



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

The Wisconsin Light

Madison's Frontier Men's Group Celebrates Ten Years

By Terry Boughner

[Madison]- Some 60 people attended the Frontiers annual awards banquet on Saturday, April 20, 1991 that also celebrated the group's 10 anniversary. The dinner was held at The Gallery restaurant in Middleton, Wisconsin. The garden-like atmosphere in the historic old building offered a charming setting for the festivities.

Receiving the Frontiers Award for Community Service was out-going Madison Alderman Jim McFarland, introduced by Alderman Ricardo Gonzales. McFarland, who is responsible for Madison's domestic partners statute, praised his life-partner, Rick Villasenor, Miriam Ben Shalom and State Rep. David Clarenbach for their on-going inspiration to him in his work for human rights.

Larry Kneeland received the Volunteer Service Award for years of work in the Madison AIDS Support Network (MASN), Frontiers newsletter editor and as a founder of Frontiers. He was introduced by Woody Carry.

State Rep. David Clarenbach received the Public Service Award. He was introduced by Dane County Supervisor, Dick Wagner. Wagner lauded Clarenbach as the Father of the Wisconsin Gay rights law, for authoring all AIDS legislation in the state, for the Wisconsin Hate Crimes law as well as being a leader in support of labor laws and on women's issues. "David is a voice for the Wisconsin Progressive tradition," Wagner said.

Clarenbach who is in his 20th year of elective office and has announced his campaign for Congress, was given a standing ovation as he went to receive his award.

Local History Topic of May 16 LAMM Meeting

[Milwaukee]- "Bringing Up The Past: Local Lesbian Herstories" is the topic of the next meeting of the Lesbian Alliance of Metro Milwaukee (LAMM) on Thursday, May 16. A panel of several local Lesbians will discuss life as a Lesbian in Milwaukee in the '60's and early '70's.

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 LAMM at 264-2600.

Milwaukee Expected to Oppose Possible Bath House Reopening

[Milwaukee]- "We would look on it with disfavor as before," said Dr. Thomas Schlenker. Schlenker went on to say, that whoever invested in it should know "that the day after they opened it, it would be closed."

Schlenker, the special deputy commissioner for medical affairs for Milwaukee's Health department was responding to a question about the possible re-opening of the Club Baths. The question was prompted by an article in Michael Horne's column, "Plenty of Horne" in the April 25-May 1 edition of the *Shepherd Express* in which he wrote of a possible reopening of the baths.

Schlenker went on to indicate a concern that name changes or other changes would not make a difference in the baths.

The Club Baths were closed originally because of the fear of the spread of infectious disease.

In his column, Horne notes that William Sherkow, "is said to plan to reopen the Club Baths" in the building at 704 Wisconsin Ave. which he owns. The re-opening, Horne writes, is "part of his strategy" to get a buyer for the building,

Thompson Denied Kowalski Guardianship; Appeal Planned

By Jamakaya

[Duluth, MN] - In a decision Karen Thompson calls "outrageous and unbelievable," St. Louis County District Judge Robert Campbell on April 24 denied Thompson's petition to become the guardian of her brain-injured lover, Sharon Kowalski.

"To say that I am stunned and outraged would be an understatement," Thompson told the *Wisconsin Light*. "There will definitely be an appeal. It's the most homophobic, heterosexist and ableist order my attorney has ever seen."

Instead of Thompson, Judge Campbell chose as guardian Karen Tomberlin, a teacher at Greenway High School in Minnesota's Iron Range who has known Kowalski since 1973. Campbell described Tomberlin as "a neutral third party" who is best equipped to see that Kowalski maintains her relationship with both her parents and Thompson.

Donald and Della Kowalski and Karen Thompson have fought legal battles over Sharon Kowalski's medical care, guardianship and visitation rights since a car accident disabled her in 1983. The Kowalskis relinquished guardianship last year, and the current hearing was to determine who would take over responsibility for Sharon.

While the legal wrangling has gone on for seven years, it was in only the last two months that Karen Tomberlin emerged as another potential guardian.

Thompson views Tomberlin as "an extension of the Kowalskis." She does not deny that Sharon knows Tomberlin and enjoys her company, but points out that Tomberlin has only visited Sharon three or four times in the past two years.

Minnesota guardianship statutes say that any person appointed must have good communication with the ward and be aware of the ward's "ongoing daily needs." Thompson doubts that Tomberlin has this knowledge. Thompson is further concerned that, at the hearing, Tomberlin testified against Sharon having any input into her own treatment and future.

In addition, in what Thompson described as a "flagrant violation of state statutes," the judge appointed Tomberlin guardian when she had not even filed a petition for guardianship as required by law. Normally, all interested parties are informed of such a petition and given a chance to respond. This may be one of the many grounds for appeal.

Thompson is particularly concerned that Judge Campbell "made a finding of fact totally unsubstantiated by the evidence that Sharon is incapable of living at home."

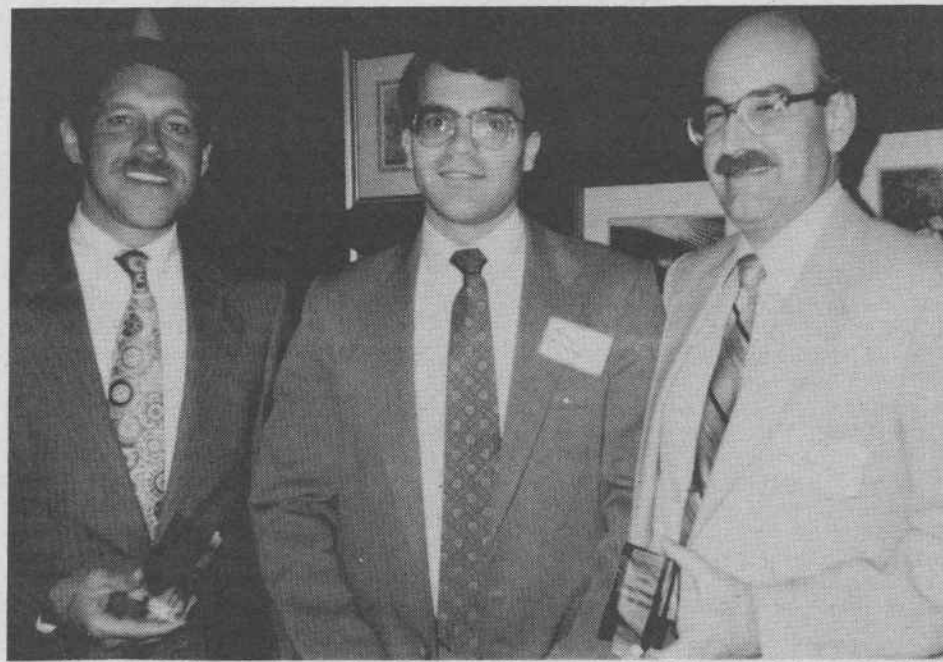
In fact, every medical professional who testified at the hearing said that Kowalski can and should be allowed to live at home. They all remarked on the added alertness and motivation she exhibited after weekends at home with Thompson.

The effect of the judge's finding, if not appealed, could be to leave Sharon Kowalski forever institutionalized.

"It is very difficult to respect a system that so freely violates human being's rights," said Thompson. "To think that a judge would still prefer her sitting in an institution and deny her the right to live her highest quality of life — that which she still has. He would even take that away from her and make her stare at walls instead of living at home and being able to go out and do things. I can't believe that anybody would be so inhuman."

Judge Campbell acknowledged that Sharon Kowalski has repeatedly stated that she wants to live with Thompson, that doctors and nurses testified Kowalski was happiest with Thompson and that Thompson has the best grasp of Kowalski's needs and is committed to meeting them.

Nevertheless, the judge cited these
TURN TO THOMPSON, PAGE 10



State Rep. David Clarenbach, outgoing Madison alderman Jim McFarland and Larry Kneeland received the Frontiers Awards for Community Service on April 20. The awards were presented at a banquet held at the Gallery Restaurant in Middleton.

Governor Thompson Proposes to Cut State AIDS Budget by \$144,000

[Milwaukee]- State AIDS funding has been cut by \$143,600 in Governor Thompson's proposed 1991-93 budget, a reduction that AIDS Resource Center Executive Director Doug Nelson labeled as "seriously jeopardizing our ability to keep pace with the AIDS epidemic."

Thompson's budget cuts all funding for the new state-wide clinical drug trials program headquartered at the Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP), cuts two key AIDS prevention staff positions at the State Division of Health AIDS/HIV Program, and offers no increase for the critically important Life Care Services case management grants that fund MAP's 17 person case management staff.

