

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



The Wisconsin Light

Lesbian Minister Faces Ouster

[Milwaukee]- Members of the Brown Deer United Church of Christ are expected to vote April 14 on whether to ask for the resignation of their part-time pastor, Rev. Janis Doleschal. The church's action follows Rev. Doleschal's admission that she is in a long-standing relationship with another woman. Doleschal has served the church for eight years.

Late last year, a church member asked Doleschal if it was true that she was a lesbian. When she told him that it was true, he took the issue to the church's Pastoral Relations Committee. The committee held several educational events for the congregation and then sent members a questionnaire asking them to evaluate Doleschal's job performance.

Doleschal told the *Milwaukee Journal*: "What disturbs me is that the issue of performance never came up before the issue of sexual orientation arose. I did nothing to precipitate this except to tell the truth when I was asked."

"I have always maintained the highest ethical standards and I have always demanded the same of others," Doleschal told the *Journal*. "I've held many civic positions and I have no idea what impact this will have on those. It would seem to me that if I did the job well before that I should be able to continue to do so."

Doleschal has been Commissioner of Interscholastic Athletics for the Milwaukee Public Schools (MPS) since 1974. She has held positions on the Board of Directors of the Milwaukee Opera Company and the City of Festivals Committee. She is involved in many other community activities as well.

Bob Jasna, Associate Superintendent of MPS, noted that the state of Wisconsin and the Milwaukee School Board have policies which forbid discrimination based on sexual orientation. Jasna told the *Journal*: "I would hope there wouldn't be anyone who would think she would not be able to do her job."

MPS spokesman Dave Begel concurred: "This district doesn't discriminate. It never has and it never will. The issue of what is going on in that church has nothing to do with us."

The *Milwaukee Journal* has covered the Doleschal story aggressively, placing its initial coverage on the front page of the main section and following up with numerous features. *Journal* reporter Marie Rohde interviewed several MPS coaches who criticized some of Doleschal's policies as athletic commissioner. One of these was the imposition of stricter school attendance standards, which have caused a number of athletes to become ineligible.

Doleschal told the *Journal*: "I will go ahead and do my job the same way I have in the past... There are people out there who will understand and there are people out there who will not understand. There are people who have not liked me before. Now this will give them one more reason not to like me."

Rev. Robert Horst, the chief minister for the United Church of Christ denomination in Milwaukee, criticized media coverage of the Doleschal story. Horst told the *Journal* that bringing up past criticism of Doleschal's performance as athletic commissioner "almost seems like Gay and Lesbian bashing."

The General Assembly of the United Church of Christ has recommended that sexual orientation not be used as a reason to dismiss a pastor, but the policy is non-binding on individual congregations. Some choose to be "welcoming" congregations, others do not.

Another minister with the United Church of Christ in Milwaukee, Rev. Margarita Suarez, is an "out" lesbian who has been fully accepted by her congregation, the New Hope United Church of Christ located at 14th and Greenfield on Milwaukee's south side.

In March, the 44-member Executive Council of the United Church of Christ updated the manual governing policies and procedures in the 1.6 million member church's executive offices and

Only One State Lawmaker Supports U.S. Civil Rights Act

Rep. Clarenbach Calling For 'Realistic Increase' In AIDS Funding

[Madison]- Rep. David Clarenbach (D-Madison) is calling for a "realistic increase" in funding for AIDS and HIV disease programs in the 1991-93 state budget.

Clarenbach says the funding proposals in Governor Tommy Thompson's budget fall far short of meeting the growing needs of the fight against AIDS.

"We sometimes get numbed by the devastating impact of the AIDS epidemic," Clarenbach noted. "But the human tragedy of this disease is growing, and state government cannot pretend that it is not."

By the end of the decade, it is estimated that there will be 30 million diagnosed AIDS cases worldwide — 10 million of them children.

Already in Wisconsin, there are 15,000 people with HIV infection.

"Behind these numbers is the reality that AIDS affects every segment of our society," Clarenbach said. "In fact, the fastest growing group of people with AIDS are racial minorities, women and children."

"Yet after a decade of progress in Wisconsin in the fight against AIDS, Wisconsin is in danger of taking a giant step backward," Clarenbach continued. "The Governor's budget would deal an untimely setback to programs for people with AIDS and HIV infection."

The administration's budget proposal would: Eliminate \$150,000 in funding for the AIDS drug clinical trial program, which allows state residents to receive new drugs approved by the FDA;

Provide no growth in funding for life care services provided by AIDS Service Organizations, which provide in-home medical, nutritional and pastoral services designed to keep clients out of expensive institutional care settings; and

Legislation Proposed To Strengthen Hate Crimes Law

[Madison]- Enforcement of Wisconsin's law against hate crimes would be strengthened under legislation being prepared by Rep. David Clarenbach (D-Madison).

Clarenbach, author of the 1988 law, will propose changes to assist the police and courts in applying enhanced penalties for violent crimes motivated by bigotry.

"Wisconsin has already sent a strong signal against Gay-bashing, racism and religious bigotry with enactment of this law," Clarenbach said. "We must now act to make the statute as effective as possible in practice."

Under the hate crimes law, prison sentences can be increased by up to five years and fines by up to \$10,000 when a jury finds that a violent act was directed at an individual or group because of their encouraged the adoption of similar policies by the church's more than 6,300 local congregations.

Among other revisions, the revised manual prohibits "discriminatory behavior or harassment" against employees on the basis of "HIV/AIDS diagnosis or disability." The manual already prohibited such discrimination based on such factors as race, color, national origin, sex, age, sexual orientation and disabilities.

Rev. William R. Johnson, a member of the team which recommended the changes which have to do chiefly with HIV/AIDS discrimination said, "It (the revised manual) says to our members that the United Church of Christ's commitment to non-discrimination is solid." Johnson said he hoped the church's policies would be "a beacon to other denominations" as well.

Cap the AZT drug reimbursement program at 215 slots, despite estimates that 15,000 people in Wisconsin have HIV infection.

"These budget proposals ignore reality," Clarenbach charged, noting that the Madison AIDS Support Network has had a 34 percent increase in its case load in the past year alone.

Doug Nelson, Executive Director of the Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP) said that MAP's case load doubled in 1990 and he expected it to double again in 1991. Nelson also pointed out that it costs \$9,000 per year to care for a person who has HIV and is ill. That cost increases to \$69,000 per year for a person who has been diagnosed with AIDS. This includes hospitalization, drug costs and out-patient care. Nelson said that he believed Clarenbach to be "right on target" with his objections to the Governor's budget.

Clarenbach went on to say that "If these proposals are enacted, the skyrocketing number of people with AIDS and HIV infection will no longer have adequate medical and support services."

The cutbacks are especially short-sighted since the programs that the Governor proposes to curtail actually save taxpayers' money, Clarenbach said. "They work to keep the infected population as healthy as possible, out of expensive institutional care settings, and off medical assistance."

Clarenbach is working with key organizations to develop a budget amendment responding to the growing need for AIDS and HIV services.

"Wisconsin can win the fight against AIDS, but our efforts will be seriously set back unless the Legislature maintains a commitment to fund these programs," Clarenbach said.

[Washington, D.C.]- The Human Rights Campaign Fund (HRCF) reports that with 93 lawmakers behind it — plus more signing on regularly — the Federal Gay and Lesbian Civil Rights Act was reintroduced into the 102nd Congress in March. Lesbian and Gay lobbyists have pledged to pass the bill in this decade.

Officially known as the Civil Rights Amendments Act of 1991, the bill would ban discrimination on the basis of affection or sexual orientation in housing, employment, federally assisted programs and public accommodations. The bill amends the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and 1968 which bans discrimination based on race, color, sex, religion or national origin.

The chief sponsors of the bill are Rep. Ted Weiss (D-NY) and Sen. Alan Cranston (D-CA).

In the Wisconsin Congressional delegation, only Rep. Jim Moody (D-WI) is listed by HRCF as a co-sponsor.

"This legislation would not establish any special treatment or rights," said Sen. Cranston. "It would simply extend to Gay men and Lesbian women basic protections against invidious discrimination because of sexual orientation."

The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) and HRCF have worked together to introduce the bill. Both organizations have made the bill a high legislative priority and have formed a "working group" of D.C.-based lobbyists to strategize on the bill.

A federal Gay and Lesbian civil rights bill has been introduced in each Congress since the 94th session in 1975. Rep. Bella Abzug was the bill's first sponsor. The bill is currently designated HR1430 in the House and S574 in the Senate.

HRCF and NGLTF lobbyists strongly urge Gay men and Lesbians to report discrimination and become involved in national and grassroots efforts to pass the bill. Contact Peri Jude Radecic at NGLTF (202) 332-6483, or Steve Smith at HRCF, (202) 628-4160.

CCF Funds 5 Tons Of Food For MAP

[Milwaukee]- The Cream City Foundation has issued a check to a non profit foodbank which will allow the Milwaukee AIDS Project to withdraw from that food bank 10,000 pounds (5 tons) of food, which they will issue to persons with HIV who require nutritional assistance.

This \$1,000 grant was made possible in part by a designated donation, with the balance funded by general contributions to CCF. The CCF Grants Committee and Board agreed that routing the money through a non-profit food bank, operated by Second Harvesters, would give MAP and its clients the greatest 'bang' for the buck. Second Harvesters receives donated food from numerous sources, which it then makes available to its client organizations. Although certain types of food may not be available at any given time, the food bank normally contains canned meats, vegetables, and fruits; dry goods such as cereals and pastas; milk and other supplementary powdered foods; and many other items. The Milwaukee AIDS Project may draw food on their account at any time, as the food is needed and when appropriate food items become available.

Contact the CCF at 414/ 265-0880 if you wish to participate in a future grant of this type, or for information on their other programs benefiting the Milwaukee Gay/Lesbian community. The Cream City Foundation maintains its offices at the Milwaukee Enterprise Center, 2821 N. 4th Street Suite 217B, Milwaukee WI 53212.

PLAN TO ATTEND MAP'S
MAKE A PROMISE DINNER
SUNDAY, APRIL 7
See Page 5



NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

Judge Calls Joe Steffan 'Homo'

[Washington, D.C.]—Attorney's for Joe Steffan, the Naval Academy midshipman discharged because of his homosexuality, are attempting to disqualify the judge presiding over Steffan's case because the judge has repeatedly used the word "homo" or "homos" during proceedings of the US District Court in Washington, D.C.

Replying to a request by Steffan's attorney's for the release of documents which would support Steffan's case, Judge Oliver Gasch, 84, labeled the request "overburdensome." Judge Gasch said that the "most I would allow is what relates to this plaintiff, not every homo that might be walking the face of the earth at this time." Later, in clarifying the basis of Steffan's dismissal from the Navy, Judge Gasch asked: "That he's a homo and knows other homos?"

Steffan's attorneys filed a motion asking that Judge Gasch disqualify himself from the case. They charged that his remarks "are the equivalent of directing racial epithets at an African American plaintiff in a case alleging racial discrimination." One of Steffan's attorneys, Sandra Lowe, said the judge's comments "were chilling...they absolutely made the hearing come to a standstill."

The motion for disqualification cites federal statutes which prevent judges with "personal bias or prejudice," including that based on sexual orientation.

Gay Texan Elected to State House

[Austin, TX]—In early March, Glen Maxey, 39, a long-time Gay activist, was elected to a seat in the Texas House of Representatives. Maxey was sworn into office by Gov. Anne Richards and is the first openly Gay person to sit in the Texas state legislature.

Maxey, director of the Lesbian/Gay Rights Lobby of Texas, was the top vote getter in a 13 person race for the run-off slot. He then won 54% of the vote in a district that encompasses much of Austin and outlying parts of Travis County. Austin, the state capital, is regarded as one of the more liberal areas of Texas.

Meanwhile, Gov. Richards, a proponent of what she calls the "new" Texas, appointed an openly Gay man to the State Board of Health. William A. Scott, a Houston psychotherapist who has worked on AIDS issues, will represent people with HIV infection on the state board.

Playwright Albee Jeered in S.F.

[San Francisco, CA]—In a keynote speech to thousands of Gay and Lesbian writers gathered for Outwrite '91, the national Gay writers conference, Pulitzer Prize winning playwright Edward Albee made a number of remarks perceived as insensitive to Blacks and women and was jeered and hissed by the audience.

Albee claimed that he was a minority — as a middle-aged white man, as a Gay, as a Protestant and as a college professor — and then asserted that none of these minority statuses had prevented him from succeeding as a writer. He suggested that progress for African Americans was impeded by separatist sentiment among Blacks themselves. He also denied that any Gay subtexts existed in his plays, such as *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?*

To a writer's group striving for inclusiveness and multiculturalism, Albee's comments were perceived as undiplomatic, at the very least. Virtually all accounts of the conference focused on the negative tone of Albee's remarks set for the weekend.

On a more positive note, Gay novelist John Rechy, Native American author Paula Gunn Allen and radical feminist writer Kate Millett delivered addresses that were more warmly received.

Paper Runs Partnership Notices

[Minneapolis, MN]—On March 7, the *Star Tribune* of Minneapolis announced that it would carry notices of domestic partnerships — Gay or straight — alongside those of engagements and weddings in a new column to be called "Celebrations." The *Star Tribune* is believed to be the first major market newspaper in the US to accept such announcements.

