

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



The Wisconsin Light

Pride Committee To Hold Annual Meeting Sept. 10

[Milwaukee]- The Milwaukee Lesbian/Gay Pride Committee (MLGPC) welcomes everyone to its Annual Meeting on Monday, September 10, at 7:00 p.m. at M&M, 124 Water St. in Milwaukee. A report of Pride Week '90, including a financial report of this year's activities will be presented. In addition, those present at the meeting will elect the members of the MLGPC Steering Committee representatives.

There are many positions open for new Committee members. MLGPC by-laws state that the MLGPC Steering Committee shall be composed of 7 men, 7 women and 1 member at large. The newly elected Steering Committee will elect its own officers at a subsequent Committee meeting.

Given the importance of this being a representative body of the entire Lesbian and Gay community, every effort will be made to fill as many of the positions as possible so that the Committee can achieve the widest possible cross-section of our community.

Committee members terms will be designated with 5 members serving a one year term; 5 members serving two year terms and 5 members serving three year terms as is provided by the by-laws.

Anyone interested in running for the MLGPC Pride Committee is encouraged to submit a letter of intent by September 5 to the Pride Committee. However, nominations will be accepted until the time of voting on the date of the Annual Meeting.

Those who want to make the Pride Week 1991 celebration the best yet are encouraged to run as one of the Steering Committee members and play an active role in planning next year's events.

Letters of intent should be mailed to: MLGPC, P.O. Box 93852, Milwaukee, WI 53203. For more information, please call the Pride Line at 32-PRIDE (327-7433).

H.I.T. and M.A.P. To Hold Joint Fundraiser

[Milwaukee]- The Holiday Invitational Tournament (H.I.T.), in cooperation with the Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP), is hosting a bowling fundraiser on October 20, 1990 at 1:00 p.m. at Red Carpet Regency (76th & Florist). As the sole sponsor of this event, H.I.T. has designated that fifty percent of all proceeds will be donated to MAP.

H.I.T. is challenging bars and businesses to "fill the house" and obtain pledges for the benefit of MAP and H.I.T.

Participation in the event is easy. Just stop by your favorite bar or business and sign up to bowl or make a pledge for your favorite bowler. The bowler rolls three games, the highest game to be used as the basis for your donation. The bowler or sponsor obtaining the most pledges per pin will receive a special award!

Questions? Call Dean at 482-1700 or Cindy at 871-4735 for information and pledge sheets!

Thank you for your support!

Poll Shows Gantt and Helms Are Evenly Split With Voters in N.C.

[Raleigh, NC]- A recent poll in the *News and Observer* here revealed that voters are evenly split at 43% each for Republican Sen. Jesse Helms and his opponent, Democrat Harvey Gantt, in North Carolina's US Senate race. Among the 14% "undecided" voters, Helms had a small edge in those "leaning toward" him.

Gay groups and organizers are putting lots of money and energy into the Gantt campaign in the hope of unseating the arch-conservative and homophobic Sen. Helms.

M.A.P. Seeks Massive Turnout For September 30 AIDS Walk

By Terry Boughner

[Milwaukee]- The Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP) has issued an extraordinary call for a massive turnout by the Gay and Lesbian community to support the Wisconsin AIDS Walk scheduled for September 30, 1990 on Milwaukee's Lake Front.

MAP's Executive Director, Doug Nelson, described the Walk as the "most important fundraising event for AIDS ever held in Wisconsin" and said "its success is crucial for the financial well-being of MAP and other AIDS service organizations in Wisconsin."

"If you do anything for AIDS this year," Nelson said, "come to the Wisconsin AIDS Walk. It is the most effective way for you to make a huge contribution in the fight against the AIDS epidemic."

The Wisconsin AIDS Walk is being produced by MAP as a pledge walk and it has a goal of raising \$175,000 to be disbursed to MAP and to other AIDS service organizations in Wisconsin. Although other cities around the country have conducted AIDS walks, the Wisconsin AIDS Walk is the first such event to be held in Milwaukee and Wisconsin.

Nelson said, "I urge all of our friends and supporters and everyone who cares about the AIDS epidemic to make two commitments. First, to participate in the Walk and second to set a personal goal of obtaining \$100 in pledges from friends, family, co-workers and neighbors."

Nelson stressed that the Walk is truly the most important event of the year for MAP. It will allow MAP to build community support and to fund the expansion of services to the rapidly increasing numbers of people living with HIV disease in Wisconsin.

Nelson said, "the Walk is clearly the most effective way for someone to contribute much needed funds, to support people living with AIDS, and to remember our friends. It will be a spirited celebration of life and Wisconsin's most important response yet to the AIDS epidemic."

"If you do anything for AIDS this year, come to the Wisconsin AIDS Walk."

—Doug Nelson

MAP has already achieved unexpected success in planning the Wisconsin AIDS Walk by having secured eight major corporate and media sponsors and the active participation of Milwaukee Mayor John O. Norquist and his wife Susan Mudd as honorary co-chairpersons of the Walk.

Major corporate funding and support have come from Miller Brewing Co., Bank One, Time Insurance Co., First Wisconsin Bank of Mayfair, Thelen Engineering and Asscs., WTMJ-TV and WBZN-FM.

"The corporate and political support," Nelson said, "that has come for the walk exceeds our expectations and is a promising message that the entire community is prepared to join with the historic commitment of the Gay and Lesbian community in supporting essential AIDS services."

The Wisconsin AIDS Walk is the vehicle that MAP looks to for financial security in the future. MAP has already been informed that its Federal funding in 1991 will be cut by 20% and it expects that with the financial constraints at all levels of government that its historic government funding is in jeopardy.

"We have learned," Nelson said,

TURN TO WALK, PAGE 11



Men and women bodybuilders competed in the recently completed Gay Games III in Vancouver, Canada. (See story on page 12).

Military Veterans Are Willing To Serve U.S. During Middle East Crisis

TO THE EDITOR:

Editor's Note: The following letter was sent to Richard E. Chaney, Secretary of Defense.

In this time of crisis in the Middle East, the members of the Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Veterans of America wish to lend the United States our moral support. Perhaps because many of us have felt oppression personally, we understand the threat to freedom presented by Saddam Hussein more acutely than most.

Certainly, the United States needs every willing and able person serving in the military to assist in every way possible. As you are aware, Lesbians, Gay men and bisexual persons, when identified, are currently excluded from military service. We ask that you consider suspending Department of Defense Directive 1332.14 and allow military personnel currently under investigation where no onus of misconduct exists to continue serving in their positions. We further request that individuals recently discharged under Department of Defense Directive 1332.14 be allowed to re-enlist if they wish so that their skills can be put to good use by America in her time of need.

Although homosexuality is such a sensitive issue, we ask that we be allowed to protect and defend our country the same as any other citizen. Can America stand the loss of trained, able soldiers at this time?

For myself, I stand ready to return to the U.S. Army immediately. Although I was discharged this past February, I was my unit's Nuclear, Biological and Chemical Defense Noncommissioned Officer, was school trained less than a year ago, and, as a drill sergeant, possess skills which certainly could be utilized in the Middle East. I also lived in the Middle East from 1968 to 1971 and can speak Hebrew. I have firsthand experience with Arabic people which cannot be replicated in any school. I stand ready to return to military service and volunteer for Middle

East duty.

Please allow us this chance to serve America.

—Miriam Ben-Shalom
National Chairperson, GLBVA
Milwaukee

Robertson Attacks National Arts Grants With Ads

[Washington, D.C.]- Televangelist and one-time contender for the nomination for president, Pat Robertson seems to have found a hero in Clint Eastwood. This, according to *Task Force Report*, the most recent newsletter of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF).

Robertson, president of the Christian Coalition, took out a full page ad directed at members of Congress in the *Washington Post* and other major papers warning lawmakers not to reauthorize the NEA. The ad said:

"You may find that the working folks in your district want to use their money to teach their sons how to sodomize one another. But maybe not. There is one way to find out. Vote for the NEA appropriation just like the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force want."
"And Make My Day."

Fort Atkinson Admits M.A.S.N. To United Way

[Madison]- According to the latest issue of *MASN News*, the newsletter of the Madison AIDS Support Network (MASN), the United Way logo stands for more than just the United Way of Dane County, now, as MASN was recently admitted as a participating agency of the Fort Atkinson Area United Way.

MASN serves a total of 13 counties in South Central Wisconsin, including Jefferson, and is committed to seeking such support in other counties in their service region.

MASN is pleased to be a part of the United Way, a mutually beneficial relationship. The annual Giving Campaign is coming up — give generously to the United Way through your employee check-off or make an individual donation.

NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

MCC Offices Torched in Tennessee

[Knoxville, TN]- Officials are investigating the possibility of arson in a fire, July 16, that caused more than \$30,000 in damage to the offices of the Metropolitan Community Church (MCC) and an agency called AIDS Response Knoxville (ARK) in Tennessee.

Corky Rees, Executive Director of ARK, said there was not enough information yet to determine if the fire was specifically an anti-Gay attack. But John Sanders, a director of MCC, said that the church and its minister had been threatened periodically for some time. MCC ministers to Gays and Lesbians.

In recent months, threats had been called in to the church's telephone answering machine. They started with Bible verses, degenerated into curses and anti-Gay epithets, and ended with threats attributed to the Ku Klux Klan.

Seattle Law Subject To Repeal

[Seattle, WA]- A fundamentalist group called Citizens for Family has succeeded in collecting enough signatures to place Seattle's new domestic partners ordinance on a ballot initiative (I-35) in November.

The "Family Leave Bill" permits city employees to use sick leave to care for a partner or the child of a partner and extends bereavement leave to those who need to attend the funeral of an unmarried mate. Because it includes same sex couples and unmarried heterosexual couples in its definition of domestic partners, it has drawn the wrath of radical Christians.

A "No on 35" Committee has formed to defend the law. The American Civil Liberties Union, the National Organization for Women, the King County Labor Council and even Seattle Mayor Norm Rice have joined the campaign.

Gay Amnesty Group Forms

[New York, NY]- Gay members of Amnesty International have formed an independent organization to lobby for the inclusion of people imprisoned because of their sexual orientation into Amnesty's definition of "prisoner of conscience."

The "prisoner of conscience" definition currently includes people detained because of beliefs, color, sex, ethnic origin, language or religion and who have not used or advocated violence. Gay groups have criticized Amnesty for excluding Gays and Lesbians.