"Wisconsin must not retreat in the face of a rapidly escalating AIDS epidemic," Nelson said. "MAP's HIV clientele will increase by at least 150 percent during the two year period of this state budget. If the Governor's budget remains unchanged, MAP's ability to deliver services to clients will definitely be harmed."

Nelson has met with the executive directors of all of Wisconsin's private, non-profit AIDS service organizations to

gain consensus on increases in the state budget that he calls essential. The increases for each fiscal year in the biennium proposed by MAP and the other AIDS service agencies total nearly \$1.3 million.

Nelson is also recommending that the state budget be changed to permit the state's HIV Drug Reimbursement Program to reimburse for any HIV drug that is FDA approved and recommended by the State Division of Health. He said that the Governor's budget appears to adequately fund the drug reimbursement program and to the COBRA insurance continuation subsidy program.

Madison State Rep. David Clarenbach and Milwaukee State Reps Tim Carpenter and Peter Bock will lead the legislative effort to restore and increase AIDS funding in the budget. If successful, the funding will need Governor Thompson's approval when signing the new 1991-93 state budget.

AIDS Memorial Service Planned For May 19

[Milwaukee]- On May 19, 1991, Milwaukee will once again be participating in the eighth annual International AIDS Candlelight Memorial and Mobilization. In conjunction with other memorial activities, the PLWA Coalition of Wisconsin will be sponsoring a Candlelight March to remember those who have been taken from us by AIDS; to support those living with HIV and AIDS and stand for those who will be touched by AIDS in the future.

The March will begin at the Reuss Federal Building in downtown Milwaukee at 9:00 p.m. where a brief introduction and statement of purpose will be given. The March will proceed down Wisconsin Avenue and end at the lakefront War Memorial. Speakers confirmed to date include: State Rep. Peter Bock, Doug Nelson, executive director of the Milwaukee AIDS Project, Daniel Trzebiatowski, a PLWA and Bob and Ginny Savrnock, parents of a passed PWA.

Those who plan to participate in the March are asked to bring their own candles if possible. Candles will be provided if need be.

For more information, call Daniel at 383-1512 or the PLWA Coalition at 442-7504.

NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

Judge: No Bias Against 'Homos'

[Washington, D.C.]—Saying that his use of the word "homo" in court proceedings did not constitute judicial bias, US District Court Judge Oliver Gasch has refused to disqualify himself from hearing the case of Joseph Steffan, the Naval cadet discharged because of his homosexuality.

"The court's use of the word 'homo' was not intended as a gratuitous insult and did not indicate any hostility," said Judge Gasch. "In using the term, the court equated the term with homosexual." The fact that the word can be used in a disparaging manner does not prove bias in this particular case, according to the judge.

Attorneys for Steffan, who is fighting his dismissal from the US Naval Academy, had attempted to disqualify Judge Gasch after he referred to Steffan as a "homo" and made another comment about "homos" during the trial. Gasch ruled against his own disqualification and the trial has resumed.

White House Issues Form Letter

[Washington, D.C.]—In response to a letter from Rep. Gerry Studds (D-MA) and 39 other members of Congress asking President Bush to end the Pentagon's ban on Gay and Lesbian personnel through an executive order, the White House issued a four sentence letter.

"We appreciate the interest which prompted you to write," responded Frederick D. McClure, presidential assistant for legislative affairs. "Please know that your correspondence has been directed to the appropriate Administration officials for their careful review and consideration."

Studds is reported to be "less than overwhelmed" by the White House response. In a prepared statement, Studds said: "Gays always have and always will serve in the US military. The only question is when they will be allowed to do so with dignity."

Hospital Grants Partners' Benefits

[New York, NY]—New York City's Montefiore Medical Center, with over 9,000 employees, has announced that it will provide spousal benefits to partners of its Gay and Lesbian employees, making it the largest private business in the US to do so.

To be eligible for insurance, pension and family leave benefits, Gay couples must prove that their living arrangements are the same as those of heterosexual married couples (joint residence and checking accounts, powers of attorney, etc.) and must file a sworn affidavit that they are each others' "sole domestic partner."

William Rubenstein of the ACLU's Lesbian and Gay Rights Project said the Montefiore policy "is the most significant step for the domestic partnership movement to date. It also marks an important step forward for the equal rights for Lesbians and Gay men."

Meanwhile, in Boston, Gay City Council member David Scodras has introduced an ordinance that will extend benefits to the domestic partners of unmarried municipal employees, Gay or straight. Said Scodras: "This law is not about benefits, it's about justice. The time has come to acknowledge the social apartheid against non-traditional families."

Similar legislation has been introduced into Washington, D.C.'s City Council.

Students Terrorized By Bigots

[Chicago, IL]—Three graduate students at the University of Chicago are being terrorized by a group called "The Brotherhood of the Iron Fist," according to **Outlines** reporter Rex Wockner. The harassment escalated from hate-filled letters to death threats to attempted murder.

The three graduate students are in the Division of Biological Sciences and are members of the university's Gay and Lesbian Alliance (GALA). Letters left in their campus mailboxes called the men "filthy fucking faggots" and threatened to kill them.

In mid-March, one of the Gay students, who is disabled, was attacked by two men who knocked him down, kicked him and threatened to inject air into his veins with a syringe. The victim managed to ward off the attackers with his cane, but later received a letter saying that another attempt on his life would be made.

While University of Chicago officials condemned the harassment, GALA believes more should be done to expose and prosecute members of the "Iron Fist." Letters of protest can be sent to Dr. Hannah Holburn Gray, President, University of Chicago, 5801 S. Ellis, Chicago, IL 60637.

Duke U. Disciplines Homophobe

[Durham, NC]—The **Washington Blade** reports that Duke University official Larry Nelson has been suspended without pay and ordered to attend a course on human sexuality and gender preference after refusing to hire a highly qualified applicant for a position at Duke because he didn't like the applicant's "mannerisms" and thought that the applicant might be Gay.

When Duke University President Keith Brodie learned of the incident, he disciplined Nelson. Brodie told Chapel Hill's **Independent**: "Duke University cannot and will not tolerate behavior by its employees that violates the fundamental principle of fairness." Duke policy forbids discrimination based on sexual orientation.

Dartmouth Nixes Gay Alums

[Hanover, NH]—The Dartmouth University Alumni Council has denied official recognition to the school's Gay and Lesbian Alums (GALA) group, citing its opposition to creating "subgroups" within the alumni association, according to the **Washington Blade**.

Mike Choukas, director of alumni affairs, said that recognizing the Gay group would "open the door to demands for recognition by other subgroups, such as Hispanics or women."

Ironically, African and Native American alumni as well as Dartmouth graduates who are attorneys had their groups officially recognized by the university in the 1970's before the new Alumni Council gained authority over alumni affairs.

The Alumni Council offered to extend GALA the same services and facilities it accords to recognized alumni groups, but Dan Baker, a spokesman for GALA said: "As far as I'm concerned, that isn't enough. We're going to demand recognition."

Women's Health Bill Introduced

[Washington, D.C.]—The Omnibus Women's Health Equity Act, a combination of 22 different women's health bills dealing with research, services and disease prevention on everything from breast and cervical cancer to AIDS, has been introduced into the US Senate and House of Representatives.

Chief sponsors of the Women's Health Equity Act are Sen. Barbara Mikulski (D-MD) and Reps. Patricia Schroeder (D-CO) and Olympia Snowe (D-ME).

"We are laying the foundation for health care in the 21st century," said Sen. Mikulski, "and it has to be more than a mix of 14th Century attitudes and 20th Century technology. We are saying 'no' to indifference, ignorance and neglect and 'yes' to access to affordable care...and new attitudes, without sexism, in our treatment and research."

Among the bill's provisions are funds to research the unique manifestations of HIV infection among women. The bill allocates \$25 million for breast cancer research and another \$35 million to develop methods of early detection for ovarian cancer.

Sponsors of the bill also demand that the General Accounting Office investigate why women have systematically been excluded from research and drug trials conducted by the Food and Drug Administration and the National Institutes of Health.

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.

Milwaukee's June 15 Pride Week Parade and Rally Updates

[Milwaukee]—Plans for the 1991 Pride Rally, being held on June 15, 1991, are finally coming together. Confirmed to speak is Peri Jude Radecic, who has worked for the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force since 1987 and organizes annual National Lobby Days for Lesbian and Gay Rights. Radecic organized the federal legislative effort that passed the historic Hate Crimes Statistics Act.

Rep. David Clarenbach and Perry Watkins will also be featured speakers at the rally. David Clarenbach was the driving force behind Wisconsin's Gay Rights bill. His topic will be "Wisconsin's Place in the Gay/Lesbian Movement." Perry Watkins was recently awarded \$135,000 in back pay from the U.S. Army, a legal battle which has taken almost ten years to resolve.

