive, life-affirming way," says a pamphlet on Lesbian and Gay rights put out by the denomination.

But the pamphlet also warns, "Each Unitarian Universalist fellowship or church is unique, reflecting the attitudes and convictions of its members. Although every congregation may not have experienced the reality of accepting someone from a sexual minority, the ideal is there."

With that thought, the denomination has begun holding workshops to teach about homophobia.

On February 4, Rev. Tony Larsen of the Racine Unitarian Universalist Church led a workshop called "Who's Sitting Next to You?" at the First Unitarian Church of Milwaukee for all members in southeastern Wisconsin. The workshop, based on a recent denominational survey, assisted church members in creating more "welcoming" congregations.

Larsen said that when he first came to the Racine church more than 10 years ago, "the Search Committee (to select a minister) did not know I was Gay." After a while, he said, he spoke to the church's leadership and in a "low-keyed" way came out.

"There were a few people that were unhappy about it and I think we probably lost a few as a result," he said, but others did not care or may have even been happy.

"It was handy to have people get to know me" before coming out, Larsen said. If people liked him but disliked homosexuality, then they had to reconcile those beliefs, Larsen said. "It was probably a growth experience for some."

For the denomination, Larsen is sometimes sent to other congregations looking for ministers. In Unitarian Universalism, individual congregations can choose their own ministers. Larsen performs a worship service and a workshop to help church members feel more comfortable with the idea of a Gay or Lesbian minister.

"A big concern for people hiring a Gay minister or Lesbian minister is that they

will loose people," Larsen said. But no matter whom the congregation hired, he said, it will lose some who don't like the new style of sermonizing or the new personality. Some other people will join a congregation because of a new minister.

Larsen said he asks the congregation that given a candidate who was excellent in every way but who was Gay or Lesbian, would they rather choose a candidate who was mediocre but straight?

A recent survey of members found that about half would not feel comfortable with a Gay, Lesbian or bisexual minister, although most thought that Gays could be effective teachers and role models and that having Gay members affirmed the denomination's principals.

But the survey also found that 11% of the straight respondents, 15% of the Gay men and 34% of the Lesbians said the denomination fails to affirm Gay, Lesbian and bisexual members.

In Racine, Larsen said, he's not "publicly out of the closet. I think a lot of people suspect it, but I haven't announced it in the newspaper. Unitarianism already seems pretty far out to people and if people think I'm Gay that probably won't make that much of a difference.

"I think you always take a chance when you're a church that does something that could be considered controversial," he said. When news reached the general community that the Racine church was sponsoring a Gay rap group, "tons of people yelled and screamed about it," he said.

"We certainly don't want the reputation of being a church for one kind of people only," Larsen said. If he were known as the Gay minister in town, others "would make assumptions about the whole congregation."

Coming out for Larsen wasn't unusually difficult, he said. "By the time I knew I was Gay, I was already pretty liberal" and believed that two consenting adults could do what they wanted as long as they did not hurt others.

I came out sort of gradually," he said. In the late 1960's, he believed he was bisexual. "It was cool then," he said, "but the truth was I really wasn't bisexual. I was homosexual, but it sounded better."

By then he had also had college psychology classes that taught that homosexuality wasn't an illness. "By the time I realized that I was Gay, I didn't have any great concern about it."

Since he had attended a Catholic seminary high school, "I didn't have normal dating experiences" and didn't have much conscious concern about his sexual orientation until he was 20 or 21.

Theologically, coming out did not change his beliefs, Larsen said. "The most I can say is if God is a personal being, then God does not condemn us for being what we are." Homosexuality would be a "trivial thing" to condemn someone to eternal punishment for, he

TURN TO UNITARIANS, PAGE 12

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A BOY OF SUMMER

4 LETTER WORD

By Morgan Summer

The weather here at my college is good today, a Friday. The sky is the blue it should be, the temperature is allowing some brave guys to wear shorts, and since it is Friday, I have no classes to attend.

I received a phone call a few moments ago that put me in one of my reflective moods and I got to thinking about a few things. Most of them, maybe appropriately, are four-letter words.

Lust is one of them. There is a lot of that on campus, and especially in the small Gay community here. I'm not saying it's bad or anything, but hearing my Gay friends brag about getting laid and giving their friends pointers on how to give blow jobs is rather...I don't know. It just effects me in a negative way.

That leads into the word "fuck." A dirty word, some people think, sometimes a sexy word. It is not very appealing to me right now because I am rather depressed at the moment and I will be for a while. But most of my friends here talk about that too, use it as an expletive or use it, sometimes, to make others jealous, maybe.

To be fair, though, I also think of love. When I was in high school, I didn't think that high school age people could really love, whatever true love is. But I'm at college now and I don't yet know what to think. I think that college students have more capability for feelings, but I am not sure about love.

The last four-letter word that I thought about was AIDS. Immediately after that I am supposed to mention another word, safe — as in sex — but I won't. Safe sex is not realistic here on a college campus. That is one thing I am sure of. There's evidence to support this claim and it angers me. I hate to say that safe sex is not popular here, but damn it, it's true. I read many articles, mostly in Gay publications, that assume that, of course, Gay men will use a condom and I just shake my head. Forget it. The guys here are in their late teens to their early twenties and sex is something to be enjoyed. I will leave it at that. That is the mode of thought here and, I would guess, elsewhere. See, college students have art and English classes to go to. They've got



Morgan Summer

a paper due in one of their advanced courses...and when they're with a sexual partner, they want to enjoy it. That's the way it is. That is the reality here.

I mentioned that I received a phone call a short while ago. It was from a young man I liked and whom I hoped to try to start dating or something. He called me this Friday afternoon and said he didn't want to start anything. Being a swell guy, I said that was fine, fine, just fine. I asked when I could call him again. He suggested late next week at the weekly meeting of the Gay Student Union.

Fine. Good.

I hung up a short while later — my roommate might come in, you know — and threw my denim jacket against the door of my fucking dorm room. A pin flew off and I put it in an inside pocket of my jacket. It was a pink triangle pin I'd worn for a while. When it hit the door, the front flew off the pin itself. I'll fix it later and I know that I will be wearing it again soon.

So I put my jacket on my bed and sat down and started to type this column. I imagine that you're reading this in a bar or at home and more than anything, I wish I could be there with people like me. But I can't, not now. On Monday I have art and English classes and a paper to start writing. That's how it goes.

I know I'll feel better in a little while. When I leave my dorm room I'll cruise the guys here on campus and wonder about the cuter ones. Things will get better. There is a four letter word I know and it's "hope."

New Gay/Lesbian Youth Leadership Projects Founded

[Washington, D.C.]— In December, 1988, a new leadership project for Gay and Lesbian youth was founded. It is called the Gay and Lesbian Equity in Academia Network (GLEAN) and was launched by an anonymous seed grant of \$25,000, arranged by the Adams-Morgan nightclub, "Dakota", in Washington.

One of the project's Board of Advisors is Congressman Barney Frank (D-MA). Frank stated that "The abuse which young Gay and Lesbian people receive... is a terrible social problem."

The project will create a continuous national clearinghouse for the equity and access work being done by educators and other professional as a way to foster the sharing of information and policy and service delivery regarding high school and college age youth who are or are perceived to be Gay, bi or Lesbian.

According to GLEAN Coordinator Luke Adams, "The early phases of the project will consist of creating a participatory

research curriculum for the youth that will facilitate a critical literacy about their own lives, where they're going, what they want."

Adams intends to carry out this curriculum in key areas throughout the country, spawning new trainers who will do likewise. Adams sees the project as a way to strengthen inter-generational stewardship of new leaders which he believes the Gay/Lesbian movement is lacking.

Adams said that the rates of attempted suicide, drug and alcohol addiction, dropout rates and economic instability among Gay/Lesbian youth could be traced to the existence of impediments to educational access, equity and leadership development.

For further information, contact: Luke Adams, National Student Educational Fund, 1012 14th St. N.W., Suite 207, Washington, D.C. 20005.



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Remembrance and Reconciliation Service Held In Madison

[Madison]— More than a hundred people gathered in Madison, Feb. 11 for a service of Remembrance and Reconciliation and created a memorial banner for groups to use in worship and education about care for persons with AIDS or whose lives are affected by the disease.

Symbolic rituals, music, poetry, dance, prayer and stories enhanced the evening church service, held at Pres House, an interdenominational Christian center on the UW-Madison campus.

Integrity/Dignity-Madison (I/D), an organization of Gay and Lesbian Christians and their friends, sponsors the annual event in cooperation with an ecumenical group of clergy and lay people and Affirmation, a United Methodist support group for Gay men and Lesbians. Madison area churches have taken turns hosting these services for three years.