The *Star Tribune*'s regular Thursday section, called "Weddings," was renamed "Celebrations" to reflect the new diversity of listings. In initiating the new feature, editors of the *Star Tribune* stated: "Minneapolis has a new domestic partners ordinance and this change is in recognition of that ordinance."

In January, the Minneapolis City Council passed an ordinance allowing unmarried domestic partners to register their unions. The law became effective in February. An association of Gay and Lesbian *Tribune* employees, called the Paper EAGLES, lobbied within the newspaper staff to have domestic partnerships recognized in print.

Bette Fenton, spokesperson for the *Star Tribune* said of the paper's new policy: "It was the right thing to do."

'Outed' Rabbi Resigns Position

[Minneapolis, MN]—Rabbi Stephen Pinsky, senior rabbi at Temple Israel in Minneapolis and a leader of Reform Judaism, resigned his position in early March, just hours before the Temple Board was to discuss his fate.

In January, Rabbi Pinsky acknowledged an extramarital affair with a man and two arrests (in 1982 and 1983) for indecently touching undercover policemen in local porn shops. His admissions came in response to an anonymous letter sent to Temple Israel's Board of Directors. The letter accused Pinsky of being a "practicing homosexual."

Martin Finch, President of Temple Israel, said that Rabbi Pinsky resigned "because of his desire to avoid the divisiveness that might have occurred if the issue of his future employment was put to a vote."

Lesbian Mom Okay in Iowa

[Des Moines, IA]—The *Washington Blade* reports that a state appeals court in Iowa has ruled that a parent's involvement in a Gay relationship should not, in and of itself, be used to deny that parent's custody of his or her children.

The Iowa State Court of Appeals ruled late last year that Shawn Hodson's live-in relationship with another woman was not sufficient cause for removing Hodson's nine-year old son from her custody. The child's father, David Moore, had challenged Hodson's right to custody.

Judge Leo Oxberger noted that Hodson and her companion, Lri Bartlett, were "discreet" and did not engage in any "inappropriate behavior" in the child's presence. He ruled that the women's relationship was insufficient grounds for revoking Hodson's custody.

Survey: 44% Oppose Gay Couples

[Washington, D.C.]—A recent survey of first year college students has revealed that 44.4% of the students support laws that prohibit homosexual relationships, according to the *Washington Blade*.

The American Council on Education and the UCLA Higher Education Research Institute surveyed 194,182 students at 382 colleges and universities around the US. When asked if they agreed strongly or disagreed with the statement "It is important to have laws prohibiting homosexual relationships," 56% of male students and 34.5% of female students said they agreed. In addition, 66% of all students surveyed agreed that mandatory HIV testing is the "best way" to control the spread of AIDS.

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.

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30 Milwaukee Police Stop Club 219's 'Hot Buns' Contest

[Milwaukee]- Milwaukee Vice Squad personnel operating undercover and police officers raided Club 219 in the early morning of Thursday, March 28, 1991 because of alleged exposure of genitals of some of the contestants in a "Hot Buns" contest being held at the bar.

According to Kevin Rotnar, one of the bartenders present at the time, the raid began at about 12:30 a.m. Rotnar said there was an "average Wednesday night crowd." Two undercover cops had been there, Rotnar said, since the beginning of the show which was being emceed by popular entertainer Tiffany Thomas.

Rotnar said that it was about a half hour-45 minutes into the show and the last two contestants were on stage when one of the undercover men leaped onto the stage and shouted "I'm the next contestant" and flashed a badge.

Rotnar said he left off tending bar to take over the front door stand while the cops herded the contestants and Thomas upstairs. Thomas was handcuffed tightly, according to other accounts. Rotnar said that from the noise upstairs, "it sounded like all-star wrestling" was going on. One contestant tried to run and was grabbed by the cops, fell down the stairs and had his arm broken. He was taken away by ambulance.

Rotnar said a "stream of cops, one by one," began to come through the door. They (the police) "looked totally confused. One lady cop reached for her gun and then withdrew her hand."

Later reports said that there were 13 squad cars blocking traffic outside and a 30 police inside the bar.

According to Kim Z, one of the cops entering the control booth above the stage, saw a monitor and asked if it was recording. It wasn't and Kim told him so.

Shortly, all customers in the bar were herded into the main bar area and told they couldn't leave. The cops checked

some I.D.'s Rotnar said and then, about 30 minutes later, were allowed to go. The cops closed the bar for the night.

Rotnar reported that while some of the cops had antagonistic attitudes, he emphasized that "a number of cops were very civil, very polite and professional." These, Rotnar said, "had a stabilizing effect."

Police have denied that 219 was singled out because it is a Gay bar and further deny that the raid is part of a pattern of anti-Gay harassment.

Rotnar also said that he witnessed no exposure of genitals and that the reports of Thomas kissing a contestant on the rear was exaggerated. "There was nothing sexual about it," he said. It was in the nature of a light, frivolous peck.

As of press time, 13 citations have been issued, 4 to the bartenders present and 9 to the bar and rest of the staff. These carry fines of up to \$800.

Bobby Lyons, owner of the Club, said that the next night, the bar was full of people, some curious, others demonstrating support.

Alderwoman Mary Ann McNulty in whose district are 367 bars, praised barowners, Gay and straight, for being "good neighbors" and for their investment in the Walkers Point area which has been very beneficial. "There's room for all God's children," she said of the area. She noted that in her experience on the liquor licensing board, she "routinely saw" bars that have any kind of exotic dancing come before the board and "the vast majority of them have been straight."

McNulty continued by saying that anytime the police go into a situation, they take it "very seriously."

However, she also noted that she knew that there were still problems between the police and the Gay/Lesbian community, but that work was being done on the

issue. "I know," she said, "that the vast majority of officers want a good relationship with the community as a whole" which includes the Gay/Lesbian community.

As part of her effort to solve problems and ease communication, McNulty said that she plans to hold a meeting of bar owners "next month" to discuss issues of concern.

Modern Maturity Magazine To Cover Gay Issues

[New York, NY]- SAGE, Senior Action in a Gay Environment, has joined the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD) in protesting the lack of coverage of Gay and Lesbian senior citizens in the magazine **Modern Maturity**. **Modern Maturity**, the official publication of the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP), is distributed to over one million AARP members nationwide.

SAGE first contacted **Modern Maturity** four years ago to place an advertisement as part of its outreach to Gay and Lesbian seniors. At the time, SAGE was told its ad — and any SAGE ad — was "unacceptable" for publication in **Modern Maturity**.

SAGE recontacted the magazine last October after it published a letter to the editor asking why **Modern Maturity** failed to address Gay and Lesbian issues.

"We felt that their publishing the first letter was a good sign," said Michael Rohrer, SAGE's Development Coordinator. "Therefore, we contacted the magazine again, offered SAGE as a resource, and asked that they begin addressing the issues of Lesbian and Gay seniors in a comprehensive and on-going manner."

SAGE suggested potential story ideas and a list of journalists familiar with the problems and issues of Gay seniors. In response, Karen Reyes, **Modern Maturity's** associate editor, told SAGE that the

magazine would begin to cover the Gay and Lesbian community with its June/July issue.

Arlene Kochman, Executive Director of SAGE, said: "We are pleased that SAGE and GLAAD are working together to alleviate bigotry toward Gay and Lesbian seniors who have survived a lifetime of oppression."

Stephen Beck, of New York GLAAD, commented: "We are pleased to work in coalition with SAGE to educate **Modern Maturity** and the AARP to recognize and treat with respect the millions of Gay men and Lesbians who comprise a significant share of the nation's seniors."

SAGE and GLAAD encourage others to write the magazine and hold it to its promise of better coverage about older Gays. Letters can be sent to: J. Henry Fenwick, Executive Editor, **Modern Maturity**, 3200 E. Carson St., Lakewood, CA 90712.



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- Marigolds med. 16-18"- mixed yellow orange
- Marigolds tall 28"- 36" - mixed yellow orange
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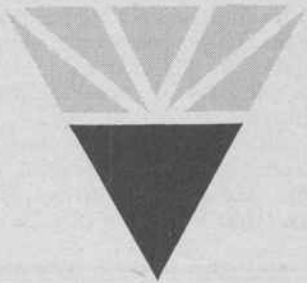
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The Wisconsin Light



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GAY AND LESBIAN
PRESS ASSOCIATION

EDITORIAL

Rep. Moody Praised For His Lone Support of Civil Rights Bill

We think it is a sad commentary on the Wisconsin Congressional delegation when only one of them has signed on to the Civil Rights Amendment Act (popularly known as the Gay/Lesbian civil rights bill).

We have nothing but praise for Rep. Jim Moody, but we're not suprised. Rep. Moody has always been a staunch supporter and defender of basic human rights for all people.

The question is, what about the others? Admittedly, Sen. Bobby Kastin and Reps Petri and Sennsenbrenner are a trio of hopeless cases — "unfortunately" to use Sennsenbrenner's own word when he referred to people with AIDS being included in the Americans with Disabilities Act.

But what about Sen Herb Kohl and Rep. Steve Gunderson to mention only two whose records on human rights are good. And the new Rep. Klug? In the latter's case, we think his inaction is proof that we need someone else in his place. We need someone like David Clarenbach who, like Moody, has never been afraid to take a stand when it comes to the well-being and rights of others.

Your Attendance Will Help Make 'Make A Promise Dinner' a Success

This Sunday evening the Milwaukee AIDS Project hosts its fifth annual Make A Promise dinner. It is truly a gala event, always drawing a huge turnout from the Gay and Lesbian community.

This year's Make A Promise dinner appears to be the best that MAP has ever produced. High quality entertainment, hundreds of fabulous silent auction items, and a new voice auction conducted by State Representative David Clarenbach are scheduled. All of this, at the Pfister Hotel Grand Ballroom, promises to make the night a highlight of the Gay and Lesbian community's social season.

More importantly, the success of the Make A Promise dinner is crucial to MAP's ability to serve its rapidly growing clientele which, according to MAP Executive Director Doug Nelson, is approaching 500 people. Nelson has consistently promised to see that MAP is well prepared for the increased pace of the AIDS epidemic. Wisconsin Light believes he is keeping that promise.

Now the Gay and Lesbian community must make its promise to MAP by attending Sunday night's Make A Promise dinner. If you haven't purchased your tickets yet, call MAP today (273-1991).

See you all Sunday night!

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

In the brouhaha over Club II-XIX, a couple of things are patently clear. One thing is that there seems to be no need for us to over react to this — not like the police did themselves.

C'mon already. Isn't 13 squad cars packed with 30 cops careening down the street like a centipede strung with Christmas lights a bit of an over reaction? The picture that comes to mind has much of the coloration of the keystone cops.

30 cops from the Second District wedging themselves into one small Gay bar. This when the District is supposed to be short-staffed; when there is murder and mayhem in the streets. And to do what? Enforce the law against drugs? Capture evil doers red handed? Not a bit of it. They were enforcing a law against bare flesh, arguably the stupidest law on the books; a law which has nothing to do with the public safety. Only with the

threat of embarrassment at seeing part or all of the human body. It makes no sense.

Then there's the major media coverage of the event. Channel 4 did a professional job. But Channel 18?? That's a different matter altogether.

They put the two stories of Rev. Doleschal and II-XIX back to back, the former ahead of the latter. Doleschal's situation was compared to that of Rev. Margarita Suarez and there you had Dwayne Gay telling his audience that Suarez's Lesbianism is her 'sexual choice.'

By that one word, 'choice,' Mr. Gay probably did as much, if not more, to underwrite homophobia and prejudice than all the cops who invaded II-XIX. Before "Super 18" allows Gay to read the news, somebody who's done their homework — a little research, if you will — ought to check the script.

LETTERS

Miller Boycott

TO THE EDITOR:

THE MILLER/MARLBORO BOYCOTT IS NOT OVER!! Last year ACT UP/DC made two demands of Phillip Morris. They must stop contributing money to Jesse Helms and renounce their past funding of the senator. These demands were endorsed almost unanimously by AIDS and Gay/Lesbian groups across the country and around the world. Neither one of these demands has been met. Phillip Morris is still the largest corporate contributor to Jesse Helms, our worst enemy in the U.S. Congress, and is still financing the construction of the Jesse Helms Citizenship Center in Monroe, North Carolina. The boycott will be called off when, and only when, Phillip Morris stops supporting this despicable bigot.

Phillip Morris has been claiming that the boycott is over and a few Gay organizations have called off their support for the boycott, citing Phillip Morris's increased donations to AIDS organizations. There has been some disagreement among various members of the community and even among ACT UP chapters as to whether these groups should accept Phillip Morris money. Some have argued that accepting money from Phillip Morris gives the company an opportunity to hypocritically portray themselves as a "friend" of the community, an impossibility for any corporation which donates so heavily to Helms. Others assert that Phillip Morris is a huge multi-billion dollar corporation which should be assisting AIDS organizations boycott or no boycott. They've got money, AIDS and Gay/Lesbian organizations need it, so why not put it to good use? Whichever of these arguments one agrees with, it doesn't change the central issue and focus of the boycott. Jesse Helms is still in office, still destroying our lives, still spreading his hate and bigotry—and Phillip Morris helped put him there.

