

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



# The Wisconsin Light

## National Coming Out Day Is October 11

[Santa Fe, NM]- Thousands of Lesbians and Gay men will be taking their next step out of the closet on October 11 by participating in coming out events from coast to coast.

Among these will be the Oprah Winfrey Show which, on October 11 hosting Rob Eichberg, Ph.D., co-founder of National Coming Out Day. This will be the third year in a row that the event has been covered on the Winfrey Show.

But throughout the country, many as individuals, will be affirming their Gay or Lesbian identities by coming out to family, friends, employers and others.

"Telling the truth about who we are is the most positive thing we can do as individuals and as a community," said Lynn Sheppard, Executive Director of National Coming Out Day. "There are over 25 million Gay and Lesbian Americans and most folks don't think they know any of us. Isn't that absurd?"

Jean O'Leary, co-founder of National Coming Out Day added, "Polls indicate that the vast majority of people who report knowing someone Gay overwhelmingly support our rights."

Eichberg said, "If the AIDS epidemic has taught us anything, it has made it clear that we will only achieve equality under the law if we are out and visible. This cannot be done from the closet."

For more information, write: National Coming Out Day, P.O. Box 8349, Santa Fe, NM 87504 or call (505) 982-2558.

## Madison Holds Gantt Fundraiser October 19th

[Madison]- A coalition of Madison residents concerned about human rights, Lesbian and Gay rights, freedom of speech and the arts are hosting a fundraiser for Harvey Gantt. Gantt is running for the U.S. Senate against Jesse Helms (R-NC).

The Gantt fundraiser will be held October 19, 1990 from 5:00-7:30 p.m. at the Cardinal Bar, 424 E. Wilson St. in Madison. There will be complimentary hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar. A \$15 donation is requested.

According to latest polls, Gantt is in a dead heat with Helms; this, in spite of the fact that Helms is out spending Gantt by a ratio of 14 to 1. Helms has been an outspoken critic of Lesbian and Gay rights, Women's rights, civil rights and the leader of the recent attack on government funding of the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA).

Members of the Lesbian and Gay community can help unseat Helms by attending this fundraiser or sending a check directly to the Gantt campaign at: Gantt for U.S. Senate, 700 E. Stonewall St., Suite 655, Charlotte, NC 28202.

For more information, call (608) 255-1523 or (608) 257-6089.

## Anti-ROTC Meeting Nov. 9

[Minneapolis, MN]- The Lesbian and Gay Rights Project of the American Civil Liberties Union will be hosting a one-day nationwide conference for campus organizers fighting ROTC's anti-Gay policy. The conference will be held on Friday, November 9, 1990, in Minneapolis, in conjunction with the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force's annual Creating Change conference.

Among the speakers will be Allan Berube, author of *Coming Out Under Fire* and Miriam Ben-Shalom, National Chair of the Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Veterans of America.

For registration or further information, contact Sofia Gruskin, ACLU Lesbian and Gay Rights Project, 132 W. 43rd St., New York, NY 10036; (212) 944-9800, Ext. 706.

## WISN Radio Accused Of Spreading AIDS Misinformation To The Public



Milwaukee County Executive Dave Schulz (third from left) and Milwaukee Mayor John Norquist (behind girls with scissors), MAP Director Doug Nelson and Susan Mudd (center) look on as the ribbon is cut to begin the Wisconsin AIDS Walk on September 30.

## Woman Sues AT&T For Surviving Partners Employee Benefits

[New York, NY]- In the first federal suit involving domestic partners' benefits, the surviving Lesbian partner of a deceased AT&T employee has charged the company with discrimination for denying her the pension benefits that are routinely extended to surviving family members.

The complaint, filed by Sandra Rovira, accuses AT&T of violating federal, state and local laws as well as its own internal policies which prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation or marital status.

Rovira spent 12 years in a committed relationship with her partner, Marjorie Forlini. They owned a house together, had joint finances, raised Rovira's children from an earlier marriage (Forlini even claimed them as dependents on her tax forms), and formalized their relationship through a ceremony with rings, vows and a written certificate. Rovira cared for her partner until Forlini's death from cancer in 1988.

Rovira told the *New York Times*: "She died in my arms. But when I called AT&T, they treated me as if I was nothing and our whole relationship was nothing. It was so humiliating. We were a family like any other family, and we deserved to be treated like one."

AT&T says its benefits are for legal spouses only and since the law does not recognize homosexual unions, neither

does the company. "We recognize that this is someone who's hurting, but this was not a legally protected marriage," said a spokeswoman for AT&T.

Rovira is represented by the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund. Her attorney, Paula Eitelbrick, told the *Washington Blade* she would not argue that Rovira and Forlini were a married couple. "But as domestic partnerships come up, our challenge will be to convey to the court — and in this case to AT&T — that this is a committed family relationship and that it should be taken seriously."

"It's a real uphill battle," Eitelbrick told the *New York Times*. "We're talking about overhauling the whole system that was based on the 1930's family consisting of a male wage earner, a non-working wife and some kids."

Nan Hunter, a professor at Brooklyn Law School and a long-time activist for Gay rights, said: "I think there will be broader recognition of domestic partnerships in the next five years, at least in large cities."

Hunter told the *Times*: "The law is not very well developed yet, but I expect that there will be more cases in a variety of contexts, asserting that where a non-traditional couple's relationship functions as a marriage, it should be treated as a marriage."

## Gay Student Needs Are Focus Of Teachers' Convention Workshops

[Milwaukee]- For the second year in a row, a workshop targeting the needs of Gay/Lesbian and Bisexual youth will be presented at the 17th Annual Milwaukee Teachers Education Association (MTEA) Convention to be held November 1-2, 1990 at the Grand Hotel. The workshop entitled, "Breaking The Silence: Creating Change and Building Support Systems for Gay and Lesbian Students," will be presented by Michael S. Lisowski, MSW, Director of Gay Youth Milwaukee (GYM) on Friday, Nov. 2, at 1:30 p.m.

The workshop will discuss how to effectively deal with Gay/Lesbian topics in the classroom; how teachers can be instrumental in changing students' attitudes and how to establish support systems and resources for Gay/Lesbian students. Successful model programs from across the country will be presented

to consider how these can be implemented within the Milwaukee Public School system. Establishing a networking system for concerned professionals will also be discussed.

GYM is a rap support group for young Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual people 18 years of age and under. GYM offers opportunities for young people to meet together in a comfortable environment, to discuss and share similar concerns encountered in school, with families, friends, and in both social and sexual relationships. Begun in 1979, GYM now meets on the 1st and 3rd Saturdays at the Downtown public library on the first floor meeting room from 1:00-3:00 p.m.

For more information, please call 265-8500 or write: GYM, P.O. Box 09441, Milwaukee, WI 53209.

[Milwaukee]- On September 20, 1990, Mark Belling, an afternoon talkshow host on WISN-AM radio discussed ACT-UP Milwaukee's informational action at a dental clinic held the previous day. In a letter to Dr. Richard Holcomb of WISN, ACT-UP charged that Belling "spread dangerous misinformation about AIDS to the public."

Belling, who characterizes his program as one of "Uncommon Common Sense" has the reputation of being ultra-conservative.

In its letter to Holcomb, ACT-UP said that "The rights protected under the umbrella of 'talk radio' do not include the right to spread ignorance about a fatal, communicable and epidemic disease."

Belling's discussion centered on the question "should dentists be required to treat AIDS patients?" In using the question, ACT-UP charged that Belling showed himself ignorant of several facts: 1) there are 6,000 HIV+ people in Milwaukee; 2) therefore, the average dentist sees 6 infected people whether he/she knows it or not; 3) the vast majority of HIV+ people are not aware of their status and hence, cannot inform the dentist. This means that dentists must use full precautions with every patient, every time and that when such precautions are used, "the status of both dentists and patients becomes irrelevant."

According to ACT-UP, Belling should either of done his research or called ACT-UP- Milwaukee before the program aired.

ACT-UP-Milwaukee also charged that Belling used the terms "AIDS activists" and "Gay activists" interchangeably.

ACT-UP pointed out that AIDS activists include "straights, Gays, men, women, Blacks, Hispanics, whites" and "anyone dedicated to bringing about an end to the AIDS crisis. AIDS," ACT-UP told Holcomb, "is not a Gay disease. AIDS does not discriminate" and pointed out nationwide educational efforts that have stressed these facts.

On the show, Belling repeatedly stated that the majority of AIDS victims are responsible for their condition; that 95% or people with HIV are personally responsible for their infection and should not complain. ACT-UP told Holcomb that this statement was "horribly callous."

Belling claimed that the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) had estimated the risk of HIV transmission during vaginal sex to be 1/10,000. However, ACT-UP-Milwaukee learned from the CDC that "no statistics regarding the likelihood of HIV transmission during vaginal sex had ever been released by them."

ACT-UP said that "Belling repeatedly suggested... that a person who does not have anal sex with Gay males (why not anal sex with women too?) and does not use IV drugs, is not at risk for HIV. ACT-UP told Holcomb that this was "completely untrue," saying in addition that "Belling and WISN-AM are encouraging" the spread of HIV "by broadcasting blatant misinformation about AIDS."

ACT-UP has charged that "WISN-AM has provided a forum for an ignorant man to spread AIDS misinformation" at great cost to the community. ACT-UP further stated that it viewed WISN-AM's actions as "a serious threat to public health" and demanded "an on-air apology and correction" of "this dangerous misinformation."

A copy of the letter along with a copy of the broadcast at issue have been sent to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). ACT-UP-Milwaukee intends to follow up on this issue.

## NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### Names Project Quilt Vandalized

[Miami, FL]- Complaining that it was "ugly," members of a straight singles club convinced staff at the Hotel Inter-Continental to remove a 32 panel section of the NAMES Project AIDS Quilt which was being displayed in the hotel's mezzanine. According to reporter Keith Clark in the *Weekly News*, the straights then vandalized the panels, ripping off two teddy bears and throwing the entire section into a service closet.

The singles group, Club Connection, had used the hotel's ballroom on September 14 for a social function. Jerry Suarez, south Florida coordinator for the NAMES Project, came to take down the Quilt the following day and had to search more than an hour to find it.

One of the missing teddy bears was from the panel which memorialized Suarez' father. Suarez had given it to his father shortly before his death from AIDS two years ago. Said Suarez: "...that bear was the only thing I remembered him by. When I left the hospital after he had died, they had given me that bear, and that's all I had left."

David Lemos, director of the NAMES Quilt Project in San Francisco, said the incident was indicative of the insensitivity to AIDS that still exists. He also said the NAMES Project would be working on ways to ensure that the Quilt would be better protected in future displays.

### Gays Lose One, Win Others

[New York, NY]- Gay candidate Sean Strub has lost his bid for the Democratic nomination to the US Congress from his Rockland County, New York district. He lost the primary to John Dow with 45% of the vote to Dow's 55%. Strub put a positive face on the defeat. He told the *Washington Blade* that his campaign had forced the media and voters to discuss homosexuality and homophobia.

In statewide races, open Lesbian Deborah Glick won the Democratic primary in New York's 61st Assembly District. She will face Republican Elizabeth Green in November.

In Vermont, two Gay men, both Democrats, won primary bids. Ron Squire will face a Republican for a seat in the Vermont General Assembly and Howard Russell will vie for a seat in the state Senate.

### New Jersey Bars Judicial Bias

[Trenton, NJ]-The *Washington Blade* reports that the New Jersey Supreme Court has amended the state's judicial and professional codes to prohibit the state's judges and lawyers from discriminating against Gays and Lesbians.

New Jersey is the first state in the country to adopt a clause banning discrimination based on sexual orientation among its lawyers and judges.

Bill Rubenstein of the American Civil Liberties Union's Lesbian and Gay Rights Project, which proposed the code change, said: "We hope New Jersey's actions will serve as a precedent for similar non-discrimination rules in other states and eventually in the federal judiciary as well."

### P-FLAG Excluded From Programs

[St. Louis, MO]- The Highway and Traffic Commission of St. Louis County has voted 6-1 to eliminate all promotional signs from an anti-litter program rather than allow the Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (P-FLAG) to participate, according to the *Lesbian and Gay News-Telegraph*.

The "Adopt a Roadway" program allows community groups to supervise clean-up of a designated stretch of roadway in exchange for a sign along that roadway acknowledging the group's efforts.

County Executive H.C. Milford refused to allow P-FLAG to participate, citing its allegedly "controversial" nature. After protests, Milford sent the issue to the Highway and Traffic Commission which decided to eliminate the signs altogether. As the free signs were what attracted involvement by community groups, observers noted that the "Adopt a Roadway" program would probably be discontinued.

### Whitney Houston: "I'm Not Gay"

[New York, NY]- In the October, 1990 issue of *Life* magazine, singer Whitney Houston denies the persistent rumor that she is a Lesbian.

Houston says the rumor may have arisen from her close relationship with Robyn Crawford, her executive assistant, and from the fact that she has not been linked romantically to any one man.

Says Houston: "I mean, people really believe that I'm Gay! It's a real trip. At first it hurt because even back in our hometown people thought Robyn and I were Gay because we were so close. But now, all I can say is it cracks me up. I have no desire for a woman. But if that turns you on, and that's what you think, go for it. I'm not going to spend the rest of my life trying to prove it's not true, because I know the truth."

### Pink Panthers Patrol Village

[New York, NY]- Responding to an alarming increase in verbal and physical assaults against Gays in Manhattan, a group calling itself the Pink Panthers has begun patrolling the streets of Greenwich Village.

Modeled after the better known Guardian Angels, the Pink Panthers, who wear T-shirts with paw prints on large pink triangles, use walkie-talkies, cameras and self-defense techniques to patrol the neighborhood.