Ron Kondrat, a member of I/D, read Michael Niemoeller's poem "The Names — Like Hands Together," which the Los Angeles man wrote after viewing the AIDS quilt. Niemoeller's poem evokes strong images of names joining together, and being raised by the hands of loved ones who work together on the quilt.

Afterward, Rev. Woody Carey of the Parkside Presbyterian Church invited people to write names of friends who have died from AIDS on a white linen banner, which will be used at services throughout Madison as a memorial to those who have died.

"We help one another when we come

Names Project Quilt Panels Coming to Madison

[Madison]— The Madison AIDS Support Network, The Gay and Lesbian Visibility Alliance (GALVANize), and the Madison Art Center are working together to bring the Names Project to Madison in two different ways.

On May 5-7, 1989, the Names Project will be displayed at the UW-Madison fieldhouse in conjunction with the Lesbian and Gay Rights/Pride March on Sat. May 6, 1989. The tentative schedule for the display is: Opening Ceremony 8:00 p.m. on May 5, 10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. on May 6, and 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. on May 7, 1989. The display size will be approximately 6,000 square feet. Admission is free. Donations will be accepted and proceeds will be used to help defray the cost of the display and any additional funds will go to local AIDS service organizations.

The Quilt memorializes lovers, sons, daughters, sisters, parents and friends. Each panel represents just one of the many stories of lives affected by the AIDS epidemic.

The Madison Art Center is also bringing a portion of the quilt to the Madison Art Center April 7-June 4, 1989. Several panels will be displayed in the

together to share Your name," prayed Fr. Stephen Umhoefer of St. Paul's University Catholic Center, as the service moved from examining the pain and fear in people's lives to looking for sources of healing and reconciliation.

Rev. Cynthia Granzkow-Wold from the Lutheran Campus Ministry lead a congregational litany "for the death of Fear," as slips of paper with people's written fears were set on fire. "Although fire often kills and destroys, it also can pave the way for cleansing and renewal," she said.

Liturgical dancer Cindy Lehe moved to the folk hymn "If God Is For Us, Who Can Be Against?" Her dance partner, Diane, one of three Masters of Fine Arts candidates at the University, said later that many people consider their dance a feminist piece because two women embrace and support each other several times.

Rev. Douglas Bauder of the London Moravian Church, who runs the Gay and Lesbian resource center, The United, broke a loaf of rye bread and distributed it as a symbol of unity among those present.

Accompanying a slide show of panels from the AIDS quilt, Axel Kotch played an original piano piece "Tribute." Guitarist Aman Tandias, pianist Bjorn Christenson, cellist Steve Pera and the Lake Edge Lutheran Church singing group, The Living Stones, provided music during the two-hour service.

Triangle Gallery with a video display of the Quilt at various stops on the National Tour. The display is in conjunction with The Art Quilt display, which is a major exhibition of contemporary quilts, created by 15 artists who use both traditional and experimental techniques. Admission is free for Madison Art Center members; \$2.00 for adults, \$1.00 for students, seniors and those with physical handicaps.

All three organizations are working together to help raise funds for the displays. If you are interested in donating to the fund please send your donations to MASN, P.O. Box 731, Madison, WI 53701. Please indicate that you want the money to go to the Names Project Fund. Help us remember their names.

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 provide us with the necessary information.

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The Light LIVELY ARTS



Jerry Johnson

Jet and Jamie are enjoying themselves at Jet's Place's second annual "Heart for AIDS" show February 18th at the popular Milwaukee bar.

Valentine's MAP Benefit At Jet's A Great Success

[Milwaukee]- It was a great success as well as a smashing good time. There were hearts everywhere, loads of glitter and some of the most talented performers anywhere.

This was a benefit for the Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP) held on Saturday, February 18 at Jet's bar. It was this and more to celebrate Valentine's month by giving to others. As the little red paper hearts that everyone wore said, "I gave my heart to AIDS." This the folks at Jet's did in abundance.

The show, done against a backdrop of glittering silver, was wonderfully enjoyable. With the sound system courtesy of Uncle Al of the YP and lights skillfully handled by Jeff, there was a delightful mix of serious songs and ones reminiscent of the silent films.

Co-hosted by Miss M, talented and gracious as always, and Bill, the audience was treated to performances by some of Milwaukee's best.

There was Mandy McCall (utterly delightful), Michelle (a vamp and gorgeous in a black one-piece), Ronnie Marks (a total and utter hoot), The Church Lady and Michael Jasky (both real crowd

pleasers), Jungle Red (with one of the sexiest smiles anywhere and rightly described by Miss M. as one of the best young male performers), and the beautiful and flirtacious Jamie Gay. These people are truly talented, hard working people of the stage. Milwaukee is very lucky to have them.

About all that was missing was Uncle Al on stage. This reporter is truly impressed with his talent and hopes to see him perform again soon.

The audience was near capacity. Of course there was Jet (looking good after the hospital) and Reen and Bob. There was Sheri of Station II, Uncle Al of the YP, Doug Nelson of MAP and representatives from the Cream City Chorus and the Fest City Singers.

Last, but by no means least, were the bartenders Bobby and Rob. I think sometimes folks tend to forget bartenders, but their hard work and courteous efficiency go a long way to making any evening like this the success that it was.

As we go to press, the money raised was over \$625. As Miss M. said, all the money goes to MAP for care needs.

Beach Party Planned March 6 By Friendship Group

Metro Milwaukee Friendship Group (MMFG) has a host of activities planned for this March. The event of the season is the upcoming Summer beach party at the monthly meeting. The affair they are concocting includes spinning '60's beach-movie records, playing Twister and dancing to the limbo. Everyone is requested to come in beach attire and bring tropical snacks to share. The meeting will be held (indoors, of course) on March 11 at 7:00 p.m.

Two restaurant outings are also planned for March by the group. The monthly dinner will be held March 16 and a fish fry on the 31st. Both are sure to please even the most discriminating gourmet.

This month, MMFG'ers will have a chance to see the new award-winning Rain Forest exhibit at our world-famous Milwaukee Public Museum. The expedition will begin with lunch at the M&M Club, then make its way to a Central American jungle in the heart of downtown Milwaukee.

Also planned for March is a roller skating outing as well as the on-going mania to see the latest movies from Hollywood. Members are asked to sign up

for events at the meetings or call ahead to ensure their place.

If you would like to attend an activity or want more information about the group, please write to Metro Milwaukee Friendship Group, P.O. Box 93203, Milwaukee, WI 53203.

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Skylight Will Focus On The Cabaret for 89-90 Season

[Milwaukee]- Stephen Wadsworth and Francesca Zambello, Co-Artistic Directors of Milwaukee's Skylight Comic Opera, have announced the repertoire for the 1989-90 season, during which the company will focus on the art of the cabaret.

The intimate nature of cabaret meshes ideally with both the Skylight's intimate home theatre and its production style, with the emphasis on communication with the audience.

Appropriately, the 1989-90 season at the Skylight with *Cabaret* by John Kander and Fred Ebb, September 6- October 1, 1989. For the second offering of the season, the Skylight will offer Gian Carlo Menotti's *The Telephone* paired with Francois Poulenc's brooding *The Human Voice* [*La Voix Humaine*].

For the holiday season, the Skylight returns to Vogel Hall in the Performing Arts Center with an original revue, *Close Harmony Holidays*, by Stephen Wadsworth and J. Michael Higgins, Dec. 6-31, 1989.

The First offering of 1990 will be *Camille: Traviata* January 24-February 11, 1990. *Pacific Overtures* by Stephen Sondheim comes to the Skylight March 14-April 8, 1990. The season will close with another original work, *Round and Round with Cole Porter*, May 2-27, 1990.

Season ticket prices range from \$56 to \$90. Season tickets are available through the Skylight box office, at 813 N. Jefferson St. in Milwaukee or phone (414)

271-8815. Single tickets for the 1989-90 season go on sale to non-subscribers August 1, 1989.

Station II Holds Monthly Champagne Sunday Brunches

[Milwaukee]- For any train buff, it's a wonderland, a mavel of photos, paintings and general decor that is reminiscent of an 19th Century passenger car.

That's Station II — the Eastern Connection, the bar on S. Grant St. where Valentine's Day was celebrated February 12 with a lavish campaign brunch catered by Mr. J's Cottage Inn represented by the inimitable Michelle and her mother, Virginia Nolte.

The menu included chicken breast with corn bread stuffing, fresh brocoli and garden salad with white French dressing.