There are signs that the boycott is working. Miller's profits fell 54% in the fourth quarter according to year-end financial reports. The Conservative Campaign Fund, supporters of Sen. Helms, have been harassing ACT UP/DC with a ludicrous FEC complaint in an attempt to silence those who speak out against Helms' hate. The Gay/Lesbian community has demonstrated our economic clout through this boycott and corporations are starting to sit up

MARLBORO!!

—Margaret Cantrell
Washington, D.C.

Editor's Note: Wisconsin Light called Miller Brewing Company to question ACT UP's claim of a significant drop in fourth-quarter profits. According to Tom Reed, corporate issues director, Miller's shipments of beer to retailers, a good indicator of consumer acceptance, rose 3.5 percent in the fourth quarter, "proving continued strong acceptance of Miller brands." Reed said the figures cited were the result of increased marketing and operations expenditures, including the company's announced re-opening of its brewery in Trenton, Ohio, a move the company could not have made without strong sales performance.

MASN Thank-You

TO THE EDITOR:

I am writing to give public thanks to Pam Meyer and a group of women who held a benefit show and dance on February 8 at the Wil-Mar Center in Madison and donated the proceeds of \$700 to the Madison AIDS Support Network Women's Support Group. These women did all the work and publicity for the event and made a gift of the money which they earned. The money is being used for literature, food, transportation and childcare.

Thanks to the generosity and commitment of a caring community MASN is able to offer lifecare services to persons who are HIV positive or who have AIDS, and is also able to provide education and outreach for AIDS prevention. In the thirteen counties which MASN serves, the need continues to grow. This is particularly true for women, among whom cases of AIDS are projected to increase by 400% this decade.

A heartfelt thanks to Pam, her friends, and all whose generosity keeps MASN going.

—Tom Popp
Executive Director, MASN

Don't Fool Me

TO THE EDITOR:

Though I would agree in substance with most of what Dan Savage said in his letter ("Queer Nation"), in fairness to Vincent Turner, it's very natural and human to desire acceptance. But there is still one important reason for the unworkability of assimilationist pieties.

That reason is the unspoken dogma of social and political mediocrity which pervades most of modern society. Those of us who grew up during the eighties know what a long and hard struggle it can be to recover from the effects of this dogma on one's development. What makes this route an ultimately dead-end street is the fact that the masters of mediocrity will just change "the rules" in order to keep everyone else shut out. Society would just as soon use a bludgeon over the head as a carrot in front of the face to keep the people in line.

We must never allow ourselves to be fooled by these carrots again. The sentiment is best expressed by Mr. Scott in an episode of Star Trek: "Fool me once, shame on you. Fool me twice, shame on me."

—Thomas J. Rondy
Minneapolis, MN

To: Afraid

Editor's Note to "Afraid:" The unproven allegations you put forth in your anonymously written, mass-mailed letter do not solve ANY problems...They create them. Your claims are being taken as just evil gossip and hearsay until you come forward from behind your veil of anonymity.

—Terry Boughner
Editor, Wisconsin Light

—Ron Geiman
Editor, In Step

LET'S GO TO THE HOP (OH BABY) TO HELP FIGHT AIDS.

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by John Leicht and Larry Deckel
April 5 - May 12

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Top Notch Entertainment Planned At 'Make A Promise' Dinner April 7

[Milwaukee]- Some of Milwaukee's most well-known entertainers will perform at the Make A Promise dinner on Sunday, April 7 at the Pfister Hotel Grand Ballroom, 424 E. Wisconsin Ave.

The program, hosted by James Pickering of the Milwaukee Repertory Theater, will benefit the many programs for people affected by AIDS offered by the Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP).

The show will include songs of George and Ira Gershwin, performed by Paula Dewey and Colin Cabot; light comedy readings by Ruth Schudson and Montgomery Davis; blues and jazz selections from Barbara Roberts and Melvin Rhyne; excerpts from "Man of La Mancha" by Colin Brown, Helene Jenner, James Sampson and Diane Kachelmeier of the Skylight Opera; and Irving Berlin's "Alexander's Ragtime Band" with Jessica Frankel and Diane Kachelmeier.

The Make A Promise program will also feature both a voice and silent auction where more than 100 items will be available for bid. Rep. David Clarenbach

of the Wisconsin State Assembly will conduct the voice auction. Highlights include a painting by Robert Uyvari, a trip for two to Puerto Vallarta, a Milwaukee Buck's collector's basketball, a collector's Liberace program and a romantic afternoon at the Sybaris' Whirlpool Cottage.

The evening will begin with a reception and cash bar at 5:30 p.m., featuring John Clausen on the piano and the opening of the silent auction, followed by dinner at 6:30 and the show at 8:00 p.m. The silent auction will close immediately following the show's intermission.

Tickets for the event, which include dinner, show and auction, are \$45 for general seating and \$75 for preferred seating. For individuals interested in attending the show and auction only, tickets are \$25. To reserve a ticket, call MAP at (414) 273-1991 today. Advance ticket sales will close at the end of the business day, Friday, April 5.

Last minute tickets will be available for purchase at the door for the dinner and/or show and auction.

Herstory Archive Founder Nestle To Speak April 19 in Milwaukee

[Milwaukee]- A special appearance by Milwaukee performance artist Debbie Davis has been added to the schedule for "Flaunting It", the First National Graduate Student Conference on Lesbian and Gay Studies.

Debbie will perform at 7:00 p.m. in Curtin Hall, room 175 on Friday, April 19. She will be joined by the Theater With Alienating Tendencies (TWAT) from Chicago. At 7:30 p.m., keynote speaker Joan Nestle, author of *A Restricted Country* and co-founder of the Lesbian Herstory Archives in New York, will present a talk and slide show entitled "Lesbian Courage pre-1970."

Over eighty students working on the cutting edge of inquiry in their fields of study will gather between April 18 and April 20 to present papers and share ideas.

Registration for the conference is \$10 and will take place from 5-7:00 p.m. in



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JOAN NESTLE
Mitchell Hall, Center for Women's Studies. Admission to Friday evening's events is \$5. To register in advance or for more information, call 229-5918.



Fifth Annual

MAKE A PROMISE

A dinner, show and auction to benefit the programs of the Milwaukee AIDS Project

April 7, 1991

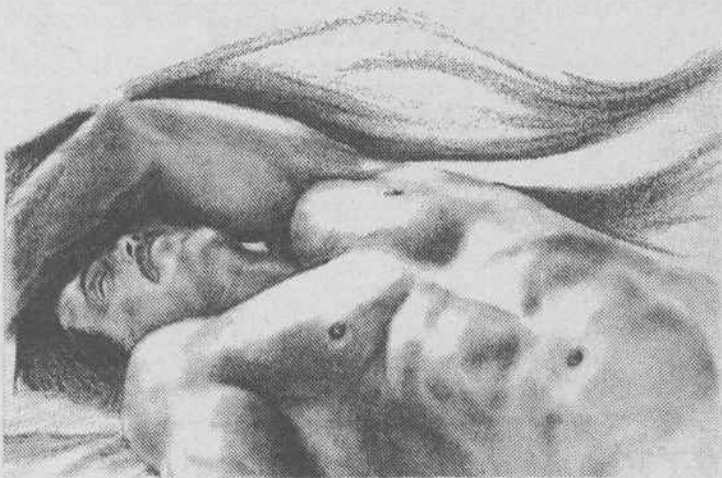
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SESSION DATES

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Monday, April 22
Tuesday, May 7
Wednesday, May 22

Sessions will be held from 7 to 10 p.m.
upstairs at the M & M CLUB



To make a reservation for MEN ALOUD, contact Mike Lisowski at the Milwaukee AIDS Project—273-1991

Artwork by Tom Rezza.

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Flaunting It



Thursday, April 18

Registration 5:00 - 7:00 pm
Keynote address 7:30 pm
Thomas Yingling, English Department, Syracuse
"Gay Studies: Commodity & Desire" University

Friday, April 19

Panels 9:00 am - 5:30 pm
Keynote address 7:30 pm
Joan Nestle, co-founder, Lesbian Herstory Archives,
"Lesbian Courage pre-1970" New York

Saturday, April 20

Panels 9:00 am - 5:30 pm
Plenary Meeting 6:00 - 7:00 pm
"Dr. Queen's Drag Academy" 8:00 pm
(a combination variety show and academic panel)
Reception/Dance

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April 18 - 20,
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SISTERNEWS AND VIEWS

Notes From The Lesbian Galaxy

By Jamakaya

The following is a roundup of interesting Lesbo news items. It usually goes under the title of "Notes From the Lesbian Nation," but this time were going galactic. Hang on!

Sappho And Gertie On Venus! I ran across this delightful report by Lisa Keen in a recent *Washington Blade*. In February, the US Geological Survey, working with the Megellan Project to map the surface of Venus, recommended that a large triplet crater on Venus be named after Lesbian writer Gertrude Stein!

It turns out that over the past 13 years during which the US and Soviet Union have been photographing and mapping the terrain of Venus, major features like mountains, valleys and volcanoes have been named after famous Earth Women!

Keen reports that in 1978, the US Pioneer Venus mission discovered a volcano-like crater which was named Sappho, after the Greek poet of Lesbos. In 1984, the Soviets named two other landmarks on Venus after Willa Cather and Emily Dickinson. Lillian Hellman and Colette were represented as a small crater and a volcano, respectively!

If approved this summer by the International Astronomical Union, Gertie Stein may join Margaret Mead, Virginia Woolf and Edna St. Vincent Millay as landmarks on Venus!

Dykes in Space!
And here's the best part: the public can submit names for consideration to the US Geological Survey. Only a few restrictions apply: planetary features cannot be named after religious figures, living people or people dead less than three years.

Send your nominations, along with the woman's birthdate, death date and significant accomplishment (to justify the honor) to: US Geological Survey, 2255 N. Gemini Dr., c/o Joel Russell, Flagstaff, AZ 86001.

Let's make sure we get Alice B. Toklas up there to keep Gertie company!
(The *Blade's* headlines on this item were precious. On the front page: "Sappho Now on Venus, Stein Destined to Follow." And on the jump: "A Crater is a Crater? Not This One on Venus.")

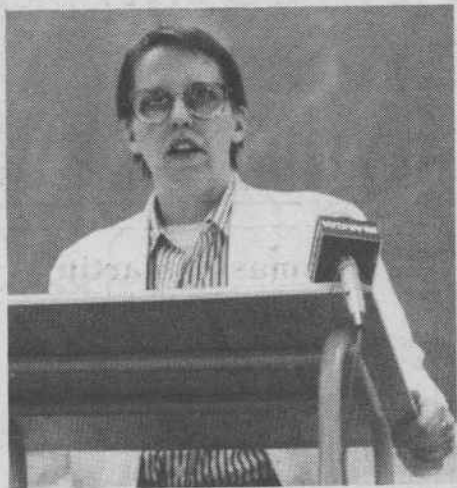
Holly Hughes: Defiant As Ever! Holly Hughes, the radical Lesbian performance artist who was denied a NEA grant last year and who became the focus of Jesse Helms' fire and brimstone wrath, will produce a new show with 1991 NEA funds.

The precocious author of *The Well of Horniness* (!) will create a new performance piece tentatively called *No Trace of the Blond* for New York City's Downtown Art Company. Undaunted by fundamentalist criticism, Holly told the *New York Times* she hoped her new show "will be everything that Jesse Helms fears..."

Go East, Young Woman! Alison Bechdel, cartoonist extraordinaire and creator of everybody's favorite *Dykes to Watch Out For*, has recently moved from Minneapolis to Vermont.

Alison spent the last four years in Minneapolis, working on the staff of *Equal Time*, the Gay newspaper, and developing the lovable band of politically-correct, mildly dysfunctional Dykes we all know and love.

Alison told her *ET* colleague Robyn



Doreen Riley

JAMAKAYA

Dochterman: "Even though I keep the location of my strip intentionally general so that it can be anywhere, there's very much of a Minneapolis quality to it... They are very much Minneapolis gals."

Alison is "following her heart" to northern Vermont where she can be closer to her lover, who lives near Burlington. She will continue drawing her cartoon characters and you can continue to see them in the *Light*.

Alison never thought she'd be able to live outside of a large city, away from professional opportunities. But I'm thrilled to report that income from her artwork — syndicated in over 30 papers — has now made her self-sufficient. She told *ET*: "I've finally been able to support myself off my cartoons. I can do that. I can live anywhere." Alright!

A final bit of wisdom from Alison: "You just have to follow your heart. You die if you don't."

Lesbian Mom Okay In Iowa: The Iowa State Court of Appeals ruled last year that Shawn Hodson's live-in relationship with another woman was not sufficient cause for removing Hodson's 9-year-old son from her custody. David Moore, the boy's father, had challenged Hodson's custody, claiming the Lesbian household was not a "fit" environment for the child.

But Judge Leo Oxberger disagreed, noting that Hodson and her partner, Lori Bartlett, were "discreet" and did not engage in any "inappropriate behavior" in the child's presence. (Goddess forbid the child should witness some affection!) He ruled that the women's relationship was insufficient grounds for revoking Hodson's custody, a significant victory for Gay parents at the state appellate level.

Starting A Revolution: Sall Hutson and Jennifer Quall, a Lesbian couple of 14 years standing, didn't realize that they were starting a revolution. In fact, the Washington state women will tell you that they're not very political at all.

"We just wanted what every other couple wants," said Hutson, "to celebrate our lives together. It just seemed the thing to do. Everyone does it."