Pink Panther member Matt Collins told the *Advocate*: "We want to make New York a safe place to hold hands or kiss in public and not worry about whether you're going to get your skull bashed in."

About 80 Pink Panther volunteers meet weekly at the Gay and Lesbian Community Center in New York City to train and plan strategy. The number of attacks against Gays in New York City is running 82% ahead of last year's figures. Mayor David Dinkins has repeatedly spoken out against such hate motivated crimes. His liaison to the Gay community, Marjorie Hill, has commended the Panthers for their "outstanding" work and "spirit of volunteerism."

### Harvey Milk Memorial Planned

[San Francisco, CA]- Recent donations of \$3,000 have helped to move forward plans for establishing a memorial to slain Gay Supervisor Harvey Milk. An organization called Never Forget, devoted to the development of memorials to commemorate prominent Gay and Lesbian Americans, is spearheading the effort.

Ken McPherson, president of Never Forget, says that more than \$50,000 is required to pay for a plot and to erect a memorial to Harvey Milk in Washington, D.C.'s Congressional Cemetery. It would be located directly across from the grave of Leonard Matlovich, another Gay pioneer who originated the idea of a Milk memorial before his own death from AIDS in 1988.

After his assassination in 1978, most of Milk's ashes were scattered in the ocean. However, an urn containing some of Milk's ashes wrapped in a rainbow flag and pinned together with a "Milk for Supervisor" button along with a tape recording of one of his speeches, a photo and other personal effects will be included in the memorial.

Design proposals for the memorial and financial contributions can be sent to: Harvey Milk Memorial, 584 Castro St., #607, San Francisco, CA 94114.

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.



Dozens of friends of the late madison community leader, Grid Hall, were on hand September 8 at the Cardinal Bar to celebrate his life. Among those were: Marta Baker, Earl Bricker, Ricardo Gonzalez, Barb Constane, Dick Wagner, Pat Shannon, Deb Rohde and Tom Hoyland. Hall who passed away on Memorial Day of AIDS was very involved in human and civil rights. An endowment has been set up with the New Harvest Foundation in his name.

### State Issues New Legal Book On AIDS Topic

AIDS: The Law; Heidi Nass, ed.

Legal problems can present overwhelming difficulties for people with AIDS. Can an employer or insurance company require an individual to take an HIV test? Can an employer fire a person with AIDS? Can a person be refused medical treatment if he or she is HIV positive?

AIDS: The Law, published by the Center for Public Representation in Madison, answers these and other legal questions people might have about AIDS. It discusses legal protections and rights

regarding confidentiality and other matters.

The first chapter is on confidentiality and is written by Rep. David Clarenbach (D-Madison) the author of the state's AIDS legislation.

Dedicated to Attorney Gridley Hall, the book is a product of UW law students working in the AIDS Legal Services Project under the supervision of Clinical Professor Nina Camic.

AIDS: The Law is published in both English and Spanish because of the increasing number of Hispanics who are affected by AIDS.

The price of the book is \$10 and can be purchased by writing to the Center for Public Representation, 121 S. Pinckney St., Madison, WI 53703 or call (608) 251-4008 or (414) 276-5466. The book can be purchased directly from the Center's offices in Madison and Milwaukee (633 W. Wisconsin Ave., Suite 1008. Proceeds from the sale of the book will support AIDS Legal Service Project.

### LRN Seeks Brick Award Nominations

[Milwaukee]- The Lambda Rights Network (LRN) will be awarding its second annual "Brick Awards" at its annual meeting on January 8, 1991, 7:00 p.m. at M&M's upstairs located at 124 N. Water St.

There are five awards this year. They are: "Torch Bearer Award" which is presented to a non-Lesbian/Gay person or group who has best advanced understanding and acceptance of the Gay/Lesbian community.

"Focus Award" which is presented to a media organization which has best reported in a balanced and sensitive way Lesbian/Gay news.

"Group Spirit Award" which is presented to the Lesbian/Gay group which best represents and promotes the positive spirit of the Gay/Lesbian community.

The "Pacesetter Award" which is presented to the Lesbian/Gay person(s) who has done the most for the Gay/Lesbian community.

The nominating committee of LRN is looking for nominations for these awards. Anyone interested in presenting a nomination in writing should mail it to: LRN, P.O. Box 93252, Milwaukee, WI 53203.

Deadline for these nominations is no later than December 28, 1990.

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National Coming Out Day  
October 11, 1990

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## First Wisconsin AIDS Walk Raises Over \$182,000

[Milwaukee]- Nearly 2,000 participants helped to raise more than \$182,000 at the first Wisconsin AIDS Walk, held Sunday, Sept. 30 on Milwaukee's Lakefront.

Susan Mudd and her husband, Milwaukee Mayor John O. Norquist, Honorary Co-Chairs of the Walk, led the 10k procession through beautiful Autumn weather along Lake Michigan.

"The Wisconsin AIDS Walk is truly a celebration of life," said Doug Nelson, executive director of the Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP). "The outpouring of support from all segments of our state-wide community was overwhelming."

The day began with a fundraising breakfast at Professional Marketing Services, 2071 N. Summit Ave. Approximately 300 people attended the \$50-a-plate breakfast to dine on juices, coffee, crusty rolls and fruit-filled muffins as well as cheeses of many varieties and various cold meats.

Later, at Urban Park just north of the Summerfest grounds, the crowds assembled. Music provided by John Kruth and the Atomic Croutons filled the air while many colored balloons floated overhead.

The opening ceremonies were emceed by Melodie Wilson and Tim Blotz of WTMJ-TV. Guests included Rep. David Clarenbach (D-Madison), author of the state's AIDS legislation; Milwaukee County Executive David Schulz; Mayor Norquist and Susan Mudd and three

people whose lives have been intimately touched by AIDS.

Afterward, Susan Mudd and Mayor Norquist cut the ribbon and the long anticipated Walk began.

Along the route, entertainment which included the Fest City Singers and the Cream City Chorus was provided.

A purely subjective impression, but everyone seemed to be having a wonderful time. Some did not, let it be said, do the whole 10K, but no matter. It was the spirit of good times and giving that prevailed.

To answer a much-asked question, Karen Lamb did **not** walk the whole way in heels.

At the end of the Walk, there was a lunch and then the pledge winners were announced. Third Prize, \$1169.50 in pledges collected, went to Larry Hrdlicka — two round-trip tickets on Midwest Express Airlines.

Second Prize — \$1230 in pledges collected, went to Mike Eagle — two round-trip tickets on Northwest Airlines anywhere in the U.S.

First Prize, \$1485 in pledges collected, went to Mary Busalacchi — two round-trip tickets to Montego Bay, Jamaica

Grand Prize — \$2,486 in pledges collected, went to Vince Lombardo — a choice of one of four vacation spots from American Airlines, Bottom Line Travel-Wisconsin and John Geissler and Assoc.

## "Queer Nation" Activist Groups Forming Around The Country

[New York, NY]- There is a new Gay/Lesbian activist organization called "Queer Nation" (QN). Founded this Spring in New York City, the group is spreading rapidly across the country. Currently there are chapters in New York, Seattle, San Francisco and other cities. The *Seattle Gay News* [SGN] describes it as "the newest wave of radical activism to hit the U.S."

QN was born out of ACT-UP's direct action strategy, but, according to the SGN goes beyond AIDS issues to directly confront "Queer oppression and violence."

QN has taken the word "queer" because according to their literature, "it is a way of reminding us how we are perceived by the rest of the world." QN seeks to make the epithet a source of pride and defiance.

A recent issue of the *Village Voice* described QN as less interested in Lesbian/Gay concerns than acting on them. In Seattle QN members disrupted a "Save Our Souls" rally sponsored by Fundamentalists Christians and aimed at "curing" local Gays and Lesbians.

Also in Seattle the local chapter of QN is forming a patrol force modeled after

New York's Pink Panthers. The purpose is to protect Gays and Lesbians from bashers.

In New York, marches, kiss-ins and other demonstrations are in order. Scenes of anti-Gay/Lesbian violence are spray-painted and decorated with signs reading "My beloved queer-bashed here" while a straight bar may find itself infiltrated by members of QN wearing T-shirts with the word "Queer" emblazoned on the fronts. The message they seek to impart by action and word is "We're Here! We're Queer! Get Used To It!"

Larry Larson, columnist for Minneapolis' *GLC Voice*, sees nothing unexpected in the emergence of QN. ACT-UP he wrote recently, "was Gay born and bred. But as the face of AIDS changes, so will the membership of ACT-UP. When straights fully realize that they too can get sick, they will impact on ACT-UP. In the process, the Gay flavor, fever and furor will ultimately dissipate and disappear."

Larson goes on to say, "Queer Nation will never attract any straight participants. 'Queer' is not their word. It's ours."

## Hate Crimes Law Breaks New Ground But Must Be Used

By State Representative  
David Clarenbach

Around the country, violence motivated by bigotry has increased at an alarming rate. The recent incidents of hate crimes in our community represents a disturbing trend that demands a vigorous response.

Wisconsin's new hate crimes law sends the message that we consider violence motivated by bigotry to be especially offensive. The state has an interest and a duty to protect minorities from harassment.

Despite the gains in civil rights during the past few decades, violence still rears its ugly head in the form of race hatred and religious intolerance. A National Conference of Churches study shows hate violence to be reaching epidemic proportions. It found that at least one American a day was a victim of hate crimes ranging from vandalism to murder.

Our new law was passed with the active support of various African American, Jewish, Gay/Lesbian and law enforcement groups.

The new law establishes penalty enhancements for violence that is motivated against any group or individual due to their minority group status. Prison sentences may increase by up to five years, and fines may increase by \$10,000.

But to be effective, the law must be used. Prosecutors must show that the law is real, that it is in the process of working, and that it will make it easier for minority groups to live peacefully in their communities.

Hate crimes pose a very real danger to us all. Few crimes are more insidious than these. For when a person is attacked because he or she belongs to a particular minority group, it represents an attack on the entire group. And that is an attack on us all.

**Editor's Note:** State Representative David Clarenbach (D-Madison) is the author of Wisconsin's hate crimes law.



Jerry Johnson

"Boycott Helms" was spray painted on a Marlboro cigarette billboard in Milwaukee at Brady and Holton Streets which refers to Senator Jesse Helms who is running for re-election in North Carolina who is being financially supported by Phillip Morris, the maker of Marlboro cigarettes.

## Cream City Foundation Gives Grant To Medical College

[Milwaukee]- The Medical College of Wisconsin's Council on AIDS, Reaching out and Educating Students (MCW CARES) has received \$5,500 in grants from two Milwaukee organizations.

A \$3,000 grant was donated by Wisconsin AIDS, a component fund of the Milwaukee Foundation, a community trust established in 1915 to attract and administer charitable contributions for the welfare and benefit of the people of the greater Milwaukee area.

A second \$2,500 grant was donated by the Cream City Foundation, a philanthropic organization of the Lesbian/Gay community of Milwaukee.

MCW CARES is a program initiated by first and second year Medical College students, designed to teach high school students about AIDS. The project aims to supplement the basic health and sex education already provided in the high schools.

Last year, MCW CARES spoke to 34 groups and reached over 2,500 people with their message. The main goals of the program are to explain how the disease is transmitted, what the risks are in catching it and that it is fatal, said public affairs officer Jennifer Junnila.

To date, there are some 50 medical student volunteers involved with the

## GAMMA Plans Hike-A-Thon, Touch Football

[Milwaukee]- GAMMA, Milwaukee's Athletic and Social Organization, opens the Fall outdoor season with scheduled hikes on the first two Saturdays in October and touch-football on Sundays. The hike of October 6th will be part of the fourth annual Hike-a-Thon that benefits Wisconsin's Ice Age Trail. Three, seven and nine-mile options are available; bikers will leave from Greenfield Park and meet the hikers at Lapham Peak. The hike on October 13 will be organized for GAMMA members and any guests. Hikers will leave Milwaukee's East Side about 8:30 a.m. by car, drive to Devil's Lake, and enjoy the Fall foliage as they climb around the lake.

Touch Football, the activity that initiated the GAMMA organization back in 1978, will be held every Sunday afternoon at 2:00 p.m. on the soccer field located on the west side of Lincoln Drive, about 3/4ths of a mile north of the Bradford Beach Bath House. Sneakers are a must; open to all skill levels.

For more information on these GAMMA events, or on social activities scheduled throughout the Fall, contact Bob at 963-9833. GAMMA events are open to all interested members of the Gay community.

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

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

# The Wisconsin Light



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GAY AND LESBIAN PRESS ASSOCIATION

# Anti-Gay Discrimination In Armed Forces Under Increasing Attack

By Jay Hatheway

The official prohibition of Lesbians and Gays within the armed forces of the U.S. has come under increasing attack, and nowhere has this attack been more visible than on the college campus. In particular, campus activists are focusing their attention upon the exclusionary policies of the Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC), and raising questions concerning the legality of such policies where they conflict with campus and state policies of non-discrimination.

Within the Lesbian and Gay communities across the U.S., the question of access to the armed forces has sparked a debate centered around a fundamental question of whether or not access to the military is a position worth supporting. It is unclear what pro-Lesbian and Gay ROTC activists hope to achieve by their demands that the military be integrated. In their rush to integration, the supporters of an integrated ROTC have lost sight of the missions of the armed forces, one of which is to secure the imperial interests of the United States, both at home and abroad.

In Korea, Vietnam, Grenada and elsewhere, military intervention has only masked the reality of oppression and terror. Given the missions for which the armed forces have been deployed since the end of World War II, is it in the best interests of the Gay and Lesbian movements to support a "right" to become engaged in activities on behalf of an oppressive regime? Would the oppressed themselves become the oppressors?