Rev. Renee McCoy is also tentatively scheduled to appear.

Also scheduled to perform at the rally is Milwaukee's own Cream City Chorus and Fest City Singers. Rufus and the Singing Machine will open the rally, and other live bands and acts are being added to the rally schedule each day. The 219 Girls, Mr. and Miss Gay Wisconsin, and Mr. and Miss Black Gay Wisconsin are also scheduled.

PRIDE PARADE

Milwaukee's 1991 Annual Pride Parade is also shaping up. The Beer Town Badgers will be acting as color guard for the third year in a row.

The Model T and Antique Car Club will be featured in this year's parade, showing off about 12 antique cars. The cars will also be on display at the rally site.

BENEFIT BREAKFAST

The last benefit fundraising meal of fluffy pancakes and porkies will be served on Sunday, May 19th from 9 a.m. to Noon at a cost of \$5 for each person. Beverages are additional. St. Pius X Church will again be the location. Plan now on attending. St. Pius is located at 2506 Wauwatosa Avenue (N. 76th Street) in Wauwatosa.

GAY BUCKS AVAILABLE

MLGCP members will be out and about the Milwaukee area selling Gay Bucks, which are good for food, drinks and merchandise on the day of the 1991 Pride Parade and Rally, and can be used afterward for MLGCP merchandise and events.

If you buy your Gay Bucks early, you get \$11 dollars worth for just ten bucks. This bargain is good until June 14 -- so get your Gay Bucks early and help support our community.

RAFFLE, RAFFLE, RAFFLE

The MLGCP is excited about its newest fundraiser: THE RAFFLE! The prizes are something to get excited about too. The Grand Prize is a 4 day/3 night trip for two to New Orleans, Louisiana (accommodations and air fare), plus \$100 cash (graciously donated by Horizon Travel).


First Prize is \$250, Second Prize is \$100, and three Third Prizes of \$50 will be awarded. There will be many other prizes given away. Tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5. All proceeds go to MLGCP. Enter so you can win!

RAINBOW MARCHING UNIT


The MLGCP is looking for two representatives from each community organization to march in a Rainbow Marching Unit at the Pride Parade on June 15. If you're interested in participating, call 32-PRIDE.

EDELWEISS CRUISE

As an additional fundraising event and to cap off Pride Week activities, the MLGCP is sponsoring an evening boat cruise on the Edelweiss, which cruises the Milwaukee River and Lakefront. The cruise departs at 10:30p.m. and returns about midnight. Cost is \$20 per person or \$35 per couple, with beer, munchies and entertainment provided. For ticket information, call 32-PRIDE.



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Jerry Johnson

IVY YOUNG

Young Urges Protections For Non-Traditional Families

By Jamakaya

[Milwaukee]- "It is absolutely essential to disabuse ourselves of the notion that there is one standard form of family life in America today, that there is only one way to be a family."

Those are the words of Ivy Young, Director of the Families Project of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force as she spoke April 17 during Gay and Lesbian Awareness Week at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

Young talked about the diversity of American families and outlined the many statutes and legal practices that handicap non-traditional families, particularly Gay and Lesbian families.

While the traditional family is perceived as having a male breadwinner, a wife who stays home and several children, according to the Census Bureau, only 11% of American families actually fit that definition.

"Race, class, cultural background and ethnicity — all those factors lead to dramatically different family formations: two wage-earner families, extended families, intergenerational families, childless families, single parents, blended step-families, elderly couples, members of the disabled community who live together as families, Lesbian and Gay families, adoptive and foster families, domestic partners. The list goes on and on."

The problem, according to Young, is that "While 89% of us live today in non-traditional families, public and private sector programs and policies designed to protect and nurture America's families were created 50 to 60 years ago with the traditional family model in mind."

"The homophobia and heterosexism that pervades society often results in Lesbians and Gay men losing their children in custody battles or being denied the opportunity to adopt or provide foster care for children in need of caring parents," said Young.

Some states specifically prohibit adoption or foster care by Lesbians and Gay men, and only eleven states have laws saying that sexual orientation is irrelevant in custody disputes.

Young talked about the many benefits and privileges conferred on straight couples by the marriage license: couple discounts, joint tax returns, the unquestioned right to hospital visitation,

shared pension plans, life and health insurance benefits, social security survivors' benefits, and many more.

She then outlined how "defenseless" Gay and Lesbian couples are in the eyes of the law, with "no automatic means of protecting their decades-long relationships."

Durable powers of attorney, living wills, relationship contracts, guardianship/conservatorship papers, etc. are all necessary to establish and protect the rights of the Lesbian and Gay family. The lack of hospital visitation rights, the denial of couples' discounts, the inability to sue for wrongful death or adopt the children of one's same sex partner, the ineligibility for survivors' benefits — all these and more handicap Gay and Lesbian families.

Young described advances being made with the passage of domestic partnership legislation in many cities throughout the country. She said that Gays and Lesbians are not necessarily trying to replicate the institution of marriage: "What they seek are the vast array of social and civil protections that come with the marriage license."

To the old canard that Gay people want all the rights and none of the responsibilities of marriage, Young declared: "Talk to the thousands upon thousands of Lesbians and Gay men who shoulder all the responsibility of nurturing and protecting their families without any of the benefits, and then talk to me about responsibility."

Young criticized "traditional values" groups, who oppose legal protections for Gays, for wanting to return America to "the way it used to be: Father was the king of the castle, mother was in the kitchen and kids spoke only when spoken to. It was the same time when Black folks were getting lynched and riding on the backs of buses, women were dying from back alley abortions, and Lesbians and Gay men were so far back in the closet that even the dust could not reach them."

Young pointed out that the fascist ideology of the 1930's and '40's was also a "traditional values" movement, emphasizing home, hearth, children and church. She urged listeners to expose that connection and to form coalitions with the 89% of Americans living in non-traditional family structures in order to win further legal protections for all American families.

Ryan White AIDS Funding Coming to Wisconsin

[Milwaukee]- The long-awaited Ryan White Comprehensive AIDS Resources Emergency (CARE) Act federal funding will soon be available in Wisconsin and the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin (ARCW) has been selected by the State Division of Health to receive \$201,059 or 63 percent of the total funding.

The Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP) will receive \$172,336 of this amount and the Southeast Wisconsin AIDS Project (SEWAP) will receive \$28,723.

The funds are to be used to finance comprehensive outpatient health and support services for people with HIV disease.

ARCW Executive Director Doug Nelson praised the state for its decision to establish a sole source contract with ARCW for use of the Ryan White funds in Southeastern Wisconsin. "This funding is urgently needed to assure a high

quality continuum of care for people with HIV disease," Nelson said.

MAP and SEWAP will be required to establish an HIV care consortium in their respective service areas to oversee the planning, development and implementation of services to be funded with Ryan White monies. Each consortium must include agencies and community-based organizations with a record of service to populations with HIV disease.

Another requirement of the grant is that at least 15 percent or \$45,000 must be used to fund services for infants, children, women and families. "This funding comes at the best time to help us establish an effective pediatric AIDS care and support network," said Nelson. "We expect to build a strong partnership with Children's Hospital and a network of pediatricians in the community so we are well-prepared for the expected increase in pediatric AIDS cases."

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Sunday, May 19, 1991
4:00 p.m.

8th
International AIDS
Candlelight Memorial
and Mobilization

St. James Episcopal Church
833 West Wisconsin Avenue
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

 **Sponsored by**
the Milwaukee AIDS Project
and Dignity Milwaukee

Organized by Mobilization Against AIDS

Following the Memorial Service, the PLWA Coalition will sponsor a Candlelight March at 9:00 p.m. The March will begin at the Reuss Federal Building, 3rd Street and Wisconsin Avenue, in Milwaukee.

HUNGRY?

Satisfy your appetite and support your community!
 MLGPC is sponsoring the following benefit meals:



Sun. May 19
PORKIES &
PANCAKES

9am-Noon
 Hot, fluffy pancakes w/porkies
 \$5. Beverage add'l

All meals will be held at **St. Pius X Catholic Church**, 2506 Wauwatosa Avenue.



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

The Wisconsin Light



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Typography & Process Graphics C.S.P., INCORPORATED

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

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Office Hours:

Monday-Friday-9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
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GAY AND LESBIAN
PRESS ASSOCIATION

EDITORIAL

Terry Kohler Isn't Fit to Become Regent of UW System

[Madison]- According to an editorial in Madison's *Capital Times*, [April 27-28, 1991] Terry Kohler "isn't fit" to be a regent of the University of Wisconsin.