According to conductress, Sheri, Station II's Valentine brunch was only one of a series of such events which happen about once a month. The next one will be in honor of St. Patrick's Day when there will be a boiled dinner on the day itself to be followed that Sunday, March 19, with a brunch of cornbeef and cabbage.

Station II is home bar to the Trollop Club and, says Sheri, some of these affairs are Trollop events such as was the New Year's celebration.

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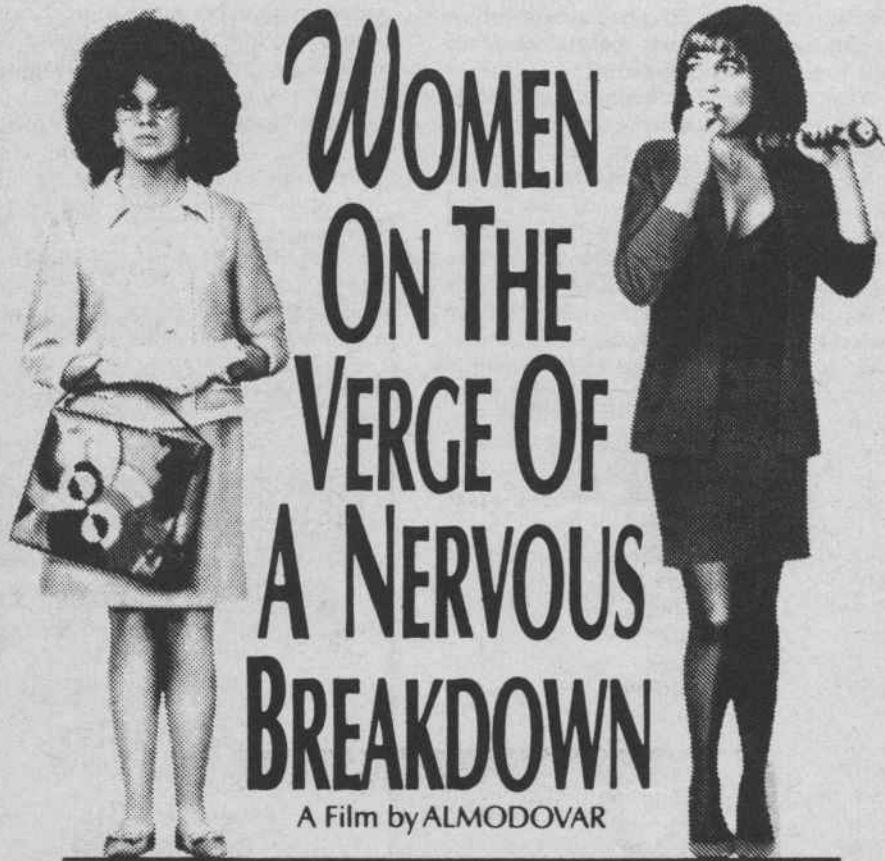
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Vocalist Claudia Schmidt Performs in Milwaukee March 4

By Barb Coyle

I have seen Claudia Schmidt in concert many times and always there is a sense of intimacy that one gets when sharing a good hot cup of tea on a chilly morning with friends.

That is how Schmidt affects me and I am not alone. I have been in the audience as she embraces each and every person, entwining them with the soft, silken chords of her poetry, stories and song. Somehow, time itself seems to pause, to listen, to savor the experience and offer sweet memories. Perhaps that's why her poetry has pulled me again into roadside cafes to eat apple pie and why her heart-melting stories have wafted me back to a time in adolescence when I can still see the weird kid on the block showcasing her ancient art of story telling with all its magic.

Now I and others will hear that magic again. Claudia will be appearing in a benefit concert for the Women's Crisis Line on March 4 at Milwaukee's Pabst Theatre. This is her sixth such performance for the Crisis Line which makes her no stranger to our city, but she goes back farther than that.

I remember her back in the '70's playing at the old Blue River Cafe. Then as now, she was a dynamic vocalist and a creative musician playing a hybrid string and keyboard instrument called a pianolin.

Opening for Claudia will be the Chenille Sisters of Ann Arbor, Michigan. As far as



Claudia Schmidt

I know, this will be their first appearance in Milwaukee, but move over Diana Ross. Fans I've talked to swear that this is one group not to miss. As someone said, "Remember that shaggy, pink housecoat, all warm and snugly when you were a kid? That's Chenille."

This trio, warm, crazy, wonderful by turns, does Andrew Sisters harmonies overlaid with eighties irreverence.

"I'm always good at my bad habits,"

There's nothing better to do.

Look at me the over achiever,

Overachieving myself at you."

So there it is. Here comes a New Age '60's girl's group combined with the dynamic energy of Claudia Schmidt. This is one show not to miss. See you there.

"Breaking All the Rules" Fails to Do Just That

BREAKING ALL THE RULES
DIANE DAVIDSON,
OLIVIA/SECOND WAVE RECORDS
THE DAY THE MUSIC LIED

By Kathy Cutter

Olivia Records, self-billed as THE voice of Women's Music (emphasis mine) has a new release. Diane Davidson of Nashville has recorded her first full-length album entitled **Breaking All The Rules**. The record is on the Second Wave label, which is Olivia's "mainstream" subsidiary.

Diane Davidson in concert can be warm, funny and friendly, and her voice... which is simply MADE for gutsy blues... can blow the audience away with its depth and soul. Although some pitch control problems appear, a few vocal lessons would probably go a long way toward cleaning this up.

What vocal lessons won't and can't do is make Diane Davidson a "Voice of Women's Music."

The only cut from **Breaking All The Rules** that is even remotely political was written by blues legend Willie Dixon some 30-40 years ago; sung by a woman of Diane Davidson's stature, it becomes an anthem against fat-phobia. How ironic that the only song one could think of as feminist was written by a man.

"Built For Comfort" is also one of only two cuts that take advantage of the vocal capability of the singer. The other is "Heavenbound", an original Davidson tune in traditional gospel style written about the black woman who raised her.

The remaining cuts are an odd mixture of 70's-style rock and sentimental ballads that fade from memory as soon as the record ends. They are not BAD songs. Davidson is far from being a bad singer. The musicians are competent. The songs simply aren't feminist, or for that matter, political in any way. This record isn't good enough to enjoy from a purely musical standpoint either, nor does it take advantage of her vocal ability.

The only rule that **Breaking All The Rules** actually breaks is the first rule of debut recordings: they should NOT be produced by the artist. This album is a shining example of the validity of that rule. So while the first major problem lies in content, the second is production.

There has been some controversy in the women's music network over the issue of the existence of a "women's music sound" or the "women's music mix." With the release of this record, the controversy should be over, for it is clear that B.A.T.R. follows the Olivia tradition: a smooth, EZ listening sound that sends one lurching for one's graphic equalizer to try to ingest some LIFE into this music. DO NOT ADJUST YOUR SET! It won't

help. One imagines Davidson, who is credited as the producer, sitting at the control room mixing board and sliding all the faders to the middle and leaving them there through the album. However it was done, the result is a flat, lifeless sound, a meaningless blend of instruments that Davidson seems to sing along to, from another time and place.

There are few musicians capable of producing their own work. The objectivity needed is simply not there. And with many, the necessary skills are often lacking as well, and Davidson is no exception.

This album then, is disappointing in all its aspects. It fails to speak to women, to say nothing of Lesbians, in its content. It fails to take advantage of Davidson's talents and instead showcases her shortcomings as a producer. It offers nothing new or exciting to the women's music audience and is not good enough technically to reach beyond that audience, which one must presume Olivia is attempting to do with this record.

So the "Voice of Women's Music" has spoken with **Breaking All The Rules**. One wishes it WOULD break some rules. Olivia seems unwilling to take the risks necessary to either make a great, exciting Lesbian record, or a challenging, fresh, mainstream offering. The result is a middle-of-the-road boredom.

The music lied.

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BOOKS

Dramatic Impact of "Equal Affections" is Brilliantly Conveyed

Equal Affections
by David Leavitt
Weidenfeld & Nicolson
268 pp. \$18.95.

By Geno

If equal affection cannot be,
Let the more loving one be me.

—W.H. Auden

David Leavitt is credited with having published the first story about an openly Gay relationship to appear in the **New Yorker** magazine. (Why did it take this avant garde magazine so long?) It was 1982 and he was just 20 years-old, a Yale undergraduate. Two years later, this young writer published **Family Dancing**, an impressive collection of nine stories which made the **New York Times** Best Seller List and won other honors, including nomination for the National Book Critics Award. **The Advocate** said the book "extends the limits of Gay fiction." Now all of 27, Leavitt has



David Leavitt

published his second novel, his third book, and it is magnificent.