Without denying that our "right" of access to the military is in actuality, fundamental, the struggle for the attainment of this right must be placed in the perspective of the origin of the struggle for Gay/Lesbian civil rights.

The impetus stemmed in part from the women's movement, in part from the anti-war movement, and in part from the civil rights movement of the 1960's. One theme of all of these earlier struggles was the concern for "peace and justice" both at home and abroad. Included in this was the rejection of military solutions to political and social problems, and one of the specific goals of the early movement was the removal of ROTC from campus, not because it discriminated, but because it was representative of a morally bankrupt government and an instrument of repression. Consequently, any military presence on campus was strenuously and

bitterly resisted.

Without rejecting our right as Lesbians and Gays of access, it is imperative that we couple our call for the end of discrimination with a call for the end of the armed forces as an instrument of oppression. If we do not, and we, in fact, find ourselves called to action in support of the Empire, then all of our struggles for a more just world will have been in vain.

A significant number of young Gay men and women who raise their voices against ROTC have not expressed their rejection of the military per-se, but only against the military's exclusionary policies. Such activism is of limited usefulness because it jeopardizes the long-term goal of the wider movement: a more just world.

That our young men and women of today perhaps reject outright these broader goals should come as no surprise. For the most part, the people who so eloquently speak out about discrimination in ROTC are young white males who wish to participate in, and have a share of, the nation's wealth and power. Far from questioning the moral validity of America's role in the world, they support it with an intensity that reflects the rise of conservatism in the U.S. in the past decade.

Rather than come to terms with the uniqueness of their "lifestyle", many Gays and Lesbians who support the military would downplay their distinguishing characteristics in order to find a niche in a war machine that knows no bounds in order to advance their own careers within the staid limits of an upwardly mobile, governmentally sanctioned, white middle class environment.

That this goal is made all the more difficult by the rejection of "homosexuality" by sizable numbers of the very middle class which some Gays and Lesbians seek to emulate only underscores the importance of re-establishing the priorities of the movement in accordance with its genesis.

Only then will we be spared the frightful and bizarre phenomenon of being forced to prove our loyalty to the present system by ourselves becoming an instrument of oppression.

**Editor's Note:** The article by Mr. Hatheway from which the above was excerpted, was commissioned by the War Resister's League of New York and will run in their East Coast publication this month.

# Gays Can And Do Serve Well and Proudly In U.S. Military

By Brian Kipp

During the past few weeks, you can't turn on the TV or pick up a paper without hearing of the on-going crisis in the Persian Gulf. It's frightening to think just how close we are to full-blown war.

Hussein isn't the first madman to attempt to seize more of the world pie, but he stands out as being a much more serious threat, at least in my lifetime.

It got me thinking about the ramifications of what would happen if a war did start. Would the draft be reinstated? Perhaps, and would I be inducted and sent to Saudi, possibly to die? Most likely not.

It's no secret that the Army refuses to admit homosexuals — nor do any of the other branches of the Armed forces. It is believed that Gays are "unfit" to have the chance to lose their lives for their country. What a twisted, sick joke.

Take Miriam Ben-Shalom or Perry Watkins. Both love their country. Both have distinguished and established military careers. Yet the Army has relentlessly fought to strip them of their accomplishments. Why? Because they are Gay. Again, what a twisted, sick joke.

The military position on Gays, at least until a few years ago, was that Gays were mentally ill and unfit to serve. This conformed to what was then the consensus of the medical and psychiatric community. When this view changed, the military was left without a valid excuse for the exclusion of Gay patriots.

But alas! Our armed geniuses brainstormed and came up with a new one. Gays, it was said, are prone to blackmail and thus, a security risk. Bet the Pentagon boys patted themselves good and hard on the back for that one.

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# LETTERS

## Gays In Israel

TO THE EDITOR:

I wish to point out one error in Paul Burman's essay, "Having Gay Orientation is Acceptable in Jewish Faith." Mr. Burman states that it is a crime to be Gay in Israel because of Rabbinical law.

In fact, the Israeli Knesset repealed the country's anti-sodomy law — a holdover law from the British occupation — two and a half years ago, in March 1988. In addition, in June of this year, Judge Haim Eilat of the Tel Aviv District Court ruled that discrimination against Gays and Lesbians in business was illegal.

While homophobia within the Jewish community unfortunately continues to exist, it is being eradicated at a far more rapid pace than many realize.

—Barrett L. Brick  
Executive Director  
World Congress of Gay and Lesbian Jewish Organizations  
Washington, D.C.

## A-Choice

TO THE EDITOR:

A letter from J. Collins in the Sept. 6-Sept. 19 issue of the Wisconsin Light, was of particular interest to me because it encouraged people to contribute to the Cream City Foundation (CCF) through employee giving campaigns.

The writer has the best intentions but is misinformed on Milwaukee's workplace giving campaigns. CCF is a member of ACHOICE, a federation of 15 non-profit, social change and advocacy organizations that formed in 1981 to gain access to workplace fundraising.

ACHOICE is an equal partner with United Way and Combined Health Appeal (CHA), in public employee campaigns in the City of Milwaukee, Milwaukee Public Schools, Milwaukee County, Combined Federal Campaign, State Employees Combined Campaign, and the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District. Milwaukee Area Technical College, the Allied Industrial Workers, Schwartz Bookstore, Outpost Natural foods and many other private employers allow ACHOICE to run a campaign side by side with the United Way.

Because of the hard work of ACHOICE gaining access and the trend in charitable giving to allow donors more choice, the United Way has this year instituted Community Donor Choice: ACHOICE, the Combined Health Appeal and 19 agencies unaffiliated with the United Way are listed in a brochure for the first time. Some employers will provide a donor choice brochure to all employers and others won't.

If your readers want to contribute to CCF, or one of our member groups, they will have to request a Donor Choice Brochure. If a contributor designates ACHOICE, we will share the donation among all of our member groups.

I commend J. Collins for supporting CCF. Workplace giving for Gay and Lesbian causes is not as difficult as it once was and we're looking forward to a much better future.

Our motto is "Funding for Change", and we're working hard to make Milwaukee a better place to live for everyone.

—Bill Hart  
Executive Director  
ACHOICE  
Milwaukee

## Coming Out Day Thurs. Oct. 11

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# An Abundant Body — Calling A Fat Lesbian FAT

By Maytee Aspuro

A woman's FAT body is a body of abundance — an abundance of the raw, caustic distress of being a woman in a patriarchal society.

Two self-identified FAT Lesbians were asked what was good about being FAT. One, without hesitation, said, "It keeps men away." The conclusion being that in not reflecting the classic male definition of a beautiful woman, she was not as likely to be approached or harassed by a man.

I know what it is to be 25% overweight. Throughout my childhood and relatively young adulthood, mirrors were always avoided and photographs of myself shunned. I know food and diet talk can dominate all thought, suffocating any other relevant discourse. I have spent years unable to find clothes that fit. The combination of above average height and being FAT was, at times, an insurmountable barrier. I remember my father being ashamed of me as the FAT was gained and I remember my father being proud of me as the FAT was shed.

I was FAT not because of low metabolism or heredity. I was FAT because when I could not obtain the intangible necessities; love, affection, respect and pride. I could obtain food.

My memory does not have to be very good. I shed more than 40 lbs. of FAT in the first six months of this year. If I don't take care of myself, I will regain the FAT. I will return to old programs where food is a momentary respite from pain and yet, in turn, an additional contributor to my pain.

Given that I know so much about the state of FAT ("overweight" is a polite term that negates the effect of FATNESS upon a woman's very being), why then was I jolted when the Lesbian woman confessed that a good thing about being FAT was that it kept men away? (I never considered FAT a route to safety I wanted to be attractive to other women which meant I may also be attractive to men. I believed Lesbians could not enjoy the former without suffering the latter.)

The FAT Lesbian's words spoke a truth. In that truth laid rage towards a culture in which women trade their health and mobility in the hope of securing a false sense of safety. It is an assumption that often remains unchallenged, but must be. Rolls of flesh upon a woman's body is not an effective physical/psychological weapon against sexual harassment and rape. FAT is a poor deterrent against rape, an act of violence independent of a woman's attractiveness or lack thereof.

The feminist community is dedicated to identifying and overcoming discrimination. This includes FATNESS. I am not declaring a war on FAT women, just the opposite. The enlightened realize that the cause of FATNESS lies beyond the individual woman and avoid placing the responsibility for FATNESS upon her. FATNESS is a reflection of a society that denies women safety as well as self-esteem. Naming a woman FAT is naming the oppressed. It is of utmost importance to do so without stripping a woman of her identity and dignity.

Those who have never known the struggle of obesity will never completely understand and those who have known the struggle of obesity and have overcome it (for now) must be careful of raising a defensive arrogance. The predisposition to negate our capacity for empathy in order not to re-experience our pain is tempting and dangerous.

I am personally against FAT. It limits. Lesbians fight society's shackles on a daily basis. Lesbians need not facilitate their own destruction, be an accomplice to their own murder/suicide. FAT is reactive to the self-loathing inflicted onto a woman's heart and mind. Except for a small percentage of cases where FATNESS has an identifiable medical causation, women are not destined to be FAT.

As a lover of women, it truly pains me to see a woman incapable of walking up a flight of stairs without having to stop to rest and catch her breath. Her mobility is deterred, her energies exhausted. I see the expression on this woman's face as others pass her by. She stands with the weight of oppression fused to her very bones. For the moment there is no immediate escape. It took time for those layers of FAT to adhere, to debilitate. It will take time to shed them, to heal.

For now, I challenge all women who

name themselves Lesbians, lovers of women, to love those women with an abundant body. Intellectually and emotionally demand yourself to see the flesh for what it is; a shield carrying a dear price to the bearer. It is a ransom a hostage pays to feel less of a hostage but which isolates her even more.

For Lesbians who identify themselves as FAT, I have no adequate words. I do know that no matter how much FAT I shed, I will always be one of you. The struggle never ends.

©1990 by Maytee Aspuro

## LRN Seeks Nominations For 1991 Board

[Milwaukee]- Lambda Rights Network (LRN) is looking for people to be nominated for positions on the Board of Directors; these positions come available in January, 1991.

LRN's annual meeting will be held January 8, 1991 at 7:00 p.m. at M&M's upstairs located at 124 N. Water St. At this meeting any attending members will be asked to vote to fill five Board positions. Any person interested should send a resume of nomination to:

Lambda Rights Network, P.O. Box 93252, Milwaukee, WI 53203.

All nominations to be considered at the annual meeting must be postmarked no later than January 4, 1991, otherwise nominations from the floor will be acceptable.



Jerry Johnson

Hundreds of Walkers cheered at the total amount of \$181,794 was announced as the total raised by the walkers in the first annual Wisconsin AIDS Walk at Milwaukee's lakefront on September 30.

## Triangle Trojans Prowess Brings Fame To Milwaukee

[Milwaukee]- The Triangle Trojans, the softball team sponsored by Milwaukee's Triangle Bar have proven themselves one of the most widely traveled teams and good-will ambassadors in 1990 so far, according to Al Thomas, the Triangle's owner.

On July 4, the Trojans took First Place in the St. Louis Softball Tournament. Mark Meyerhoffer, pitcher, and a bartender at the Triangle, was voted Most Valuable Player of the tournament.

The team then went on to take Second

Place in the Nashville, Tenn., Softball Tournament, losing the final game 8 to 7 to the winners from Nashville.

In addition, the Trojans took Second Place in the Milwaukee Classic Softball tournament. The team from Atlanta finished first. The Trojans also took Second Place in Milwaukee's Saturday Softball League.

Trophies attesting to the Trojans' prowess stand proudly in the Triangle as the team looks forward with high optimism to next season.

# Across America, People Are Coming Out

NATIONAL COMING OUT DAY, OCTOBER 11, 1990

On October 11, thousands of people from all walks of life will be making a decision to lead more open gay and lesbian lives. They'll be coming out.

Telling the truth about yourself is a fundamental step in creating closer relationships with your family and friends. Below are a few ways you can come out.

- Talk with your brother, sister, father, mother or child, and let them know more fully who you are.
- Come out to a friend or colleague.
- Contact, join or contribute to a local or national lesbian/gay organization.
- Write to your elected officials to make sure they know they represent gay and lesbian constituents. One way of doing this is through the Speak Out Program of the Human Rights Campaign Fund.



NATIONAL COMING OUT DAY... OCTOBER 11

Coming out is an ongoing process, one step at a time. Celebrate National Coming Out Day on October 11. Take your next step.

National Coming Out Day commemorates the October 11, 1987 March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights. Its goal is to increase the visibility of the 25 million lesbians and gays in the U.S. who cross all ethnic, racial, geographic and economic lines.

National Coming Out Day is a non-profit organization. For more information, or to contribute: (505) 982-2558 P.O. Box 15524, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87506

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## Can One Person Have An Effect? You Better Believe You Can!

By Jim McFarland

I have heard the excuse far too often: "I'm just one person. What can I possibly do to have an effect? I might as well not even bother." So, I decided to tell this story of how one person created a national movement nearly single-handedly.

In the Summer of 1985, Rick Villasenor read about the efforts at UW-Milwaukee to oust ROTC from campus because of its discriminatory policy against Gays and Lesbians. The previous semester, the UW-Milwaukee faculty senate had voted to end that policy. However, a petition was filed calling for a vote by the full faculty. This vote was taken in Sept. 1985 and reversed the senate's decision. Rick had only come out in the Spring of 1985. Nevertheless, he was so strongly disappointed by the faculty's decision that he was spurred to pursue the issue at the UW-Madison campus.