What Sall and Jennifer did was to send an announcement of their bonding ceremony to the *Herald*, the daily newspaper of Everett, Washington (circulation: 54,000).

Enter Managing Editor Stan Strick: "When we received the announcement and saw it was two Lesbians, we thought, oh no, now what do we do? It was the first announcement like this we had ever received."

After reviewing the newspaper's guidelines, Strick — and enlightened editor if there ever was one — decided to run the announcement last December 2. The story made national news — USA

Today, no less. And Sall and Jennifer appeared on the *Oprah Winfrey Show!* It's believed to be the first time a Lesbian (or Gay) union has been announced in a non-Gay oriented, mainstream newspaper.

The first, but not the last! Several other general circulation papers, most notably the mass market *Minneapolis Star Tribune* (see "News Briefs"), have now expanded their traditional "Wedding" page, retitled "Celebrations," to include unmarried domestic partnerships.

Thank you, Sall and Jennifer — courageous, if somewhat unwitting, pioneers for Gay and Lesbian rights!

Kathleen Turner Update! (Hey, it's been awhile, indulge me...) This writer's favorite heartthrob (among other throbs) is starring as a feminist private eye in the upcoming *Warshawski*, filmed in Chicago and scheduled for release later this year. Based on Sara Paretsky's books, the Warshawski character is tough, smart, sexy and very capable. So, who else but Turner to play her?


Turner reportedly stood up for the independence of her character. *Outlines* reports that in the final scene, where Warshawski rescues a drowning child, the studio wanted a man to come along and save the kid "but Kathleen wouldn't allow it."

Well, I should say not!
This is the woman who told William Hurt in *Body Heat*: "You're not too smart, are you? I like that in a man." This is also the woman who, when asked about how she chooses roles, replied with nary a pause: "I don't do victims. I don't do stupid women."


My kind of gal, that Kathleen Turner...
Hometown Dyke Makes Good: Congratulations are due to Milwaukee's own Lesbo video artiste, Sadie Benning, who was the subject of a feature article in the March 26th *Advocate*. The *Advocate* praised Benning's work as "deeply personal, artistically deft and politically charged...the traumas and ecstasy of adolescent dykedom are left bare on the screen with outrageous honesty, immediacy and wit."

Sadie's video adventures have come a long way since her first public showing in Milwaukee last summer. Some of her videos were aired on *L.A. Freewaves*, a Los Angeles cable show in March. Her video *Welcome to Normal* was recently screened at no less than the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York City, and Sadie will be presenting more at Gay/Lesbian film fests in Chicago in May and in New York in June.

Good luck Sadie!



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Dykes To Watch Out For



Madison Pride March Set For Oct. 5

[Madison]- According to the United's Newsletter, Madison's Gay and Lesbian Visibility Alliance (GALVANize) has set the date for 1991's Pride March and Rally. Pending final approval from the city, the events will be held Saturday, October 5.

Rather than trying to be "all things to all people," the group is limiting its focus this time to sponsoring the march and supporting visibility of our community. March activities may be coordinated with the celebration of National Coming Out Day on October 11.

The next GALVANize general meeting is planned for Friday, April 26 from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m. at the UW Memorial Union. Afterwards, it's a short trek upstairs to the Ten Percent Society dance also scheduled for that evening. For more information or to get involved, call (608) 255-8061 or write to P.O. Box 1403, Madison, WI 53701-1403.

Policeman Found Not Guilty Of Hate Crimes

[Appleton, WI]- In an update to the article in the Mar. 7-20, 1991 issue of *Light* on the trial of part-time Blanchardville Police Officer, Brian G. Brown, Jr. accused of assaulting a Gay man, Brian Rochon, outside a town of Grand Chute shopping mall, on March 7, an Outagamie County jury found Brown not guilty of the charges.

The jury of seven men and five women deliberated over 4 hours after hearing closing arguments before finding Brown innocent of misdemeanor disorderly conduct and a Wisconsin Hate Crimes law enhanced felony battery charge.

Both Rochon and District Attorney John Des Jardins expressed disappointment with the verdict.

Brown cheered the verdict, telling the Associated Press that he was relieved to return to a more normal life. Brown was quoted as saying he believed prosecution witnesses were "caught lying on the stand" and felt the media portrayed him as guilty before convicted.

Editor's Note: Our thanks to *In Step* from which the above was excerpted.

Quilt Art and History To Be Discussed

[Milwaukee]- A local quilter will share the history behind the quilt as an art form, and display some of her own work as well, at the April meeting of the Lesbian Alliance of Metro Milwaukee (LAMB) on Thursday, April 18, 1991.

The patchwork quilt is one of the true forms of women's art. Women throughout American history have used the quilt as a medium to express their creativity; in many cases the history of women's past is sewn into the symbols used in these pieces of art. Although the quilt is a functional work of art today, it is also appreciated as fine art displayed on walls in homes and museums.

The program begins at 7:00 p.m., preceded by a potluck at 6:00 p.m., at the Milwaukee Enterprise Center, 2821 N. 4th St. All Lesbians are welcome. For info call LAMB at 264-2600.

Rep. Petri Update

[Madison]- In an update to the headline article in the last issue of *Light* concerning Rep. Thomas Petri's comments that homosexuality should be "illegal", Beverly Jenkins, Minority Affairs Director of the United Council in Madison has pointed out the relationship between Petri's remarks and crimes which have been affecting Gays and Lesbian throughout the country.

Founded in 1960, the United Council is the oldest and one of the largest state student organizations representing over 170,000 students throughout Wisconsin.

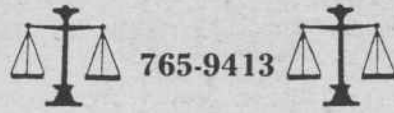
Petri's comments were made at The United States Student Association's 22nd Annual Legislative Conference in Washington. Calling Petri's comments "tragic in nature", Jenkins urged all the students present to take Petri's comments back to their states and mobilize around the issue of combating homophobia on their campuses.

United Council will be working with various student organizations throughout Wisconsin in an effort to mobilize students on this issue.

All who wish to contact Petri should write: Rep. Thomas E. Petri, 2245 Rayburn Office Building, Washington, D.C. 2051 or P.O. Box 1086 Fond Du Lac, WI 54936-1816 or call (414) 992-1180.

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'Nothing to Hide' April Schedule

April 10 Real Eyes Realize. Real Lies with Jay Hatheway; "Persian Gulf Aftermath: Did We Win A Panarab-Panmuslum Enemy?"

April 17 "Private Lives-Public Life" Preconference Symposium, 5th Annual Gathering of the International Conference of Gay/Lesbian Elected/Appointed Government Officials.

April 24 Black and White Men Together 1990: Gay Men of Color AIDS Institute: "The seam of Multi-culturalism in Corporate America. What's the goal? Who's Getting or Sharing Power?"

Nothing To Hide is aired on Wednesday at 9:00 p.m.

MASN Dance

[Madison]- The AIDS Community Team (ACT) is sponsoring a free dance Saturday, April 6, 1991 from 9:00 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. at the Neighborhood House, 29 S. Mills Street in Madison. There will be a D.J., refreshments, prizes and much more! The theme of the dance is "Don't Be A Fool!!! Protect Your Tool!!!!". The dance will be alcohol and drug free. The dance is open to adults and teens, 16 to 18 years of age. For more information, call Dave at 238-6276

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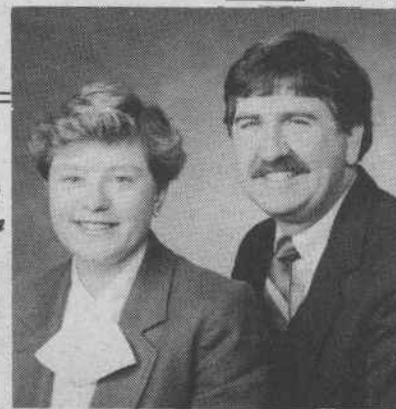
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The Light LIVELY ARTS

Flirtations Performing In Madison For MASN Benefit On April 30

[Madison]- The Madison AIDS Support Network (MASN) is pleased to announce that The Flirtations will be performing in Madison on April 30, 1991 as a fundraiser for MASN.

The Flirtations are a group of Gay men who perform, singing a cappella and have been gaining tremendous success throughout the United States. They will be performing at the Barrymore Theatre, 2090 Atwood Ave. in Madison. The performance begins at 7:30 p.m. There will be an autograph session at Rod's Bar following the group's performance.

Tickets are \$10 in advance and \$12 at the door. Ticket outlets include A Room Of One's Own, The Barrymore Theatre, Steep & Brew (State St.), Four Star Fiction & Video, The United and MASN. Tickets by mail can be obtained by sending checks or money orders to MASN, 303 Lathrop St., Madison, WI 53705, Attention: Peaches. Both the Barrymore Theatre and MASN will accept VISA and Mastercharge.

The day following the concert, Wednesday, May 1st, The Flirtations will be conducting a workshop for persons with HIV on "Self-Empowerment."

For more information about the concert or the workshop, contact Dave at (608) 238-6276.

Editor's Note: In the last issue of *Light* we ran an article, authorized by Gary Wells, President of the Milwaukee Lesbian/Gay Pride Committee (MLGPC) on The Flirtations who, as we were informed at that time, would be appearing in Milwaukee sponsored by MLGPC. This

is no longer true. The Madison appearance by the group will be their only performance in Wisconsin.

As I said, last time, this group is good, very, very good. Take my advice and run, do not walk, run and get your tickets to hear them. They are, as one paper put it, "A howling delight." They are exuberant, joyful, highly sophisticated, full of hope and Gay/Lesbian indomitability, funny, delicious in their renderings and, I think, are among the Gay/Lesbian artists who point to a promising future for "our music." Give yourself a treat and enjoy.

Last Rep. Benefit For MAP April 10

[Milwaukee]- On Wednesday, April 10 at 7:30 p.m. the Milwaukee Repertory Theater will hold the final AIDS benefit for the 1990/91 season in the Stackner Cabaret with a performance of "Hula Hoop Sha-Boop" by John Leicht and Larry Deckel.

Tickets for the performance are \$12 and all seats are reserved. Tickets can be purchased at the MAP office at 315 W. Court St., the MRT box office at 108 E. Wells St. or by calling (414) 224-9490. To enjoy dinner in the Stackner Cabaret before the show, call 272-1994 for reservations.

We'd love to see everyone in their best '50's duds, so pull out your poodle skirts, saddle shoes and black leather jackets and help the Milwaukee AIDS Project.

Cream City Chorus to Perform In Milwaukee and Green Bay

[Milwaukee]- The Wisconsin Cream City Chorus Ltd. (WCCC) has announced their Rainbow Tour, scheduled to coincide with the celebration of the Chorus's Fourth Anniversary.

The Rainbow Tour will kick off on April 12, 1991 with the WCCC's Anniversary Awards Banquet to be held at the Park East Hotel, 916 East State St. The banquet is the Chorus's annual event to honor community donors, sponsors and friends for their financial support. The banquet will start with cocktails at 6:00 p.m. with dinner served at 7:30 p.m. The banquet is open to the public and the cost is \$20 per person. Interested persons may contact any Chorus member or the WCCC office at 344-9222.

The Rainbow Tour continues on April 14, 1991 with the Fourth Anniversary Concert at New Hope United Church of Christ, 1424 W. Greenfield Ave. in Milwaukee. The time is 3:00 p.m. with admission at \$5 per person. The concert will feature music, past and present, the sub-group "The Creamettes" and the newly formed "Beauty Shoppe Quartet." Tickets are available now from any WCCC member or by calling the WCCC office at the above number.

The Chorus has been invited to perform at the Great Lakes Spring Conference hosted by Angel of Hope, Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches on Saturday, April 27th. This event will coincide with the grand finale of the Rainbow Tour at Za's, 718 Bodart,

Green Bay, with a performance by the Chorus. Showtime at Za's is 10:30 p.m. and admission is \$5 at the door.

'Fun Down There' Film Now in Video

[New York, NY]- Water Bearer Films under an exclusive agreement with Framline Inc., of San Francisco, has licensed for the home video rights to the previously unavailable film "Fun Down There." The film marks the first release in the Water Bearer Films up-coming line of films targeted for the Gay and Lesbian community. The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force says there are roughly 23 million Gay Americans most of whom are relatively affluent, earning approximately \$36,800 per year.

A contemporary look at the classic Gay story, "Fun Down There" is the adventure of Buddy, a young man living with his very ordinary family in upstate New York. Buddy leaves town and heads off to New York. During his first week in the East Village, Buddy finds a new job, new friends, (safe) sexual adventure, and, perhaps, the beginnings of romance.

For more information, write Water Bearer Films, 205 West End Ave., Suite 24H, New York, NY 10023 or call (212) 580-8185.

Madison AIDS Support Network PRESENTS

The Flirtations



Jon Arterton Cliff Townsend Aurelio Font Michael Callen Jimmy Rutland

THE FLIRTATIONS

April 30, 1991
7:30 P.M.