The stories in **Family Dancing** explored several related themes concerned with the effects of divorce, the fear of intimacy, and terminal illness and death upon the traditional family.

Subtly interwoven throughout the collection is the appearance of a homosexual son or daughter as part of the complex family pattern. In that first **New Yorker** story, "Territory," Neil is awaiting the visit to his California home of Wayne, his lover from New York. Lillian, Neil's mother, has accepted her son's Gay orientation; in fact, after he came out to his parents, she joined Parents of Lesbians and Gays and within a year, she was its president. Her husband, "a strong absence," is away on business. The account of the visit, although told from Neil's point of view, is focused on Lillian's need to establish the limits of her territory ("I can only take so much").

Other stories in this collection center around mothers, matriarchs really, abandoned in some way by their husbands, and two of these strong women are undergoing radiation and chemotherapy treatments ("Radiation" and "Counting Months").

These and other themes and situations are splendidly realized in **Equal Affections**. Louise, a strong, passionate woman, has been living with and fighting against cancer for almost twenty years. Her husband, Nat, has a mistress and her two children are Gay. Deep voiced April, travels around the country, a folk singer beloved of the women's movement. Danny, her younger brother, is a lawyer sharing a rather dull suburban lifestyle with his lover, Walter, also a lawyer. Most of the action is seen through Danny's eyes, but Louise dominates the narrative, and the detailed account of her slow death, is the excruciating climax of the novel. But sharing the stage with this indomitable woman are other aspects of the family's history.

Danny, for example, spends several years as April's advance man and tour manager early in her career, and here Leavitt provides a fascinating picture of the world of women's music. Throughout much of the novel, kid brother Danny plays second fiddle to his sister, and the flashback accounts of their growing up

together are very real.

The dramatic impact of **Equal Affections** is brilliantly conveyed in "a sort of paying-respects party in lieu of a funeral" since, according to Nat, "she never did have any patience for ceremony."

A large cast of characters join the family with their recollections and assessments of the deceased. April, always managing to take centerstage, pronounces her mother's life to have been a terrible one. But Danny/Leavitt does not let her have the last word this time, and pays his own last respects in a touching remembered scene. A short coda compassionately describes Louise's interview with Father Abernathy a week before she went into the hospital; an agnostic, a non-practicing Jew, she voices the impossible dream for herself of "the cold, clear, silent life" of a cloistered nun."

Equal Affections is the fulfillment of the promise of David Leavitt's **Family Dancing** and his earlier novel, **The Lost Language of Cranes**. Critics have used such adjectives of praise as "tender", "funny", "eloquent", and "wise." Most importantly, his writing is honest and perceptive.

Reader Drawn Close With "A Burst of Light"

A Burst of Light:
Essays by Audre Lorde
Ithaca, NY, Firebrand Book, 1988

By Marcia Summerskill

Andre Lorde's latest work **A Burst of Light** touches the reader deeply. The book consists of five essays, each one a look into the life and soul of Lorde, a black Lesbian feminist poet-writer-teacher.

The first essay is an interview of Lorde by Susan Leigh Star on the topic of sadomasochism in the Lesbian community. Lorde speaks forcefully in opposition to S/M: "Sadomasochism is an institutionalized celebration of dominant/subordinate relationships. And, it prepares us either to accept subordination or to enforce dominance. Even in play, to affirm that the exertion of power over powerlessness is erotic, is empowering, is to set the emotional and social stage for the continuation of that relationship, politically, socially, and economically." Lorde sees the roots of S/M in the inferior/superior dichotomy which lies deep within us; it grows, she says, from "the learned intolerance of differences."

The second essay, "I Am Your Sister", is a speech given by Lorde at Medgar Evers College. Lorde recognizes two major barriers to organizing among black women — heterosexism and homophobia. She speaks of the need to organize around differences without denial or exaggeration. She encourages black women to share what each has learned in the battle for survival.

In her essay "Apartheid U.S.A." Lorde draws parallels between the racism gripping South Africa and that racism which is gripping the United States. She discusses violent deaths of American black people and the racism which still permeates American culture. She calls for a recognition of connections between Africans and African-Americans, African-Europeans, and African-Asians for the purpose of mutual survival.

Lorde turns her thoughts to gay and Lesbian parenting in "Turning the Beat Around". She offers wise words regarding the expression of anger at rampant injustice in American society: "If I could not learn to handle my anger, how could I expect the children to learn to handle theirs in some constructive way — not deny it or hide it or self-destruct upon it? As a Black Lesbian mother I came to realize I could not afford the energy drains of denial and still be open to my own growth. And if we do not grow with our children, they cannot learn." Lorde shares her journey as a Lesbian parent who along with her partner, raised a son and daughter who are today activists in their own right.

The title essay "A Burst of Light: Living with Cancer" includes journal entries from
TURN TO LORDE, PAGE 11

Valentine's Day Has Taken On A Soft, Romantic Touch

By Terry Boughner

[Milwaukee]- In my day, just three years or so after the Flood, Valentine's Day in Gay bars was a swinging affair. The bars were packed. The noise was so loud you couldn't hear yourself think.

All that has changed. Joe's This Is It was one example. It's a friendly, quiet bar with Valentine's Day adding a romantic touch of red with white lace. The music was soft, the people having a good time, talking quietly. There were those obviously "together", heads close and looking at each other with those special, oblivious smiles, sitting in the booths along the wall. A nice place to spend an evening of gentle elegance. (Try one of Joe's cranberry and coke's sometime. A real treat.)

John's C'est La Vie was quiet as well. A good crowd of celebrators were enjoying themselves in a subdued atmosphere that lent itself to the holiday spirit. As in This Is It, so in C'est La Vie, there were singles, but young couples as well, with hearts written all over their faces and sparkling in their eyes. Much of the bar's amiable atmosphere is due to John, presiding over it all like a genial

Pride Week Committee Announces Celebration Poster Design Contest

The Milwaukee Lesbian/Gay Pride Committee is interested in obtaining a design for its 1989 Celebration Poster. The design selected will be used to announce and promote events and to serve as a commemoration of the 20th Anniversary of Stonewall. The International Association of Lesbian and Gay Pride Committees selected the 1989 Theme which was "Stonewall 20: A Generation of Pride."

Pride activities will take place throughout the Milwaukee area during the period June 17 through June 26, 1989. The finished size will be approximately 12" by 17" in two colors. Ideas should be consistent with the Stonewall (1969) Riots — twenty years later. The organization's logo will be used on the poster. Entries should not be signed so that an impartial judging of all entries can be held. However, the selected design may be signed by the artist before the posters are printed. The poster may also serve to provide a design for buttons, T-shirts and other memorabilia of the 1989 Celebrations. The deadline for submission of entries is Wednesday, March 15th.

Gay Fathers Celebrates Fifth

[Madison]- On Friday, February 10, the Gay Fathers of Madison celebrated their fifth anniversary in the New Bar of the Washington Hotel. Twenty-eight persons enjoyed a combination of catered and pot-luck food, cash bar and dancing. The evening program was a sharing of experiences and photographs of group events as well as personal expressions of the support the group has given its members in the past.

In February, 1983, the first efforts were made to explore interest in forming a support organization for Gay fathers. Eighteen attended that first meeting. Madison Gay Fathers continues to meet twice a month on alternating Fridays and Sunday afternoons at members' homes. Discussions focus on issues of Gay fathers, parenting and family life. Past topics have included how to tell your wife and children, staying sane through divorce, custody issues, dating and legal issues among others.

While partners and children are welcome anytime, the Sunday activities are planned to encourage their participation. Pot-lucks are the norm; other activities have included biking, lake outings, parties and over-night retreats.

In the membership there are men who have partial or sole custody of their children, men in the midst of custody cases, those who are divorced, some in the process of divorce, those who are still married as well as men who are still closeted. The Gay Fathers is a support group offering help and counsel. Anyone wishing to contact the group or more information should contact Doug or a volunteer at The United, (608) 255- 8582.

Mr. Pfcwick, setting the mood for good times.

On a more traditional note, Al Thomas's Triangle was swinging. Valentine's night was time for the Triangle's cupid contest and, as always, Al had some of the hottest young studs as contestants. There were beautiful young men, lithe young bodies sinuous with muscle, glistening in the bright lights. I would have hated to have been one of the judges — on the other hand, considering two of the judges, handsome lovers graced with hard, masculine muscularity, I don't think I'd have minded at all. Topping it off, there was Goldy, a spectacular showman and Kelly Green whose dancing is out of this world and not to be missed.