The Amnesty International Members for Lesbian and Gay Concerns aims to collect documentation of human rights abuses against Gays and people with AIDS in an attempt to gain the acceptance of Gays as a legitimate "prisoner of conscience" category. Documentation or inquiries can be sent to: Meg Satterthwaite, c/o Rosgood Productions, Box 994, Peter Stuyvesant Station, New York, NY 10009

Lesbians Disrupt Health Conference

[Washington, D.C.]- Lesbian activists disrupted a plenary session on AIDS at the National Lesbian and Gay Health Conference held at the Washington Hilton in July.

The women interrupted a speech and raised a banner that read: "Talk About Lesbians or Get Out." The protesters were allowed to address the session and spoke about the exclusion of women from AIDS drug trials and the lack of research on manifestations of AIDS that are specific to women.

According to the *Washington Blade*, the protesters also expressed anger at "a white male definition of our agenda" at the conference. They cited the lack of basic information on women's health care in general and on Lesbians with AIDS in particular. Sponsors of the conference, the National Lesbian and Gay Health Foundation, denied the charges of sexism and said they had done their best to solicit a variety of presentations on women's health care issues.

Dallas Rejects AIDS Memorial

[Dallas, TX]- The *Washington Blade* reports that the Dallas Parks and Recreation Board has rejected a proposal for an AIDS memorial to be placed in a city park. The memorial was planned for Lee Park, in the city's Gay Oak Lawn district.

An AIDS-related time capsule and bricks bearing the names of people who have died from AIDS were to be accompanied by a plaque which read: "A Living Tribute — A Gift to the City of Dallas and the AIDS Community of Dallas County from the Lesbian and Gay Community of Dallas and Their Good and Caring Friends. Dallas Tavern Guild, sponsors."

The Parks Board asked that the words "AIDS" and "Lesbian and Gay" be deleted. They also sought to exclude the time capsule and bricks. The Tavern Guild conceded the latter points but refused to delete mention of AIDS and the Lesbian and Gay community.

Texas Executes Killer Of Gay

[Huntsville, TX]- A former male prostitute with a criminal record dating to childhood was executed by injection July 18 for killing a man he claimed had made homosexual advances toward him.

Mikel Derrick, 33, was put to death after the US Supreme Court denied his request for a stay of execution. Derrick was convicted in 1982 of killing Edward Sonnier in Sonnier's Houston apartment. Sonnier was stabbed 19 times. A medical examiner testified that any one of 16 wounds could have killed the victim.

Staff Abandons Gay Organization

[New York, NY]- *Gay Community News* reports that 12 of the remaining 13 employees at the Fund for Human Dignity walked off the job in June and were subsequently terminated from their positions. The workers complained of "unethical and immoral fundraising" by the Fund, which is a Gay and Lesbian educational foundation.

The Fund for Human Dignity has been embroiled in controversy since March when its Board of Directors hired a straight man, Robert Brading, as Executive Director. Staff members denounced the choice as "an insult to every Gay man and Lesbian... a manifestation of homophobia and self-hatred."

Since Brading's appointment and the gradual exodus of employees, the Fund's Gay and Lesbian Crisis Line is largely unstaffed, its "Positive Images" campaign is on hold, and its Resource Center is "virtually non-existent."

Remaining staff were ordered to concentrate on fundraising, but Telemarketing Director Dave Stickle said: "We decided we couldn't do it... There is a limited number of Gay and Lesbian dollars out there, and we no longer felt right about asking the community to fork over money to pay for programs that just weren't running."

Woman Killed For Gay Affair

[Philadelphia, PA]- According to the *Philadelphia Inquirer*, George Slater, 51, allegedly stabbed to death 36 year-old Bertha Oliver after discovering that Oliver, his girlfriend, was having an affair with a woman. Slater is also charged with the murder of Oliver's son and the severe beating of her daughter.

Oliver and her woman friend had been co-workers at a local store and Slater apparently learned of their affair by finding a letter which spoke of the relationship. On the day of the murders, police escorted Oliver's lover from a neighbor's house, screaming and distraught.

Slater attempted, but failed, to commit suicide and later confessed to the crimes at a police station. He was convicted of killing a barmaid in 1980 and was out on parole at the time of the latest murder.

News Briefs are compiled by Jamakaya from mainstream newspapers and wire services, organizational press releases and Gay and Lesbian papers from across the U.S.



With the theme, "Wild, Wild Lavender West," many people attended the Lavender Hill annual party in appropriate western and Indian costumes.

Lavender Hill VII Party Is Huge Success With \$10,000 Raised

By Terry Boughner

[Milwaukee]- Despite sullen skies, Lavender Hill VII proved to be as thousands of hours of volunteer effort wished it to be: an outstanding success.

Lavender Hill is an annual fundraiser for the Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP); the money raised to be used for direct patient support. According to Steve Steinhauer, the Host for the party, 375 people attended, contributing \$9,700 for MAP, an amount Steinhauer said he expected would increase to \$10,000 when the mail-in contributions were counted.

The theme this year was "Wild, Wild Lavender West" and everything conformed to it from the bales of hay scattered throughout the two adjacent yards where the party was held to the backdrops of an "old west" town (I liked the church with its sign, "Altar boys needed. Inquire within), to the lavender cacti standing about.

And food! Tons of it, all generously donated, a veritable "ranch spread" and served by a delicious dark youngish man in--what else?--lavender. The food was complimented by soft drinks, wine and lots of Miller beer, donated by the Brewery which was one of the corporations donating goods and services to the event.

The greeters, right at the front gate, were smiling, gracious and great, setting the tone for the good time everyone seemed to be having.

Most of those attending were in "Wild West" attire. Zoro was there, as was John, a Matthew Broderick look-alike. There were, of course, a number of cowboys and scantily clad male Indians, two that I saw in full head dress. (Cory made a super-sexy brave.) Ron of Diva's was "butch" in his red bandana and ropes hanging from his belt and Ricky had gone all out, he said, and bought a brand new lavender outfit for the occasion.

Naturally, people were "packing hardware"; cap pistols (Steve's looked real) and the lady with the water pistol added to the fun as did the T-shirt that read, "Wanted. Dangerously Handsome man."

That everything was as professionally

done as it was, was due to the Lavender Hill Planning Committee. This year's Committee included, Russ Anderson, Cory Haywood, Joe Appleman, Ebbie Duggins, Michael Phillips, Charlie Schrauth, Dave Fischler, Ken Reed, Steve Steinhauer, Dan Austin, Greg Leyba, Patty Micale, Bob Kozminski, William Koehn, Joe Arneith, Tim Kraetsch and Tom Boll.

The Committee would like to thank all the businesses, corporations and generous individuals who made all this happen.

Lavender Hill, which begun in 1984, has grown steadily in size and in its celebration of life and memory of those we have lost to AIDS. After a rest, planning will begin for Lavender Hill VIII and all are welcome to participate.



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Lambda Rights Network Board Removes Navarro as President

[Milwaukee]- Milwaukee's Lambda Rights Network (LRN) has announced a change in its governing Board of Directors. At a meeting of the Board on Tuesday, August 14, 1990, the Board voted to remove Ralph Navarro from his position as LRN President.

In accordance with LRN by-laws, Vice-President Scott D. Gunkel will assume the duties and responsibilities of the President's office. Board member Christopher Ahmuty will assist Gunkel as a spokesperson for LRN.

The next regular election of LRN

Choruses To Meet In Chicago

[Chicago]- Windy City Gay Chorus will host the 1990 GALA Choruses (Gay and Lesbian Association of Choruses) Conference during the Labor Day weekend in Chicago.

300 representatives of Lesbian, Gay and Mixed choruses from across the country, Canada and Europe will attend, the largest number ever.

The Conference which is a leadership conference, will include representatives of Milwaukee's Cream City Chorus and the Fest City Singers' Nancy McKinley-Ehinger and Dan Gniotczynski. They, along with the other participants, will attend workshops and seminars covering wide-ranging aspects of the international Gay and Lesbian choral movement.

FESTIVAL

Continued from Page 1

afoot. It is a profound thing to see several thousand womyn weep, not only for the pain, but for the joy.

Another performer read poems concerning her life as an African-American womyn and about the null and void of being a recovering adult child of an alcoholic. In a light drizzle, this African-American Amazon stood and read words of the erotic and words coming from the tragedy of the bottle. Although there weren't thousands of womyn there for her performance because of the rain, those of us who remained will never quite see the world around us in the same way again.

The tribute to African-American womyn and the Blues took 9000 womyn through the history of Black female musicians. From Gospel roots to Motown to Funk and Soul and nitty-gritty down to the bare-bones blues, these African-American womyn had us all screaming at the top of our lungs, "More! More! More! More!" For one moment in time those of us in the audience who were not womyn of color felt fused to their sisters of color by means of music and soul. For one small moment in time, it was as if should be; no difference between us, no distance.

Miriam said, "I've been to all 15 Festivals and it is something that every womyn, Lesbian or not, should experience at least twice in her life. If she will go two times in a row, she'll be hooked."

officers will take place in January, 1991. All current members of the Board of Directors will continue to serve their regular terms.

Founded in 1986, LRN is a membership organization providing public education on political matters of concern to the Lesbian and Gay community of Southeastern Wisconsin. LRN hopes to play an increasingly major role in the work that lies ahead for the Lesbian and Gay community.

"We are now planning new projects and determining the direction of the organization in cooperation with the membership and the community at large," Gunkel said.

Individuals interested in joining LRN in its continuing efforts or seeking more information about LRN should contact Scott at 871-4839 or Chris at 272-4032.

CCF Funds Camping Trip For MAP Clients

The Cream City Foundation has agreed to fund a camping trip to Wisconsin's Wyalusing State Park, scheduled for the fall of 1990, for people with HIV infection. The CCF was asked to fund the trip by the Milwaukee AIDS Project, which, despite its own fundraising activities for AIDS and HIV client recreation, has seen client loads considerably higher than their available funding. Thus, the Milwaukee AIDS Project turned to the CCF for help.

The CCF, Milwaukee's Gay and Lesbian non-profit charitable foundation, has supported AIDS causes many times before, and is pleased that they are able to help out again. CCF is concerned with, and provides support to, all Gay and Lesbian issues. When the AIDS epidemic became a serious problem in the mid-1980's, the CCF was one of three organizations to work together to form the Milwaukee AIDS Project; CCF's then-President served as the new MAP's Vice President for its first two years.