In the beginning, it was difficult for him to find support. The United to which he went first, reacted initially by saying that obtaining University support for ending ROTC's discriminatory policy was an impossible task, one that one as young and inexperienced as Rick was, would never accomplish.

Rick also sought support from the Ten Percent Society which, in the Spring of 1986, helped fund a forum to discuss the issue. However, few of the Ten Percent Society's members were interested in putting time into the effort.

Despite lack of assistance, Rick pushed on. He attempted to convince the University Committee, the executive branch of the UW-Madison Faculty Senate, to set up an ad hoc committee to study the issue, but the Committee declined saying nothing could be accomplished.

Rick turned then to the Faculty Senate, hoping that they would create a committee to study the issue. After an extensive search, he found a sympathetic senator who agreed to introduce a resolution calling for the formation of a committee to study the situation. With that, Rick began the task of lobbying the several hundred senate members, asking for their support of the resolution. In the end, he prevailed. The Senate agreed to set up the committee.

The committee was composed of 5 faculty members and 3 students of whom Rick was one. One of the faculty members was Gordon Baldwin, a renowned constitutional law professor who was the director of the ROTC programs.

Student attendance at the committee meeting was spotty so, to a large extent, Rick had to do much of the work himself, trying to convince other faculty members that Baldwin was wrong — as he usually was. Further, Rick assembled much of the committee's research which soon resulted in his having a rather considerable stack of materials.

Rick's main task was to convince at least two of the faculty members on the committee that Baldwin was wrong and that something should be done about ROTC discrimination. Despite the odds,

he succeeded and the committee recommended to the senate that UW-Madison work in political and legal channels to end ROTC discrimination. If ROTC did not comply, then recommend that the University terminate its affiliation with ROTC.

Again, Rick lobbied the senate members. With few volunteers to help, he sent out a mailing to both the 230 faculty senators and to the 2300 faculty members encouraging them to lobby their senator. Baldwin had several ROTC students lobbying senate members as well.

In the end, Baldwin carried the vote on the issue of disaffiliation, but the senate did vote to use political and legal means to push for a change in the discriminatory policy of the military.

Rick was not satisfied. He knew that the UW-Milwaukee faculty had voted to overturn their senate's decision to disaffiliate from ROTC and he thought he might be able to get the full faculty at UW-Madison to overturn their senate's vote.

To do this, he needed the signatures of over 100 faculty members requesting a vote on the issue. At this point, even I tried to discourage him. To this day, I regret doing that, but Rick shelved the idea.

After graduating in May, 1988, Rick worked for one of the assistant deans in the School of Education and dusted off his idea for a full faculty vote. He got the support of a number of openly Gay and Lesbian faculty members and called as many likely supporters as he could asking them to sign a letter to be sent to the entire faculty asking members to sign a petition for a vote.

In the end, he got over 10 signatures, wrote the letter himself and mailed it to all 2300 faculty members. The response was incredible. Almost 300 faculty members returned the petitions calling for a vote. A few others returned them with various hate messages.

The vote would come the next Fall, but by that time Rick planned to be attending law school at UCLA. Thus, he recruited two of the most capable people to see the task through. One was Jordan Marsh, Speaker of the Wisconsin Student Association Senate. The other was Professor Joe Elder, an active member of P-FLAG and a highly respected member of the faculty.

Elder and Marsh proved to be excellent spokespersons and dynamic in the work. The result: UW-Madison made headlines across the country when the faculty voted to end its voluntary contracts with ROTC if the organization did not end discrimination of Lesbians and Gays.

Other campuses took up the cause until today, efforts to end ROTC discrimination has taken hold on 65 campuses.

The thing is, none of this would have happened if a young, inexperienced Gay student hadn't had the tenacity to push for what was right. Rick Villasenor has proven that one person, acting alone, can have a meteoric effect on society.



Over 1,500 people listened to speakers at the Wisconsin AIDS Walk prior to the Walk's start on September 30 at Milwaukee's lakefront.

## Clarenbach Challenges Gay-Bashing Republican Party

[Madison]- "Anti-Gay rhetoric has no place in this year's election campaigns," State Representative David Clarenbach (D-Madison) said in late September regarding homophobic elements of a Republican Party brochure that highlights the differences between the Democratic and Republican platforms.

The Republican Party brochure entitled, "Know the Difference", asserts that the Republicans "believe the family is the foundation of social order" while the Democrats have "recognized Lesbians and Gays as a legitimate group in our society" and "repealed anti-sodomy laws through the Consenting Adults Act."

"As far as I'm concerned, the Republican Party is endorsing anti-Gay tactics," Clarenbach said, adding that "Gay rights has always been a

bi-partisan issue in Wisconsin and we should keep it that way."

"Gay rights advocacy and a pro-family stance are not mutually exclusive and are by no means incompatible," Clarenbach said, "and it is time the Republicans acknowledge this."

Clarenbach noted that the Wisconsin governor who signed the nation's first Gay rights law was Republican Lee Dreyfus, and the margin of victory for passage of that bill were provided by Republican votes in both houses of the legislature.

"Today, instead of bi-partisan progress toward a notion of 'family' that speaks to all families, we've got Republican Party propaganda that only fans the flames of bigotry", Clarenbach said.

## Cream City Chorus Attended Chicago Leadership Conference

By Gene W. Schilling

[Chicago]- The executive board of the Cream City Chorus recently participated in a Leadership Conference sponsored by the Gay and Lesbian Association of Choruses (GALA) which convened in Chicago over the Labor Day holiday. There are presently more than 90 Gay and Lesbian choruses throughout the United States, Canada and Europe and this number is growing as new choruses are being formed.

The keynote address, "Building Leadership... 1990", was enthusiastically presented by Ms. Peri Jude Radevic, the Legislative Director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF). Her work for NGLTF includes development and implementation of lobbying activities in Washington, D.C. which recently led to the passage of the historic Federal Hate Crimes Statistics Act. Due to the fact that each of the GALA choruses is an integral component of our community's political voice, Ms. Radevic's address was both inspiring and insightful in regard to our place in the Gay/Lesbian movement throughout the U.S. and the world.

The remainder of the conference sessions provided the participants with a

wealth of information to aid them in establishing and/or strengthening their individual choral units. Scott S. Stewart, director of CCCL, attended several sessions on Techniques of Musical Direction. Scott Sowell, treasurer, was a participant in sessions such as Audience Development and Volunteer Staffing. Gene W. Schilling, vice-president, took in sessions concerning Personal Development for Choristers and Interpersonal Issues in Gay and Lesbian Choruses. Sandra Kurjiaka, non-singing board member, contributed to information about Funding and Publicity.

Cream City Chorus president, Jay Reinke, best summed up the many events of the Conference: "We were fortunate to be provided with numerous networking opportunities and a form for interchanging of ideas and information pertinent to the Gay and Lesbian choral arts movement in the U.S. and the world. We look forward to representing Milwaukee and to joining our brothers and sisters at the 1992 GALA Festival IV in Denver. Our participation in this event will be made possible by continued support from the Milwaukee Gay and Lesbian community."

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## Judge Won't Allow Kowalski To Travel To Pride Day Events

[New York, NY]- A Minnesota judge ruled on September 21, 1990, that Sharon Kowalski cannot attend the first Disabilities Pride Day events and demonstrations to take place in Boston on October 6, 1990. The ruling judge, Robert Campbell, claims to have made the decision preventing Sharon from traveling to Boston because it would not be in her "best interest."

According to Karen Thompson, Kowalski's long-time partner and a candidate for Kowalski's guardian, the decision appears to be arbitrary, since she and Sharon recently traveled to San Francisco to attend celebratory events in the women's and Lesbian and Gay communities.

Campbell, who is presiding over the guardianship issue, made the decision to

bar Kowalski's travel even before he reviewed the formal invitation from James Brooks, Commissioner and Chair of the Commission for Persons with Disabilities and the Disabilities Pride Day Committee, asking Kowalski to participate in the events.

Regarding this turn of events, Thompson stated, "I can only assume that the judge doesn't want her to be seen publicly before the pre-hearing conference on October 10th. He's saying, 'Let's keep the disabled shut up and invisible.'"

The pre-hearing conference is the beginning of the process to decide whether Thompson or some other third party chosen by the court, will be appointed as Kowalski's legal guardian.

## Gantt Holds "Slight Lead" In Race Against Jesse Helms

[Washington, D.C.]- According to the Human Rights Campaign Fund (HRCF) and other sources, in his race against Sen. Jesse Helms (R-NC), Harvey Gantt holds a "slight lead" in recent polls.

In a recent article in *The Charlotte Observer*, Frye Gaillard calls the race "dead even" at this point.

While many see the campaign in terms of Gay/Lesbian issues, Gaillard writes that it really is a campaign being waged "against the backdrop of race." "The real question," she says is "Can a Black man... win statewide?" and notes that only one Black candidate, Virginia's Douglas Wilder, has been elected by voters from across a state.

Larry Sabato, a political scientist at the University of Virginia, speaking of the Gantt-Helms race, said: "While it is possible for a Black to win now in the South, it is never likely that a Black will win."

Sabato went on to say that Gantt "is liberal, polished, urbane — the product of the largest city in his state and a likely target for small-town resentment." Sabato noted however, that it would be a mistake to close the book on Gantt saying,

"For the national Democrats, this is one of their best and only chances to pick up a Senate seat."

HRCF is encouraging everyone to contribute to the Gantt campaign by sending checks to: Harvey Gantt for U.S. Senate, P.O. Box 32005, Charlotte, NC 28232.

## NGLTF Seeks Board Members

[Washington, D.C.]- The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) is looking for five men and five women to serve on its Board of Directors beginning next year.

Board members must commit to raising funds for the organization, attend quarterly Board meetings held around the country and must work with other Board members and staff on a variety of programs.

To nominate yourself, send a letter and resume to NGLTF, 1517 U St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20009. The deadline is October 15. Board members will be elected by all Task Force members at the end of this year.



Dr. Karen Lamb and Wisconsin Secretary of Health and Human Services, Pat Goodrich, enjoyed themselves at the Wisconsin AIDS Walk breakfast on September 30.

## 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.

## WordPerfect Alters Its Thesaurus To Edit Anti-Gay Slurs

[Washington, D.C.]- The WorkPerfect Corporation has issued an internal memorandum which will alter its thesaurus in the 5.1 computer program to deliver a different set of synonyms for the word "queer," according to the *Washington Blade*.

The memo stated that "due to changes in usage of the English language, the word 'queer' will no longer bring up the words 'Gay,' 'homosexual' or 'Lesbian' as synonyms, nor will it offer 'heterosexual' as an antonym."

*LaCage*

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# The Light LIVELY ARTS



Jerry Johnson

The Cream City Chorus sang at the Wisconsin AIDS Walk September 30.



Jerry Johnson

The Fest City Singers are shown singing at the September 30 Wisconsin AIDS Walk.

## Audre Lorde Lectures, Reads Her Poetry For Madison Audience

By La Mer Riehle

Audre Lorde's appeared before a capacity crowd at the UW-Madison Union Theatre on Monday, September 23, 1990. Her presentation was the first in the University's Distinguished Lecture Series sponsored by the African American and Women's Studies Programs, the Union Directorate and several other university departments.

Lorde is an African American of world-wide prominence. Currently a professor of English at New York's Hunter College, she is the author of numerous essays, journals and poetry, she is a native of New York and descendent of Grenadian immigrants.

In many ways, hers is a miraculous existence, having battled cancer for 13 years as well as the walls of racism and deculturation erected by white American society in the way of African American women.

In January, 1990, the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) awarded her a fellowship. Others had turned such money down because of the requirement to sign an agreement not to create "obscene" material. Lorde signed the agreement.

Lorde said, "I will continue to write what I have to write regardless. It is not about obscenity. It is about revolution. And I am about doing (Jesse) Helms (R-NC) in because he represents the primary obscenity that's grinding our world into dust: the forces of white patriarchy that defines all good in terms of profit — profit for what is white and what is male."

At Madison Lorde in her very gentle voice, spoke of war. Once again there is war, she said, "being made and constructed by the white patriarchy and once again it's young Black women and young Black men and young white women and young white men who will die — for cheap oil. For cheap oil: not even just of oil, but for cheap oil."

"Meet" was her first poem of the evening. In it she spoke of women meeting on the solstice "between your world and mine," and sharing. "Now you are my child/Mother/We have always been sisters in pain."

This was not Lorde's first trip to Madison. She came with a friend in 1977. They were walking down the street when some white boys in a passing car yelled "Look at the nigger and the nigger-lover." Remembering that, Lorde said, "I understand that still happens in the streets of Madison."

Informed that a young Gay man had been murdered in Madison not far from the University campus, Lorde replied, "So we must ask ourselves, "What does it mean to say that I am not

homophobic?" If we do not raise our voices, we have no voice at all. And we have from history enough examples of what happens if we remain silent...it is not enough to say you are anti-racist. It is about using your power everytime racism appears. She then read from her poem titled, "This Urn Contains Earth From German Concentration Camps."

## MAP To Benefit From Oct. 14 Volden Charity Art Show

[Milwaukee]- Artist Jessica "Todra" Volden will hold a Charity Art Show on Sunday, Oct. 14, from 3:00-7:00 p.m. at All Saints' Cathedral, 818 E. Juneau Ave., Milwaukee. Admission to the show is \$5.

Proceeds will be distributed to the American Indian Movement and the Milwaukee AIDS Project.