I like the bars. I enjoy all of them thoroughly. As a tribute on this month of Valentine's Day, let me say "thanks" to Joe at This Is It, Bob at Jet's, Uncle Al at the YP, Bob at M&M, Sheri at Station II, Si at the Boot Camp, Al at the Triangle, Del at II-XIX, Rick at the Ball Game, Marty at the Wreck Room and all the rest for doing what they do for us so well and all of the time.

Anyone interested in submitting a design for consideration may contact the Committee at 225 S. 2nd Street, Milwaukee, WI 53202, or by calling either 933-6931 or 264-2740 during evening hours.

Let your imaginations run wild!

Womonsong To Perform March 11

[Madison]- Womonsong, Madison's feminist choir, announces **Many Womyn Many Voices**, a musical revue celebrating International Women's Week and the choir's 10th anniversary. The concert will be held March 11, 1989, at the Barrymore Theatre in Madison. The show will start at 7:00 p.m., and doors will open at 6:00 p.m. Tickets may be purchased in advance at Whole Earth Foods, Room of One's Own Bookstore, Pasqual's East and West, and the Barrymore Theatre. Join us in the celebration!

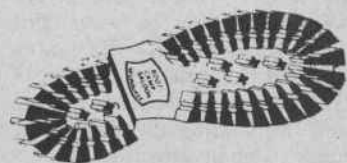
MADISON Continued from Page 3

and organizations are being urged to send representatives to the March. A promotional event will be held in Milwaukee on April 16 to generate enthusiasm for the March. The event will be sponsored by **Wisconsin Instep** and **Wisconsin Light**. GALVANize organizers told **Light** that every effort is being made to assure that everyone attending will have a pleasant stay. There will be plenty of maps of Madison available and an abundance of free parking a block off capitol square. In addition, there will be people available to direct and help visitors once they arrive in the capital.

GALVANize which has some 300 volunteers, has raised \$5,000 and expects to spend \$15,000 on the event.

As part of the on-going preparation for the March, GALVANize will host the regional meeting of the International Association of Lesbian and Gay Pride Coordinators February 24-26. The meeting will be attended by the Milwaukee Lesbian/Gay Pride Committee.

For more information on the events, call (608) 255-8061. Ask for Pam or Tony. Or write to GALVANize at P.O. Box 1403, Madison, WI 53701.



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CELIBATE Continued from Page 4

clergy-persons who were married.

John Deedy, in an article on the subject written for the Thomas More Association, says that despite these strong admonitions, married clergy and their wives enjoyed a special status not negligible for the times in which they lived. The wives of deacons and presbyters were accorded distinctive garb and addressed with the title "presbyterae" or "diaconissae." So the real hang-up, it seems, did not center around marriage, but rather on sexual activity. This was the thing that was considered unclean and beneath the spiritual level at which a Christian was supposed to live his or her life.

The Christian writer, Origen, who lived at the beginning of the 3rd Century, castrated himself believing that this would help him to achieve his spiritual perfection. Gnosticism was very influential and obviously denied or ignored the whole Incarnational beauty of revelation. (Many fundamentalist Christians make this same mistake even in our own day.)

Eventually, it appears that celibacy became an elitist mark of distinction. The most gifted, talented, intellectual, urban clergy espoused it, whereas the less talented, rural clergy were pretty much allowed to marry and raise a family.

Therefore, throughout most of the centuries of the Church's existence, we find a celibate and non-celibate clergy working side by side.

Pope Benedict VIII seems to be one of the first to really come down hard on the married clergy. In the 11th Century, he forbade all bishops, priests, deacons and subdeacons to marry and declared that all children born of such unions were owned by the Church: serfs or slaves, and that they had no right to inherit. It doesn't take much intelligence to figure out what his chief concern was all about: transmitting of Church property to the sons and daughters and thus, out of the hands of the Church.

(It's important to remember that, in these centuries, Church property was not supported by the contributions of the members of the Church as it is today, but was supported from the proceeds that came from the land that was owned by the Church. When a priest was given a parish to administer, he was also given hundreds or even thousands of acres of land in order to support the structure of his ministry. The "Larger Church" didn't like the idea of losing all that land to the sons and daughters when a priest died.)

A number of Popes after Benedict VIII: Leo IX and Gregory VII and others, continued to push for clerical celibacy. However, these decrees were not very popular with the clergy or the people and were pretty much ignored. Some bishops were actually stoned by the people when they tried to enforce celibacy in their

dioceses.

The Second Lateran Council in 1139 also condemned concubinage and marriages involving clergymen and actually forbade the faithful from attending masses celebrated by married priests. But, for the most part, in the first 11 centuries or so, the Christian Church had both a married and a celibate clergy. And, as we know from John Boswell's book, **Christianity, Social Tolerance and Homosexuality**, the non-celibate clergy enjoyed heterosexual and homosexual unions.

I'll continue with this question in my next column. Keep the questions coming. They force me to go back to the "Ole books."

Fr. James, 4611 S. Kirkwood, Milwaukee, WI 53110- 1492.

Bystanders Help Police Arrest Thugs in S.F.

Two high school students trying to beat up a Gay man on a San Francisco bus were stopped and arrested due to the intervention of bystanders, according to the **Bar Area Reporter**. A man who boarded the bus and saw the attack in progress persuaded the bus driver to stop the vehicle. Police were then called to the scene.

A group of Gay men surrounded the bus and began blowing whistles until the police arrived.

"It was good old fashioned Gay power that I haven't experienced in years," said Doug Young, a witness. "When they arrested those guys, everybody burst into applause."

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MEDICALLY SPEAKING

Kinder, Gentler Society Can Help Prevent Addictive Behaviors

By Roger Gremminger, MD

There are many things that I find that I should write about and put into perspective, but time demands that I must focus and tackle one topic at a time.

There was much unfortunate news coverage last month about the TB case of Club Milwaukee. One term that was used was the term "addictive sexual behavior." I must confess that it is a term that I have used and it is a useful term as I see and understand it. But it needs to be explained. The daily papers used many terms along with the term addictive sexual behavior such as "mentally disturbed," "psychologically and mentally not well," "psychological problems," "sexual binges," "psychologically un-balanced," etc. But this is just another example of homophobia.

I pose the analogy. Would the paper call a business executive with a pattern of heavy drinking who uses the services of a prostitute on a business trip exposing himself to contracting HIV infection — would the paper call him mentally disturbed and psychologically unbalanced? Would the paper refer to a heterosexual young man constantly in pursuit to a sexual conquest not well psychologically and mentally?

Yet both could very well have addictive sexual behaviors. Those terms are very destructive and no enlightened person today would use them. Yet they were used and it clearly represents homophobia.

When I use the term addictive sexual behavior, I use it in a clinical way so as to tap into that body of knowledge which has been learned about understanding and helping persons who have a compulsive behavior pattern which is harmful to himself and others. We have a society of many compulsive individuals — individuals who compulsively use alcohol, drugs, nicotine (smoking); who act compulsively with work, interest pursuits, jogging and yes, sex. The problem is not to identify good compulsions from destructive compulsions. The problem is to confront and understand all compulsions. Our society conditions us in so many ways and reinforces various compulsions. Sex is used everywhere from fashion design to selling cars. Our society is saturated with sexual seduction for the purpose of financial gain. It's as if we can't get away from it.

Yet, now, society wants to blame individuals who act on it — sometimes who act in a spirit of true feeling and responsiveness to another human being. Most everyone enjoys sex and most indulge in it. As with drinking, many indulge in it, but some become compulsive about it. How does this happen and how do we determine when sexual behavior becomes compulsive and addictive?

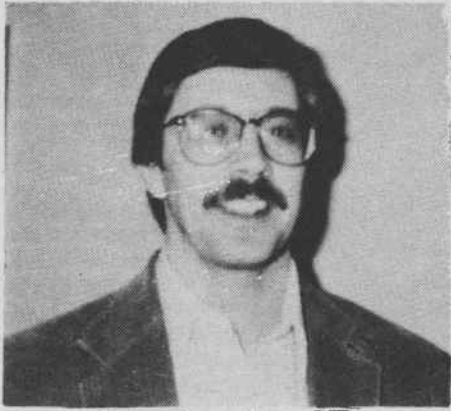
It is my observation that compulsive behaviors are rooted in a feeling of inferiority — I am not good and somehow the behavior is an attempt to compensate. The person may have enormous talent, yet be plagued by feelings of emptiness, loneliness, coming up short, not being good enough. The dichotomy of feeling both very good and very bad at the same time, can lead to drastic mood changes which clinically are called "manic-depressive." This, then, leads to a compulsion as a way to release the tension or reduce the dichotomy.