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Midwest Transvestites And Transsexuals Meet In Milwaukee

By Lou Sullivan

[Milwaukee]- An historic event occurred on July 14, 1990 when FTM editor Lou Sullivan, while visiting family in Milwaukee, arranged for a Midwest FTM Get-Together while there. Eight FTMs (and two of their mothers) attended the Midwest Get-Together, one driving almost 400 miles from Iowa, others coming from Madison and Illinois.

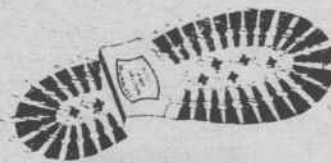
FTM is a peer group exclusively for female-to-male transvestites and transsexuals, with headquarters in San Francisco and a mailing list of over 200 world-wide. Our membership includes females who are interested in crossdressing only, and those who are considering making the change to male, as well as female-to-males who have been living as men for over a decade. In addition, we welcome women and men who are interested in meeting female-to-males for social dating.

Since 1986, FTM has been holding get-togethers in the San Francisco area every three months and publishing a newsletter, which is available free of charge to members. Approximately 20 female-to-males attend each get-together.

FTM can be contacted at 1827 Haight St., #164, San Francisco, CA 94117

Editor's Note: Mr. Sullivan is a native

of Milwaukee. He is the author of the recently published book *From Female to Male: The Life of Jack Bee Garland* published by Alyson Publications. The book is the only biography in print of a female who passed and lived as a man.



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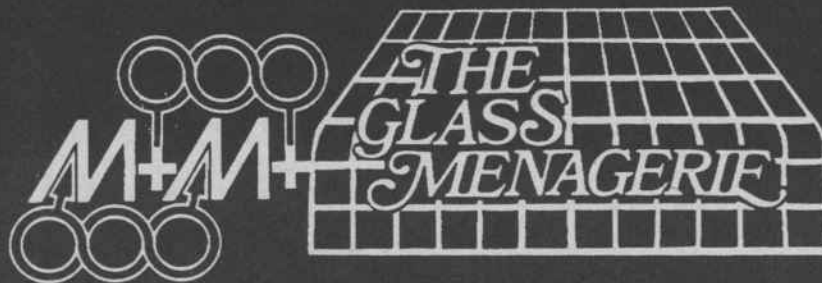


PEOPLE LIVING WITH AIDS
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The PLWA Coalition is an organization of people living with AIDS which has taken up the mission of advocacy on AIDS related issues. We are attempting to contact people living with AIDS or who are HIV positive to develop an agenda of their needs. Some of the issues include: Political Action, Medical Concerns, Social Issues, and Legal Concerns.

Please contact us at (414) 273-2437 and ask to speak to a coalition member.

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The Wisconsin Light



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

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Office Hours:

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

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First-class subscription rate is \$30.00 for one year (25 issues).
Third-class subscription rate is \$18.00 for one year (25 issues).
Foreign subscription rates available upon request.

Institutional Member



Having Gay Orientation Is Acceptable In Jewish Faith

By Paul Burman

"Gay Jews, huh?" said the pleasant looking young man as he sauntered past the "Mishpacha" table at Pride Fest. "Isn't that a bit like Jewish Nazis? They don't really go together, do they?"

Well, when we're not being blamed for killing Christ or sacrificing children and drinking their blood or being told that our only salvation is through Jesus, why shouldn't we Jews be blamed for the wrath of Christendom against all Gays? After all, that famous verse, which every Fundamentalist loves to quote (you all know the one about: "If man lies with man as with woman, it is an abomination and he shall surely be put to death") appears in Leviticus. And that is part of the Torah — God's word to man. It is sacred. It is Jewish law.

It always amuses me how Christian Fundamentalists love to quote convenient passages of the Old Testament but have no intention of observing all its tenets. Now isn't that convenient!

But it does raise the question of the Jewish view of homosexuality and particularly the Orthodox view. In New York, Orthodox Jews actively protested against the city's Gay rights ordinance and, in Israel, it is a crime to be Gay because of Rabbinical law.

Yet the Jews, themselves, are an oppressed people. From our slavery in Egypt to the Holocaust, Jews (like Gays) have been second class citizens. Judaism also has a heritage of being a compassionate religion, although, admittedly, one which is very slow to change. So what is the Orthodox Jewish view on homosexuality?

A short while ago, "Mispacha" was invited, as a group, to the home of a "Lubavitch" Ultra Orthodox Rabbi for Friday night supper. When he was informed that we are a Gay group, he hesitated for a moment and then he said: "They are Jews, aren't they? They should celebrate the Sabbath, too!"

During dinner, the Rabbi was asked his position on homosexuality. His view was that, indeed, there were some people who were Gay and who had no control over their orientation. Yet, according to Torah, the homosexual act is a sin and should be recognized as such. Thus, it is perfectly acceptable to have a Gay orientation provided you do not express your feelings in a sexual manner, but, if you do, you should recognize that it is wrong. In any case, it is a personal choice with which you have to live. (The origins of Jewish guilt and suffering become clear!)

Not surprisingly, this viewpoint upset a few people, but the Rabbi went on in an interesting way. He pointed out that, as

LETTERS

Pride Committee Thanks Community

TO THE EDITOR

To the Caring Community of Gays and Lesbians who participated in and supported MLGPC's Parade and Rally:

Thank you! There is so much more to say, but no better words to express it. In recent editions of *Wisconsin Light* and *In Step*, there have been numerous articles and letters of praise for our committee's efforts that created a successful celebration. I would like to clearly state that without the support of many businesses, organizations and individuals and the participation of the thousands who attended, our efforts would be for naught. We are simply a group of people who wish to furnish the Gay and Lesbian Community as well as all the citizens of Milwaukee County and the surrounding area the chance to express a day of celebration. We hope it is a day when all peoples can come together in love and harmony and celebrate the joy of what should be an everyday occurrence, to be treated equally and fairly, regardless of our differences. To that end, we were a great success, but only because so many of you chose to be involved.

I would like to take exception with one writer, Tim Hanson (not the Tim Hansen who is a member of MLGPC). He became critical of many businesses for not participating in Pride Day activities. Many of the businesses he listed were involved, maybe not in the parade, but many had given generously of time and effort in other ways. We are not here to judge anyone for the level of participation they choose. Whatever involvement they

Jews, there are 613 Mitzvot (laws) for us to follow. Nobody upholds all of them all of the time, but it is our responsibility to keep as many as we can. Judaism simply sets us goals to strive for even if at times we fall short. These goals include observing the Sabbath (not working, driving or using electrical appliances), keeping the Kosher dietary laws (no pork or shellfish or mixture of meat and milk) and so on.

The point is that each law is equal to each other. Each time you perform a Mitzvah you score a metaphysical "brownie point." Every year God tallies your score and decides whether to write your name in the "Book of Life" for another year or to call you home.

There is no hierarchy of the laws — no single law carries more weight than any other. This means that homosexual acts are no worse for an observant Jew than eating lobster or driving to the mall for a shopping spree on Saturday afternoon.

Now, personally, I resent anyone telling me that I should recognize that my sexual activity with a consenting adult is wrong. I also have trouble with putting my feelings and emotional well-being on the same level as my decision whether or not to eat a crustacean. Finally, I have a problem with the literal and infallible interpretation of a single sentence which was handed down by word of mouth for 700 years before anyone bothered to write it down. (Isn't it just possible that somewhere along the way a word or two got added or changed?)

Nevertheless, from an Orthodox Rabbi's viewpoint, the Torah is the absolute word of God — it is the law and is not open to interpretation, let alone modification for the sake of an individual's convenience. Ultimately, we agreed to differ. The Rabbi suggested we concentrate on the other 612 laws.

That perhaps, is not a bad compromise. There's certainly plenty to be working on. Rosh Ha'shannah (New Year) and Yom Kippur (the day of atonement) are upon us. These are the holiest days of the year when we reflect on the good and bad of the last year and pray that God will write our names in the "Book of Life" one more time. To me it is comforting that the life expectancy of Gay Jews has never been noted to be significantly different from that of the rest of the population. I guess we can make it in God's eyes even though there are those on earth who still condemn us.

To everyone reading: "L'Shanah Tovah Ve Chatimah Tovah" — a happy New Year, and may your name be written in the Book of Life.

give is greatly appreciated. It all helps toward our end goal. It is also our hope that the level of participation we gain each year will show more and more that it is a safe place to join in.

Our entire community deserves to pat itself on the back. In just two years, we have made gigantic strides and it can only grow even more from here. Again, Thank you for your support and participation. Let's do it again even bigger next year.

—Jim English
President, MLGPC

Editor's Note: Among those businesses Mr. English referred to who gave in so many ways; holding fundraisers, selling tickets, buttons and T-shirts, are This Is It, 219 Plus, La Cage, Triangle, Boot Camp, Partners, M&M, Fannies, Wreck Room, Station II, Nitengales and others. Mr. English is right. A generous thanks is owing to these and all who made Pride '90 an outstanding success.

Health Conference

TO THE EDITOR:

Thanks for your article on the National Lesbian and Gay Health Conference and National AIDS Forum held recently in Washington, D.C.

My major disappointment was the lack of LOCAL representation by women and persons of color at the Conference. Many women, Blacks, Latinos, Asians and Native Americans attended from throughout the nation, but as far as we could tell, none were from Milwaukee. I

lament this conspicuous absence, since our community has so much to gain from the experiences and talents of our sisters and brothers.

This Conference represents one of the only opportunities for Lesbian and Gay health workers — doctors, nurses, PA's, social workers, counselors, therapists, attorneys, AIDS/HIV organizations, advocates and clinical administrators and staff — to get together for a vital recharging of our enthusiasm. Next July, the Conference will be in New Orleans. Please, plan on joining us!

—Mark Behar, PA-C
Milwaukee

Pride Week '91

TO THE EDITOR:

Dear Milwaukee

It has come to the end of another Gay Pride Celebration and I feel I have to say a few things.

I have been involved with the Gay Pride Committee from the very first meeting. It has been both a hard road and a very fulfilling one for me personally. During the past three years, I have lost one lover to AIDS, yet I have also discovered a new love in my life quite to my surprise. What engages me most about being a member of the Gay Pride Committee is the diversity of people I have met and come to know over the past three years, and the changes I have seen in the Gay and Lesbian community in that time. I feel we are truly at a crossroads in the evolution of our community.