Kohler is one of Gov. Tommy Thompson's latest appointees to the UW Board of Regents.

If diversity is to remain a goal of higher education in Wisconsin, says the *Times*, it would be "hard to imagine a regent appointee who would be less appropriate" than Kohler.

Three years ago, Kohler and his wife, Mary, took a trip to South Africa, where, according to the *Times*, their Vollrath Corp. had investments "in six figures." The Kohlers returned "impressed with how enlightened South Africa was."

In 1983, failed gubernatorial candidate Kohler is reported to have commented on appointments made by Gov. Tony Earl: "He promised to appoint queers and he has."

Asked if sexual orientation should figure in as a job qualification, the *Times* reports him responding to the reporter's question: "Maybe in your social circle it doesn't."

According to the *Times* Kohler also referred to Howard Fuller as "a communist" in criticizing Earl's appointment of Fuller to be director of the state Department of Employee Relations.

We can heartily agree with the *Capital Times* and applaud them for saying so, that Kohler isn't fit to sit on the board of regents. We concur, too, with the *Times* in saying that Thompson should stand by his previously stated opposition to such bigotry and withdraw this nomination posthaste.

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

It is with great pride and considerable pleasure that I announce Jamakaya's acceptance of the position of News Editor for the paper.

Jamakaya has long been familiar to readers of *Wisconsin Light* as a columnist, writing "Sisternews and Views." But beyond that — well beyond that — she has researched, reported on, written about and contributed to countless features, articles, reviews and news stories almost from the very beginning of the paper.

Her contributions to *Light* have been enormous. For example, she is responsible for one of the most popular features in the paper, "News Briefs," laboring long hours reviewing other papers, selecting the items, collating them, condensing them, typing them out and getting them in. It is a job I don't envy and wouldn't want, but she does it with humor and good grace — typical of her outstanding professionalism.

It was Jamakaya who was responsible for seeing and urging that "Dykes To Watch Out For," one of the country's most popular Lesbian/Gay cartoon strips now appears regularly in the paper.

There is so much more. She is a person of both local and national reputation as a Feminist and Lesbian scholar, historian, activist, author and speaker. She has written for alternative publications since 1974 and was the editor of *Amazon: Milwaukee's Feminist Press* for four years.

Throughout *Light's* history, Jamakaya has listened patiently, provided perspective and critique, recruited new



Doreen Riley

JAMAKAYA

writers and generally lent her considerable knowledge and sense of journalistic expertise to the paper as it has grown.

There's a hell of a lot more I could say about Jamakaya — my respect, my admiration, all of that. But let it be enough to say "Thank you" for a job well-done and "Welcome" to even greater tasks now ahead.

LETTERS

Equal Justice

TO THE EDITOR

Bill Meunier's column, "Politically Speaking" (18 April) declares that the Gulf War and Reapportionment might slow the Gay

rights movement. Democratic Congressmen, most of whom voted against the war in the Middle East, may not be reelected. But Meunier fails to ask why so many Democrats failed to distinguish between a just and an unjust war. The war against Saddam Hussein — a man who earlier used poison gas against his own people, who then staged a sneak attack on a smaller, friendly neighbor, conquering and looting Kuwait, and a man who during the war, launched missiles against Israel, a nation not involved in the anti-Iraqi coalition — against Hussein was just. And most Americans believe the war against the dictatorial Hussein was just. Democrats voted against that war, the NGLTF denounced the war, and both Democrats and the Gay leadership will lose support. Rightly.

The trouble with the Gay and Lesbian leadership, like that of NGLTF, is its agenda has too little to do with Gay and Lesbian rights. Why are they endorsing Democrats, for example, when in the last Congress every Senate Democrat voted in favor of the Orwellian titled Civil Rights Bill of 1990, which is aimed at denying equal rights to white men?

Why has the leadership sought to enact "hate crime" bills? Though they pretend to defend minorities, they rarely do. And they threaten free speech. The problem with America today is not hate crimes, but crime. Prevention cannot come from whistles, but from execution of murderers and punishment for those who commit crime. Bernard Goetz, who used to drink in Gay bars, probably had a better idea of how to reduce crime than leaders of the NGLTF.

And why is our leadership in alliance with other 3rd Worlders who pretend to liberate their people. Winnie Mandela allowed a horrible event to occur in her home. Four teens, abducted, beaten, and one killed because he was Gay. What kind of liberation can be expected from a regime with Winnie Mandela holding power? Gays should not be allying themselves with Saddam Husseins, Winnie Mandelas and other 3rd Worlders who are anti-Gay and who have little idea of democracy.

Our program should be to strive for equal rights for all, ourselves included. Not double-standard Democrats, but those who uphold the notion of equal justice before the law, those should be our allies.

—Hugh Murray
Milwaukee

D.C. March

TO THE EDITOR:

To all members of the community interested in organizing a third March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights, please note that there will be a second national planning meeting on May 11 and 12, 1991, to take place in Washington, D.C. The meeting will be held at the Omni Shoreham Hotel, 2500 Calvert St. N.W. Special arrangements for travel and accommodations currently can be made.

While I was not able to attend the first planning meeting on March 9, 1991, I understand that several people urged that the march be deferred until after 1994. As an HIV-positive man with more teeth than T-cells, I would like to strongly press for a march in May of 1992. While I understand that a year is not much time to get one million men and women to the Capital, I also know that there are tens of thousands of Gay men eager to march again who will not be above ground in 1995 or 1997.

I recommend that all those interested in the march to begin to plan grassroots meetings in their city or region, do outreach to the diverse elements within our Lesbian and Gay community, and commit to attending the May 11-12 meeting. It is vital that there be a demonstration of broad-based support for a march so that the national Gay/Lesbian organizations and established activists understand the importance of this event.

There has been a toll-free number set up to answer questions concerning the May meeting — 1-800-832-2889. If this number is not functioning, or if I may be of assistance, please don't hesitate to contact me at 1420 Clayton St., No. 203, San Francisco, CA or call me at home at (415) 552-8382.

—Drew Siegel
San Francisco

Unspoken Dogma

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

LETTER POLICY

Wisconsin Light actively solicits Letters to the Editor on any subject. However all such letters must be signed and contain the writer's address although the address is never printed and the name will be withheld upon request. All unsigned letters, notes and stuff scribbled on the sides of clipped columns will serve as cat box liner.

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Connecticut Is Fourth State To Pass a Gay Rights Law

By Jamakaya

[Hartford, CT]- Less than a month after Hawai'i joined Wisconsin and Massachusetts as a state protecting the rights of its Gay and Lesbian citizens, Connecticut has become the fourth state in the union to pass a Gay rights law.

The Connecticut House approved the measure on an 81-65 vote on April 11, the state Senate passed the bill by a 21-14 vote on April 17, and Gov. Lowell Weicker, a former Republican senator who won the governorship of Connecticut as an Independent, signed the bill into law on Wednesday, May 1.

The measure prohibits discrimination based on sexual orientation in housing, employment and credit.

"Obviously, we are very, very happy," Betty Gallo of the Connecticut Coalition for Lesbian and Gay Rights told the *Washington Blade*. "I think it's an historic moment that we hope will be one more step on the road to justice for all Gay men and Lesbians in the United States."

The measure which passed has been introduced into the state legislature in various forms since 1973. It was defeated as recently as 1987 and 1989. A number of factors contributed to the victory this year.

The decision by Roman Catholic leaders not to oppose the bill helped to secure the needed votes. The Church's neutral position was seen by some legislators as a tacit endorsement of the bill.

Archbishop John F. Whealon, in a newspaper column published just days before the votes, wrote that despite the Church's position against homosexuality, "the Church clearly teaches that homosexual men and women should not suffer from prejudice on the basis of their sexual orientation."

The fact that the bill exempted religious organizations from its provisions may have prompted the archbishop's statement.

Gov. Weicker, a popular politician, consistently expressed his support for a measure protecting Gays and Lesbians and promised to sign such a bill into law once it was passed.

In addition, several public figures "came out" to the people of Connecticut and made personal pleas on behalf of the bill.

Rep. Joseph Grabarz (D-Bridgeport) came out to his legislative colleagues last December. During the debate on the bill, when opponents argued that there was no evidence of anti-Gay discrimination,

Grabarz told his hushed colleagues of the written death threats he has received and of the phone calls he gets from people telling him they hope he dies of AIDS.

"One of the reasons I came out was my deep and abiding concern about the growth of intolerance," Grabarz said. "That kind of hatred I don't think is rare. That kind of hatred is real... Please support this bill, even if it only protects me."

In a letter to legislators in which she urged passage of the bill, Leslie J. Brett, Chairwoman of the state's Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities, came out as a Lesbian.