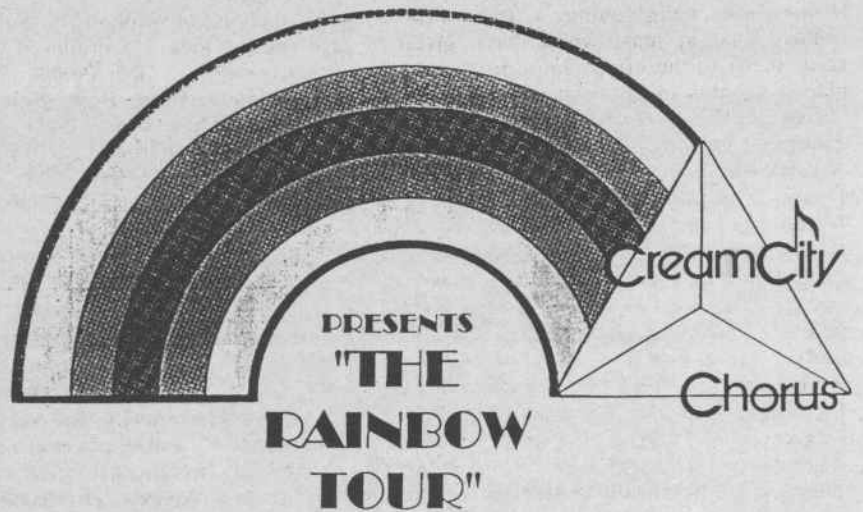
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- A Room of One's Own

A fundraiser for the Madison AIDS Support Network (MASN)



We'll kick off the tour on Friday, April 12th with our ANNIVERSARY AWARDS BANQUET at THE PARK EAST HOTEL in the Grand Ballroom

Cocktails 6 p.m. Dinner 7:30 p.m. Admission \$20

Followed on Sunday, April 14th by our FOURTH ANNIVERSARY CONCERT at NEW HOPE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST AT 1424 W. Greenfield

Showtime is 3 p.m. Admission \$5

Our GRAND FINALE will be on Saturday, April 27th at ZA'S in Green Bay at 718 Bodart

Showtime is 10:30 p.m. Admission \$5

For Advance Tickets Or More Information Please call (414) 933-4587 After 3 p.m.



BOOKS

There Is No Reason to Read Loulan's New Book

LESBIAN EROTIC DANCE
by JoAnn Loulan
Spinsters Book Co., \$12.95 287 pp
By **Maytee Aspuro**

A book which begins with 14 pages of explicit Lesbian erotica must have a redeeming value must it not? Then again, such an introduction could simply be a gimmick to seduce a reader into believing that though eclectic this exercise carries an underlying logic to it all. Unfortunately, I became bored by the 10th page of erotica and I found myself wondering why JoAnn Loulan began her study of the Butch/Femme (B/F) dynamic in such a manner. Written with Sherry Thomas, **The Lesbian Erotic Dance: Butch, Femme, Androgyny and Other Rhythms** is Loulan's third effort in her continuing exploration of Lesbian sexuality. She previously published **Lesbian Sex and Lesbian Passion: Loving Ourselves and Each Other**.

Arguing that as Amber Hollibaugh stated, B/F is a system of desire, Loulan encourages an expansion beyond that of gender related role playing. What is frustrating about this effort is the inconsistent tone of the text. At times I felt she was exploring the subject with serious scholarship but this was soon clipped short as she interspersed her own questionably subjective point of view.

Loulan devotes one chapter each to Femme and Butch and a third chapter to Other Rhythms. The Femme and Butch chapters were a discussion of each state of being, the negative stereotypes and the positive individual celebration of identifying oneself as either. Though I do not underestimate the value of this there was no coherent statement pulling everything together. Loulan also gave me the impression that in not identifying oneself as either B/F, a Lesbian was coping out to our heritage. This left me extremely uncomfortable. There is more to a Lesbian than B/F. In the Other Rhythms chapter Loulan reprints personal ads and then attaches one of 25 sexual styles that she has identified. Nothing was enlightening. I found little humor. That at least would have given some merit to the effort. In addition, she placed debates in between each chapter. These debates were transcripts of dialogue between Lesbians discussing issues of B/F. Unfortunately, these debates were arbitrary, neither providing a transition nor closure to what was previously discussed. The final pages are a reprinting of her survey results as well as comments relating to a kitchen sink variety of topics such as "Are Lesbians made or born" to "Goddess Identification." What these latter short discussions had to do with the B/F dynamic escaped me.

Let me note that in on-Lesbian interaction I personally prefer to remove myself from using B/F references. For me this discourse carries the painful

judgements of a patriarchal society. When I picked up this book I was hoping to explore B/F in the context of the Lesbian community. I wanted to know about B/F as a part of our herstory. I hoped for a work which would honor and explore where B/F fits in our current culture; how it contributes to the erotic Lesbian of today and how our culture can transcend the damaging distortions imposed by others. My expectations may have been too high or simply misplaced.

It would have been a worthy effort if Loulan expanded the current definitional construct of the B/F dynamic. She did not. **Erotic Dance** is a patchwork of opinion with little insight. No new ground was broken. In all the text is redundant. The greatest insights come when Loulan quotes other thinkers. Her historical references are few and far between and I sensed she was driven more by her own opinion than scholarship.

If it was her intention to make this book and her ideas accessible to all members of our diverse community, I believe she has underestimated our intelligence and sophistication. The best thing about this book is the title and that is no reason to recommend it.

'Lavender Lists' Is a Whole Lot of Fun

LAVENDER LISTS
By Lynne Yamaguchi Fletcher and Adrien Saks
Alyson. \$8.95. 238 pp
Reviewed By **Jamakaya**

Following on the success of **The Gay Book of Lists and Lesbian Lists**, Alyson, the Gay-owned publishing company, has just released a similar tome called **Lavender Lists**.

Like its predecessors, **Lavender Lists** is a whole lot of fun. It's an easy-to-read, amusing and informative compilation of facts and lists of special interest to Gays and Lesbians.

My own list of some of the contents will give you the idea: "8 Proposed Causes of Homosexuality," "54 People Who Had Relationships With Both Sexes," "10 Marriages That Must Have Required Some Extra Effort," "9 Massive Anti-Gay Purges," and "59 Gay and Lesbian Authors Who Have Won Major Mainstream Awards."

Also included are: "3 Scandals That Shook Governments," "19 Notable Cross-Dressers," "18 Pro-Gay Republicans," "13 Uses of the 'Gay Panic' Defense," "73 Homosexual and Bisexual Rulers, and When They Ruled," "9 Colors Historically Associated With Homosexuals" and much, much more.

I think my favorite list is the one called "10 Absurd Arrests of People... And One of a Pseudo-Penis."

I'm telling you, this book is fun!

Feeling Shines Through Intensity In Book of Poems

POEMS FROM THE HEART OF MAN
by Marshall Lawrence Pierce III
Reviewed by **Geno**

Love has inspired this book of poetry. Its sincerity and depth of feeling shine through in poems of personal intensity. They are presented in seven sections with such titles as "To a Sunset," "To a Boy," "To a Lover" and "To Nature."

The emotional force is reflected in the flow of moods and ideas — ideas enjambed, elliptical in the style of Gerard Manley Hopkins as seen in the following:

All of me, all for you,
to give life and love in rapture,
my gift in a weary old heart.

To excite, to please,
my wish to you
in an evening's acceptance by me.

In promise, in deed,
and among word,

smile will be upon face...for happy joy,
as tear shall look into eye
blanked with eternal bliss,
as my dreams tonight shall keep me warm,
and you in comfort,
nestled beneath memories cover.

The compression of meanings calls for close reading, reader concentration. But along with these privately printed poems, the author has included a tape of his reading of poems from the collection with musical accompaniment. This expressive reading in a pleasant voice clearly brings out the meanings and establishes the mood. This reviewer would suggest that the tape and printed texts of these poems belong together, that combining them would be the ideal way to enrich the experience of reading, hearing these poems. And though they are intended from man to man, they sound a universal message of love, open to all lovers.

Hard-Boiled Detective Novel Filled With Sex and Violence

DEATH BY THE RIVERSIDE
by J. M. Redmann
New Victoria Publishers, Inc.
Reviewed by **Cynthia Van Vreede**

Michele Knight is a hard drinking, tough talking swamp rat from Louisiana's bayou country. Called Micky by her friends, she is a new Lesbian private detective in "Death by the Riverside" by J.M. Redmann.

Having been hurt in the past, Micky's afraid to love and uses humor as her main line of defense. As one woman asked her, "It's true what they say about you isn't it? That Micky Knight has never slept with the same person for more than a week and has never in her life held a serious conversation."

Micky's called upon by the police to infiltrate Jambalaya Import and Export, a company suspected of smuggling drugs. The case is dangerous because someone in the police department is an informer for the New Orleans drug powers. But Micky is found out early and spends most of her time hiding from the Dixie mafia.

Trying to help Micky are Danielle (Danny) Clayton, Micky's former college roommate and ex-lover, now District Attorney; Joanne Ransom, a Sergeant in the New Orleans Police Department and

Micky's karate sparring partner; and Dr. Cordelia James, the emergency room physician who treats Micky's wounds and helps her deal with ghosts from the past; childhood ghosts Cordelia shares with Micky.

I've found that most Lesbian mysteries come up short in the mystery and long on the relationship between the characters, perhaps explaining why they are usually published by small presses. "Death by the Riverside" is no exception. We know who the bad guys are early and the identity of the police informant was easy to figure out. But Redmann makes the story work through her characters. Micky is well-drawn and believable. So are Danny, Joanne and Cordelia. By having Micky's undercover ruse exposed early in the book, Redmann shifts the mystery from a "who-dunnit" to a "how's-she-gonna-get-out-of-it."

As with any hard-boiled detective mystery, there is plenty of violent action. And, as with any Lesbian novel, there is plenty of sex. "Death by the Riverside" will not disappoint.

POST-STONEWALL BUTTON SLOGANS

1. Better Blatant Than Latent
2. An Army of Lovers Cannot Lose
3. Out of the Closets and Into the Streets
4. We Are Everywhere
5. A Woman Without a Man Is Like a Fish Without a Bicycle
6. Mother Nature is a Lesbian
7. Lesbian Visibility is Lesbian Survival
8. Better Gay Than Grumpy
9. It's a Bitch Being Butch
10. Keep Your Laws Off My Body
11. Born-Again Lesbian
12. The Moral Majority is Neither
13. Closets Are For Clothes
14. How Dare You Presume I'm Heterosexual!
15. Lesbian Ignite
16. Lesbians Have Natural Rhythm
17. I Own My Body — But I Share
18. We Are Angry, Not Gay

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BEST SELLERS OF THE MONTH GAY

- Simple Suburban Murder — Mark Richard Zubro, St. Martin's..... \$8.95
- Men on Men 3 — George Stambolian, Ed., Plume..... 10.95
- A Place I've Never Been — David Leavitt, Penguin..... 18.95
- Meatmen 9 — Winston Leyland, Ed., Leyland..... 14.95
- Raunch — Boyd McDonald, Ed., Fidelity..... 11.95
- Home Boy — Jimmy Chesire, Penguin..... 8.95
- The Trouble With Harry Hay — Stuart Timmons, Alyson..... 19.95
- In Memory of Angel Clare — Christopher Bram, Plume..... 9.95
- Desert Patrol — Dook, Bruno Gmunder..... 34.95
- Robert Mapplethorpe — Richard Marshall, Little/Brown..... 29.95

LESBIAN

- The Lesbian Erotic Dance — JoAnn Loulan, Spinsters..... \$12.95
- Lesbian Bedtime Stories 2 — Terry Woodrow, Ed., Tough Dove..... 9.95
- Women on Women: Anthology of American Lesbian Short Fiction — Joan Nestle and Naomi Holoch, Eds., Plume..... 9.95
- Ceremonies of the Heart: Celebrating Lesbian Unions — Becky Butler, Ed., Seal Press..... 14.95
- Susie Sexper's Lesbian Sex World — Susie Bright, Cleis..... 9.95
- New, Improved Dykes to Watch Out For — Alison Bechdel, Firebrnad..... 7.95
- Different Mothers: Sons and Daughters of Lesbians Talk About Their Lives — Louise Rafkin, Ed., Cleis..... 9.95
- Wanting Women — Jan Hardy, Sidewalk..... 9.95
- People in Trouble — Sarah Schulman, Penguin..... 8.95
- Lady — Robert Mapplethorpe, St. Martin's..... 24.95

GAY/LESBIAN

- Coming Out: An Act of Low — Rob Eichberg, Dutton..... \$18.95
- Lavender Lists — Lynn Yamaguchi Fletcher & Adrien Saks, Alyson..... 8.95
- My Country, My Right to Serve: The Experiences of Gay Men and Women in the Military — Mary Ann Humphrey, Harper/Collins..... 19.95

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

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FICTION

WHEN OLD TWANKS GET TOGETHER

BY
GENO

Author's Note: The following is an excerpt from "We Open in Venice," a novel in progress. The narrator, David, is visiting his Gay uncle Malcolm, a long-time resident of Venice. David meets many of Malcolm's friends and acquaintances including such well-known figures as Peggy Guggenheim, Ezra Pound and Truman Capote. David, Malcolm and Orville are fictional characters, composites of real people, and in the novel real life personalities and fictional characters interact. The time is September, 1968.

Orville is visiting Venice and staying at the Royal Danieli. Malcolm and I bumped into him this morning outside the American Express office and he invited us to join him for dinner at the Gritti "to talk over old times." Malcolm suggested meeting earlier for drinks at Harry's Bar and Orville agreed that getting together "around six-ish" would be lovely.