## Chicago Gay/Lesbian Film Festival Runs Nov. 8-19

[Chicago]- The Chicago Lesbian and Gay International Film Festival, the second oldest Gay film festival in the world, marks its 10th anniversary this year. Organizer and sponsor, Chicago Filmmakers, is a 17 year-old non-profit media arts center and a year-round venue for independent cinema and video. The Festival will take place from November 8th-19th at the Music Box Theatre, 3733 N. Southport, and at Chicago Filmmakers Theatre, 1229 W. Belmont Ave. The festival's information number is (312) 281-1981.

## Writing Contest For High School Students Set

[Dallas, TX]- The National Gay Alliance for Young Adults, Inc. (NGAYA) has announced its 1990 essay contest. The theme this year is "What is it like being Gay or Lesbian in America Today?" The contest is for high school students in grades 10 through 12.

For further information, write NGAYA, Victor K. Berry, P.O. Box 190426, Dallas, TX 75219-0426.

## "Tri-Cable Tonight" Becoming Less Intense With New Format

[Milwaukee]- After almost a year, the Milwaukee Gay/Lesbian Cable Network is getting ready for more programs.

"Yellow On Tuesday" (YOT), a Gay comedy program featuring shorts, skits and parodies, premiered earlier this Summer. Two more YOT's are in planning, scheduled for cablecast in mid-October and late December, 1990.

Tri-Cable is being revitalized with some new, less complicated twists. The New Tri-Cable (NTC) will be a Gay/Lesbian issues-oriented program featuring a panel of persons, sometimes with opposing viewpoints. The panel will be led by different moderators.

NTC hopes to cover thought provoking topics of concern to the community. For example: Why are some Lesbians and Gay men uptight about drag?; Is there a Milwaukee Gay/Lesbian History?; Milwaukee Police & Violence in the G/L community; Outting — is it justifiable? among others.

The new format will be much less intense than the old Tri-Cable Tonight, since there will be no field shoots, and no pre-production edits. It is hoped to tape two NTC programs each studio shoot and have a new show cablecast every two weeks on Channel 14 every Thursday and Sunday evening, 10:30-11:00 p.m.

Tri-Cable is looking for ideas, topics and, most importantly, people willing to be moderators or guests. Some of the programs could have studio audiences. Contact Mark at 277-7671 or Bryce at 271-7812 if you are interested in working as production crew or have any ideas that

you want to share.

On October 26, 1990 the MATA fundraising dinner will be held at the Astor Hotel Ballroom (924 E. Juneau) beginning at 6:00 p.m. The Philo Awards will be presented at about 7:30 p.m.

The first "Yellow On Thursday" is being entered under the Entertainment Category. A compilation of the best from the last three episodes of Tri-Cable Tonight (October, November, December, 1989) is being submitted under the Community Interest Series Category. And Lula Robinson's program, "James Baldwin In Retrospect", is being submitted in the Cultural Focus Category.

The dinner is \$17.50, but you may attend the Philo Awards for free

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## Radical Feminism Is Topic Of Important New Book

By Cheryl Kader

**Daring to Be Bad: Radical Feminism in America.** by Alice Echols, U. of Minnesota Press, 1989; 416 pp; \$12.95

**Daring to Be Bad**, Alice Echols' gloriously detailed account of the rise and fall of radical feminism in America, is an important book. For those of us whose inscription in history is uncertain at best, Echols' work enables us to understand and learn from the past as we continue the struggle for women's rights and the rights of all subjugated people. For this reason alone, this book is welcome reading. Echols not only acknowledges, she celebrates, the changes brought about during the relatively short period — eight years, in her opinion — in which radical feminism flourished.

Citing abortion and anti-rape activism, the development of consciousness-raising, the Miss America protest (1968) and subsequent assaults on standards of femininity, critiques of sexuality, marriage and the family, as well as experiments with equalitarian and non-hierarchical structures, Echols provides her readers with a lively and informative account of the early tumultuous years of Women's Liberation.

Echols rightly defends radical feminists' success in voicing many women's concerns and subverting traditional values. In addition, she gives us fascinating insights into such early feminist figures as Shulamith Firestone, Ti-Grace Atkinson, Robin Morgan, Ellen Willis, Rita Mae Brown and Anne Koedt and their respective roles in the building of the movement.

Beginning with the New Left and the civil rights and student movements of the 1960's, Echols demonstrates how women's dissatisfaction with their often contradictory experiences in these organizations gave rise to the decision to organize separately. She chronicles the split between "politicos:" "feminists:" those women, already sympathetic to notions of male supremacy, who criticized the left for "refusing to broaden its analysis to account for women's oppression."

Echols articulates the emergence of various early women's liberation groups, in Chicago, Washington, D.C., and New York, and the eventual split with the New Left. And she examines the beginnings of an independent and autonomous women's movement, focusing on four early organizations — Redstockings, Cell 16, The Feminists and New York Radical Feminists — and the increasing factionalism among members.

For someone like myself, whose involvement with feminism began in the mid-seventies (following the demise of radical feminism, in Echols' terms) this section of the book, especially, is fascinating reading.

Carefully mapping out the important distinctions among radical feminists, Echols evokes the richness and multiplicity of the early years of the movement and the ways in which the influence of feminist ideas and practices continued far beyond the individual existence of any one group.

Having said all this, however, and having given credit where due, I am left with the task of challenging a number of Echols' major premises, most especially, her claim that radical feminism "ended" in 1973 because of its failure to deal effectively with divisions of class and

sexual identity. The rise of Lesbian feminist consciousness, with the publication of Radical-Lesbians' Manifesto, "The Woman-Identified Woman," and the establishment of the Furies Collective, which promoted the idea of "political Lesbianism," accelerated, in Echols' opinion, a shift to cultural feminism and an emphasis on how one lived one's life over political struggle.

Cultural feminism is Echols' nemesis. It (and she is as unreflective about cultural feminism as she is careful to historicize radical feminism) is "responsible" for turning a radical politics into a countercultural movement characterized by an essentialist belief that all women share something that transcends difference, by the conflation of the personal with the political, and by a commitment to "the preservation and celebration of femaleness rather than the transformation of gender."

To define "culture" in opposition to "politics" in this way is not productive; Echols' hasty generalizations about cultural feminism, especially its relation to Lesbian feminism and the anti-pornography movement, neither of which is as monolithic as she suggests, weaken the significance and the impact of her historical critique. The term "culture" can, as it certainly does within feminist practice, have significant political implications, implications which are missed or disguised by Echols' application of the term as an "umbrella" concept.

I am alarmed by the implicit "Lesbian blaming" in this book and disturbed by its author's failure to consider the complexity of cultural feminism. Early in her book, Echols sets up a dichotomy between politics and culture, and her work serves as a justification, or ratification, of this polarized view.

In **Daring to Be Bad**, cultural feminism functions as "the other"; Echols consistently underestimates the ways in which cultural feminists (just who are they, anyway?) have always worked for social change, and the ways in which feminists' participation in Lesbian feminist culture (a culture made safe for women and, therefore, a culture of resistance) energizes our political activism.

I am indebted to Echols for her careful documentation of the heterogeneity of radical feminist thought and its transgressive legacy. She has recorded the rise and eclipse of radical feminism in America with precision and elaborate attention to detail, helping us understand our movement's development.

Nevertheless, the failure of feminism to change the world becomes so rigid when she attributes "causes." With its implication of cultural feminism in the evaporation of radical possibilities, **Daring to Be Bold** misses the mark. For example, had Echols examined the centrality of institutionalized heterosexuality to women's oppression, she would have recognized one important cultural feminist contribution to sexual politics. But an omission such as this only dramatizes Echols' tendency toward monolithic designations. A more nuanced approach on Echols' part could have resulted in a critical analysis of radical feminism worthy of the courage and visionary achievements of its constituency.

## Book Gives Gays and Lesbians of Military Back Their Dignity

By Miriam Ben-Shalom

**Coming Out Under Fire**  
By Allan Berube  
Free Press, \$22.95

I will admit that I have a strong prejudice — a mountain-sized bias — about **Coming Out Under Fire**. Few books on the topic of homosexuality or Lesbianism have made me want to shout, cheer, howl and Leg-off in public. But Allan Berube and **Coming Out Under Fire** elicits such a strong response. If, next to Gay American History, there is one book every Lesbian and Gay man should read, it is **Coming Out Under Fire**.

So little has been known of the decent, good service in the military by Gays and Lesbians. It was, perhaps, a hush-up conspiracy: hush-up, don't talk about it.

In Berube's moving accounts, we can see patriotism in drag, behind the wheel of a deuce-and-a-half, in combat, and in stateside MOS's.

We learn of the brave few heterosexual doctors who tried to spare Gays and Lesbians grief — but we also learn that Bad discharges, the resulting dishonor, the threat of bad paper to civilian employment, even rejection by one's Gay/Lesbian peers conspired to teach the Gay or Lesbian veteran to remain silent. The pressure is greater in the military to have a family: to come out means expulsion almost certainly.

Yet Allan Berube has battered down the walls of fear and conquered silence on a topic long neglected. Rich in detail, the accounts of Gay and Lesbian military

## BEST SELLERS OF THE MONTH

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<b>In Memory of Angel Clare</b> — Christopher Bram, Plume.....	9.95
<b>Equal Affections</b> — David Leavitt, Harper & Row.....	8.95
<b>Robert Mapplethorpe</b> — Robert Mapplethorpe, Little/Brown.....	29.95
<b>Borrowed Time: An AIDS Memoir</b> — Paul Monette, Avon.....	8.95
<b>Howtown</b> — Michael Nava, Harper & Row.....	16.95
<b>Meatmen 8</b> — Winston Leyland, Leyland.....	13.95
<b>Sure of You</b> — Armistead Maupin, Harper & Row.....	10.95
<b>New Loving Someone Gay</b> — Don Clark, Celestial.....	7.95

### LESBIAN

<b>Fire in the Rain... Singer in the Storm</b> — Holly Near, Morrow.....	\$19.95
<b>Women on Women: An Anthology of American Lesbian Short Fiction</b> — Joan Nestle and Naomi Holoch, Eds., Plume.....	9.95
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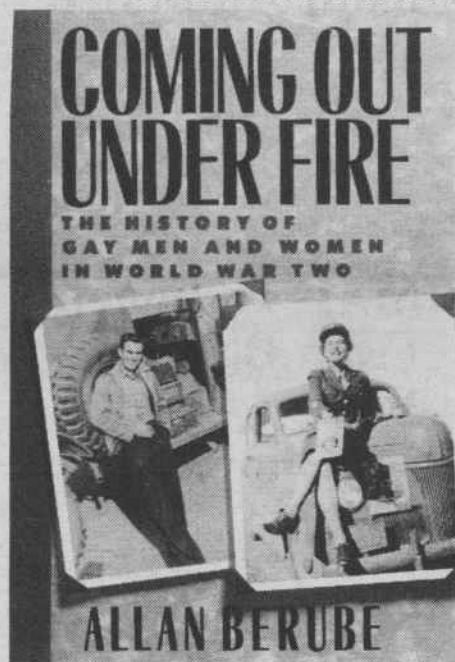
### GAY/LESBIAN

<b>Coming Out Under Fire: The History of Gay Men and Women in World War Two</b> — Allan Berube, Macmillan.....	\$22.95
<b>In Search of Gay America</b> — Neil Miller, Harper.....	8.95
<b>Permanent Partners: Building Gay and Lesbian Relationships That Last</b> — 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.

people come to life. They seem at once a confusing melange of personalities: fearful, cavalier, bold, shy, assertive, courageous... These "old soldiers" survived some of the worst harassment the military could offer and remained whole human beings.

not much has changed in the U.S. military's attitude towards homosexuals.



unless it's wartime and bodies are needed for cannon fodder. Otherwise, no matter how good you are, you're still unfit — for no apparent reason.

## Simplicity and Realism Highlight Photos Of The Male Body

**Himage** by Richard Plowright; Alyson Publications, Boston, 1990

Richard Plowright is due out with a new book, **Himage** to be published by Alyson of Boston this month (October, 1990).

The work, which is a collection of Plowright's photographs is, for those who love the masculine physique, a symphony of luscious men. Yet, it is not like others of its kind; the cover-boy pretty collections that have proliferated on bookshelves in recent seasons.

Plowright's photos stand out because of their simplicity and realism. While all of the photos in **Himage** examine the sensuality and raw energy of the male nude, they do not glamorize "beautiful men." In fact, the photos often do not show the model's face at all.

Plowright is an Australian-born photographer, now living in Toronto, whose award-winning photographs have appeared in such magazines as "Harper's Bazaar" and "Maclean's." His work has been exhibited in Canada, the United States, New Zealand and Japan.

For the first time, Berube's book lends more than quiet dignity and pride to Gay and Lesbian military personnel. Because of Berube, we can see a new era, a time when Lesbians and Gay men can rightfully continue to claim pieces of a heritage once lost, and do so with the same vigor that other groups do in support of their vets.

Perhaps Berube has done a greater service. By presenting such a proud military history, he may give strength to those who serve still — even in the Persian Gulf. He may have paved the way for changes he — or his interviewees — might never have imagined.

As a former military person, I have often felt that little was known or understood about my personal desire to soldier. Most people thought the desire to be in the military as a peculiar quirk at best — or viewed military service as equal to the desire to rape, pillage and burn.

Thank you Allan Berube. You have given us, U.S. Gay and Lesbian vets and active duty people back our dignity.

And for the rest of you who never served: if you read ONE book in the next year — read this one. You won't regret it. You will understand what drives a Gay vet to be proud against all odds.

As for me, I swore I'd never wear my dress greens again, unless it was for some important event, a hallmark in Gay/Lesbian liberation. Allan Berube: next year I will walk in Milwaukee's Gay Pride Parade in dress greens. Just to honor you.