Brett wrote that she had heard "the most hate-filled, misinformed statements" about Gay people at public hearings and debates held on the bill. "We cannot be invisible anymore or these lies will never stop," she said.

To gain the necessary votes, supporters agreed to attach several amendments to the bill which narrow its application. In addition to the religious exemption, the bill clearly states that it does not authorize adoptions by homosexuals, that it does not require the teaching of homosexuality in the schools, and that it does not authorize affirmative action programs for Gays and Lesbians.

The coalition that lobbied successfully for Connecticut's Gay Rights bill included Gay and Lesbian groups, civil rights and women's groups, professional organizations, educators and religious leaders. It was the same type of coalition that led to the recent victory in Hawai'i.

In Maine, however, the proposed Gay rights bill went down to defeat in the House by a margin of 74-68 after Republican Gov. John R. McKernan announced that he would veto the legislation if it was passed. The bill had been approved in the state Senate by a narrow margin of 14-13 just days before.

Ed Shannon of the Gay and Lesbian Political Alliance of Maine told the *Washington Blade*: "It was bizarre. The floor debate was so eloquent and clear, then boom, it went down. It was really disappointing."

The proposal would have amended the Maine Human Rights Act to prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation in employment, housing, public accommodations and credit. Similar measures have been introduced for fourteen years. Supporters of Gay rights in Maine are planning their next strategy for the 1993 legislative session.



Jerry Johnson

The ever popular Neil and Adam recently concluded a nine day engagement at M&M. This was their third booking at the popular Milwaukee bar. If you haven't seen Neil & Adam perform, watch for them to return. You are in for a treat.

OBITUARIES

Karyn Teufel

March 14, 1948

April 19, 1991

"...You may say I'm a dreamer, but I'm not the only one..."

Karyn died on April 19, 1991 from P.C.P., a pneumonia caused by AIDS. Because of her illness, she spent the last two years of her life trying to educate women, people of color, teens and the establishment about the realities of AIDS. During this time, she travelled to Atlanta, San Francisco and Chicago to participate in ACT UP demonstrations aimed at forcing government and health care bureaucracies to take positive action to help people living with AIDS. Closer to home, Karyn's activities included keeping in touch with her children; maintaining her job with City Veteran Taxi; participating in local

demonstrations; appearing on numerous TV shows, panels and interviews dealing with issues surrounding AIDS and women; and hanging out with friends.

Karyn's activism gave her the opportunity to deal with her anger in a positive way. It also proved her to be a powerful and effective voice of reason in the face of ignorance and fear. Karyn was a dreamer, a lover, a fighter, a good mother and a trusted friend. She will be missed for her warmth and compassion, her humor in the face of personal loss and her determination to live.

There will be a memorial party in her honor on Saturday, May 4, 1991 at 8:00 p.m. It will be at 3104-A S. Griffin Ave., near Oklahoma and Howell. For information, please call Christopher Fons at 483-0376 (h) or 274-6400 (w).

Christian Fundamentalists Call For Boycott Against Philip Morris

[West Hollywood, CA]- A pamphlet issued by The American Family Association (AFA) has called for a boycott of and protests against Philip Morris, Inc., parent company of Miller Beer among others. Philip Morris Inc. is included among seven other American and Japanese corporations who AFA has identified as "Top Sponsors of Pro-homosexual Programs" on TV.

The AFA is an ultra-conservative, fundamentalist Christian organization headed by Rev. Donald Wildmon and based in Tupelo, Mississippi. Wildmon has often been seen in Milwaukee on WVCY-TV owned by Vic Eliason.

In the list of 7 companies, Philip Morris Inc. is ranked by AFA as the fourth

"worst offender" in promotion of positive programming about Lesbians and Gays. General Motors is listed as third.

Among the programs Philip Morris Inc. sponsored which carried such a positive view are: "Thirtysomething" — Dec. 18, 1990, "Golden Girls" — Jan. 12, 1991 program — and "L.A. Law" — Feb. 7, 1991.

AFA also reports that "80% of the television elite feel that homosexual activity is morally right."

An organization, headed by David Reid and based in West Hollywood, CA has been formed to counteract AFA's attacks. For further information, write to Reid at P.O. Box 69991, West Hollywood, CA 90069-0991.

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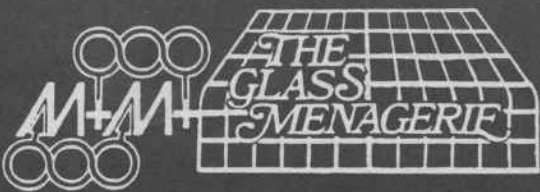
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First National Gay Graduate Conference at UWM is Huge Success

By Jamakaya

[Milwaukee, WI]- Milwaukee played host to the "Queer Renaissance" April 18-20 as more than 300 students from across the United States gathered at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee to participate in "Flaunting It," the First National Graduate Student Conference on Lesbian and Gay Studies.

Almost 80 papers, representing original research into Gay and Lesbian Studies in a variety of disciplines, were presented by the graduate students and analyzed and critiqued by fellow conferees. "I'm just so impressed with the tenor of the discussion, to say nothing of the quality of the papers I've heard here," said Richard Medeiros, a doctoral candidate in English at the University of Minnesota. Medeiros plans to write his dissertation on aspects of femininity in Gay male subcultures.

"One of the really enjoyable things about this conference," said Medeiros, "is the fact that being here with other graduate students gives me a sense of what the upcoming scholarship is going to look like in the next few years."

Participants also spoke with enthusiasm about the lively exchange of ideas and the added motivation they felt toward pursuing their research.

"I really like getting input from other queers," said Kathryn Baker of the University of Texas. Baker presented a paper on interracial Lesbian relationships in girls' reform schools at the turn of the century.

"It's not the same as being in a classroom full of straight people and reading the same paper," Baker

culture; from radical fairies to Lesbian vampires."

Several papers focused on the unique issues faced by Gay and Lesbian teachers. Teaching tips and advice on coming out and dealing with homophobia in the classroom were eagerly exchanged.

Thursday's keynote speech was delivered by Thomas Yingling, author of the critically acclaimed *Hart Crane and the Homosexual Text: New Thresholds, New Anatomies*. Yingling teaches in the English Department at Syracuse University.

In a wide ranging talk, Yingling suggested that Gay and Lesbian scholars move away from a rigid "identity politics" in which emphasis is placed primarily on homosexual group identity in favor of exploring "agency," the myriad ways Gay people act on, react to and interact within the broader social context and environment around them.

Said Yingling: "It's time we begin to think through the question of what our own agency is in the social space and not to say that we simply act out determinisms that are in place before we're ever really fully conscious beings."

Yingling advocated the continuing re-reading and analysis of the historical experiences of Gay men and Lesbians. He encouraged greater inquiry into theories of sexuality, and noted that academics are "uniquely positioned" to help in the fight against AIDS.

"In order to properly understand and intervene in the discursive and political entanglements of AIDS, we desperately need the kind of cultural critique of



JOAN NESTLE

Excerpts from Joan Nestle's Speech

In her presentation on "Lesbian Courage: Pre-1970," Joan Nestle read from the moving testimonies of Lesbians who lived and loved in the days before Stonewall and women's liberation. She spoke eloquently about Lesbian Herstory and the historical legacy previous generations have left to us.

The following excerpts are taken from her presentation.

"For the last fifteen years I have lived in a home filled with shadows and voices. I have taken my breakfast with old time bar dykes and the literary women of Paris forty years ago. I have walked through rooms peopled with Beebo Brinker and Gertrude Stein, Lorraine Hansberry and Diana of a Thousand Cities.

"I have heard the shouts of butches being hauled away in police vans, the measured tones of lawyers arguing for a people's humanity, the pleas of a lover to be with her sick comrade. I have heard voices thick with desire, voices cracked by time or by social sanction.

"But in my home, the home of the Lesbian Herstory Archives, they all speak, all at once — the past and the present, the old and the new.

"Sometimes I am overwhelmed by what I live with, by the promise to each one of a place in our memory. But more often, I am awed by this gift of collective resonances. These voices have never failed to educate me, to draw my attention to a past courage that illuminates a present struggle...

"They have helped me to evolve political positions, expand my understanding of women's history, and develop many more hard-edged ideas about Lesbian social identity.

"But something deeper needs to be said, something about the human spirit shaped by desire and marginality into stunning memorials of women's bravery.

"Lesbian herstory is a complex, challenging and young subject, too large for any one theoretical position to fully illuminate. We come to this study with our own needs for validation and inclusion, each generation trying to discover new evidence of our existence as well as role models to help us survive the homophobia in our own lives.