It is at this time that we must have the foresight to look out from the past, in fact to leave the past behind and create a new vision of the future, not only for the Gay and Lesbian community of Milwaukee, but for each of our own lives.

Now is the time, at the beginning of the last decade of this century, to indeed "Look to the Future", not by imitating the past, but by seeing new ways of being, which will fundamentally alter the way we express ourselves as individuals, as a community and, ultimately, as the human race.

There are several things I feel it is important to know about the Milwaukee Lesbian/Gay Pride Committee and about what it takes to produce an event of this size.

The committee starts planning for the following year in September.

I estimate that all totaled, there were more than 3000 hours of time donated to MLGPC by the members of the steering committee and the 70 or so volunteers.

It cost over \$16,000 to produce the Parade and Rally in 1990.

Fundraising takes up the greatest part of our time.

Two more facts I would like to stress are:

It is estimated that there are 100,000 Gays and Lesbians in the Milwaukee Metropolitan area.

If 250 of those people would pledge just \$5.00 per month, 75% of our fundraising needs would be taken care of. 1/4 of one percent of the Gay Community could support MLGPC for less than half the cost of subscribing to the Milwaukee Journal.

We will be having a booth at MAPfest, where you can make your pledge. Envelopes will also be available at *In Step* and at *Wisconsin Light* or you can pledge by calling 32-PRIDE and leaving a message. Someone will get back to you to take your information.

In closing, I want to take this time to acknowledge those people who have taken the risk to be "out" in the world, working to achieve all that we dream for the future, and to give you a quote by George Bernard Shaw.

"This is the true joy in Life, the being used for a purpose recognized by yourself as a mighty one; the being a force of nature instead of a feverish selfish little clod of ailments and greivances complaining that the world will not devote itself to making you happy.

"I am of the opinion that my life belongs to the whole community and as long as I live, it is my privilege to do for it whatever I can.

I want to be thoroughly used up when I die, for the harder I work the more I live. I rejoice in life for its own sake. Life is no 'brief candle' to me. It is a sort of splendid torch which I have got hold of for a moment, and I want to make it burn as brightly as possible before handing it on to future generations."

From *Man and Superman*
Act 3, "Don Juan in Hell"

—Gary D. Wells
Milwaukee

The Outside Looking In: Being Socially Shy

By Maytee Aspuro

I am a socially shy Lesbian. This does not equate with being firmly sheltered in the closet. In my case, the truth is quite the contrary. I am out at work and in all other aspects of my life.

When in a Lesbian environment, I am the woman who blends into the wall. I lean against it for support and observe the Lesbian rituals practiced.

I once haunted the women's drinking establishments, but my listening skills were too crisp. Undiluted by alcohol, I heard the monologues of despair, the dialogues of deceit. My vision was equally acute, the faces of couples changed as two pairs became two singles and a new pair developed consisting of one representative each of the original twosomes.

I am socially shy, but few who have any knowledge of my career would believe the fact. My career requires difficult decision making, negotiations, the balancing of different interests and the ability to articulate my ideas, as well as to train and, at times, to speak before audiences of various sizes. I have also conducted workshops at the National Women's Music Festival and the National Women's Minority Conference. How then could I be shy? I am and so are many Lesbian women who, given their talents, would be assets to our community.

Why then am I, as well as others, on the outside looking in? First, it is a position that we have learned to tolerate. In fact, it feels quite "normal" not to belong. As a woman, Cuban born, who is a Lesbian, I have had many opportunities to feel disfranchised by the American culture. In reality, I am even outside the realm of people of color because though I am of "pure" Hispanic decent, I do not meet either the visual (my skin color is viewed as white) nor verbal (I have no accent) expectations of what a Woman of Color would be. Thus, I often feel I should carry my birth certificate to legitimize my identification as a Hispanic.

A second reason why I am on the outside looking in is because I spent a good part of my 20's establishing a career and trying to live the American dream. I do not say that my choices were incorrect nor that in retrospect they were the best choices because many sacrifices were known during those years. But the fact was that my undergraduate degree and my graduate studies dominated my time and focus.

I may be doing quite well now, reaping the financial and career rewards for my hard work, but I sometimes wonder if I should have been less driven to meet a definition of success that I no longer adhere to. With time, I realized that it was a fallacy to believe that my career was the path to my happiness. It was a learning experience and valid in its own right.

The third reason for being on the outside looking in is because it seems as if our community is a collection of closely knit groups and an individual like myself experiences the sensation of having a one-way mirror before her. I can look through it and see the women but I am

invisible to them. I go to community events alone and remain alone throughout the day or evening. True, I must take responsibility for my silence, but it is so very hard to approach a group. It is easier to approach another individual. And as I previously noted, Lesbians tend to gather in groups. More than once I have begun to approach a woman when her name has been called out and she has been approached by two or three other women and the Lesbian hugging ritual has been enacted.

The fourth reason for being on the outside looking in was found in JoAnn Loulan's book *Lesbian Passion*. She observed that Lesbians rarely experience the process of dating. During our formative teen years, as heterosexual teen-age girls date their male counterparts, Lesbian teen-agers remain in isolation and confusion. By the time we reach legal adult status, we are five to ten years behind in our romantic social skills. Talking to another woman carries the weight of years of oppressed, suppressed sexuality and it nears the impossible to keep any perspective.

I recently attended a performance with another woman. Prior to her consenting to join me, we had to clarify that my invitation and her acceptance of it was platonic in nature. Once the ground rules were established, we could both relax and enjoy each other's company. I found our mutual openness a relief. I did not have to worry about kissing her good-night or asking for a follow-up date. My ego remained unbruised and secure. This experience was for me an exception and not the rule. I can only hope that with practice, I may experience more such evenings of conversation with minimal sexual tension.

I have been told that I give the impression of being aloof and that some women have felt intimidated by me. What remains unrealized is that I, a woman on the outside looking in, often feel envy for not being able to partake in the Lesbian hugging ritual, that at times, my coolness or my quick getaways hide my panic.

I like my life. I have made my choices and they have been the choices I felt were best for me at the time, otherwise I am sure I would have chosen differently. I am a woman on the outside looking in, in part, because of the choices I have made. I would request that if you see me or another Lesbian like me that you look beyond the silence and the aloofness and remember how it felt when you first came out to our community. Realize that some of us have never felt what it is to truly belong to any community. Given that we do not belong nor want to belong to the heterosexual patriarchal artificial reality, remaining on the fringe of the Lesbian community allows us to minimize the risk of finding out that we have failed to belong there as well and thus have no cultural home to consider our own. In time, we may stop feeling invisible but it is a slow process and one rarely recognized by our sisters. I think it's because it's all too familiar.

©1990 by Maytee Aspuro

MAPfest V Offers Array Of Entertainment, Food, Games & Fun

[Milwaukee]- The fifth annual MAPfest will be held on Sunday, September 2, 1990, at Schlitz Park, N. 3rd St. and Cherry, from 2:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Admission is \$2.00

MAPfest is an annual fund-raising festival benefiting client support programs at the Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP). "More food, more games, more entertainment and more fun is promised at this year's event," said Ronnie Marks, chairperson of the MAP Fund-Raising Committee

Some of the new elements to MAPfest this year include festival games where players can win some great prizes. A Tandy TL1000 computer system, Skylight Opera tickets and a \$100 gift certificate at Grand Avenue Mall will be given away in MAPfest's first raffle.

The Dog Show returns this year at 3:30 on the outside stage. Dogs will be judged in more than 15 categories including most flamboyant ensemble, most tricks and daintiest pedicure. Call Thom Ertl at (414) 273-1991 to register your pet. The registration fee is \$4 in advance, \$5 on September 2.

The MAPfest Bachelor/Bachelorette Auction is sponsored this year by T.T. Tulip Florists on Brady Street. Bidding will begin at 4:30 p.m. on the outside stage for some of Milwaukee's most eligible men and women. To register to be a bachelor or bachelorette, call Tom or Tim at T.T. Tulip, (414) 277-8518.

This year's MAPfest will offer some spectacular entertainment on two stages. The outside stage, in addition to the Dog Show and Bachelor/Bachelorette Auction, will feature the Cream City Chorus and Fest City Singers. The Big Top will feature some of Milwaukee's best entertainers and female illusionists including Rufus and His Singing Maching, Chastity Belt and Friends, Baby Jane Hudson and Friends and Miss M with Her Cast of Celebrities.

Many organizations will be on hand to tell you about their operations. Support their efforts, a percentage of all money raised will also benefit the Milwaukee AIDS Project.

For more information on MAPfest, call Louise Searing or Chris Doerfler at the Milwaukee AIDS Project, (414) 273-1991.

MAPfest Big Top Schedule

- 2-2:45 p.m. Rufus and His Singing Machine
- 3-3:45 p.m. Any Title Will Do — Rhonda Moore Production
- 4-4:45 p.m. The New Sunday Show — La Cage Productions
- 5-5:45 p.m. Win, Lose or Draw — Partners Productions
- 6-6:45 p.m. Chastity Belt and Friends
- 7-7:45 p.m. Stars on Parade — King Productions
- 8-8:45 p.m. Baby Jane Hudson and Friends with Special Guest Star "Miss Fort Lauderdale" Sandy Beach
- 9-9:45 p.m. Miss M with Her Cast of Celebrities B.J. Daniels, Ginger Spice, Ronnie Marks, Jouji & JJ
- 9:45 p.m. Closing Ceremonies — "Light a Candle for a Friend"

MAP Seeks Food and Personal Care Items to Stock Pantry

The Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP) Food Pantry is in need of food and personal care items.

The following is a list of items most needed:

- spaghetti sauce
- canned vegetables
- toilet paper
- muffin mix
- canned pork and beans
- hair conditioner
- nuts
- fruit juice
- hamburger helper
- canned soup

- laundry soap
- hand lotion
- sugar
- jelly
- canned chile
- household cleaners
- baby food
- pasta/noodles
- tuna helper

The Food Pantry provides MAP's clients with nutritional food and personal care items at no cost.

Contact Christina Kotlowski at MAP, (414) 273-1991 for information on how to help keep the Food Pantry stocked.

Milwaukee AIDS Project Presents...