A photograph from "Himage".

## Coming Out Day October 11

# Vancouver Reaped Many Benefits As Host To Gay Games III

By Peggy Morsch  
[Last of a Series]

Vancouver, home to 100,000 Gays and Lesbians, proved to be gracious hosts to over 10,000 visiting athletes, artisans, musicians, spectators, volunteers and choir members who attended Gay Games III August 4-11, 1990.

Hotels, motels and billet housing were filled weeks before the arrival of the participants. The Metropolitan Vancouver Arts and Athletics Association (MVAAA), organizers of the Games, issues a call for help in supplying hosted housing for the athletes coming from far away. In their usual Canadian style, many natives of Vancouver and nearby Burnaby opened their homes to teams and individuals needing housing.

Inga, a fellow track and field athlete from Norway who I had met in 1986, stayed with a couple who literally gave her the key to their door and announced that she might make use of anything in the house that she needed. Such hospitality could be found throughout the city during the Games.

In organizing Gay Games III, the MVAAA experienced a few set-backs and frustrations. When it was initially announced that 7,000 athletes would be descending on Vancouver, a few Christian organizations threatened to hold a large protest demonstration against the event. In support of the philosophy of the Games, hundreds of Gays and non-Gays

noise and wild schenanigans abounded at that festival and many local residents were upset with the chaos. She reported that local residents she spoke with were anxious for their neighborhood around one of the volleyball venues to return to normal, but were pleased to see that the athletes and spectators were polite, neat and quiet.

While lunching with a friend on Robson St., a popular shopping area, the friend commented on the Gays and Lesbians walking down the street hand in hand and arm in arm.

"I'd rather my children see people caring about one another than beating each other up," she said.

In the ensuing conversation, the reporter commented about how difficult it would be to hide her love and affection for her husband; to not be able to be yourself in front of others. "That," she said, "is what Gays and Lesbians have to live with everyday."

Vancouver reaped many benefits from hosting Gay Games III. I heard over a Vancouver radio station that they expected an estimated \$18 million to be generated. This worthy donation to the City of Vancouver will certainly have an impact on the way New York City views the 1994 Games.

You see, Gay Games host cities must apply to host the Games, just as the Olympic host cities do. Issues such as athletic venues, transportation, housing, safety and volunteer workers must be confronted and criteria met to host the games. New York has chosen to meet the challenge.

I invite GAMMA, bowlers, softball teams, volleyball players and billiards enthusiasts to join me in 1994 in New York. I encourage those interested to come forward and start planning for "Team Wisconsin" in 1994.

For additional information on Gay Games IV in New York and The Federation of Gay Games Endowment Fund which will support activities related to the Gay Games, please write: The Federation of Gay Games, 584 Castro St., Suite 383, San Francisco, CA 94114.



Madison's Bovine Babes soccer team posed for a picture at the Gay Games III in Vancouver, Canada.

## Bowlers Still Needed For Oct. 20 H.I.T. Against AIDS Tourney

[Milwaukee]- The Holiday Invitational Tournament (HIT), 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 and Florist). As the sole sponsor of this event, HIT has designated that fifty percent of all proceeds will be donated to MAP.

HIT is proud to announce that over 50 bowlers have signed up to bowl and well over 150 pledges have been received with

three weeks to go!

However, further participation is vital to make this event a success. Informational packets have been distributed to all the Milwaukee area bars as well as the MAP offices. To sign up, simply stop in your favorite establishment and ask the bartender for a pledge sheet. If you are unable to bowl, make a pledge by contacting Cindy (871-4735) or Dean (482-1700) or the MAP offices.



An unidentified woman carried the Milwaukee sign in the Gay Games III opening parade in Vancouver, Canada.

alike came to offer their homes and volunteered to help out wherever needed. In the end, MVAAA was able to supply enough housing for those who needed it.

The local media was supportive of all of the events. It was early in the games when the news of 2 Master's Swimming records were broken in the 50 year-old category. This news spread rapidly among the athletes as we speculated how mainstream publications such as Sports Illustrated would cover the next Games in 1994.

One non-Gay columnist zeroed in on how the city was adapting to seeing and experiencing so many Gays and Lesbians. She described a festival that occurred two weeks earlier in Burnaby. Litter, loud

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## Dykes to Watch Out For



## POLITICALLY SPEAKING

# Big Money Minority Catch The Ear Of Governor Thompson

By Bill Menuier

Two weeks ago I wrote about the Thompson record on Gay/Lesbian issues. For those who remain unconvinced about whether or not they should vote and who they should vote for, I am going to depart from my normal practice which has been to confine my comments just to our issues. The campaign fundraising conducted by the Thompson campaign is so outrageous that it must be brought out into the open.

When Tommy Thompson won the Governor's chair four years ago, he promised to bring in a new era in Wisconsin politics. Many believe that his 'new era' is a throwback to the days when the railroad and timber barons ran the State through the Executive Mansion in Madison.

Thompson's shameless appeals for unneeded campaign funds have shocked many in the State. He has amassed a campaign treasury which by itself more than **DOUBLES** the state spending record for governor's races set in 1988 by BOTH candidates. In fact he has so much money that he refused to accept taxpayer supported campaign financing, not because he wanted to save the taxpayers money, but because his acceptance of those funds would have limited him to spending a paltry \$1,300,000 or so in his quest for re-election.

If his record is as good as he says it is why does he feel the need to spend so much on getting re-elected? Wouldn't the \$1.3 million he would be allowed to spend under the public financing laws be enough? As it is, if Thompson spends all of his money he might well wind up spending over \$5.00 for every vote he gets.

It isn't bribery that concerns many, it's the reality that those who contribute in large amounts will have access to the Governor while those who can't afford to give thousands will not.

In fact the newly established Governor's Club promises that for a mere \$500 you can have the Governor's ear. So many big contributors have stepped forward that it is unlikely the Governor's ear will have time for anyone else.

If anyone really thinks that the special business interests gave Tommy all that money out of the goodness of their hearts they deserve to be moved to the top of the waiting list for a room the Home for the Hopelessly Foolish. At the very least these folks expected and will get access to the Governor, allowing them to make an uncontested case on their issues and requests for special loans, tax breaks and appointments.

In politics access to an elected official is everything. If you can't get in the door, you can't make your case.

A prime example of this occurred during the fight over Sewer charges in Milwaukee. During the height of the battle between Milwaukee County municipalities and others using the Sewerage District, a coalition of over 20 organizations called TOT representing thousands of people asked for a meeting with the Governor to present him with information on how the dispute affected Milwaukee's Inner City. Tommy sent an aide who promised little and said even less. Do you really think these organizations would have gotten that kind of response if several of their members had given a few thousand each to Tommy?

The only thing these groups had going for them was the fact that they represented the feelings of thousands of people. Unfortunately the people they represented were not big contributors, no money, no access.

To give another example. In almost every state allowing dog or horse racing, the Racing Commissioner serves at the pleasure of an appointed Racing Authority. In Wisconsin the State Racing Commissioner is appointed by and serves at the pleasure of the Governor. Is it any wonder that those who got or wanted racing licenses put over \$400,000 in Thompson's war chest?

A group of investors at least some of whom were Thompson contributors, bid for a dog track license in Hudson. This same group was given their license a few days before the people of that city were to vote on the matter in a referendum. The people of Hudson voted the track down, but it was too late to make any difference.

Couldn't the Racing Board (also appointed by Thompson) have waited to see what the people of Hudson wanted before it acted?

No one can say that the Racing Board or Governor were bribed, but the circumstances of what happened at least makes bribery appear as a possibility, and that is a shame because it casts doubt on the investors, the track and on our State government all of which need and deserve the trust of the people they are trying to serve.

The implied message when a Governor spends so much time and effort raising big bucks that he doesn't even need is that if you don't give don't expect anything especially when you're competing for contracts against others who did.

Its almost as if the Governor's office is for sale. You can almost see the auctioneer calling out bids for tax breaks, special favors, licenses, contracts etc. Those people who are getting or who want to get these things give lots of money. Those can't afford to give get left out.

That's not what our government is supposed to be about. That's not the Wisconsin tradition established by the La Follettes when they throttled the Railroads and Timber barons. There is nothing illegal about Thompson accepting contributions from those who want something from the State, but such tactics are better suited to Chicago and Illinois than Wisconsin. After all Bill Proxmire regularly got re-elected time after time and didn't even spend \$1,000 to do it. Why? Because he didn't hide his record behind slick, phony commercials and cheap slogans; he ran on his record and won despite being outspent hundreds if not thousands to one.

For his part Thompson points to his opponent's (Tom Loftus) acceptance of about \$50,000 in campaign contributions from two Political Action Committees. That \$50,000 represents only 1% of what Thompson has raised in campaign funds. That's a little like a murderer saying he should be absolved of blame because his victim called him a name before he shot him. The \$50,000 in question comes from two public unions whose causes Loftus has supported in the past. They gave to him to thank him for his past help and because they know their interests do not lie with Thompson. Furthermore their donations are open and above board. You don't have to dig through records to find out what they are involved in, like you would have had to do with Thompson contributors. For example, Thompson received thousands of dollars from the Alabama group who partially owned the Dairyland Track in Kenosha.

You may remember these civic minded folks. They were the guys who convinced the Thompson appointed Racing Board to give them the license for their track despite their own staff recommendations against doing so. Now they have been forced out of the track because of alleged misconduct uncovered by a Wisconsin investor.

The last time we saw such overkill in raising funds was in 1972. The Committee To Re-Elect the President (CREEP) raised millions to get Nixon re-elected in a landslide. We all know the result. Hopefully, we learned that what this type of fundraising does is show an attitude of arrogance for the will of the people, a tendency to let those with the big bucks call the shots, and an inclination to play fast and loose with the public trust.

Whether we in Wisconsin learned anything from the Nixon fiasco will be shown in November. As a Gay and Lesbian community we can send a message that we will support our friends and punish our enemies, as Wisconsinites we can show our revulsion over the excessive zeal with which Thompson partisans have raised funds.

Up to this point Wisconsin has been able to avoid what has happened in other states where big spending and not rational discussion of the issues determining who wins our elections. If Thompson wins all that will change. The Wisconsin way of electing officeholders based on their positions on the issues and not because we were saturated with their commercials may come to an abrupt end. It's up to each of us to do what we can and must do to keep our Wisconsin Tradition intact.



Jerry Johnson

Randy Frank celebrated his birthday in grand style with an outdoor benefit show at the M&M Club. Nearly \$1,500 was raised for the Milwaukee AIDS Project, the Fest City Singers and the Cream City Chorus. Randy is shown, above, having his bee-hive hair-do hair sprayed in a parody of the 1950's.

## OBITUARIES

### Steven B. Campbell

Steven B. Campbell passed away on September 28, 1990. He is survived by his mother, Rosemary of La Crosse, brothers, Lloyd T. of La Crosse, Jonathan of Minneapolis; sisters, Maryann of Sparta, Monica Seubert of La Crosse, Patricia of Eagan and Dianne of Sparta. Also, two nephews, three nieces as well

as many friends in Sparta, La Crosse and Milwaukee. Steven was preceded in death by his father, Lloyd.

A memorial service will be held in Milwaukee on Tuesday, October 16, 1990 at the M&M Club, 124 N. Water (upstairs). The time will be 7:00-9:00 p.m.

## Nebraska Man Awarded \$25,000 In AIDS Slander Suit

[Lincoln, NE]- A Nebraska man has been awarded more than \$25,000 in damages in a slander suit he brought against a person who falsely claimed the man had AIDS, according to the *Advocate*.

When the rumor of AIDS spread throughout his small hometown, Robert L. McCune began drinking heavily and lost his job. He filed suit against the woman who started the rumor, was able to prove malicious intent and won the judgement in a jury trial. The Nebraska Supreme Court recently upheld the judgement.

### FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Milwaukee Lesbian/Gay Pride Committee  
Gay Pride '90 Celebration  
As of August 31, 1990

#### REVENUES

Account	Description	Balance
500	Donations	\$ 476.33
505	Merchandise Sales	2,629.52
510	Fund Raising	6,595.45
520	Permits & Fees	7,406.25
590	Other Revenue	40.00
TOTAL REVENUE		\$17,147.55

#### EXPENSES

Account	Description	Balance
600	Printing	\$ 479.76
605	Advertising	799.71
610	Fundraising	3,734.45
615	Telephone	593.68
620	Bank Charges	43.83
625	Merchandising Costs	276.26
630	Office Supplies	102.72
635	Postage	201.13
640	Rally	7,666.25
650	Parade	2,286.95
690	Other Expenses	453.98
TOTAL EXPENSES		\$16,638.72
Net Income		\$508.83

#### ASSETS

Account	Description	Balance
100	Cash	\$ 447.82
110	Accounts Receivable	295.00
120	Merchandise - Resale	2,280.52
130	Inventory - Non-Resale	150.00
TOTAL		\$3,173.34

#### LIABILITIES

Account	Description	Balance
200	Accounts Payable	\$2,478.87
TOTAL		\$2,478.87

#### EQUITY

Account	Description	Balance
300	Retained Earnings	\$ 694.47
TOTAL		\$694.47
L & E Total		\$3,173.34

Note: Account 530 includes \$4650 in food/beer sales at the rally of which the Pride Committee received \$960. Account 510 includes \$5540 "Longtime Companion" ticket sales from which the Pride Committee netted \$2438. Major expenses included \$1850 for parade/rally insurance; \$545 for police protection; and \$350 stage rental.