"Sometimes, in our need to use history as a psychological defense, we deny our own heritage. Sometimes, we turned away frightened from our own past women and their own cultural expressions because they seemed to endanger the progress of the present.

"In the early '70s, a group of books appeared asserting the American Lesbian's right to a new appraisal... In their early pages, these books often had a disclaimer about butch-femme Lesbians or the bar culture, and they seldom ever considered these people or these places as more than expressions of internalized oppression.

"Passing women, Lesbian sex workers or working class Lesbian married couples are either completely missing from these new histories or dismissed as examples of victimization.

"Like many other liberation movements, we felt it necessary to apologize for the more controversial, more complex, more marginal women in our community and in our history...

"We have three communities as major frames of reference: the literary worlds of France, England and America; the academic and professional circles of England and America; and the woman-identified woman movement...

"This view of Lesbian history grew, I believe, out of our need to heal the stigma of deviance. It was more prescriptive than descriptive and, as a result, it forced whole generations of Lesbians out of history.

"It is now almost twenty years since the proclamations of the '70s. Because of the success of the Lesbian-Feminist movement in this country, I can stand here and speak about the richness of Lesbian history. I can say 'Thank you' to the brave women of the last two decades who have made my Lesbian world a different place.

"And finally, I can bring home to you the voices that could not be heard in the early years of our public struggle for civil respect.

"I hope you hear from them that pride of courage, in all its varieties, is the most inspiring historical legacy a people can have."



"Flaunting It" organizer Thomas Piontek said of himself and fellow organizer, Cheryl Kader: "We may be an odd couple, but we certainly are a good team."

commented. "It's wonderful to be here because it's giving me some motivation to go home and do more work because people are responding so well."

A colleague, Kim Emery, also of the University of Texas, described the dilemma faced by many Gay and Lesbian scholars.

Emery said: "Working in a predominantly straight academic community, you get responses basically of two kinds. Either people think that what you're doing is completely invalid because it's 'trivial,' because it's 'too narrow,' because 'Who cares about Lesbian theory?' right? Or they sort of offer unqualified support, like 'Oh, you're doing radical work, that's great! Whatever you do, that's wonderful, I support it completely!' But you don't get any useful feedback."

"Having really informed critiques by people working on similar things, who have similar concerns but who also have different approaches, is really very useful for me," said Emery.

Robert McRuer of the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana presented an analysis of Gay men's literature since Stonewall (1969).

McRuer observed: "A lot of work that's been done in the academy has been done on Gay and Lesbian writers that were historical figures. I think it's time we start looking at our own texts — openly Gay and Lesbian literature that's now available to us — and getting that into the academy to be talked about and taught as well."

Papers presented at "Flaunting It" represented many disciplines: history, English, literature, sociology, ethnology, philosophy, art, film, drama and more.

Thomas Piontek, a conference organizer, noted that subjects ranged from "community organizing to issues of race, spirituality and sexuality; from literature to film and performance; from Lesbian separatism to Gay male gym

science, government and patriarchal privilege that academic analysis of the last fifteen years has been able to offer."

In a Friday night presentation that drew almost 400 people, Joan Nestle, co-founder of the Lesbian Herstory Archives and author of *A Restricted Country*, talked about "Lesbian Courage: Pre-1970."

Nestle described the commitment of the Archives to collecting and preserving the memorabilia and reminiscences of all Lesbians, past and present. She said that at the Archives, "Any woman who has had the courage to touch another woman is famous."

Some audience members were moved to tears as Nestle read the testimonies of women who lived and struggled as Lesbians in the repressive days prior to Stonewall and Gay liberation.

She regaled the audience with the words of Mabel Hampton, an African American lifelong Lesbian who lived to the age of 87. Out of respect for her age and experience, visitors to the Archives who met Hampton asked her when she had come out. "What do you mean, 'come out?'" Hampton replied, "I was never in!"

A slideshow featuring images of Lesbians in the decades before Stonewall elicited laughter, sighs of recognition and more than a few tears from audience members.

After a long day of intense analysis of sometimes abstruse academic theories, the simple words and experiences of Lesbians conveyed by Nestle in her presentation packed an emotional wallop that audience members continued to remark on throughout the following day.

Participants offered some criticisms of "Flaunting It." The most persistent was the lack of representation of people of color.

Consuelo Concepcion of Mankato State University expressed satisfaction with the conference as a whole but felt a sense of

Sarah Moylan

Sarah Moylan

isolation at being one of only two or three Latinas present. Concepcion presented a paper on the connections between anarchism and Lesbian separatism.

Alice Yee Hom, an Asian-Pacific Lesbian from UCLA, was so disturbed by her placement on a panel whose focus she felt did not coincide with her topic that she dropped her plans to talk about the herstory of the Asian-Pacific Lesbian Network and spoke instead about the "alienation, isolation and invisibility" experienced by Asian-Pacific Lesbians within the larger Gay and Lesbian community.

The issue of greater racial diversity was raised in the final plenary session. Those present discussed the institutional racism that keeps many people of color from entering graduate school and explored

ways to remedy the lack of representation at the next conference.

Conference participants also agreed to make the National Graduate Student Conference on Lesbian and Gay Studies an annual event. A committee to plan next year's conference is headed by Robert McRuer of UI-Champaign-Urbana.

Thomas Piontek and Cheryl Kader, doctoral candidates in the English Department at UW-Milwaukee, spent the past year organizing "Flaunting It."

The number of people who registered, the quality of the papers presented and the intense networking among the Gay and Lesbian scholars in attendance made "Flaunting It," in Kader's words, "an accomplishment in excess of anything we had ever dreamed."

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Perspective: Lesbian Relationships- The Trappings of a Form

By Maytee Aspuro

The idea that there exists a fundamental difference between a relationship and companionship was posed to me. Intuitively, I felt a gentleness towards the concept of companionship that eludes that of a relationship. Indeed, a relationship carries a level of tension in its stead. This led me to consider that the concept of a relationship had evolved into a trap better left alone. I have previously considered "passionate friendships" and "suspended connections". Both of these were assumed to be relationships that went beyond the conceptual limitations of a tradition. It may be in fact that those two concepts are not relationships at all. It may be of value to re-consider if and how the structure of a relationship may be fundamentally different from companionship.

When I speak of a relationship, I allude to the romantic, traditional form exemplified most obviously in the structure of a heterosexual marriage and often mimicked by the Lesbian community. This would then be, in theory, a commitment by two to remain in a mutual state of monogamy. The relationship would, in theory, embody love, friendship, respect and trust.

For a number of years I have felt that within the Lesbian community there has been a destructive preoccupation with the relationship. I recently witnessed a conversation in which a Lesbian, in her mid-forties declared that she hoped to be in a relationship within the next month. This, even though there was no specific womyn in her life. What was disheartening was that she considered a relationship something that could be created in the span of 30 days and that she considered a relationship as something to be had. The intensity of her declaration made one think that a relationship was no less important to her than a breath of life.

In my own experience, I have known the state of being where all consuming energies were devoted to the creation, maintenance and final dissolution of a love. At the end nothing remained but an empty shell. I had sacrificed my identity as an individual for the sake of my identity as one half of a unit. I have never understood why I knowingly sacrificed so much of myself. In retrospect, I believe I was as I had been taught to be.

I have attended a number of workshops where great effort has been taken in defining a healthy relationship and proposing ways in which to obtain the illusive state of grace one promises. As I listened, in my inner most self, I sensed that healthy relationships were either nearing extinction or, inspired by years of socialization, were just a figment of our collective imaginations; one that we were desperately trying to realize.

Co-dependency is based on unhealthy relationships and destructive family dynamics. Lecturer and author Kay Leigh Hagan has stripped co-dependency of its patriarchal camouflage and named it for what it is—internalized oppression. Would it then be too great a leap to consider that a relationship modeled after the traditional civilized form of marriage, as created by the patriarchy, nothing but a false promise that a state of grace can be obtained given adherence to the culturally defined structure? Instead of dedicating our resources to solving the problems of the relationship form, effort may be better spent eliminating the structure from our

lives and beginning anew with a new ethic. In other words, if we don't want to be with the boys why are we, in our most intimate encounters, following their rules?

This is where the concept of companionship emerges as a clue to our potential. One term used in defining a relationship is 'belonging.' For many feminists a red warning light flashes before our eyes when we come across any term that can be remotely linked to ownership. In the context of a relationship "belonging" is such a word. "Belonging" can also be considered in the sense of community. The former is patriarchal. The latter can be either patriarchal or feminist depending on the definition of community — be it of a limited group (patriarchy) or of all living things (feminism).