MAPfest

Sunday, September 2, 1990

Schlitz Park
3rd & Cherry


2:00 p.m. to
10:00 p.m.

\$2.00
Admission

A fundraiser to support education and client services of the Milwaukee AIDS Project

For more information, call Louise at (414) 273-1991

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Jerry Johnson

Larinda Kelly (center) was crowned Miss Gay Wisconsin-USA, while C.C. Rae (left) was the first runner-up and Tiffany Thomas won second runner-up on August 19 in Milwaukee.

Larinda Kelly Crowned Miss Gay Wisconsin-USA On August 19th

By Terry Boughner

[Milwaukee]- In an atmosphere of gala celebration, King productions presented its Second Annual Miss Gay Wisconsin-USA Pageant in the Crystal Ballroom of Milwaukee's Marc Plaza Hotel. The Pageant took place on Sunday evening, August 19, 1990.

With a backdrop of a pink neon map of the state of Wisconsin, 12 lavishly dressed contestants representing every area of the Badger State, competed for the prizes and the title of Miss Gay Wisconsin-USA, 1991.

By all accounts, the talent demonstrated by the competitors was the epitome of professionalism. The audience was several times on its feet according well-deserved standing ovations to great performances.

Two men attending the Pageant and both very familiar with pageants, acclaimed the performances as "imaginative, creative and showing a lot of work and devotion to the details of entertainment."

Having judged one of these contests before, I thought as I watched, that I was very glad I wasn't judging this one. The

decision would have been excruciatingly difficult to make. One of the contestants, not knowing she was being overheard, told a friend that "They (the judges) check you out like you wouldn't believe!" The judging was, she said, that rigorous — but she appreciated it. "It keeps you on your toes."

As always at pageants, part of the "show" as far as I'm concerned, is those attending. Mama Rae looked fantastic as did a great many others.

There were many highlights, but two stand out. One was Ce'zanne, Miss Gay USA who in her final performance of the evening, generously donated her tips to the Milwaukee AIDS Project. The amount came to \$130.00.

The other was Tania Michaels, the out-going Miss Gay Wisconsin-USA. Her gown was, as promised, spectacular and her final song, moving as she bid farewell.

The winners were Larinda Kelly who was crowned Miss Gay Wisconsin-USA; First Runner-up, C.C. Rae; Second Runner-up, Tiffany Thomas. Sandra Peron was named Miss Congeniality.

Cultural and Ethnic Diversity Highlight Womyn's Music Festival

[Milwaukee]- The Fifteenth Annual Michigan Womyn's Music Festival was held August 14-19, 1990 in a secluded square mile of land somewhere near Heart, Michigan. Miriam Ben-Shalom was among the 9000 womyn who attended this internationally known and acclaimed womyn-only event.

Of her experiences there, Miriam said, "The Festival has an amazing amount of cultural and ethnic diversity. There were womyn from Africa, Australia, Mideast, Far East in attendance. There were workshops on everything from crystals to healing to living with adult children of alcoholics.

The music was as varied as the population: It ranged from a tribute to African-American women and the Blues, to protest songs to torrid Lesbian love torch songs.

There is both western and non-traditional health care on the Land and emotional support services.

For a womyn first coming to Michigan, it can be very easy to get lost and be overwhelmed, Miriam said. The Michigan Festival is perhaps the only place in the world where there is an overt celebration of Lesbian living and, of course, Lesbian sexuality. Imagine! 9000 womyn in various stages of undress. 9000 shapes, colors, sizes; 9000 womyn touching and loving each other in every way imaginable—and not just sexually.

It can be very fearful to a womyn who returns home to a deep closet. It can also be energizing and exciting. Miriam met several womyn for whom this was their first Festival. While they felt somewhat uncomfortable with the nudity and the casual kissing and embracing that went on, they walked away with their self-esteem enhanced, sure in the knowledge that there was at least one place for five days a year where they did not have to hide and be ashamed.

For experienced Festival-goers, the

maelstrom of emotions is something that is taken in stride. Michigan is simply an incandescent expression of what it is to be a Lesbian. Many womyn go to Michigan, myself included, to "recharge their psychic batteries." There is so much good, solid, Lesbian energy that womyn who know how to do it, will fill their tanks, as it were, and for the rest of the year, when they are dealing with heterosexual society, dole their energy out in measured amounts to keep themselves going.

Perhaps the most moving experiences at this Festival were two musical performances and a poetry reading. The most powerful music and prose presentation I have ever experienced was presented by the singer Rhiannon. She sang and spoke of her life. It sounds deceptively simple, but when you realize that she stood in front of several thousand womyn and gave us the death of her mother; the death of a lover, the joy of a new relationship and love and the heart-wrench of the end of a relationship, you begin to realize that indeed magic was

TURN TO FESTIVAL, PAGE 3

Broadway Hit "Dream Girls" Opens Sept. 7

[Milwaukee] — The Hansberry-Sands Theatre Co. is presenting the Tony Award Winning Broadway Musical, **Dream Girls** at the Lincoln Center for the Arts. Performances will run September 7-8, 13-15, 20-22, and 27-29 at 8:00 p.m.

Dream Girls explores the joys, sorrows, failures and ultimate triumphs of black performers in the 60's and 70's (Girl groups in particular). The performance features Sandra Scott, Adele Penny and Jessalyn Moore, with artistic direction by Lee Palmer. For ticket information, call 272-PLAY.

San Francisco To Host International Mr. Drummer Contest Sept. 21

[San Francisco, CA]- The annual migration — and the beginning of the second decade — is underway. Contenders from seven countries on three continents will be represented at the Mr. Drummer 1990 contest on September 21 and 22, 1990 in San Francisco. Club Townsend, 177 Townsend St., is the vibrant and electric setting for eighteen hot, hunky men striving for the prestigious international title of Mr. Drummer.

No longer just a beauty contest, Mr. Drummer represents the values of the leather community, serving as an ambassador to leather and non-leather communities alike. Well over 1300 Gay leathermen and leatherwomen from around the world will converge on San Francisco to celebrate their sub-culture. Lynn Lavner, one of the biggest little leather dykes in existence, will dazzle with her humor and song. Lavner will also co-emcee with Guy Baldwin, International Mr. Leather 1989 and Mr. National Leather Association 1989.

This year, the contest is spread across two evenings. Friday night, September 21, features the contestants demonstrating their ability to articulate their thoughts on issues of concern to Gays and Lesbians. The ever-popular jock strap review will entice the audience.

The magnetic show on Saturday night, September 22, finds each contestant

sharing some of the most carefully constructed fantasies this side of one's imagination.

Mr. Drummer is a major part of Leather Pride Week in San Francisco. Leatherfolk have a full week of activities to attend, including a Dinner With A Winner on Wednesday, September 19; Fetish and Fantasy Masked Ball on Thursday, September 20; and the Folsom Street Fair on Sunday, September 23.

Contestants are the subject of Wednesday's Dinner With A Winner. This auction of dinners with the various contenders, each the winner of a regional Mr. Drummer contest, is always a festive event. Last year, the fifteen finalists garnered over \$6,500 for the AIDS Emergency Fund and the Interclub Fund.

Earning the title, Mr. Drummer, is an honor and an obligation. Along with International Mr. and Ms. Leather and Mr. and Ms. National Leather Association, Mr. Drummer commits himself to a year of building, strengthening and defending the leather/SM/fetish community. The contest is sponsored by Desmondus, Inc., publishers of **Drummer** magazine.

Drummer contest information can be obtained by calling John Ferrari, Mr. Drummer Liaison, at (415) 252-1195. Discounted air travel and accommodations can be arranged through Ineka at Orion Travel at (800) 552-3326.

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For Ticket Information Call 272-PLAY

Extraordinary Women's Health Book Is Updated For the 1990's Women

By Jamakaya

The New Our Bodies, Ourselves
Boston Women's Health Book Collective
647 pp. \$16.95

This article is less in the way of a review than it is a tribute.

Our Bodies, Ourselves, the groundbreaking and, by now, classic book about women's health care, celebrated its 20th anniversary in May. Members of the Boston Women's Health Book Collective, who authored and published the popular book, threw a party to mark the occasion and raised money for — guess what? — women's health care!

Our Bodies, Ourselves was the result of a discussion group on health care issues among Boston area women in 1969. They wanted to design a course that would demystify old notions about women's bodies and stress self-help and education. They wanted to empower women to take control of their own health care rather than depending on the male dominated medical establishment with its often patronizing attitudes toward women.

The course these women designed became the practical guide **Our Bodies, Ourselves**, first published in 1970 in a 136 page newsprint format that cost 35 cents. It was an immediate sensation and became a best seller that has gone through numerous updates and expanded editions over the years. The latest edition is a mammoth 647 pages, with hundreds of diagrams, photos, charts and references. (At \$16.95, its list price is high, but low income women can obtain copies through Planned Parenthood.)

The breadth of its health coverage is extraordinary; body image, food and nutrition, occupational health, anatomy and psychology, birth control, relationships and sexuality, pregnancy, childbirth, abortion, new reproductive technologies, aging, prescription drugs, diseases, alcohol and drug use, exercise, mental health, violence against women and much more.

Our Bodies, Ourselves has a special place in the hearts of many Lesbians. From its earliest editions, it contained a full chapter on Lesbianism which focused on emotional adjustment, sexuality concerns and coping with a hostile world. For many of us, it was the first sensitive and accurate information about Lesbian life that we discovered. It was (and is) a very affirming approach.

But the greatest impact and legacy of **Our Bodies, Ourselves** is its philosophy of health care. The book was a proud product of the rising tide of women's liberation in 1970 and its tone throughout is thoroughly feminist. This fact has made it one of the books most frequently banned in the United States.

The book encourages women to be active participants rather than passive consumers of health care. It presents readers with a plethora of information and options on every conceivable topic and urges women to question medical

"authorities" when they dictate treatment methods. It challenges the "father knows best" mentality that continues to characterize the medical establishment and critiques many commonly accepted medical procedures. Alternative therapies are discussed in depth.

In addition, the book advocates political action to change inequities in our health care system. The authors urge women to fight for a more humane health care system that is accessible to all as a right, rather than the current state of affairs, in which only those privileged to afford it can

THE NEW OUR BODIES, OURSELVES

A Book By and
For Women
By The Boston
Women's Health
Book Collective



obtain proper medical attention.