But what is the real basis behind all this? Is it not the images we have of ourselves, the judgments, the thinking? Society generates these conclusions, opinions, judgments. Society wishes everyone to be all good or all bad. A prostitute or a Gay Man can never be good. An alcoholic or drug user can never be good. And a TV evangelist can never be bad. President Reagan could never be bad. Society is crazy. But we are too because we believe it.

The Surgeon General, Dr. Koop, wrote a report in 1987 called "The Health Consequences of Smoking: Nicotine Addiction." In it he delineated the criteria for addictive drug use. The criteria are as follows:

PRIMARY CRITERIA

- Highly controlled or compulsive use
- Psychoactive effects
- Drug-reinforced behavior



Roger Gremminger, MD

ADDITIONAL CRITERIA: Addictive behavior often involves the following:

- Stereotypical patterns of use
- Use despite harmful effects
- Relapse following abstinence
- Recurrent drug craving

Perhaps it would be good to slowly, carefully go through the list and apply the criteria to sexual behaviors. It is not very difficult to see how sex can also fit this billing especially under additional criteria.

Many people, heterosexually and homosexually active, indulge in very stereotypical patterns of sex. "The slam, bang, thank you, mam." Or certain types of sex or sex objects excite and satisfy me. What happened to the free flow and creative experience of warm feelings based on a here and now experience?

Unsafe sex with many partners is definitely harmful. Yet many people, heterosexually and homosexually active, get carried away in the heat of passion. Isn't this compulsive and couldn't this be considered addictive?

Relapsing following abstinence — what a joke: just say "no." Who in their right mind advises abstinence from sex forever? Has it ever worked? Abstinence is a form of resistance and where there is resistance, there is a mental fixation and actually a negative re-enforcement. There is some very old wisdom which states, "Forbidden fruit is the most desired." Our enlightened society has forgotten some very old and substantial wisdom.

The idea is not to resist and deny sexual urges. The idea is to acknowledge and then channel those feelings into mature and compassionate expressions devoid of the self-centered pursuit of pleasure. It may sound difficult and it is, but it is necessary if we are to take life very seriously along with our creative sexual energies.

The last criteria is recurrent drug (sex) cravings. Who in this society can truthfully say they they do not indulge in sexual fantasy, thoughts, desires for physical intimacy? A person has to be pretty cold to say they do not.

So where does this leave us? We have a very real and human situation that involves all of us in some way. Many of us came from a time of more permissive attitudes and behaviors which became established and now need to be changed. Change is more difficult for some than others, but we must all lend a helping hand to bring about these changes. Professional help is needed for some. But that is very costly and not accessible to all.

So there has to be a more inclusive way. Perhaps a kinder, gentler society would help, a society of compassion. Compassion means to have passion with. There can be no compassionate society if society can not even express its own passion, but merely rigidly tries to control and repress passion. It is a challenge and it involves all of us. So let's get on with it.

Love, Roger.

AIDS Virus Found In Retinas

Doctors from Massachusetts General Hospital report in this issue of the *New England Journal of Medicine* that the AIDS virus has been found in the retinas of people with the disease and may cause blindness. "The study further extends the spectrum of HIV infection," said co-author Dr. Martin Hirsch, by indicating that the virus infects the retina as well as the immune system and the brain. Cytomegalovirus (CMV) is usually blamed for the blindness that affects 10-15% of people with AIDS.

Support Offered, Sought For Those Testing HIV Positive

By Daniel G. Trzebiatowski

Is there one moment that sticks out in your mind that you vow you will never forget — whether you would like to or not? October 17th is the one day that will never escape me.

It was on this day that I sat across from an HIV counselor in a small, closed-in room being told that I had tested positive for the HIV virus which is believed to cause AIDS.

As I think back on that moment now, it still surprises me that it had such an unexpected impact on me. The primary reason I had even thought about going to get tested was because I knew that I was an extremely high risk for being infected with the virus. First, being a Gay male and having a history of being promiscuous and practicing unsafe sex. And secondly, having done extensive traveling to highly Gay populated cities such as New York City, San Francisco, Fort Lauderdale, Miami and Denver while taking advantage of unlimited sexual opportunities — but knowing all of these things still didn't prepare me for those sobering words.

In fact, during the two weeks prior to getting my results, most of my time was spent preparing for the reaction I would have if my test did come back positive and the way I would handle it or would hope to handle it. It had gotten to the point where I was absolutely believing what my friends were telling me — that I had nothing to worry about — there was no way that I could test positive. Out of all the other people that are in high risk groups and hadn't contracted the virus, why would I be one of the unfortunate ones? It could never happen to me. As a result, I walked into that office with a chip on my shoulder and a cocky expression on my face. But this changed quickly.

My first reaction was disbelief and denial. There must be some mistake. Judging by the look on the counselor's face, I didn't even bother expressing these doubts. Her look of concern was genuine and honest.

As my denial faded, I was overcome with emotion — sadness followed by tears — endless tears. To me, what seemed like an eternity, was only a few minutes.

When I felt the touch of compassion on my knee, I abruptly jerked away with a feeling of dirtiness, diseased and one untouchable. This sense of how I viewed myself at that moment would stay with me for months to follow.

Once I got my bearings, I headed back to work and immediately had the urge to call mom. She had known that I had gone for the test and was another friend who truly believed that I was immune to the virus. She was concerned enough to want me to let her know what the results turned out to be. I picked up the phone and hung it back for several times before actually dialing the number. My concern was what her reaction would be. Knowing that I, myself knew so little about the virus or AIDS, I was scared that I wouldn't be able to dispel any of her fears or even be able to explain and educate her to the virus.

She didn't go off into any dreadful shock or disgust. Instead, she asked me how I was feeling and asked me to come directly home so that I wouldn't have to be alone, for at that time, I was living alone.

My decision was to hit the liquor store, go home and drink myself into a destructive corner. We talked several times that evening. Each time she called she grew more concerned with what I was going through and how I was choosing to deal with it. After begging me several times to come home — their home — and me reassuring them that I would be

alright, I asked them to let me have the rest of the evening to be by myself. I made it through the night — though at times I wasn't sure if I wanted to survive to see another day.

During the weeks and months to follow, I experienced feelings and emotions such as anger, self-pity, hatred, loneliness, isolation, fear, uncertainty, depression and negativity. The negativism was not only towards the virus, but also towards a cure, my future and myself. The negative attitudes I was holding onto were the most destructive aspects I was having in relation to the virus — even moreso than that of the virus on my body. This negativity still surfaces frequently. But with the realization that optimism is far more beneficial to me both emotionally and physically and with the support and love I can get from others, I can accept myself, my virus and look forward to my future.

I was fortunate. If it hadn't been for my parents' support and the support of my friends, I'm not sure if I would have made it this far. Others are not that fortunate.

I know there are others in the community who are HIV+ or loved ones of people who are HIV+ who don't have the support they want and desperately need and I would like to address those needs with your help and support.

This is not my support column, but our support resource. I am open to any suggestions you may have regarding this. Whether it be a sharing of personal experiences, thoughts or views pertaining to the HIV+ person, sharing of personal advice to others who may be experiencing something you have gone through in order to give them your support, support group info, medical referral info, HIV info, current research being done on drugs, treatments and medications or question/answer support.

It is here for your needs and mine. It can only be helpful with your input and support. Reach out to sharing quality. Please send responses, views or opinions to: Daniel Trzebiatowski, c/o Wisconsin Light, 1843 N. Palmer, Milwaukee, WI 53212.

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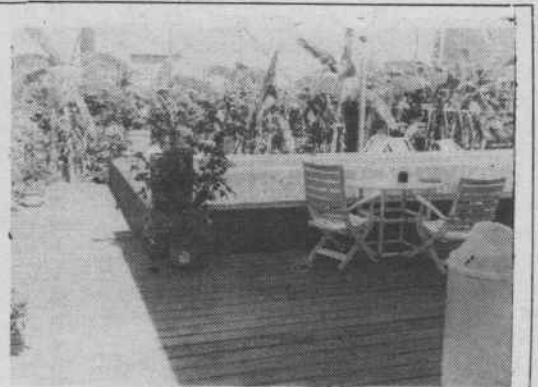
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POLITICALLY SPEAKING

Just When You Thought It Safe To Read Your Newspaper Again...

By Bill Meunier

Just when you thought it was safe to start reading your newspapers, ugly politics rears its head again.