He and Malcolm taught at a small Catholic college which Malcolm likes to refer to as "Our Lady of the Swamps." Of course, that was ages ago according to Malcolm who left teaching to go on to other pursuits as actor and designer in San Francisco followed by a short stint in Hollywood and finally as partner in a posh London antiques gallery before settling down in Venice after his partner's death.

Orville had explained "I've measured out my life in freshman themes," but now retired in his early sixties he has discovered that he can have his very own Grand Tour and forget about what it costs. Malcolm pictures Orville as having lived a meager sort of life, saving coupons, eating in cafeterias but also putting a little bit aside every month from his small salary. Malcolm told me he used to save pennies and loose change in a huge jar for his annual trip to New York where he stayed at the 73rd Street YMCA and went to every Broadway show that he could get tickets for. "And when Our Lady finally got around to granting sabbaticals, he'd come to Europe and try to do it on five dollars a day." The Gay world is a small world after all, according to Malcolm, and they had met by chance in London and Venice in the intervening years.

Although they've never been close friends, Malcolm says he feels sorry for the old fart. Orville seems to be an affable gent, round faced, rather on the chubby side, and I noticed when he came up to us that morning that he had the kind of bounce in his walk that some portly individuals have, almost seeming to walk on their tippy toes. Malcolm has been trying to discourage me from a teaching career and holds Orville up as a sorry example of what the academic life can lead to. I don't argue with him and just keep telling myself that I won't end up at Our Lady of the Swamps.

Malcolm's idea of "around six-ish" was more like a quarter to seven before we arrived at Harry's Bar. Orville was sitting on the small leather banquette just inside the swinging doors and he greeted us with "I see you two must be on Gay time." Malcolm seemed a trifle annoyed at this and so I quickly ordered drinks, a Baby scotch for Malcolm and a Negroni for Orville who persuaded me to have a Negroni, too. "David, it's an excellent aperitivo," he assured me. Malcolm joined Orville on the banquette and I sat on the padded leather stool at the end of the bar so that I was able to take in their conversation and also have a wide angle view of the room which is not very large to begin with. This was my second visit to Harry's--Malcolm had treated me on my first evening in Venice to dinner in the upstairs restaurant where we had the singular opportunity of seeing Truman Capote eating "Tagliatelle alla doppio crema." It was not a pretty sight.

The barroom itself could be mistaken for one of those New York watering holes where brokers and advertising execs gather for their late afternoon martinis before taking the train back to Connecticut. There was just one woman at the bar whom Malcolm described as "that mad contessa with her Gay young man." They soon left for the restaurant upstairs. The seven or eight men at the bar wore coats and ties; they seemed middle aged and prosperous. A well-groomed man at the opposite end of the bar was teasing the bartender who had appeared briefly in a movie when some scenes had been shot in the bar. The man was Italian and had that late summer glowing tan which only Mediterranean types can achieve. A party of six casually dressed tourists had put two tables together in one corner and from their rather loud talk about Homecoming, and "remember the Spring Dance" and Hell Week, I deduced that they were American couples having some sort of reunion.

I liked the sweetness of the vermouth and the bitter Campari taste of my drink and ordered another. When I tuned into their conversation, Malcolm and Orville were discussing Orville's stay in Paris, evidently a long one.

"You spent over a month in Paris!" Malcolm exclaimed, "that sounds like self-torture to me. How could you put up with that crazy traffic and the exhaust fumes, the exorbitant prices and the fucking French?"

"True, Paris is fast losing its charm. In the quarter where I usually stay they've widened many of the streets on the Left Bank, got rid of the old cobblestones and put in that garish sodium lighting to replace the lovely old street lamps. Add to that the sad news that Mother de Gaulle is methodically eliminating the pissoirs."

"It won't be Paris anymore without them."

"Alas, alas. By the bye, I did find the answer to a mystery that has always intrigued me. Have you noticed that when you go into one of the conveniences as they call them, there always seems to be bread lying around. Chunks of it. Well, one afternoon a young lad from Nebraska (would you believe?) and I were having coffee when he called my attention to a gentleman going into the pissoir across the way and damned if he didn't pick up the bread and leave with it in his briefcase. Lauren maintains that he'll take it home, put it in the oven to get it nice and toasty and have it with his supper."

I heard that story years ago, but you're right, sometimes there's a quarter of a baguette lying in the trough neatly sliced in half. But who is this knowledgeable young man you've just mentioned? Did you say Lauren?"

Orville was smiling broadly, clearly dying to tell all, but he merely said, "Oh, just someone I met at the Olympia during intermission."

"C'mon, Orville, fess up."

"O.K., Lauren is a charming child and an Aubrey Beardsley decadent at the same time. He vouches for the story of the bread, by the way. Says he earned pocket money providing golden showers for some of those same gentlemen."

"A rather precocious child, then it is. Any hanky panky?"

Orville pointedly ignored the question. "You know how lonely life can be at our age (Malcolm visibly winced) and Lauren was company and a fun traveling companion. He went as far as Rome with me and then had to get back to classes at Rollins. He's nineteen going on ninety — I wish I'd had my act together as well as he has when I was his age. And he comes up with the most offbeat notions. For instance, he gets Italian waiters' attention by calling out "Come here, Mary," which does sound something like "Cameriere." The waiters come without noticing and he gets a big kick out of it."

Just then the bartender tapped my arm and said that the gentleman at the other end of the bar wanted to know whether I'd like another drink. I looked over and the gentleman nodded slightly, so I shrugged my shoulders in the Italian manner and told the bartender to thank the gentleman kindly but that I was about to leave for dinner with my uncle and his friend. When the bartender conveyed the message, I received another polite nod and I smiled back as expressively as I could. I really felt pretty pleased with myself, though I'm sure that the gentleman put his own meaning on "uncle."

"What was that all about?" Malcolm wanted to know, and when I explained he turned



Gazing at the Church of the Salute, now almost a silhouette as the sun went down, Orville sighed: "They say living well is the best revenge — now at long last I understand what they mean."

to Orville with, "Well, when my nephew is offered drinks by Milanese business types I guess it's time to leave."

We finished our drinks and as we left I turned and winked back at my gentleman friend just for the hell of it. It was probably the Negronis — I had forgotten that Vodka was the third ingredient. We stood for a few minutes at Harry's boat landing as the last rays of the setting sun were hitting the Church of the Salute with that indescribable Venetian light that turned the white marble to gold.

Our walk to the hotel took longer than usual because the narrow streets are crowded at that time of evening just before the shops close and in places it's necessary to walk single file. The effects of the drinks were wearing off by the time we arrived at the Gritti where we were quickly shown to a table on the hotel's floating verandah. Directly across the canal the Salute was now brightly illuminated and it did look like a huge wedding cake.

Malcolm always skips the antipasto and minestra courses and settles for meat or fish, a salad, rice or potatoes and some vegetable, but Orville and I wandered all over the extensive menu and ended up with melon and prosciutto, ravioli with a pesto sauce, pheasant with truffles, egg plant and finocchio. The meal was a leisurely one and the flowers and candles at each table, music coming from the inner dining room and the changing water traffic on the Grand Canal added to our enjoyment of the meal.

Orville is an animated story teller, loves to chatter and at one point, he described the Gay Hallowe'en Ball held every year in a nearby college town. "Do you remember Ralph who had a florist shop there on Sheridan? Well, about two years ago he decided to get himself up in full drag for the Ball, spent weeks on his outfit — sequin gown, wig, stiletto heels, panty hose, the works. I must say that after all that tarding up he succeeded in looking rather eerily like Alice B. Toklas — without the mustache. But he had a glorious time and by two in the a.m. he was dancing on tables and offering sips of champagne from his slippers. In the midst of all this, he suddenly stopped and collapsed saying 'I think I'm having a heart attack.' Wouldn't you know, some queen who had been waiting all her life to deliver the line yelled out, 'Is there a doctor in the house?' Somebody else suggested calling an ambulance but his pal, the one who called herself Wilma said, 'He can't go to the hospital like this!' So they hauled him out to the car and took him to his apartment where they pulled off all his finery and washed off most of the make-up. I should add that he looked the color of wet cement when they took him out and when they finally got to the emergency room, he was pronounced dead. Those idiots had wasted all that precious time trying to make him presentable when they could simply have said that he had been to a costume party. After all, it was Hallowe'en."

"I'm sorry to hear about Ralph," Malcolm said. "He was a pleasant little guy and but for people with guilt feelings he might still be kicking up his heels."

"Of course. But paranoia abounds. He did have a beautiful funeral though, banks of flowers like they were going out of style."

The story was amusing, especially the way Orville told it, even though it described an essentially sad situation. I was thinking this over, the gentle rocking motion of the floating restaurant contributing to my thoughtful mood. As we were finishing our coffee, Orville turned to me and said, "You've been very good to put up with all this idle chatter of ours, David. But what can you expect when a couple of old twanks get together."

I must have looked puzzled and Orville, ever the helpful teacher, explained. "The Queen's Horse Guards (have you seen those gorgeous uniforms?) are noted for allowing themselves to be picked up in London's Hyde Park by gentlemen who pay them for their services. They jovially refer to their patrons as 'Twanks.' I love the term though I've never had the experience — I'm told the guards have a nasty tendency to thrash their clients."

Our waiter was hovering nearby and Orville said, "Watch this," and he called, "Come here, Mary." The waiter came over immediately with the bill. "See it works," Orville smirked.

The bill must have been a whopper but Orv paid it without hesitation. I thanked him for the treat and Malcolm suggested having lunch at Harry's restaurant on Torcello sometime soon.

I suggested that we walk Orville back to his hotel and he agreed: "Great, get your bag and your beads and let's go!"

The streets were almost deserted — Venice is not noted for its night life — but at the Frezzeria the usual contingent of prostitutes was lined up along the buildings and as we passed by they went into their usual invitations to "fare amore" though it was all done tongue in cheek. "They know me and they know it's no go," Malcolm said. He often stands some of them to a coffee or a drink at the bar nearby, and they exchange gossip though he complains that the whores can still ply their trade while the Venetian authorities are rough on Gays and are getting the word out with harsh sentences.

A soft drizzle had begun and Orville told us that we didn't have to see him all the way to the Danieli, so we said our goodnights and as we headed back, Malcolm wondered aloud whether Orville hadn't seemed eager to get off on his own.

We got the answer the next morning. Orville called in a dreadful state of nerves. He had picked up a sailor "off the boats" and had been robbed and slapped around.

"Come along, David, and let's take Orville to breakfast," Malcolm suggested. "see if we can cheer up the old twank."

The Editor of *The Wisconsin Light* is proud to publish this chapter from a novel in progress by Arts and Entertainment Editor Geno (a.k.a. Eugene Brzenk).

The author and *The Wisconsin Light* invite comments, suggestions and reactions from our readers.

POLITICALLY SPEAKING

Faggot, Dyke, Sissy, Queer, Lezzy, Queer, Homo...

These are just some of the labels that society puts on us. Being the targets of so many labels and names ourselves, we above all people should not be using them ourselves, especially on each other. Unfortunately far too often we do. Rather than really thinking about what people are saying and doing, some of us want to put people and organizations into convenient little categories. We let lazy thinking set in and are governed by our emotions instead of our intellect.

In a political sense such thinking will get us into trouble and hold us back. It polarizes us and creates barriers to co-operation. Lately, I have grown increasingly disturbed by how quickly some of us label each other, our organizations and the strategies some choose to use to achieve equality.

There are those in our community who despise activists of any kind no matter what they call themselves. Anyone who advocates protests of any kind is a "radical," and ANY public demonstration is "an embarrassment." They tell us that all the marches have come to nothing. That is nonsense. It isn't always a good idea to take the street, but it isn't always a bad idea either.

These strategists whose sole contribution to our movement is their constant criticism brand ANY and EVERY organized effort as "a waste of time," "sending the wrong message," "perpetuating a negative stereotype," "pointless" and of course "bound to fail."

Some of them will tell you how much they "appreciate what's been done" for them, but still go on to blast the strategies used to make the gains they "appreciate" so much.

They ignore the fact that our public demonstrations have shown society that we are more numerous than they thought, shown our ability to organize, brought our issues to the attention of the general public, helped stop or at least limit things like Police raids on our bars, brought us into contact with each other in political context instead of just a sexual or social one and lent strength to those unable to overcome their fear of being Gay or Lesbian.

Talk to one of these naysayers and you will see that in their opinion they are full participants in the Gay movement, after all they are expounding their opinions aren't they? The problem with their opinions is that those opinions are always negative and they offer no constructive alternatives. If they spent half as much time trying to convince non Gays to treat us on an equal basis as they do trying to convince Gays and Lesbians that they shouldn't participate in whatever is being organized, we would all be much better off.

Another example of labeling is the way some people view ACT UP and Queer Nation.

I find some of ACT UP's activities such as invading churches during services, to be extremely offensive. But these actions have basically been taken by a handful of the activists involved in one ACT UP chapter. Condemning all ACT UP members, activities and chapters because of the actions of a few, smacks of the same line of reasoning used by the fundamentalists when they condemn all Gays and Lesbians because a tiny minority of our community are pedophiles.

ACT UP has made the public aware of AIDS issues. This has helped force the Federal government to respond to the AIDS crisis in a way that quiet pressure never would have. A fact acknowledged in a recent issue of Scientific American. Rather than looking for names to call them we should be looking for ways to thank them for those efforts that have paid off.