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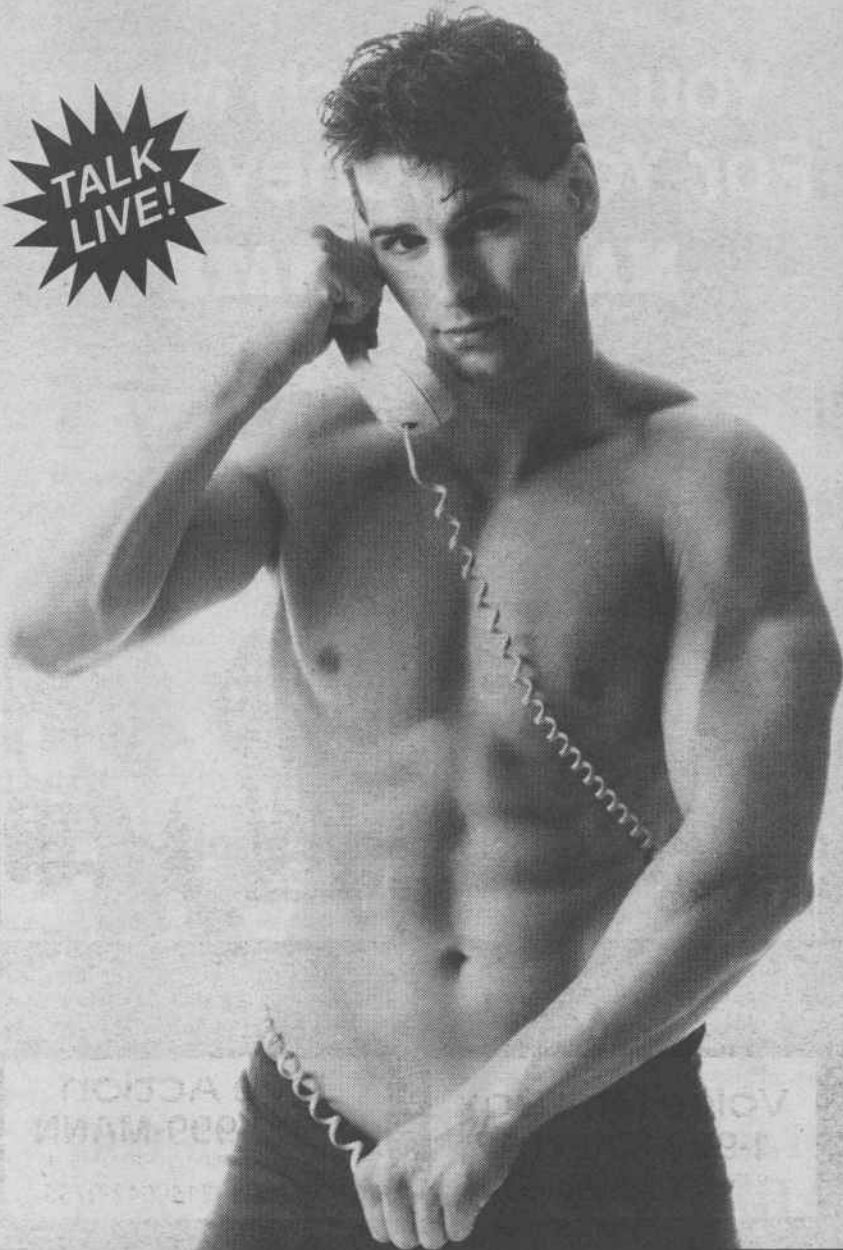
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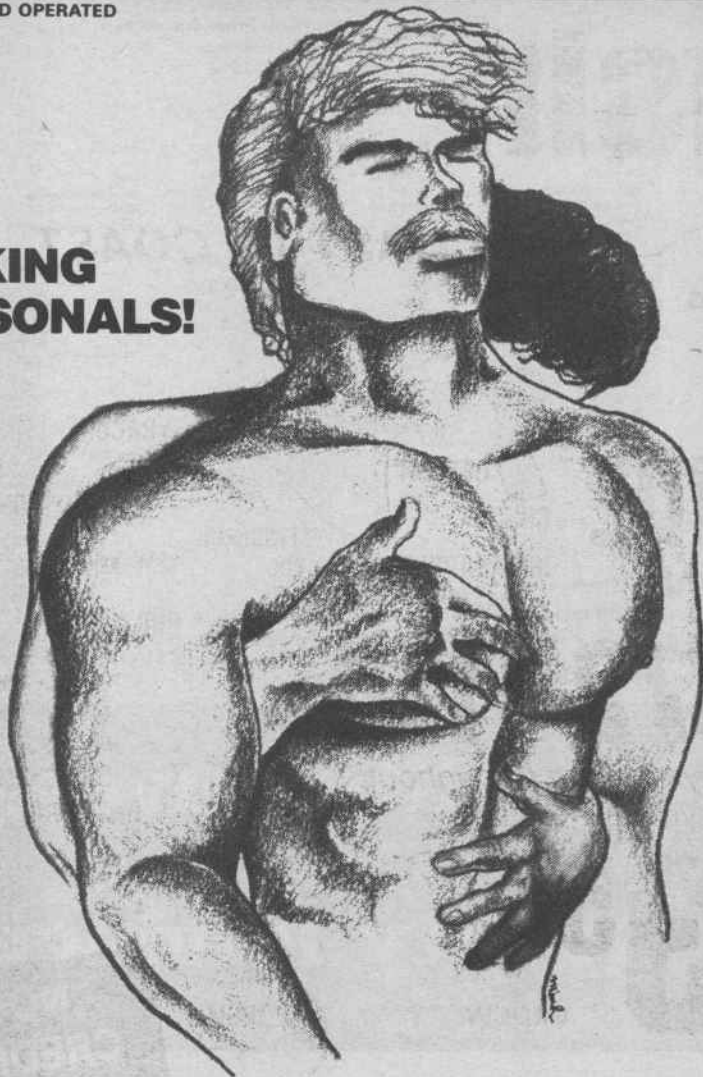


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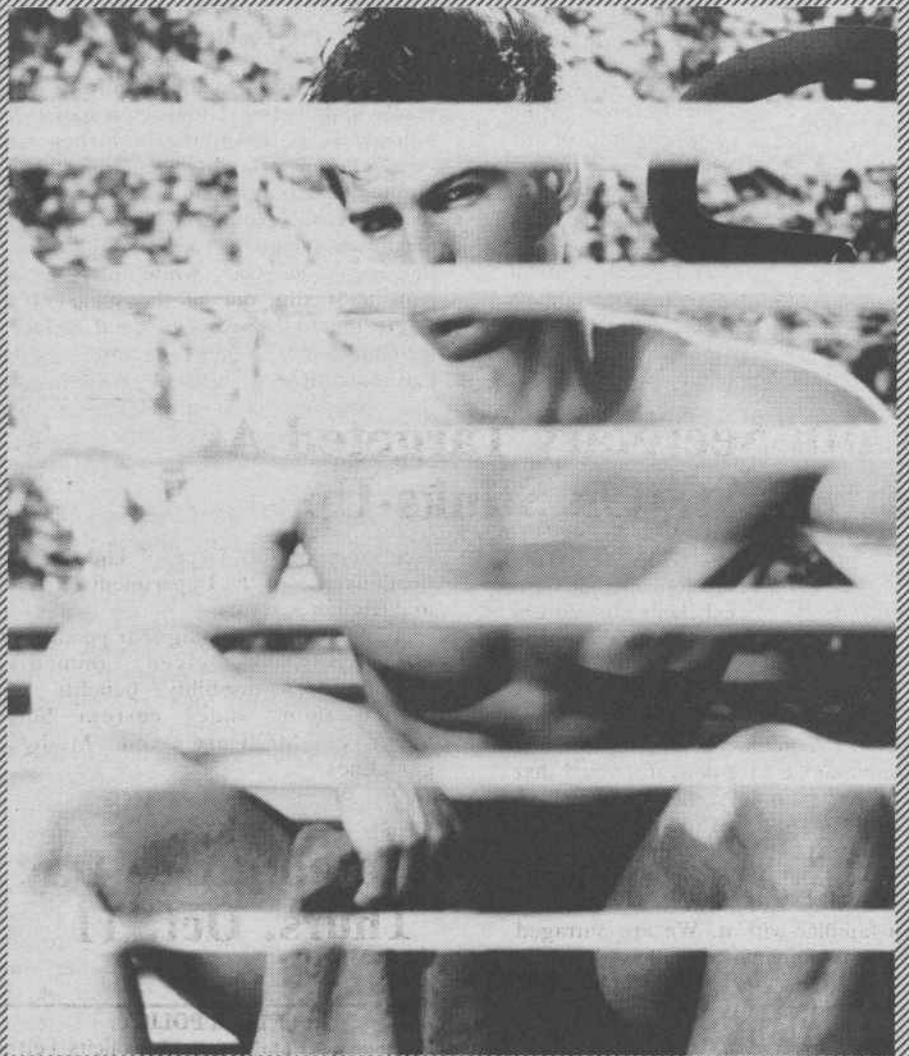
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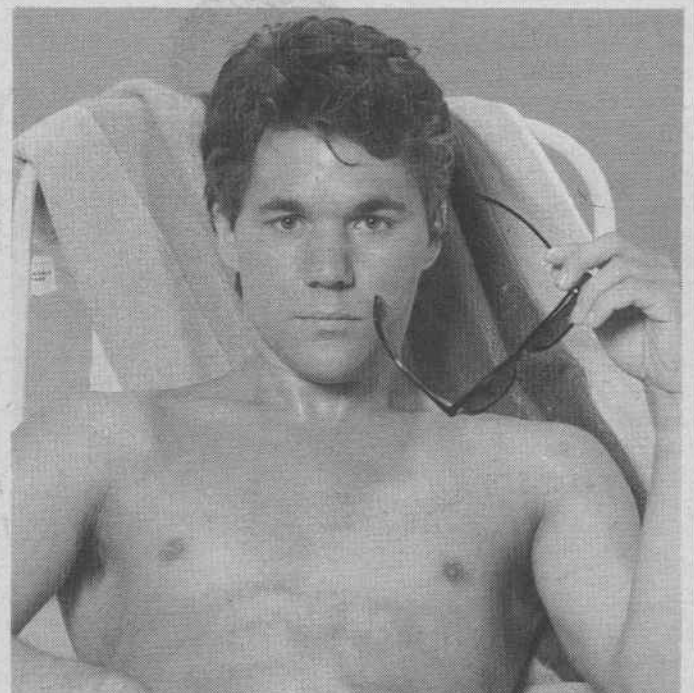
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ADULTS ONLY

## Women With HIV/AIDS Protest Denial of Social Security Benefits

Washington, D.C. [GLINN]- Women with HIV/AIDS were joined by AIDS activists from throughout the northeast in protesting the Social Security Administration's restrictive and discriminatory criteria for determining eligibility for disability benefits. The demonstrators, numbering over 200, rallied October 2nd in the afternoon on the plaza in front of the headquarters of the Department of Health and Human Services.

18 activists sat down in an intersection adjacent to the building. For a time they were successful in blocking traffic in all directions. When they refused to leave police moved in and arrested them. Three women were the first to be handcuffed and dragged to the police vans. A total of

six women were arrested. They were charged with obstructing a road and face a maximum of six months in jail or a \$500 fine.

The protest was punctuated by women with HIV speaking to the crowd. They told of the horrendous ordeals they have endured seeking adequate health care and disability benefits. The women spoke over loudspeakers, describing how they have been denied disability benefits, despite chronic, disabling conditions.

"The reality is that women have real, disabling symptoms of HIV that aren't the same as Gay white men," said Katrina Haslip, one of the speakers. "I want this to be acknowledged before I develop more severe symptoms, and before death."

## Health Secretary Targeted As Subway Station Stinks-Up

Washington, D.C. [GLINN]- AIDS activists suspended a 15-foot banner high above the heads of rush hour commuters the evening of October 1, 1990 in the cavernous Metro Center, Washington's main mass transit hub. The banner, which read "Louis Sullivan, HHS Secretary: Your AIDS Disability Benefits Stink", was accompanied by a powerful smell that spread throughout the station.

A caller who declined to identify herself said, "This is what it smells like when women die from AIDS. Sullivan and the Social Security Administration obviously are not familiar with it. We are outraged that so many people are allowed to die before qualifying for disability benefits. The stench from the Administration's inactivity far surpasses the discomfort metro riders are experiencing today."

The banner was supported by helium balloons which quickly carried it up to the vaulted ceiling high out of reach from the crowded multi-storied platforms and escalators below.

The action by an independent group of activists was said to be in support of ACT UP's demonstration set for the next day

(see story in this issue of **Light**) at the headquarters of the Department of Health and Human Services.

ACT UP is demanding that people with HIV/AIDS be given immediate (presumptive) disability benefits now denied them under current Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid guidelines.