In the context of companionship a fellowship emerges, a sense of equality and sharing. What one shares with one in no way limits what can be shared with another. I have great faith in the Lesbian imagination to break free. The potential is for new expectations, for the evolution of a lesbian psychology to continue.

Individualism is maintained. Insecurity is minimized by nurturing the confidence and identity of those involved. For now the difference between companionship and relationship may seem vague. It is a lack of familiarity that contributes. I sense that my friend is right to explore the concept of companionship. I believe that what are considered successful relationships in the Lesbian community are not relationships at all — at least not in the traditional sense, following the traditional beliefs, behaviors and assumptions of the patriarchal community. I believe the most successful unions are indeed based on companionship. We would do well to look back to the turn of the century when womyn, as author Lillian Faderman documented, were encouraged to have romantic friendships as a means of king of the castle, mother was in the kitchen and kids spoke only when spoken in and of itself.

And for those who may wonder, there is no loss of passion when one enters a state of companionship. There is though, significantly less concern about meeting the expectations of anyone other than those involved in the union. Equally important, those within the union have freed themselves to define their own expectations and needs. They have been bold enough to create their own personal culture.

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Madison 'Nothing to Hide' WYOU T.V. Schedule

May 8 Real Eyes Realize Real Lies with Jay Hatheway: "Bush's New World Disorder" (This is new?)

May 15 A series of short interviews from the 5th Annual International Gathering of Openly Gay/Lesbian Elected/Appointed Government Officials: Ricardo, Jim and lots of other interesting people.

May 22 The AIDS Quilt at UW-Madison's Fieldhouse.

May 29 Eve Kosofsky Sedgwick: "Against Heterosexual Self-evidence," presented during UW-Madison's 1990 Summer School Session.

Dykes To Watch Out For



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Gay Games IV Opens New Logo Competition

[New York, NY]- Gay Games IV announces an open competition for a new logo. The Games, with the theme of "Unity '94", will be the largest amateur athletic event on earth in 1994 and will coincide with the 25th anniversary of the Stonewall Uprising.

The logo must include the words "Unity '94" and work with or without the words "Gay Games IV". The design should reflect the theme of unity and may also include references to Gay and

Lesbian athletes, Gay and Lesbian symbology or the location, New York City. The overall look should be clean and contemporary, work large or small, and in color or black and white.

The deadline is July 4, 1991 and there is a limit of 5 designs per entrant. For more information and an entry form, write: Logo Competition, NY in '94, P.O. Box 202 Times Square Station, New York, NY 10036.

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The Light LIVELY ARTS



Joe Quinlan (Antonio), Tom Schimmels (Orsino) and Amy Hastert (Viola) appear in Shakespeare's "Twelfth Night" through May 12 at Milwaukee's Boulevard Ensemble Theatre, 2250 S. Kinnickinnic Ave.

Rollicking "Twelfth Night" Opens in Milwaukee

By Terry Boughner

The Boulevard Ensemble's production of Shakespeare's "Twelfth Night" is, as the Bard intended, a rollicking good show full of Elizabethan ribaldry and passion that almost goes astray. In the hands of well-known dramatic artist and director, Amy Zeh, the play of mistaken identities and larger-than-life characters, achieves its purpose of providing laughter; transcending the 400 years since its creation to be as modern and fresh as any comedy on the stage or screen today. In short, to see it, is to have one hell of a good time — it's intent, after all, when it was presented to her Majesty and her jaded court.

There is no doubt that Pamela Brown as Olivia and Amy Hastert as Viola/Cesario present outstanding performances as does Nancy Aldrich as

Partners Bar To Sponsor Casino Night

[Milwaukee]- Partners, 813 S. 1st St., Milwaukee, will sponsor a Casino Night to benefit the Fest City Singers. The event will take place Saturday, May 4, from 8:00 p.m. to midnight.

Games will include Blackjack and Roulette. Members of the Fest City Singers will serve as waiters, waitresses and ticket sellers.

The first prize winner will receive dinner for six, including beverages, at Balistreri's Italian-American Ristorante, 812 N. 68th St. Second prize is dinner for four, including beverages, at Balistreri's. The third prize winner will receive a Balistreri's pizza party for six, including beverages.

Drawings will be held for 10 bottles of liquor donated by Partners.

For more information about Casino Night, call the Festline at 962-7221.

Fest City Singers Perform At Oshkosh Benefit

[Milwaukee]- The Fest City Singers performed before an enthusiastic audience on Wednesday, April 17, at an AIDS benefit at the Oshkosh Center. The benefit concert was sponsored by the East Central HIV/AIDS Conference which was held at the Center on Wednesday and Thursday, April 17 and 18.

The choir was under the musical direction of Charles Golden. Peter Mortensen served as artistic director, and Clint Peterson was the group's accompanist.

Jerry Johnson



JAMIE ANDERSON

Jamie Anderson Coming to Wisconsin

By Barb Coyle

Known for her warm voice and unique, sometimes outrageous songs, Jamie Anderson is a progressive folk singer and comic from Tucson, Arizona. She will be including Wisconsin in her most recent tour, appearing in Madison on May 8, in Milwaukee on May 10 and in Gaylesville on May 11.

Jamie's musical style ranges from original songs like the poignant ballad "I Don't Know About the Night", a song about discovering her love for a woman, to the hilarious "Straight Girl Blues."

She performs the gamut from blues to rock 'n roll, to folk, with an entertaining style and warm, Lesbian sensibility. In a time when "out there" Lesbian performers seem to be few and far between, Jamie Anderson is a

comfortable return to the true sense of women's music.

Jamie has a strong following in the Southwest as well as nationally. She was chosen by readers of *Hot Wire: The Journal of Women's Music and Culture* (Sept., 1990) as one of their favorite new performers. She has one album to her credit, "Closer To Home."

Jaime Anderson will be appearing at the New Bar in Madison on May 8th at 8:30 p.m. She will be performing in Milwaukee at The Coffee House (631 N. 19th St.) at 8:30 p.m. on Friday, May 10 and at the Mill Road Cafe in Gaylesville on May 11.

I have a feeling that she is one performer who is not to be missed. Hope you can catch her on this early part of her midwest tour.

Feste, Olivia's jester.

But the price of the ticket is worth seeing Mark Bucher as Sir Toby Belch, Joe Haseleu as Sir Andrew Aguecheek and Susan Fete as Maria. Their comedic talent is finely honed; their timing is perfect and gestures are a hoot.

There is a Gay angle embedded in the play and Zeh has brought it out with delicacy and artistry. We see it in Antonio's (Joe Quinlan) expressions of love toward Sebastian (Peter Zettel). Antonio is strong, a thoroughly positive role, and the love that he feels toward Sebastian comes across as fully natural and a completely logical part of the play.

The Boulevard Ensemble's "Twelfth Night" plays Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays through May 12. Tickets are \$8, seating is limited so call for reservations at 672-6019. The Boulevard Ensemble is located at 2250 S. Kinnickinnic Ave.

Go! Enjoy! Have a deliciously wonderful good time.

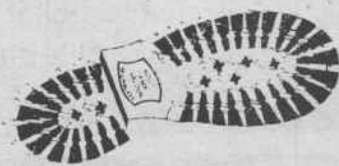
History, Herstory, Ourstory, Opens June 7

[Milwaukee]- The Fest City Singers will kick off Gay Pride Week with "History, Herstory, Ourstory," this year's Gay Cabaret. The show is a musical history of Gay and Lesbian life from the 1950's to the present.

Fest City Singers is under the direction of Charles Golden. Peter Mortensen is writer and artistic director. Clint Peterson serves as piano accompanist.

"History, Herstory, Ourstory" will be presented in the Stackner Cabaret on the second floor of the Milwaukee Center, 108 E. Wells on Friday, June 7 and Sunday, June 9 at 8:00 p.m.

Tickets for the show are \$10 and can be reserved by calling the Stackner Cabaret box office at 272-1994, by contacting a member of Fest City Singers or by calling the Festline at 962-7221.



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to
Fanny Packs & Pride**

Stackner Cabaret, 108 E. Wells St.

Friday, June 7 at 7 & 10 PM

Sunday, June 9 at 7 PM

Cost: \$10, includes a free glass of champagne



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MEMBER - GALA CHORUSES

First 'Arts for AIDS' Brunch and Auction to Be Held June 2

[Milwaukee]- The first annual Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP) Art For AIDS brunch and auction will be held on Sunday, June 2, 1991 at the Italian Community Center, 631 E. Chicago St. Anticipated attendance of more than 400 buyers, gallery owners and guests will raise an expected \$30,000 for AIDS care and education.