At its simplest and most profound, **Our Bodies, Ourselves** empowers women to take better care of themselves, of ourselves. It is one of the best gifts any woman can give or receive and, in my opinion, should have a special place on every woman's bookshelf.

The Boston Women's Health Book Collective, which has also published **Ourselves and Our Children** and **Ourselves, Growing Older**, can be reached at 240A Elm Street, Somerville, MA 02144.

Wish them a Happy Anniversary!

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Professional Baseball Found Umpire Pallone Guilty of Being Gay

BEHIND THE MASK: MY DOUBLE LIFE IN BASEBALL

by Dave Pallone [with Alan Steinberg]
Viking, 1990, 331pp \$18.95

By Geno

Dave Pallone's book has been described as the intimate story of the first man in professional baseball to say "I'm Out!" As a National League umpire for ten years, Pallone was aggressive, and fully in charge, often at the center of a rhubarb. He was not adverse to clearing the benches or to throwing Pete Rose or Tommy Lasorda out of the game when his authority was questioned.

Dave Pallone's confrontational style was part of the excitement of the game, but his turbulent career was not the reason why baseball commissioner Bart Giamatti and the owners did not renew his contract and asked him to resign. "Baseball had really found me guilty of being Gay," he charges.

His account has the ring of truth, especially in the early sections of the book where he describes trying as a confused young man to figure out the conflict between his interest in sports, his macho upbringing and his sexual attraction to men. Until he was 26, his sex life was on "hold."

Dressed in a dark suit, the umpire is an inconspicuous part of the drama on the playing field until he makes that crucial decision. But it's doubtful whether sports enthusiasts ever speculate about an ump's sex life, even when he has gained a reputation as a colorful character, as Pallone did.

A competitive kind of guy, Dave looked upon his work as a specialized profession, aware of the theatrical element of his calling, using his body and voice for dramatic effect. In photographs he is taller than most of his colleagues and many of the players, and he stood out as a fastidious dresser in tailor made suits. He was meticulous to the extent that he made it a point not to turn his back towards the grandstands when he brushed off home plate. Bad form.

Another reason that made Pallone a controversial umpire was that he entered the big league by accepting a two-year contract during an umpires' strike in 1978. He explains that, at the time, he saw it as his one chance to make it out of the dead-end minor leagues where the pay was low and travel and living conditions were abysmal. Incidentally, his descriptions of life on the road, especially in the banana republic leagues with their revolutions and baseball fans who meant it when they said, "Kill the umpire!" are fascinating.

But deciding to enter the big leagues by crossing the picket lines had serious consequences. For the ten years of his career in the National League, Dave Pallone was considered a scab by his fellow umpires and was shunned and

ostracized by them to the point where they would not come to his aid when he was in the midst of a fist swinging brouhaha.

Further isolated by this ostracism, Dave left the closet to visit Gay bars and to become sexually active. Through straight friends, he met Scott (a pseudonym), a handsome, straight-appearing young man who became his first lover. Their weekend meetings and vacations together were idyllic and doubly meaningful since Scott was a student and Dave had to travel constantly. When Scott was killed in an automobile accident, Pallone found himself alone again, with no one to share his grief.

Being in the public eye made him vulnerable when rumors began to circulate about his sexuality. When he was falsely associated with a sex scandal, the homophobic world of professional baseball reacted. At first Giamatti was reassuring and seemed to be understanding, but at a later meeting to renew his contract, Pallone was asked to resign. Organized baseball could not accept a Gay umpire.

Now, two years later, Dave Pallone has decided to set the record straight. He tells his story simply and directly, and there is much in this book that makes for compelling reading, even for those who are not baseball enthusiasts. His description of his long, drawn out coming out is one that many can identify with, and he presents wonderful glimpses of the world of baseball and athletics — his days in umpire school, the tribulations of the minor leagues, and stories about well-known sports figures that are unique. The book has moved up to 9th place on the **New York Times** best seller list.

Sports writer Alan Steinberg who worked with Pallone in writing this account has evidently used Pallone's own words, for the ex-umpire is an articulate and intelligent speaker. On the "Today" show, Donahue's program and other network shows, he has shown himself to be a strong spokesman, really a role model, for Gays. He seems very comfortable speaking with interviewers and call-in listeners and carries off difficult interview situations with panache. He would be an excellent baseball broadcast announcer or commentator, but the networks haven't made any offers yet.

Although he is comfortable with his new role, Pallone will not "out" any other sports figures though he feels it would be great if they did so voluntarily. He revealed on Larry King's call-in show that he knows of at least a dozen ball players who are Gay and one team manager. He says there are no Gay umps.

In Italian (though Pallone doesn't mention it) the word "pallone" means "ball". Dave Pallone lives up to his name because he's definitely got 'em.

BEST SELLERS OF THE MONTH GAY

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Equal Affections — David Leavitt, Harper & Row.....	8.95
Robert Mapplethorpe — Robert Mapplethorpe, Little/Brown.....	29.95
Borrowed Time: An AIDS Memoir — Paul Monette, Avon.....	8.95
About Courage — Mickey C. Fleming, Holloway House.....	2.95
Howtown — Michael Nava, Harper & Row.....	16.95
Afterlife — Paul Monette, Random House.....	19.95
Eighty-Six — David B. Feinberg, Penguin.....	7.95
On Being Gay — Brian McNaught, St. Martin's.....	7.95

LESBIAN

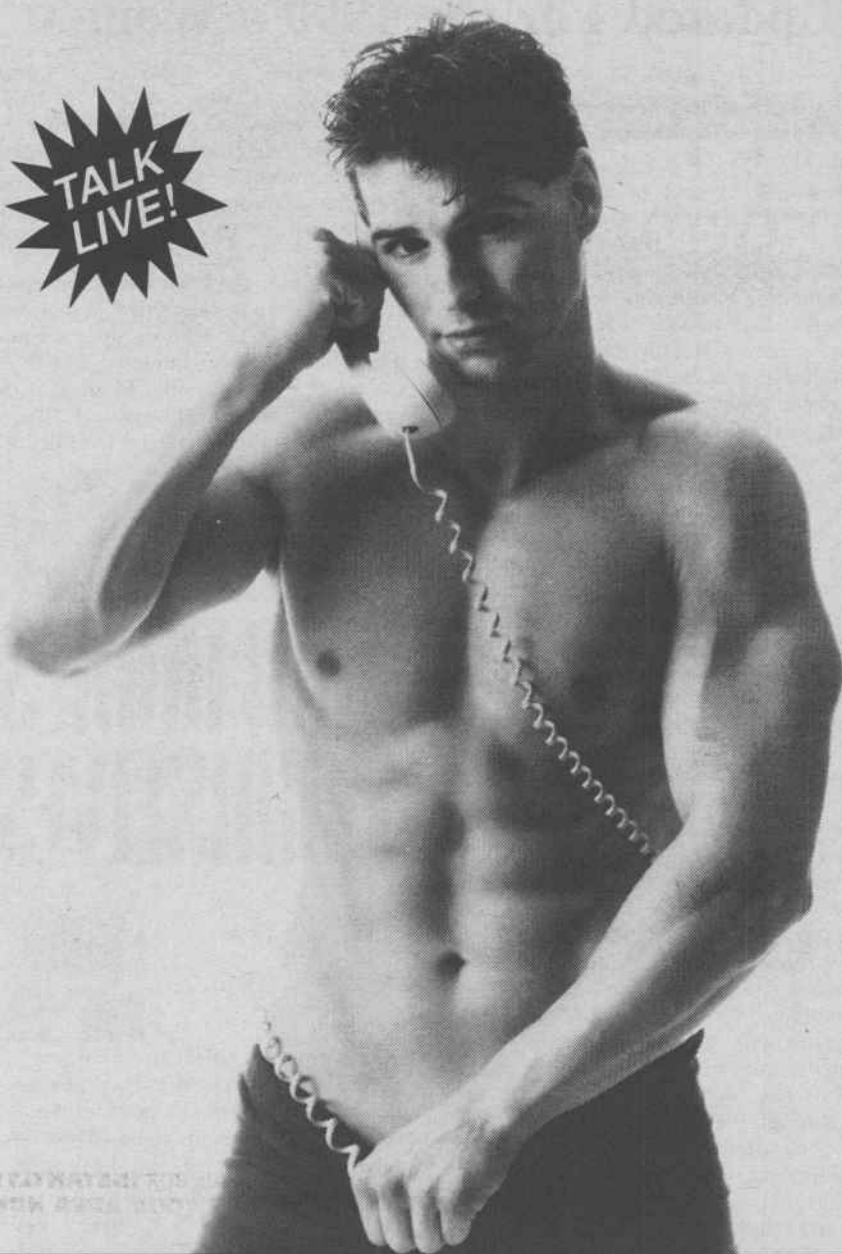
Women on Women — Joan Nestle and Naomi Holoch, Eds., Penguin.....	\$9.95
New, Improved Dykes to Watch Out For — Alison Bechdel, Firebrand.....	7.95
Susie Sexpert's Lesbian Sex World — Susie Bright, Cleis Press.....	9.95
Fire in the Rain... Singer in the Storm — Holly Near, Morrow.....	19.95
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GAY/LESBIAN

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In World War Two — Allan Berube, MacMillan.....	\$22.95
In Search of Gay America — Neil Miller, Harper.....	8.95
Permanent Partners: Building Gay and Lesbian Relationships	
That Last — Betty Berzon, Plume.....	9.95

Sources: People's Books and Schwartz Bookstores in Milwaukee; A Room of One's Own and Four Star Fiction and Video in Madison.