Well, we see our chicken shit Congress turning down a badly needed pay raise. Yes, I know that they would have been making a lot of money, but it would have been honest money. A lot of foolish people failed to realize that. My hat's off to Jim Moody for standing on his principles and voting for the raise in an obviously losing cause.

As things currently stand, Congresspersons can make money in a wide variety of ways, most of them legal, but not necessarily ethical. For example, a defense contractor could invite a group of Congresspeople to a breakfast. Each of them gets up and gives a two minute speech. Each of them then gets 3 or \$4,000 as a speaking fee. Of course, these pillars of the community wouldn't let that influence their vote when that defense contractor needs it. With all of the money the fundamentalists and right wing have at their disposal, this practice should scare any right-thinking Gay or Lesbian.

The pay raise would have eliminated all outside fees. For many Congresspeople, it would have actually been a cut in pay. The problem is that except for those Congressional Representatives who are independently wealthy, our Congress needs more money.

It's expensive enough to live in Washington, but added to that are the cost of entertaining for political purposes, trips back to the district and maintaining a residence back in the district. Anyone can see that a Congressperson's salary is not enough.

It just seems to me that I'd rather have my Congressional representative beholden to the taxpayers and not some rich special interest groups.

Unless we stop these speaker fees and pay a decent salary, we will continue to have a Congress that is easily swayed by outsiders with big bucks and/or is so rich that it is unrepresentative of the people it is elected to serve.

This is clearly one time when the American people should not have let their emotions get the best of them.

On another front, we have the continuing trials of John Tower. When

Liar Bush ran for the White House, he told us all how he would clean it up. After the nomination of Quayle and now the Tower problem, I doubt that anyone still believes that.

Even Kenneth Adelman, a top arms control negotiator, said in a column that Tower does not show any discretion in his personal life.

Here we have a man who is said to be a drinker and womanizer. Won't you sleep safer at night knowing that old John-boy may get drunk out of his head and accidentally start World War III?

I guess it just goes to show you. Current regulations say that you can't be in the military if you are Gay or Lesbian, even if you don't have sex, but if you drink and whore around as a straight, you can be Secretary of Defense.

Can anyone imagine Bush standing by Tower if the rumors were that he got drunk in Gay bars and had affairs with other men?

Did anyone notice that Jesse Jackson went on a tour of the Soviet Union? I wonder if he spoke about the plight of Russian Gays and Lesbians to the Commissars over there?

Speaking of Jesse, his right-hand man, Ron Brown, got elected as Chairman of the Democratic National Committee. That's good news for Gays and Lesbians. Brown has been a strong supporter of our rights.

Back here in Wisconsin, there are a couple of races of interest to those of us in Milwaukee County. First off, we get a chance to pay back Louise Tesmer for her anti-Gay/Lesbian votes in the State Legislature. Louise is running for judge. On top of the fact that she isn't as qualified as some of her opponents, she apparently has no respect for our rights, as shown by her votes against AB-70.

Let's all make sure we go to the polls and, if Louise survives the primary, let's show her that Gay people vote too.

In Mad Town, they're still trying to figure out who to support for mayor. Maybe after the primary, some of the smoke will clear and one of the candidates will act like he wants Gay and Lesbian support. You Mad Towners shouldn't sell yourselves short or cheap. If none of 'em are willing to take a stand, then stand by and let the election proceed without you.

Lesbians and Gays Urged to Protest Harwick Decision

[Washington, D.C.]—On June 30, 1986, the United States Supreme Court ruled in "Bowers vs. Hardwick" that Lesbians and Gay men have no constitutional right to engage in private, adult, consensual sexual behavior. In a 5-4 vote, the U.S. Supreme Court upheld the right of states to criminalize Lesbian and Gay sexuality.

To date, 25 states, including Wisconsin, (the nation's ONLY Gay/Lesbian rights state) have repealed or ruled unconstitutional their sodomy laws. The remaining 25 states and the District of Columbia retain the laws which prohibit private, adult, consensual sexuality between members of the same sex and, in 19 jurisdictions, between those of the same or opposite sexes.

Following the "Hardwick" decision, the American Lesbian and Gay community reacted with outrage. From that sense of anger, an on-going organizing project to support the repeal work of activists in states around the country was created by the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF).

Called "The Privacy Project," this project has provided assistance to activists in 3 different legislative repeal efforts as well as assisted in the formation of 5 different statewide Gay and Lesbian political groups. Thus far, though, no "unfree state" has joined the 25 "free states" to repeal its sodomy law.

CRY OUT!, Pittsburgh's Gay/Lesbian action group and NGLTF's Privacy Project are collaborating in an attempt to mobilize the national Gay/Lesbian community to commemorate the third anniversary of the "Hardwick" decision on June 30, 1989.

CRY OUT! has suggested a "National Day of Mourning for the Right to Privacy." Proposed activities include:

wearing black armbands in "free" and "unfree" states.

submitting op-ed pieces to local newspapers supporting sodomy law repeal.

demonstrations and visibility actions.

The NGLTF Privacy Project and CRY OUT! will distribute a packet of organizing materials available this Spring to Gay and Lesbian activists in both free and unfree states with suggested appropriate activities for both categories of states.

Any local or statewide Gay/Lesbian political organization wishing to participate should contact: Sue Hyde, NGLTF Privacy Project Director, 1517 U St. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20009 or phone (202) 332-6483.

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Tyrone Cook is Recipient of Black Excellence Award

By Michael S. Lisowski

[Milwaukee]—Tyrone Cook, 18, a senior at South Division High School was one of five outstanding youth leaders who received the Milwaukee Times Weekly Newspaper 1989 Black Excellence Award.

The awards were presented on February 17 in the Grand Ballroom of the Pfister Hotel. Nearly 1000 people attended. Willie Brown, the former national chairman for Jesse Jackson's presidential campaign and present Speaker of the California State Assembly was the keynote speaker.

The Black Excellence Awards originated four years ago. The intent is to honor contemporary local Black history makers, many of whom would not otherwise receive acclaim for their important contributions to the growth and nurturing of the community.

The fourth annual awards ceremony saluted 25 outstanding Milwaukee citizens, but, for the first time five youth leaders were recognized in an effort to reach out and embrace their exceptional talents.

Tyrone is a member of Gay Youth Milwaukee and is active in Future Homemakers of America.

Future Homemakers of America has more than 300,000 student members nation-wide and focuses on the family, home, world and jobs.

For the past four years, he has held offices on all four levels of the organization. In July, 1988, members of the organization's national leadership convention meeting in Cincinnati, elected him one of 13 national officers. His job is to recruit members and to provide suggestions on how that can be done.

In other areas, Tyrone works at the Lincoln Vocational Education Center as a food line server and a teacher assistant, working with students with mental and physical problems. He is also president of his school's student council, a member of Students Against Drunk Driving, a member of the track and field team, and a student tutor and peer listener. He also sings in his church choir.

Tyrone's top priority is his education. "There are many negative stereotypes about minorities," he said. "I want to project a positive image for minorities and

someday be considered as a positive role model."

Being a positive role model certainly is what Tyrone is to Gay Youth Milwaukee (GYM). He recently appeared with others from GYM on TV 10/36's Smith and Co. where he dealt with the concerns of Gay/Lesbian teen-agers. Some of the teachers at his school criticized him for appearing on the show as an openly Gay man. However, he received support and encouragement from the principal and vice-principal.

By allowing himself to appear on a TV program where he would be seen by friends and teachers, and by allowing an article to be written about him in a Gay newspaper, Tyrone, not only exhibits courage and leadership as an African-American teen-ager, but also as a young Gay adult.

Many times young Gay/Lesbian teens look to adults as role models and leaders. It is encouraging to know that here in Milwaukee we are fortunate enough to have a young Gay and proud African-American teen-ager assume that position. His courage and conviction are to be applauded.

TRIANGLE

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It's really very simple:

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Or if you're a woman and get syphilis vaginally... the first symptom may be inside your body.

... the usual tests (VDRL or RPR) may never again react to a syphilis infection, even a Big one.

Once it's inside, the usual screening tests (VDRL or RPR) may never show it.

If you've mixed sex and drugs and you remember, or don't remember having symptoms or being diagnosed, and/or it was a long time ago...

You may have syphilis.

You could have secondary, latent, or late staging syphilis — with all tests showing negative (VDRL, RPR, MHAATP, FTA-ABS). Chronic syphilis is a major, debilitating, complex disease which is a source of severe immune suppression. You may not know it — until it looks like AIDS.

Syphilis is the Great Imitator.