An offshoot of ACT UP, Queer Nation is an organization which at this point doesn't have a strictly defined strategy. It is a new group, but is already embroiled in controversy.

For example; a couple of months ago this paper printed an article sent by M. Vince Turner of Ocean City Md. He wrote "I know little about Queer Nation," and then proceeded to blast it. Others have as well and since it is a new group without a track record I doubt that most of them know much about QN other than its name.

I think QN could have chosen a better name, if for no other reason than to have people concentrate on what it does and stands for rather than what it calls itself. But I don't agree with automatically assuming that this group will do no good because some of us don't like what it calls

itself.

Some of our activists are guilty of labeling, too. Some activists are all too quick to label those who won't join in public organized activities as "closet cases," "wimps," "apologists," and "chickens" They fail to recognize that some who wish to remain private are able to use their access to power centers the more strident will never get near. Many of our less strident friends can and often do play an important role in advancing the cause of Gay and Lesbian rights.

These "quieter activists" contribute money to our organizations and to friendly politicians. Their lack of public participation doesn't necessarily mean they are less committed, it does mean they are taking advantage of the gains all those demonstrations and marches have won for us. After all if some of us are not going to take advantage of what our protests, lobbying and political alliances have brought us why did we bother?

The point is that with all the name calling some activists and their detractors are talking at each other instead of to each other. The labeling and criticisms are alienating and building barriers at a time when co-operation is what we need.

Politically we are at a crossroads. We have made some gains but we have a long way to go. The foundation of equality has been laid with scores of municipal ordinances and three statewide laws mandating equal treatment in housing, employment and public services. That was just for openers.

Now we must use those laws and continue the fight. We need domestic partnership laws, probate reform, equality in health insurance (all insurance in fact), the right to keep our children, the right to be in the military and more.

We will not gain equality by refusing to listen, labeling each other, and not looking beyond emotional responses. We will not arrive at equality unless we recognize that it can not be achieved solely through demonstrations OR through quieter forms of action.

We need a balanced approach of continuing when appropriate to put the pressure on by taking to the streets, and using other forms of protest, while at the same time we are organizing, helping our friends in office and using quieter methods.

Above all else we need to recognize that despite our differences we have much in common. The labels we should be looking for are "effective," "helpful" and "co-operative," and "contributing." If we can get past our emotional responses we may find that we don't have to look that hard to find those qualities in people and organizations that we least expected to see them in.

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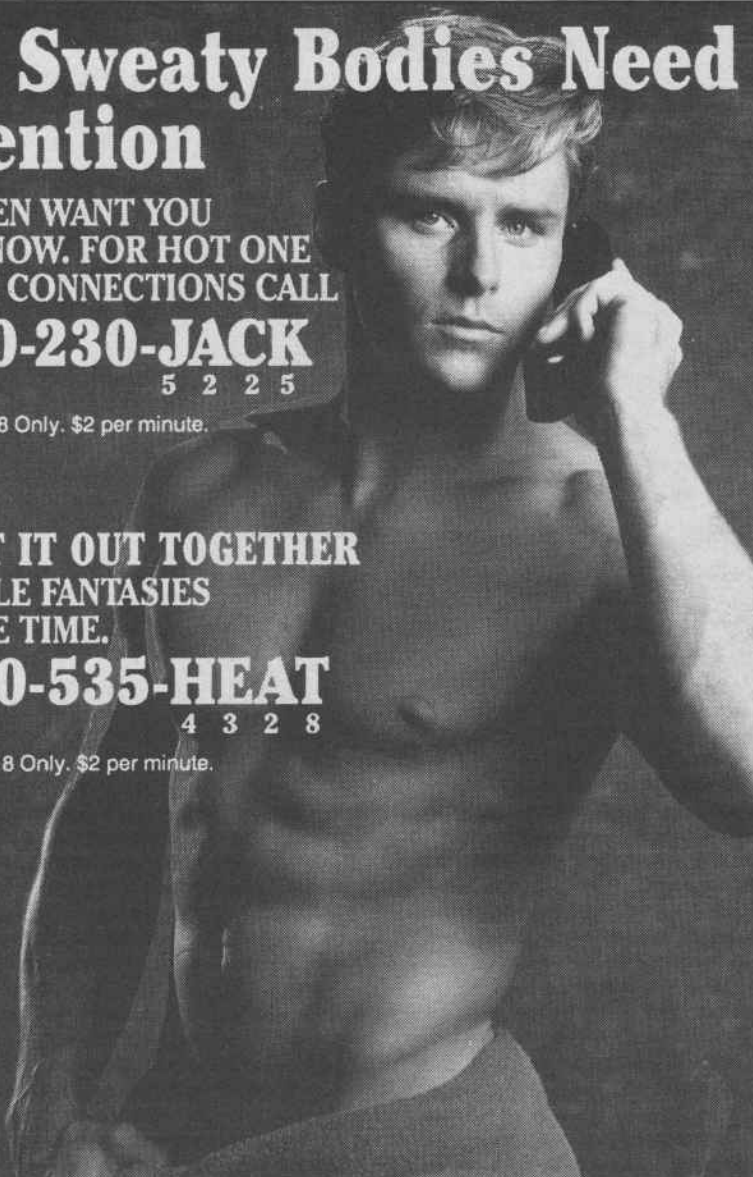
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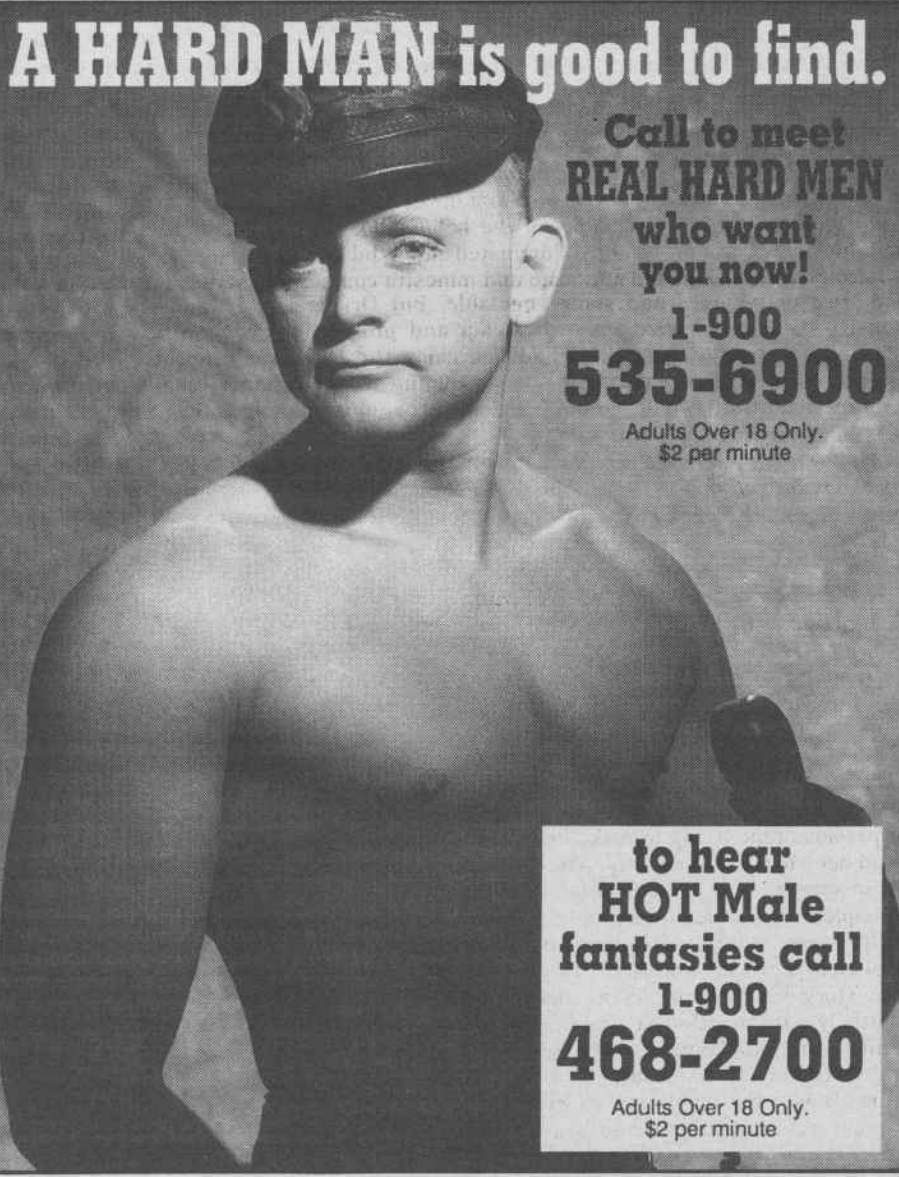