## Coming Out Day Thurs. Oct. 11

### LETTER POLICY

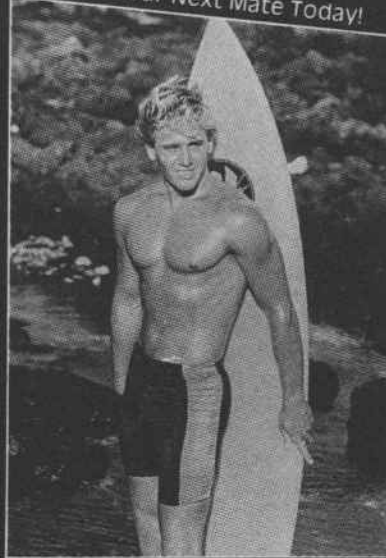
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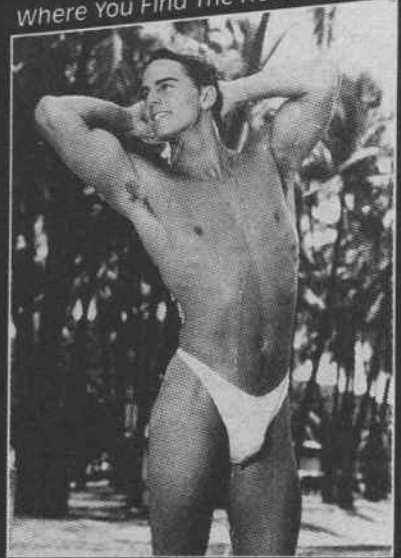
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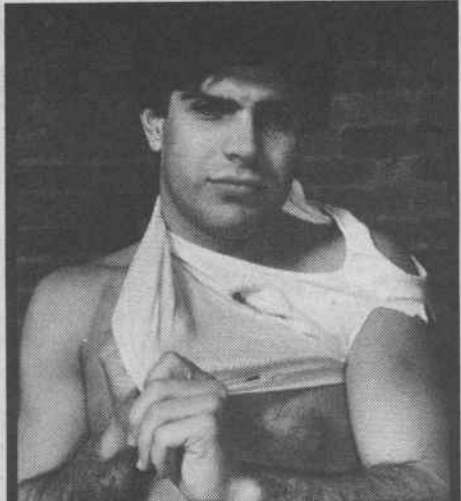
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# Social Security Administration Sued For Denying AIDS Related Benefits

New York, NY [GLINN]- A class action suit was filed October 1st challenging the Social Security Administration's handling of applications for disability benefits by women, children, drug users and homeless people who are HIV-positive. The suit alleges that the Administration is insensitive to the ways that HIV illness manifests itself in these disadvantaged people.

The plaintiffs include two Latina women, an African American woman, a homeless African American man, and a two-year-old Latino infant — all of whom have been denied disability benefits despite serious and disabling illnesses.

Named as defendant is Louis W. Sullivan, Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services. The plaintiffs, identified in the complaint as S.P., M.C., J.M., L.K. and P.S., sue under their initials because they fear that public knowledge of their HIV status will expose them to harassment and discrimination.

The class action is on behalf of all those infected with HIV and disabled by HIV-related diseases not recognized by the Social Security Administration as indicator diseases for AIDS or ARC. These diseases are not recognized because the SSA relies too heavily on the Centers for Disease Control's definition of AIDS as criteria for determining disability. This outdated definition is based primarily on symptoms manifested by Gay males.

"The CDC has not adequately studied women and poor people," says the plaintiffs' attorney, Theresa McGovern of MFY Legal Services' AIDS Project. "It is wholly irresponsible for the Social Security Administration to rely on the CDC to define what is a disabling HIV-related disease. I have been shocked by the number of women, children and poor people dying of AIDS, yet declined disability benefits because the SSA does not view their symptoms as AIDS-related."

One of the named plaintiffs, Ms. S.P., filed for disability benefits in August 1989 because of a positive HIV test and a host of disabling conditions, including chronic pelvic pain, intractable gynecological disorders, headaches, vomiting and blurry vision. Her application was denied at the initial and reconsideration levels. She received an HIV diagnosis, but was classed as

asymptomatic.

In March, 1990, Ms. P. requested a hearing before an Administrative Law Judge. Ms. P. had been hospitalized for severe pelvic inflammatory disease and suffered from anemia, chronic pelvic pain, increased fevers, vomiting of blood, weight loss, fatigue and dizziness. She had also been treated for lung infections and cervical intraepithelial neoplasia. Ms. P. was unable to attend her first hearing, scheduled for June 19, 1990, because she had been hospitalized for chronic pelvic inflammatory disease.

On the second hearing date, in August 1990, Ms. P. presented medical documentation of the above-mentioned conditions as well as a suppressed T-cell count in the 200-300 range. At the present time, thirteen months after Ms. P. made her SSI application, she awaits a hearing decision. Her disability was not recognized because the disabling symptoms she suffers are not among the opportunistic infections recognized by the SSA as indicator diseases for AIDS.

The suit alleges that use of this current criteria has had a discriminatory and disproportionate impact on 3 subclasses: women who are HIV positive and suffering from chronic and disabling gynecological disorders; current and former intravenous drug users who have disabling, recurrent symptoms, including endocarditis, renal failure and respiratory illness; and poor persons — primarily people of color — who live in substandard housing or who are homeless and have HIV-related illness including tuberculosis and pneumonia.

Among a number of requested reliefs, the suit seeks for the Secretary to: pay "presumptive disability" benefits to any and all claimants with proof of HIV infection and a physicians report stating their inability to work; issue instructions to New York adjudicators expanding the inclusiveness of the current standards for HIV-related disease recognized as disabling; and to acknowledge that certain conditions not ordinarily disabling, become disabling in the presence of HIV.

Joining Ms. McGovern in bringing this lawsuit are Jill Ann Boskey, also of MFY Legal Services; Tody Golick of Cardozo Bet Tzedek Legal Services at Cardozo Law School; Mary Gundrum of the Center for Constitutional Rights; and Sandra Lowe of Lambda Legal Defense Fund.

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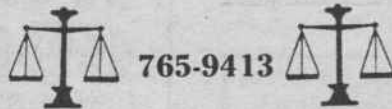
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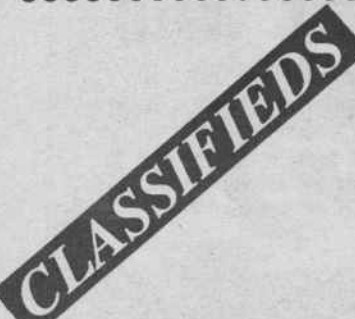
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Oct. 18,  Nov. 2

# Cincinnati Police Harass Activists As Mapplethorpe Trial Continues

By John Zeh

Cincinnati, OH [GLINN]-Lawyers for the first art museum and director indicted for obscenity called for an acquittal when the prosecution rested its case October 1, but were rebuffed by the presiding judge — no stranger to the sheriff who brought the unique criminal charges in the case.

Meanwhile, city police named two local activists they videotaped during disruption of lunch-time traffic downtown the day the trial opened, September 24, 1990. They said they had warrants charging them and 35 other "John and Jane Does" with disorderly conduct.

"The court," ruled Hamilton County Municipal Court Judge David Albanese, "will not substitute its judgment for that of the jury."

"The state has satisfied its burden" to prove crimes were committed by the Contemporary Arts Center (CAC) and Dennis Barrie for exhibiting "Robert Mapplethorpe — The Perfect Moment."

Scott MacLarty, facilitator of Gay and Lesbian March Activists, accused police of acting in bad faith at several levels:

- They promised to warn people practicing civil disobedience of impending arrests, but did not communicate their intentions to delay busts, he said.

- He fears police may provoke trouble at an otherwise "peaceful" sidewalk march from CAC to the Courthouse the evening the verdict is announced if they issue citations there.

- He is worried the vice squad will use photographs from the march as "a pretext" for invading Gay bars and "harassing" patrons. Investigators have already called the family and employer of one activists to ease delivery of the warrant.

- They have used the word "arrest" when the charge is a minor misdemeanor for which citations are routinely issued. Those cited may pay out a \$116 fine, he said.

GLMA attorney Catherine Adams negotiated with police to examine the photos, contact people known to GLMA, and arrange for them to present themselves and accept the tickets.

After the five-hour rally and march September 24, police stepped up surveillance of city parks and Gay bars, MacLarty said. They arrested two men in Eden Park near the Art Academy who were holding hands for "creating public annoyance." The pair told MacLarty they will challenge the "arcane" charge.

In its second week, the trial is the first test of whether an arts institution can be prosecuted under state obscenity statutes. It also spotlights the Republican hierarchy of county conservatives here, and judicial ties to local law enforcement.

GLMA exposed Judge Albanese's links to county sheriff and once-prosecutor Simon Leis Jr., blamed for instigating the prosecution under pressure from right-to-life/anti-obscenity leaders here. The direct action group also documented a history of "homophobic" attacks on arts institutions and activists here by Leis and current county prosecutor Arthur Ney, Jr.

Both men attended the same high school, college, and law school three years apart. Albanese was an assistant prosecutor under Leis in the 1970's. The sheriff ran Albanese's first campaign for judge in 1981. The two exercise together at the Cincinnati Athletic Club.

Sheriff Leis's influence on the case is widely discussed here. Judge Albanese "owes his career" to him, said Raymond Matlock, an attorney and assistant professor of legal studies at the University of Cincinnati.

"It's impossible to tell whether it's like minds thinking the same — or whether anyone is pulling anyone's strings," he said. "The results are the same — and is out of step with the

majority thinking in this country."

Leis had said on WCPO TV before the CAC's exhibit opened that the Mapplethorpe photographs did not warrant prosecution, but buckled after conservative factions flexed their muscles, GLMA leaders charge.

The trial has highlighted attention on escalating efforts to control what Americans view, listen to and read.

Judge Albanese, like Leis, a former U.S. Marine, favored the prosecution most often when objections arose during pretrial hearings and jury selection.

The 52-year-old conservative Republican isolated the seven photos from the rest of the exhibit and decided jurors would be seated from throughout the county and outside city limits where more liberals reside. He also allowed certain statements by the prosecution — "child pornography," for example — that were not included in the indictment and, according to the defense, could prejudice the jury.

Defense attorneys Marc Mezibov and H. Louis Sirkin asked for a mistrial when City Prosecutor Frank Prouty "contaminated" all 50 prospective jurors with the remarks.

Albanese refused to order a new trial, grant attorneys extra juror challenges, and replace the prospective jurors who had heard the "prejudicial" comments.

"It seems that every significant issue raised has been resolved in favor of the prosecution," observed John Burlew, an attorney and past president of the Cincinnati Bar Association.

Either the defense has not made its points well — and I don't think that's true — or the court is afraid to make a controversial decision even if it's correct."

The landmark trial will decide if five out of 175 photographs in the exhibit violate Ohio's obscenity laws and will determine is two pictures of a naked boy and a young girl with her dress pulled partly up are illegal.

Attempts to censor art and institutions funded by the National Endowment for the Arts, legislate labeling of recorded music, and pressure television and motion pictures have increased drastically across the country, observers warn.

Depending on the trial's outcome, Barrie is scheduled to participate in a colloquium examining "threats to free express" October 24 in New York City with Judy Blume, censored author of children's fiction, and three other panelists. The panel is sponsored by Playboy and The Nation magazines.

Picking a panel of eight jurors was not easy. The defense wanted to assure that the eight men and women understand well the charges' complicated nature. Defense lawyers spelled out how obscenity differs from pornography, graphically describing the erotic, sado-masochistic photographs by the late artist.

Prosecutor Prouty used on of his pre-emptory challenges to dismiss a prospective juror who said she had seen the entire Mapplethorpe exhibit. Albanese has ruled that jurors can convict the arts center and its director if they deem only one photo obscene, contrary to U.S. Supreme Court rules, observers say.

**Editor's Note:** Queen City native John Zeh returned home to cover the trial's opening. **Nouveau Midwest's** Bertram A. Workum assisted.

**Coming Out Day  
Thurs. Oct. 11**

## Delaware Governor Nixes AIDS Billboard Ads With Condoms

[Dover, DE]- **The Advocate** reports that aides to Gov. Michael Castle have ordered that a state funded AIDS education billboard be redesigned because it depicts a package of condoms. The design had previously been approved by several state agencies.

The billboard targeted beachgoers along the state's coastline. It carried the slogan "Protect your eyes" next to a picture of sunglasses, "Protect your skin" next to a bottle of sunscreen, and "Protect your life" next to a package of condoms.

Gov. Castle's chief of staff said: "A giant condom on a billboard could... sensationalize and trivialize an important issue." But Deborah Gausmann of Delaware Lesbian and Gay Health Advocates, criticized "the antiquated morals" of Castle's staff.



Linda Smith, a folk/pop/ singer/songwriter who is known for her strong, unbridled, passionate lyrics, will be appearing at Milwaukee's Station II, 1534 W. Grant, on October 20th at 9 P.M. Linda will be singing selected singles from her new album including the title cut, "Hard Hearts". She will also be performing various songs from her other album, "Women Who Needs" which has been referred to as "Hauntingly beautiful." Linda's recorded music will be available for purchase at Station II during her appearance.

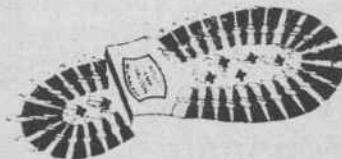
## UW-Milwaukee To Hold Coming Out Day Dance October 12th

[Milwaukee]- The Gay and Lesbian Community (GLC) at UW-Milwaukee, formerly the Ten Percent Society, is sponsoring "Out of the Closet and onto the Dance Floor", a dance to commemorate National Coming Out Day and the beginning of a new term in these "hallowed" Groves of Academe and to celebrate the metamorphosis (or something like that) of the organization into GLC.

This "Festival of Movement" will take place on Friday, October 12, 1990 in the Fireside Lounge located on the first floor of the UW-M Union. The time is 8:00-11:30 p.m.

Admission will set you back \$2.50 (coin of the realm) if you're a student of any of our much vaunted institutions of higher(?) learning in Milwaukee and its area. \$3.50 if you're an uninstitutionalized adult.

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**STARTING**  
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**PACKER GAMES**  
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and Soda Bust til 3 PM

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**OCT. 20 SWEETEST DAY**  
**Vocalist Linda Smith**  
Cover chg. \$5.00 w champagne  
7 to 9 music 9 to 12

**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.