Syphilis can create symptoms like:

herpes - hepatitis - "jock itch" - chills - non-specific urethritis - glaucoma - muscle weakness - cough - emphysema - aneurysm - pharyngitis - gastric pain - tuberculosis - bronchopneumonia - mood swings - CMV - fungus - urethritis - meningitis - cardiac disorders - decreased visual acuity - edema - interstitial pneumonia - arthritis - impetigo - leukoplakia - hair loss - fatigue - gum disease - drug reactions - diarrhea - stomach ulcers - perianal itching -

bronchitis thrush (candida) - paralysis - arthralgia - optic neuritis - warts - paranoia - tumors - anemia - strep throat - scarlet fever - rashes - charcot disease - otitis - sore throats - neoplasms - dementia - headaches - lymphomas - depression - memory loss - hearing loss - PID - gastritis - M. avium - fever - cancers - fissures - fistulas - weight loss - hoarseness - swollen lymph nodes

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TID-BITS

According to a long-awaited study of sexual behavior in the U.S. performed by the Kinsey Institute, at least one man in five has had sexual contact leading to orgasm with another male. Could it be that we are 20%?!

According to what we hear, Bob at Jet's had a wonderful time on his cruise to Jamaica. It's nice to get away, but it's nice to have you back, Bob.

Cuba has an unusual AIDS policy. With a third of its population tested, 240 who have been found to be infected have been put into permanent quarantine camps. The isolation is complete and indefinite. Parents are separated from children. Inmates are not allowed out in the camp without a chaperone. Call it Nazi Germany or Cuba, the difference is in degree, not kind.

We hear the Milwaukee's Pfister Hotel has urinal deodorant blocks in the shape and color of pink triangles. Wonder who ordered those?

Wisconsin Light's publisher, Jerry Johnson, is exhibiting some of the artifacts from Nigeria he collected while in the Peace Corps at the Black Holocaust Museum. The Museum, founded and directed by James Cameron, displays documents, pictures and books dealing with the history of Black slavery in America as well as the persecution of Blacks that led to the modern civil rights movement. The Museum is located at 2479 N. Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive in Milwaukee. It is well worth a visit.

Where Have All The Binding Ties Gone?

By Reen

Why are there so few long-term Gay relationships? Why do most Gay and Lesbian couples split up after a short time?

The fact is that the world is against us. Straight society doesn't want us to love each other. We can't get a marriage license. The insurance companies don't recognize us as couples. We don't get the tax breaks that straight people do. We don't get any societal support when we celebrate a Gay marriage. We don't get emotional support when our partner is seriously ill or dies. We go it alone. It's not an easy life, certainly not a life one would willingly choose if we had a choice.

We only choose to love, but cannot show it. We can't show affection in public. We cannot hold hands as we stroll down the street. We cannot kiss our lover good-bye if he/she drops us off at work. In a restaurant, we dare not gaze affectionately or sit too close. But we are not bothering anyone else. We only choose to love.

The "moral" majority gives medals for killing people in battle yet condemns us for loving each other. This is the "Christian" attitude the Bible thumpers preach.

But we are not without fault. We tend to run when problems appear instead of trying to work them out. We think it will be easier with someone else, yet it rarely is. It's too easy to split. Break-ups are encouraged by straight society as well as some of our own people. Our "friends" say leave him or her, kick him/her out. Rarely does someone say, "Work on your problems. Quit running. Give it a chance."

We are not paranoid. Straight society is against us and sometimes we are against each other.

Where are the ties that bind? Within ourselves. Only we can make it work. We can refuse to listen to our negative friends. We can refuse to be influenced by straight society. We can stay together instead of running. We can enjoy each other by looking at the good points instead of the bad. We can draw on the positive poser of love and use that strength to deepen our relationships.

We can choose to love.

We hear that Milwaukee's Cream City Chorus has something very special planned for their May concert to celebrate the 20th anniversary of Stonewall. Watch Light for details.

Word has it that Jets in Milwaukee will soon host a female drag show.

According to what we've been told, Uncle Al of Milwaukee's YP is preparing a new lip-sync number. Go to it, Uncle Al. You're good and you have an audience out there.

Milwaukee's Miriam Ben Shalom did her usual fine job on Channel 10 and 36's "Smith and Company." The late evening TV talk show focused on Miriam's on-going struggle with the Army and her recent court victory.

Milwaukee has been selected as one of 41 cities in the nation to show the restored version of the classic film "Gone With The Wind." This year marks the 50th anniversary of the film. It has been carefully restored with the original color enhanced. The film which recently opened at New York's Radio City Music Hall will open at Milwaukee's Oriental Theatre on May 7 for a one-week exclusive run.

All readers are invited to add their "Tid-Bits" to this column. Simply mail them to the Wisconsin Light.

AIDS CARE Continued from Page 1

about March 15.

This is a victory, but it should be remembered that the first AIDS case was diagnosed in Milwaukee in 1982. "It has taken seven years to get a nursing home opening," Nelson said.

As part of the agreement reached in the negotiations, the nursing home industry put what Nelson termed "unappreciated pressure" not to reveal the names of the two nursing homes until the opening in March. "It was a demand," he said. This is due, the nursing people maintained, to the need to educate their staffs and the fear of public reaction should the names be made known.

Nelson said that he was "offended" by the demand. But, due to the delicacy of the situation and his over-riding concern for the needs of MAP's clients, he agreed. He noted, however, that "there is no reason for confidentiality" and added that "It represents the discriminatory way AIDS is being handled by the health care industry."

MAP's successful beginning with the nursing home industry Nelson



Jerry Johnson

Dr. Mathilde Krim characterized as "progress." But, he cautioned that many obstacles remain to be overcome if discrimination, both overt and subtle, in the care and treatment of AIDS patients are to be overcome.

In this, Dr. Mathilde Krim agrees. Krim is the founder of the American Foundation for AIDS Research (AmFAR). Speaking to the Gay/Lesbian press at the Democratic National Convention, she spoke with emphasis of the "terrible and on-going discriminatory practices directed against people with AIDS by the American health care industry." The growing crisis of AIDS, she said, will require "a revolution in the American health care industry."

"There are many sensitive, compassionate doctors and nurses," Nelson said, "working day and night, around the clock, caring for people with AIDS." But, he cautioned, there is much work still to do. "We have got to begin working to see that AIDS patients are treated just like anyone else. It's a long journey," he said.

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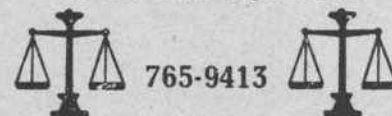
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UNITARIANS

Continued from Page 4

said. And eternal punishment is a "strange kind of idea anyway."

But as the word got out that he was Gay and people began to come to him because they were Lesbian or Gay and felt badly about it, "it became important for me to bone up on the Bible, because while it doesn't matter to me what the Bible says, it does matter to other people.

"I began to see the pain that some traditional churches have put on people. It helped me delve into the questions and change where I was putting my work and energy."

Doug Morgan Strong was the first openly Gay Unitarian Universalist minister to be settled into a congregation in about 1980. In that year, the denomination's general assembly passed a resolution against discrimination in ministerial settlement on the basis of sexual orientation. The denomination had created a Gay Concerns Office in 1974.

Larsen said he suspects the resolution against discrimination was "one of those gradual things." The denomination prides itself on being inclusive and the time came "to be a little more explicit."

Larsen said that he was optimistic about Lesbians and Gays in the ministry. "I sort of believe that most churches would find out that being Gay has very little to do with liking or disliking a minister."

He said that there were now 20 openly Gay or Lesbian ministers out of about 750 ministers leading churches overall. "I'm sure another 50 or 60 are closeted."

The continued growth of women in the ministry and the acceptance of handicapped ministers are areas needing effort "if we're going to be inclusive," he said.

Universalists were the first to ordain women, making Olympia Brown a minister in 1863. She served the Racine church. Although not all the members were probably enthusiastic about having a woman, Larsen said, the church "was sort of having a lot of problems" and couldn't really get anyone else.

"Of course, she turned it into something."

The denomination is small. There are only about a quarter-million Unitarian Universalists in the United States and Canada. There are at least twice as many Buddhists.

Both Unitarianism and Universalism began around 1800. Unitarians rejected the idea of a "committee god," the Trinity. Believing in a single, unitary god, they eventually found that god in all religions.

Universalists rejected Calvinism and

instead believed all people would go to heaven, "universal salvation." With the ideal that all people would be saved, the eventually found value in all people's gods.

After seven decades of discussion, the two denominations merged into one in the 1960's. By then they had grown to include agnostics and atheists as members and today, a large number are unsure or unbelieving in God. There is no creed and diverse beliefs among members are encouraged.

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