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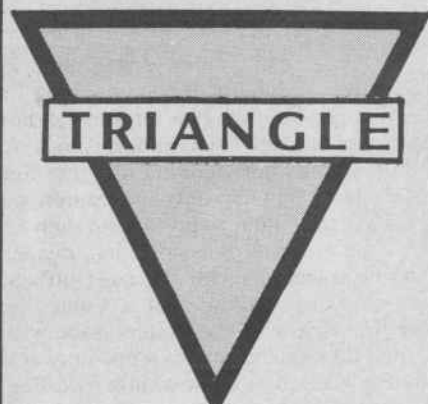
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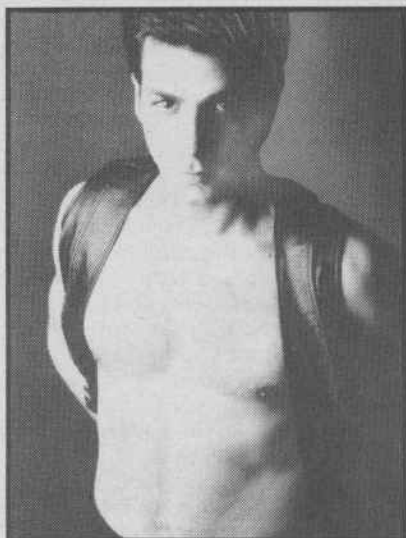
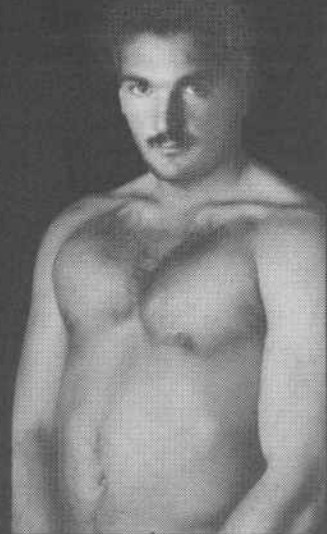
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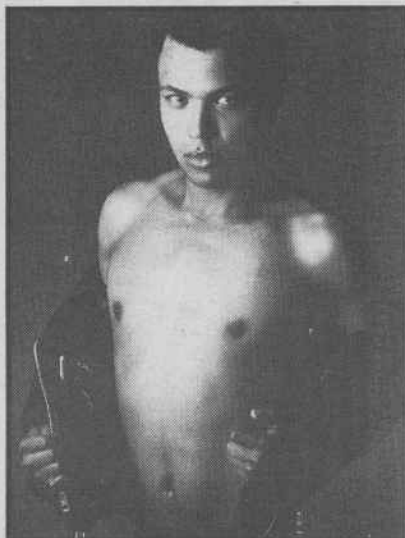
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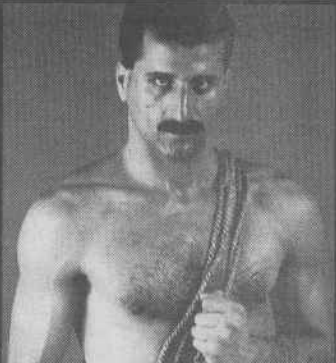
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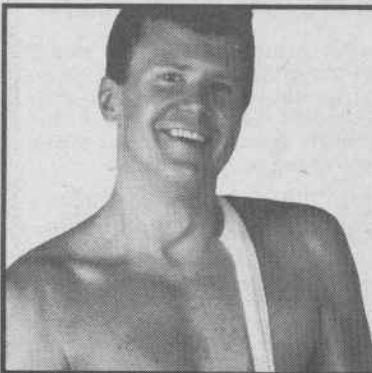
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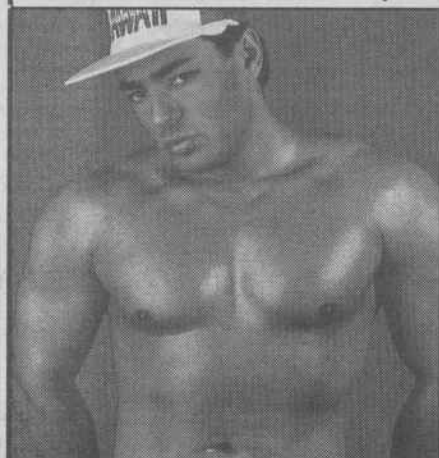
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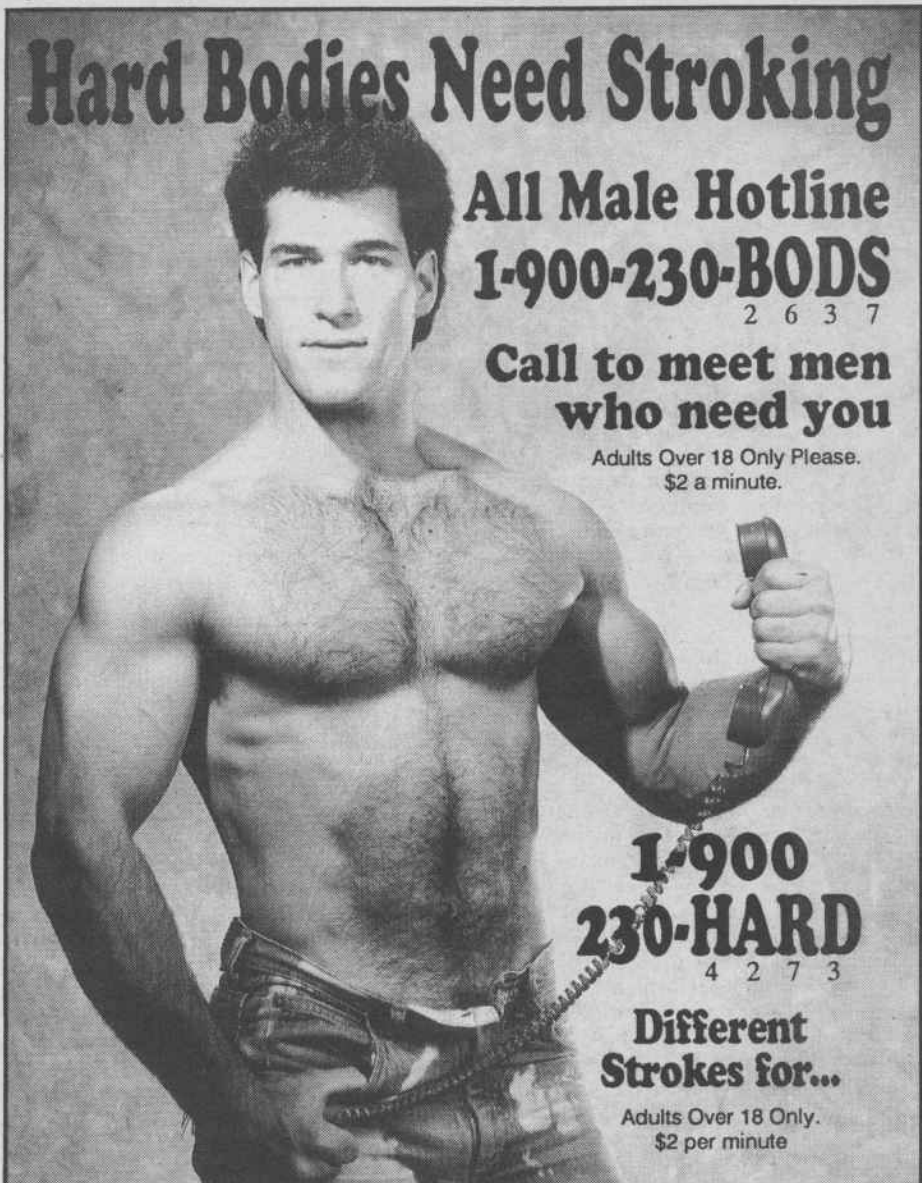
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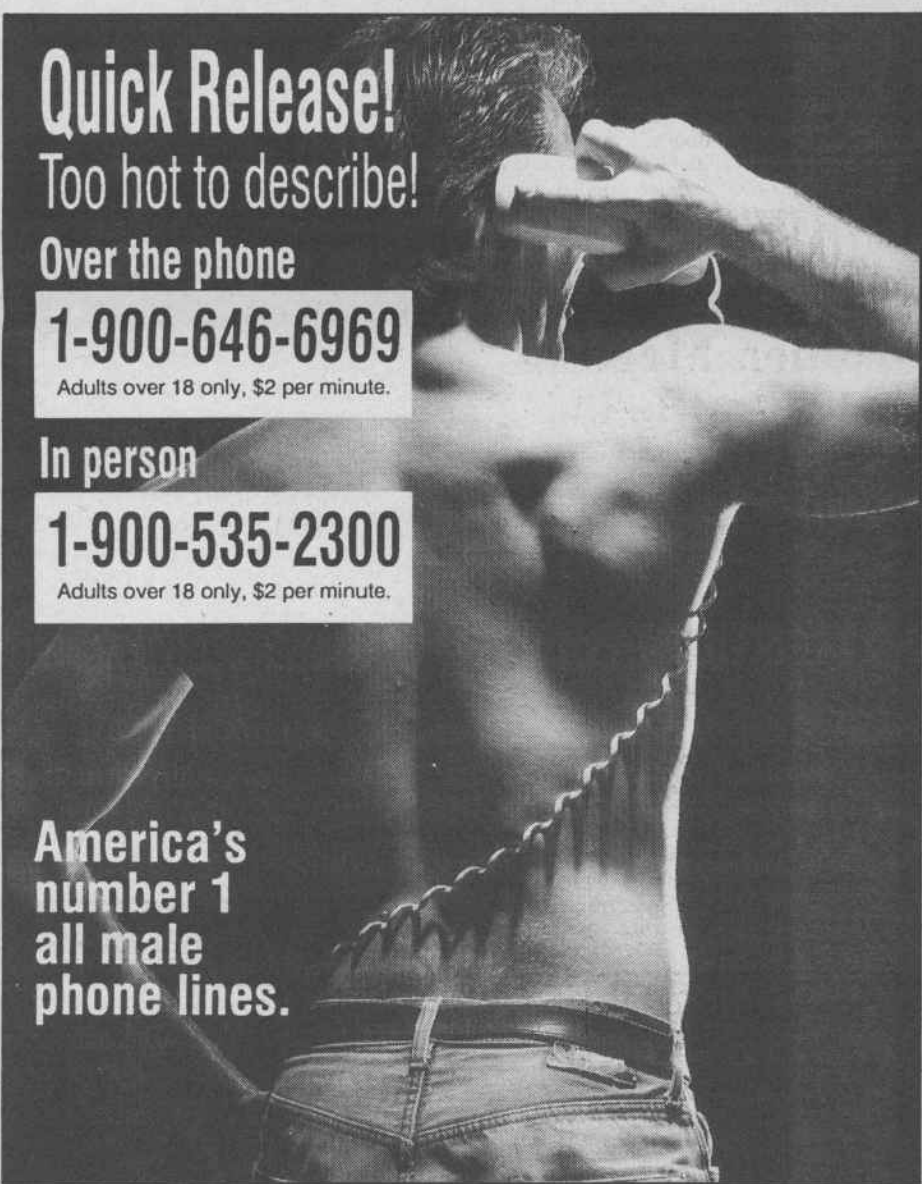
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Nationwide ROTC Protest Planned for April 10

[Madison]- April 10, 1991, has been designated a day of national coordinated action on U.S. university and college campuses. Its purpose is to protest current Department of Defense policy barring from military service all those who do not adhere to a strict standard of exclusive heterosexuality in their sexual practices. It is not designed to be anti-military, according to the West Coast Headquarters of the National Day of Action in San Jose, CA.

At UW-Madison, there will be several events to mark the day. According to Tim Longman, there will be a student rally at Memorial Union beginning at 12:45 followed by a march at 1:30 to the meeting of the Subcommittee of the University Regents on Education.

Longman said there will also be an "action" at noon on April 11. As of press time, the nature of the action had not been decided, he said.

Also, Michael Olneck, Chair of the Task Force on Discriminatory Policies in ROTC, Longman and David Halperin have drafted a statement that has been sent to colleges and universities around the

country. The statement, if signed, expresses that institution's "serious reservations" concerning the Defense Department's discriminatory policy based on sexual orientation which, the statement says "is inconsistent with the principles of equal opportunity and respect for human dignity and calls on President Bush and the Defense Department to abolish the policy."

Olneck will be testifying before the Regents' Subcommittee urging them to adopt the statement.

Coinciding with, but not part of the National Action Day, is a forum titled, "Why Not Discriminate? A Forum on ROTC's Policy Excluding Gays and Lesbians." The forum to be held on April 10, is sponsored by Task Force on Discriminating Policies.

Among the speakers at the Forum will be Janet Hyde who will Janet Hyde, Attorney Patrick Berigan, lawyer for Miriam Ben-Shalom, Gordon Baldwin, Pat Williams and Claudia Card. There will also be two workshops. For more information contact the Task Force at 262-1760.

Madison's Frontiers Men's Group To Celebrate 10th Anniversary

[Madison]- Frontiers, Madison's largest Gay men's organization, will hold its 10th Year Anniversary Awards Dinner on Saturday, April 20. The group has sponsored a myriad of educational programs, social events and outdoor activities since its inception in 1981 as a support group.

Those being recognized at the Awards Program for their service include Madison Alderman Jim McFarland, for his work resulting in the passage of Madison's domestic partners ordinance; State Representative David Clarenbach for his pioneering state legislation in civil rights; and Larry Kneeland for his volunteer service for Frontiers and numerous other Gay and Lesbian organizations.

The Awards Dinner will be held at the Gallery Restaurant in Middleton.

Appetizers and cash bar will commence at 6:30, dinner at 7:30 and the program to follow. The cost of the event is \$20 per person. Reservations are required.

For more information, contact Gary Tipler at 255-1523.

HRCF Seeks Rep

[Washington, D.C.]- Applications are currently being accepted for the male Youth Board Representatives on the Human Rights Campaign Fund (HRCF) Board of Directors. To apply, applicants should be between the ages of 18 to 25. A cover letter, resume, and short — two or three pages — essay describing experience and goals should be sent to: Board Intern Search, HRCF, P.O. Box 1396, Washington, D.C. 20013. Applications are due on May 1.

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'Spring Outdoors With GAMMA' Is Theme for Seven Events

[Milwaukee]- "Spring Outdoors with GAMMA" is the theme of eleven special activities planned during May and June, 1991. Following a "GAMMA Circle" orientation party, the season opens with a hike around Devil's Lake on May 11. Some eager bikers will drive to Green Bay, WI on May 17 for the 130 mile weekend Lumberjack Bike Ride sponsored by the YMCA. The main event in May will be a leisurely canoe trip down the Wisconsin River from Boscobel to the Mississippi River over Memorial Day weekend. The highlight of the canoe trip will be overnight camping on sand-bars and afternoon volleyball and frisbee contests. The lower Wisconsin River is listed in April's *Milwaukee Magazine* as one of the state's ten "Best Kept Secrets."

The weekend of June 1-2 features two events: a Saturday biking benefit for the Milwaukee Lesbian and Gay Pride Committee and a Sunday hike in the Southern Kettle Moraine. Another "GAMMA Circle" on June 7 will provide information for June's events. There will be three Gay/Lesbian teams in the Miller Lite Ride for the Arts on June 9. Rides will be scheduled for 15, 30 or 50 miles — a wide variety to suit all levels of biking interest. On June 16, Father's Day, the tenth annual GAMMA excursion to Great America in Gurnee, IL will be held. It's the day we all wear red T-Shirts! Meet at the McKinley parking lot at 8:30 a.m. for coffee and donuts.

The weekend of June 22 is reserved for a camping trip at Long Lake Park, near West Bend. Finally, on June 28, about twenty guests from GAMMA/Twin Cities will journey to Henry Maier/Karen Lamb Festival Park to enjoy the sights and sounds of Summerfest with us. GAMMA will sponsor a Friday evening cocktail party and a Sunday brunch. Hosts will be needed for weekend roommates.

All "Spring Outdoors" events are open to all members of the Wisconsin Gay community. Many require reservations and need advanced deposits. On Friday, April 5 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. GAMMA will host a cocktail party in Shorewood; during this party, anyone interested can find out more about GAMMA's activities. For full

Coalition Meeting April 17 at 6:30

[Milwaukee]- The Coalition is meeting April 17 at 6:30 p.m. instead of 7:00 as previously announced in *In Step*.

The meeting will take place at the UWM Student Union, Room 280 with dinner with Ivy Young. The cost is \$12 per person. There is limited space available so please RSVP by April 12 by calling: 32-PRIDE

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Announcements

The Wisconsin Cream City Chorus, Ltd. is taking applicants for the position of Musical Director. Please send your resume' and a letter of introduction to P.O. Box 1488, Milwaukee, WI 53201-1488.

The Human Rights Campaign Fund, a national lesbian/gay political organization, is looking for volunteer organizers in targeted Congressional Districts in the Midwest. Offers great opportunity to learn field organizing skills, affect the national political process for lesbian and gay civil rights and work with professional organizers. Call or write, Laurie Dittman, HRCF, P.O. Box 146697, Chicago, Illinois 60614 or (312) 281-6402.

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information on these events, or on the host of other outdoor, social and sports events sponsored by GAMMA, write GAMMA at P.O. Box 1900, Milwaukee, WI 53201 or call GAMMA in Milwaukee at 963-9833.

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May

11 Spring hike @ Devil's Lake

18-19 Lumberjack bike tour, Green Bay; 65 miles/day

26-27 Canoeing/Camping trip down western Wisconsin River.

June

1 Pride Bike Benefit
2 Scuppernong Hike

9 Miller Bike Ride for the Arts. 15, 30 or 50 miles

16 Great America Trip

22-23 Camping trip to Long Lake; upper Kettle Moraine

28-30 SUMMERFEST with GAMMA/Twin Cities

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