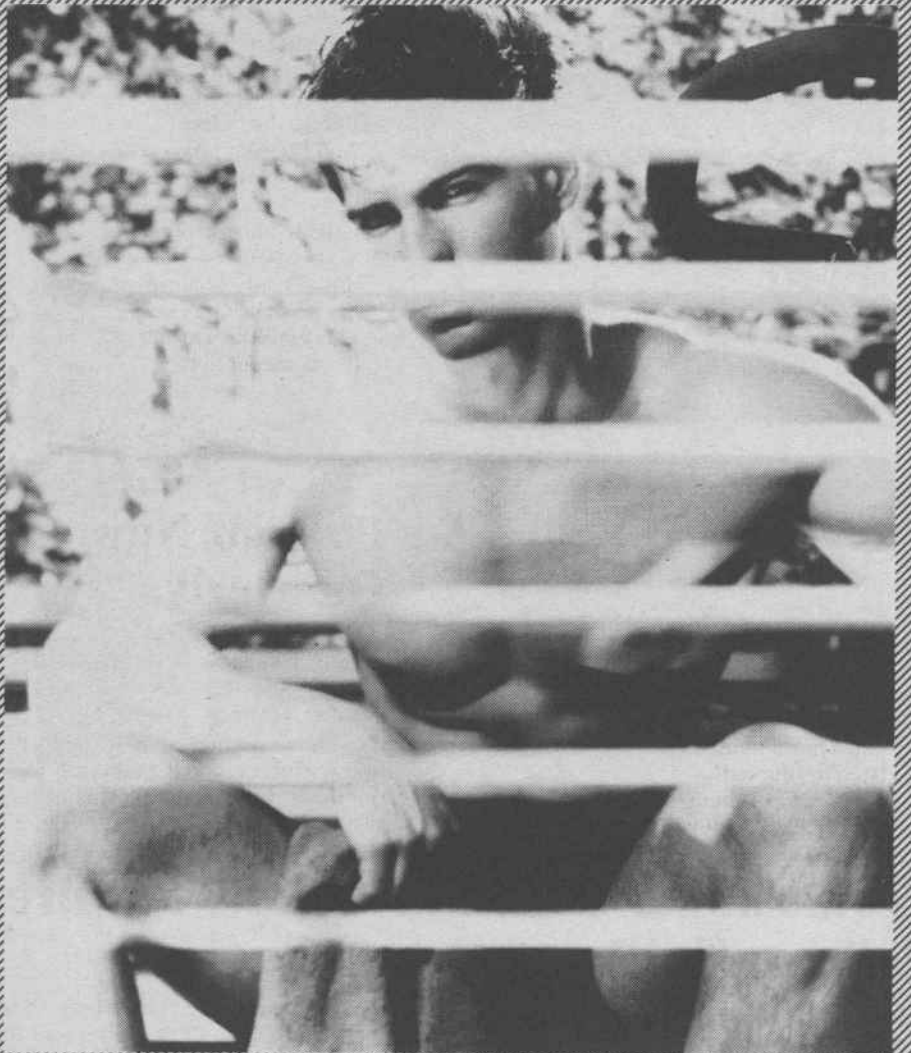
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Bar Culture Blues

By Thomas J. Rondy

(With apologies to Public Enemy... and no one else.)

Listen up, folks
I got somethin' to say,
My name is Thomas J.,
I'm gonna show you the way;
It's a thing or two
About bein' Gay.

What I got to say
I know won't please;
It's about bar culture;
It's a disease!

Bein' a queen
Ain't the way to be.
Take a look around
And I'm sure you'll see
That Liberation
Is somethin' serious
I'm only tellin' the truth;
I ain't delirious.

Smokin', jokin',
Talkin' small talk;
Cruisin', usin',
Walkin' swish walk.

Talkin' in a voice
Much higher than your own,
And toppin' it off
With a nasal tone.
Listen to yourself!
You sound like them
When they make fun of us
By actin' a fem.

Jarheads are a-bashin'
But you couldn't care less;
You're too busy thinkin'
About how you gonna dress
When you go out
To the bars tonight.
What if you find a leatherneck
Lookin' for a fight?

Those who don't buy it
Are S.O.L.
It only helps the breeders
Make our lives Hell.
Alienation,
Conformity
Those belong
To the enemy!

My name is Thomas J.,
And I've got a plan:
I'm gonna haul my butt
To the Promised Land.
The mini- apple
Is the place to be;
It's where to go
For Diversity.
It won't be perfect,
But it'll be better
And I'll wear no more
These dinky-town fetters.

Call me narrow-minded;
Maybe I am,
But it's only because
I'm so sick of this scam.
This ain't the way
It was meant to be
Because Stonewall
Stands for LIBERTY!

Native Americans Publish New Quarterly

[Minneapolis, MN]- American Indian Gays and Lesbians (AIGL) has published the first installment of a quarterly newsletter called **Two Eagles**.

The idea for the publication emerged from an international gathering of Native American Gays and Lesbians held in Wisconsin in 1989. The newsletter gets its name from the two eagles that circled over the 1989 gathering.

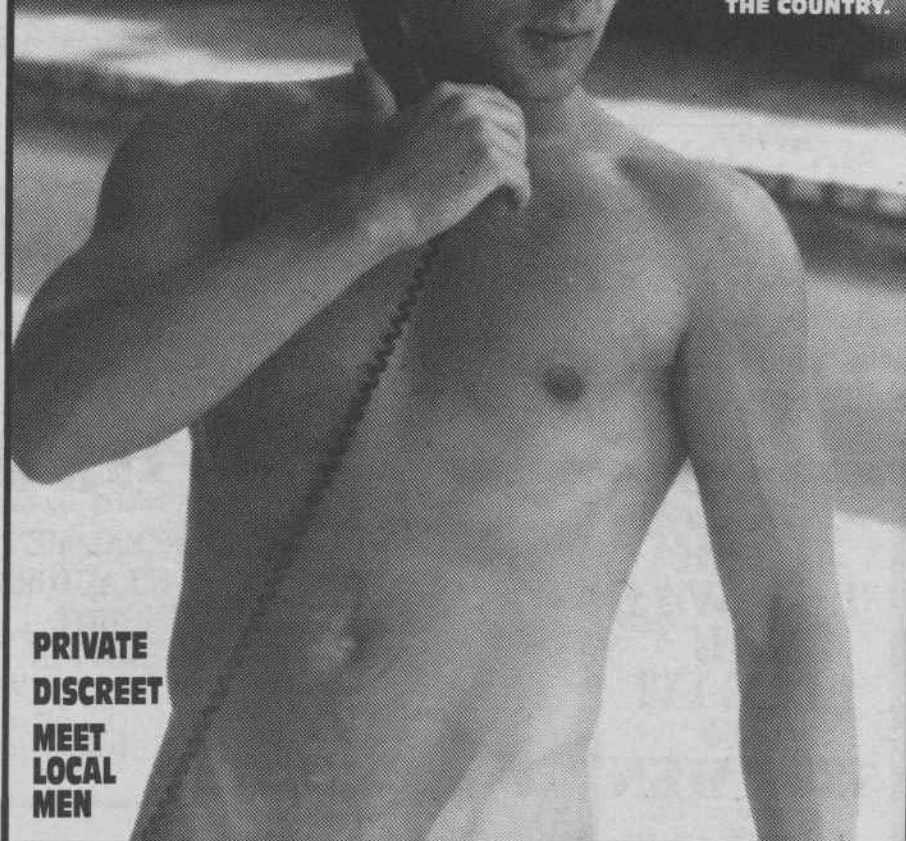
Two Eagles features stories and art by Gay and Lesbian Native Americans with an emphasis on spiritual and cultural concerns. The publication aims to lessen the isolation and promote positive identities among Native American Gays. It also seeks to celebrate and reclaim Gay and Lesbian traditions among Indian people.

Two Eagles is seeking written submissions and artwork by Native Americans and welcomes any interested persons to subscribe. Individual subscriptions are \$8, institutional subs are \$10. Send your request with a check to: AIGL, P.O. Box 10229, Minneapolis, MN 55458.

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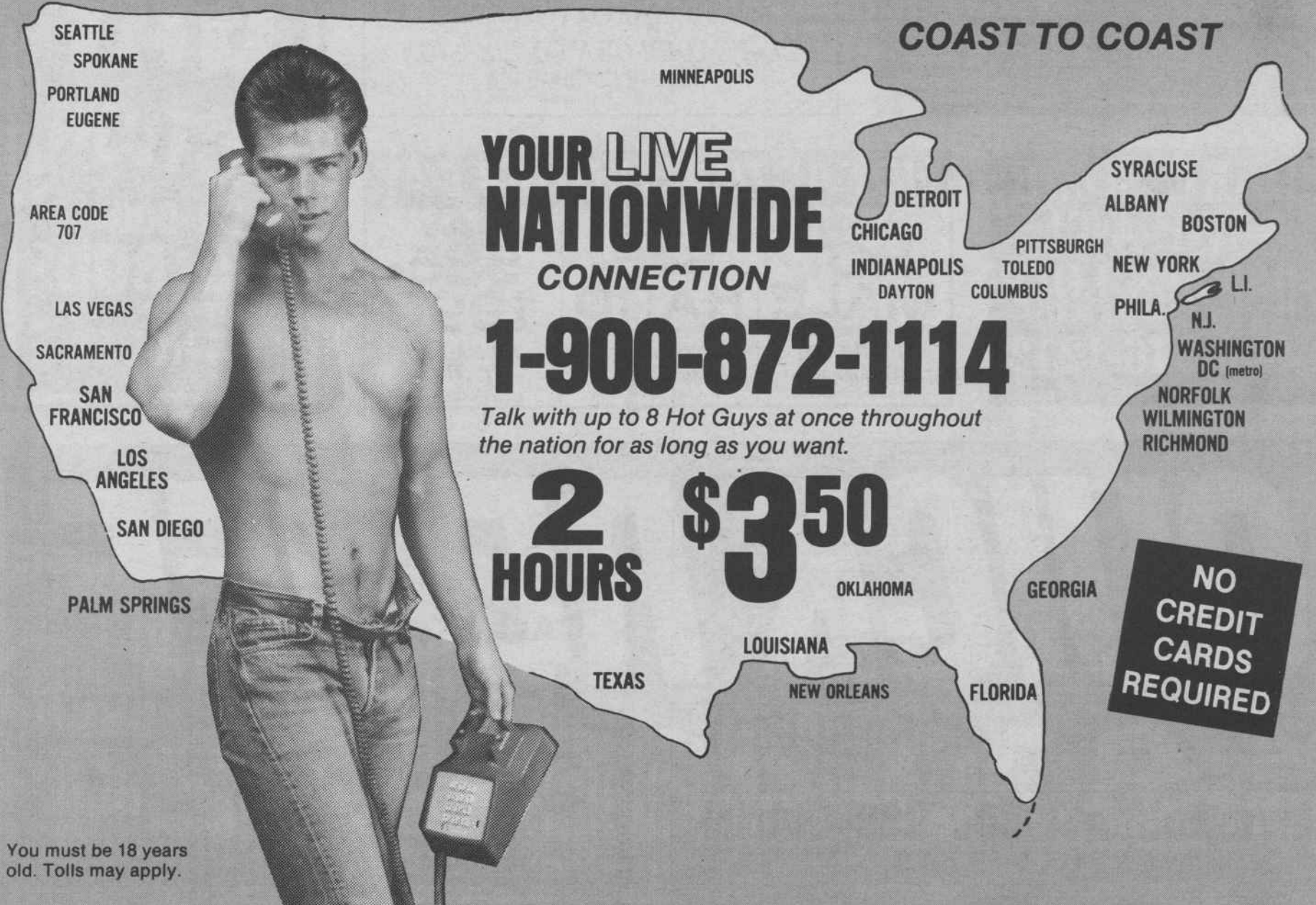
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WALK
Continued from Page 6
"from other AIDS organizations in Boston, Seattle and Minneapolis that annually conduct AIDS walks that these community-wide events are the best way to generate the major private sector funding that is necessary to keep pace with the growing AIDS epidemic."
Nelson went on, saying, "MAP cannot deliver high quality services to people with HIV disease in the future without the revenue from a highly successful Wisconsin AIDS Walk every year."
Nelson explained that MAP's companion organization in Boston, the AIDS Action Committee, recently concluded its fifth annual AIDS Walk. It drew 25,000 people, raised \$2,000,000 and informed MAP that the Boston walk now rivals the Boston Marathon in community popularity.
"In Milwaukee for our first year, our goal is much more modest," Nelson said. "But the principle remains the same — to vastly expand the base of our financial support and bring the entire community together in an effective response to the AIDS epidemic."
MAP intentionally decided to make the Walk a state-wide event because of its determination to see high-quality AIDS services in every region of Wisconsin.
Nelson said, "We've made good on that commitment by selecting eight other AIDS-serving organizations from around the state to receive 25% of the Walk's net proceeds."
These organizations are: the Madison AIDS Support Network (MASN), Center Project-Green Bay, the Brady East STD

Clinic, the Beloit Inner-City Council on Substance Abuse, the Wisconsin Conference of Churches-AIDS Pastoral Care Network, the Milwaukee Visiting Nurse Association, the Great Lakes Hemophilia Foundation, the Lincoln Neighborhood Center in Kenosha and the Spanish Center of Racine.
75% of the Walk proceeds will go to MAP and its affiliate in the Racine-Kenosha area, the Southeast Wisconsin AIDS Project.
"The state-wide support of the Walk has been wonderful," Nelson said, "particularly from MASN which is doing tremendous promotion in Madison and will be organizing bus trips to the Walk."
The theme of the Walk is **A Celebration of Life**. "It will be high spirited," Nelson said, "and will demonstrate the immense amount of solidarity that all of us who care about this disease share."
MAP emphasizes that the Walk will take place rain or shine.
There will be bands, balloons, face painting, aerobics, strolling musicians, and good food.
MAP is encouraging people to make placards to carry along the Walk promoting their group or remembering friends. The Walk is a 10k pledge walk along Milwaukee's Lake Front.
Registration opens at Urban Park, just north of the Summerfest grounds, at 11:00 a.m. Opening ceremonies led by Mayor Norquist will start at noon. The Walk will begin at 12:30 p.m. and refreshments and entertainment will be available along the route of the Walk for everyone's enjoyment. A special closing celebration will start at 3:00 p.m. when the financial results of the Walk will be announced.

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"It's important for everyone to collect their pledges prior to the Walk and turn them in at registration on the day of the Walk," Nelson said. "This will permit us to announce the results of the Walk at the closing celebration and it is the only way for walkers to qualify for a tremendous array of prizes that are available."

Depending on the amount of pledge money that is turned in on the day of the Walk, prizes range from a Wisconsin AIDS Walk T-shirt and sweatshirt to round trip airline tickets to Jamaica to a Grand Prize of a four-day, three-night vacation package that includes round-trip air fare and deluxe hotel accommodations to San Francisco, San Diego or Orlando, Florida.

Pledge forms and registration brochures on the Wisconsin AIDS Walk are available at MAP and MASN and will be distributed to hundreds of commercial outlets throughout Milwaukee, Madison and in other areas of the state. For forms and further information call MAP at (414) 273-1991.

Posters promoting the Wisconsin AIDS Walk will be distributed prior to the Labor Day Weekend.

Nelson said, "Over the next several years, thousands of people will depend on MAP for essential services as they confront the AIDS epidemic in their lives. I am determined to make sure that MAP will be prepared to meet the needs of those we serve. The success of the Wisconsin AIDS Walk over the next several years is THE most important factor in guaranteeing our ability to fund the highest quality of service to people affected by AIDS. That's the reason MAP is making an extraordinary and special appeal to the Gay and Lesbian community for its support of the Walk."

"The Walk is designed to secure broad-based support of people throughout the state. The Gay and Lesbian community however, as in everything we have done, remains the bedrock of MAP's support and is a vital foundation for the success of the Walk and the financial security of MAP in the future."

CLASSIFIEDS

Announcements

LESBIANS! 5th annual Lesbian Variety Show. Nov. 17 in Madison. Kissing Girls Productions wants your talented self for this year's show. Interested artists and performers can call 608/838-8629 or write RCG/LVS, P.O. Box 6091, Madison, WI 53716, for information. See you there!

Employment

VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR
Full-time position available in the Volunteer Resources Department of the Milwaukee AIDS Project. Responsibilities include design/implementation of volunteer staff systems providing direct service to persons with HIV disease; direct supervision of team leaders; monthly reporting; limited training activities; liaison with case management staff. Prior volunteer management experience required, CVA preferred, 2 years volunteer management experience may be substituted. Knowledge of and sensitivity to the issues surrounding HIV required. Phone inquiries not accepted. Equal Opportunity Employer. Letter of application, resume, and references must be received no later than 9/7/90; Director of Volunteer Resources, P.O. Box 92505, Milwaukee 53202.

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CLASSIFIEDS

7,000 Athletes From 26 Countries Participated In Gay Games III

By Peggy Morsch

[Vancouver, B.C.]— During the week of August 4-11, over 7,000 athletes from 26 nations, a host of artists, writers, dancers, singers and musicians and up to 10,000 spectators participated in Celebration '90, Gay Games III and Cultural Festival in Vancouver, B.C.

This was the third, and by far the largest Gay Games to be held, which had its birth in the dreams of Dr. Tom Waddell, a former Olympic decathlete. Dr. Tom envisioned this world sporting event as an opportunity for thousands of individuals with athletic skills at various levels of development to experience the thrill of international competition.

"I wanted the Gay community to see what terrific self-esteem they should have and the Games are just the format for this. We have a lot to teach others about relationships and community support," said Waddell in an 1986 interview.

The Gay Games philosophy is one of inclusion vs. exclusion. All who register are allowed to participate regardless of age, gender, race, ability level, or sexual orientation. Straight participants, although a small minority, may participate also. The atmosphere which permeates this special week held once every 4 years is grounded in Dr. Tom's vision for the Games, "to do one's personal best is the ultimate goal of all human achievement."

So, it was with a great deal of pride and preparation that a small contingent of athletes, artists and spectators from Wisconsin descended upon Vancouver, B.C., which is home to over 100,000 Gay and Lesbian adults. Perhaps the best known Wisconsin participants were the BOVINE BABES, a Lesbian soccer team from Madison. In their first Gay Games, this soccer team, formed only since the early Spring, gave a stellar performance by compiling a 3-2 record. The BABES played one game per day in blistering heat and humidity, which is rare weather for Vancouver, situated in the cool Northwest.

It was only in the first round of the winner's bracket that the BOVINE BABES shouldered a bittersweet defeat at the hands (feet) of the L.A. MISFITS. As

fate would have it, the BABES' defense, caught off guard for only a blink of an eye, allowed the one and only goal of the BABES' final game.

With many Wisconsin spectators present, competitors from other teams commented and agreed that the women of Wisconsin were tough but sportswomanlike competitors. These women were also later known for their enthusiasm for having a good time and dancing up a storm at the late-night activities following their final game.

Another Madison team was the women's Billiards team. Five women struggled under poor lighting conditions to participate in Eight and Nine Ball games where as many as fifteen tables were active simultaneously. Once again the Wisconsin fans came through as we gathered together one evening to witness their Match against San Francisco. The atmosphere, unlike a smoke-filled bar room, was as intense as any athletic competition of the week.

For many, the highlight of the Gay Games was the Physique competition. Over 160 competitors flexed and posed in the preliminary competition to earn their spot in the evening finals. Once again, Wisconsin was represented by Terese from Madison who participated in the Female Middleweight category.

As you can imagine, the participants brought generous applause and whistles from the audience as the athletes proudly displayed their well-honed and oiled bodies up and down the aisles of the Orpheum Theatre for all the \$50 ticket holders to experience body-building close-up and personal! This author heard more than one spectator within earshot sigh, "Oh, they're all so gorgeous!"

This year saw the addition of the Male/Female Pairs, Male/Male Pairs, and Female/Female Pairs. I was especially fond of the two men from Australia whose poignant routine to "That's What Friends Are For" was most memorable. It was refreshing to see men move in such a sensitive, graceful manner while letting the audience in on the special bond of their relationship. They received a standing ovation!

This author waited all week to



Several women are shown in a competitive race at the Gay Games III held August 4-11, 1990 in Vancouver, Canada.

participate in the Marathon and when the starting gun blasted at 7:00 a.m., Saturday morning, the fruits of the week-long wait were well worth the anxiety. On a day of record temperatures and high humidity, a silver medal in my age group was earned.

As previously witnessed during the week, Wisconsin fans as well as others, cheered famously as the runners completed a 3 loop flat course around Stanley Park; a peninsula that juts out from the downtown area into the Pacific Ocean. A special "Thank You" to my Wisconsin Gay brothers and Lesbian sisters!

Last, but certainly not least, was Jim from Madison who participated through the first round of tennis. Having only met him at the Closing Ceremonies, I'm unable to relate his perspective of the Games.

With this overview of the Wisconsin participants, I hope to spark interest in a Wisconsin team participating in the 1994 Games. New York City will host the next Gay Games and Cultural Festival. You may look forward to more stories and photos from Gay Games III in upcoming issues.

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