At 10:30 a.m. the Italian Community Center's Grand Ballroom sets the stage as the excitement begins with the viewing of the 52 works of art in the voice auction. Following the viewing will be a buffet brunch and a silent auction, which includes an additional 42 collectible works of art. The Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra Ensemble and other performing artists will provide entertainment.

The voice auction, conducted by Gary Hollander, will begin at 12:30 p.m. The auction offers works by renowned national and local artists including Leon Travanti,

Fred Stonehouse, Paul S. Donhauser, Barbara Kohl, Francisco X Mora, Steve Slaske, Lee Weiss, Paul Mandracchia and Fujie Yamaguchi Moses.

Selected pieces for the auction will be previewed from May 28 through June 1 from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. daily at Professional Marketing Services located at 2071 N. Summit Ave. Art For AIDS auction catalogues will also be available at this location for those who would like to prepare for the event.

Reservations for the brunch and auction are requested. Tickets are \$20 per person. Please RSVP by Saturday, May 25, 1991 to MAP: P.O. Box 92505, Milwaukee, WI 53202 or by calling MAP at (414) 273-1991.

Art For AIDS is the second of four special fundraising events produced by MAP in support of AIDS care and education. Please help make it a success by showing your support and joining in on the festivities.

Scott Stewart Endowment Fund Established for Cream City Chorus

[Milwaukee]- One of the great advances of the Gay and Lesbian movement has been the establishment of an identifiable community when one can make some very special friends. The Wisconsin Cream City Chorus, Ltd., has one of these special people in a gentleman named Rudy Bartelt.

Rudy has been a major support for the Chorus, both financially and emotionally throughout its existence. On Friday, April 12 at the Chorus's Annual Awards Banquet, Rudy showed his on-going faith in the Chorus by establishing the "Scott Stewart Endowment Fund" with a generous donation of \$500.

Stewart, who has been the Chorus's Musical Director from its inception, will be stepping down due to increased responsibilities and commitments with

the Florentine Opera Company.

The Endowment Fund is a wonderful way to pay tribute to Scott and to insure the future of the Cream City Chorus. Anyone wishing to contribute to the "Scott Stewart Endowment Fund" may send checks payable to the Wisconsin Cream City Chorus, Ltd. and send them to P.O. Box 1488, Milwaukee, WI 53201-1488.

The Chorus would like to take this opportunity to say "Thank You" to Rudy Bartelt — thank you for your generous donation and, most especially, for believing in us.

Qualified persons wishing to apply for the position of Musical Director can mail resumes with covering letter to the above address.

'Getting the Word Out' Workshop To Be Repeated June 23

[Milwaukee]- The Wisconsin Light, In Step Magazine and Haylicek & Associates proudly present a repeat of their award-winning workshop **Getting The Word Out**, Sunday, June 23 from 1:00-4:00 p.m. in the M&M Club upstairs banquet room. The workshop is designed to familiarize organizations and businesses with the two publications and "how to work with the media" in general.

When first presented in February, 1990, the workshop won the President's Award from the Gay and Lesbian Press Association.

"We learned a few things with the first workshop, and plan to include a few of those lessons in this second presentation," said In Step publisher Ron Geiman. "We're tightening up the presentation in general and shortening the length of the workshop to keep our audience attentive."

Jerry Johnson, publisher of Wisconsin Light commented, "We especially

encourage businesses to send representatives to the workshop. It constantly amazes me," Johnson said, "how little businesses know about advertising, to say nothing of promotion through press releases. Businesses and organizations should be taking full advantage of the local media. 95% are not," Johnson said.

Feedback from those who attended the first workshop showed nearly everyone was glad they attended and were impressed with the information they learned.

Major topics covered include: how to write a press release; what an editor does; how to effectively use the media and how to design an effective ad.

There is no charge for the workshop, but those who plan on attending are asked to call either In Step at (414) 278-7840 or Wisconsin Light at (414) 372-2773 and make a reservation. Complimentary beverages and hors d'oeuvres will be served.



Artists and Art for AIDS Steering Committee Members Joan Michaels-Paque, Philip Johnston and Paul Mandracchia, pose with artwork for MAPS June 2 auction: Rear, "Cup of Coffee," Acrylic, Linda Sugarman Mollick; "Heart of Honest," Calligraphy and Water-color, Fujie Yamaguchi Moses. Front, "bedee p.q.," Hand-painted tables, Paul Mandracchia; "Pump, Porch and Fog," Black and White Photograph, Jerry Milam.

Cream City Foundation Awards First College Scholarships

[Milwaukee]- Milwaukee's Cream City Foundation (CCF) has awarded the first John M. Cowles Memorial Scholarship to a local nursing student, Carol K. Wilson. The \$500 scholarship covers the current (1990-'91) academic year, and may be used by the recipient for tuition and other academic expenses. The scholarship program was initiated by CCF as a memorial to the late John M. Cowles, a community leader and CCF Board member who died in January, 1991.

CCF may award either one or two scholarships each academic year, which are paid in two \$250 awards for each of

the two semesters. Applicants must be entering their Junior or Senior year at an accredited college or university in the Metro-Milwaukee area, must be pursuing a degree in the sciences, have a 3.0 GPA, have demonstrated interest in the Gay/Lesbian community and be a U.S. and Wisconsin citizen.

Applications for the next scholarship cycle for the academic year beginning in 1991, may be requested at any time by calling CCF at (414) 265-0880 or by writing P.O. Box 204, Milwaukee, WI 53201.

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Art for AIDS is produced by the Milwaukee AIDS Project

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THOMPSON

Continued from Page 1

reasons for denying Thompson guardianship: her "irreconcilable differences" with Kowalski's parents, which the judge deemed detrimental to Sharon; her "disregard" for Kowalski's privacy by publicizing their Lesbian relationship and appearing at rallies for Gay rights; the possibility that new lovers in Thompson's life might hurt Kowalski emotionally; and the possible "conflicts of interest" involved in Thompson's raising of almost \$100,000 for the numerous court challenges.



KAREN THOMPSON

Thompson has indeed differed with Kowalski's parents over medical treatment and guardianship, but she has never denied them their right to visit or to maintain their relationship with Sharon. In the past two years that Kowalski has been at the Trevilla of Robbinsdale rehabilitation facility, Thompson has been able to take Sharon home for two weekends each month, with the other two weekends reserved for the Kowalskis. In that time, the Kowalskis have never taken Sharon out of the institution.

(Ironically, part of Campbell's rationale for denying Thompson guardianship is that the Kowalskis informed him that should he allow their daughter to move in with Thompson, they would no longer visit her.)

Campbell also stressed the fact that Thompson had forced Kowalski out of the closet, thus violating her privacy. But all the professionals testified that Sharon comes out to whoever asks her. She has reportedly enjoyed the few appearances they have made together at rallies and, in the case of a National Organization for Women (NOW) conference last year, in which Thompson and Kowalski were presented with NOW's Women of Courage awards, Campbell had actually

given permission for Sharon to go. "I only came out to her parents when they were threatening to separate us," said Thompson, who was denied visitation with Sharon for three and a half "very painful" years. "We had to fight for our rights."

Thompson said that all the money she raised has gone toward the constant court proceedings of the last seven years and can be fully accounted for.

"The bottom line is that Sharon will pay for all of this," said Thompson. "Every time I have to go off and fundraise, it's a dollar taken away from what I could have spent on her care. Worse than that, the more time I have to spend on the road to get money to pay legal fees, it takes more time away from Sharon."

Thompson admits being depressed by the latest ruling, but says: "I certainly won't quit. It's just a matter of channeling my anger and pain again."

Her spirits have been lifted by the outpouring of support from individuals and organizations around the country. Thompson just returned from the National Lesbian Conference in Atlanta where support was encouraging. The Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund has agreed to gather all the amicus briefs needed for the appeal. The Director of NOW's Lesbian Rights Task Force will coordinate nationwide publicity, and the Human Rights Campaign Fund will distribute information about the case at every Gay and Lesbian Pride celebration throughout the country this summer.

Thompson's primary concern is for Sharon: "She has really started to believe that she is going to come home and stay home. The therapists have told her that things are being decided and that it looks like she will be able to go home soon. She has become more motivated, but I don't know what this is going to do to her..."

And how long can Thompson continue?

"I've made a lifetime commitment to Sharon Kowalski. I will spend the rest of my life fighting for her rights, fighting for her rights to live wherever she wants to live, fighting for her rights to be as self-determining of her own future as she can be."

...

Donations to the Karen Thompson Legal Fund can be sent to Thompson at 3070 Fulton Circle, Clearwater, MN 55320.

Thompson has documented her ongoing legal struggle in the book *Why Can't Sharon Kowalski Come Home?*

PRESCRIPTIONS

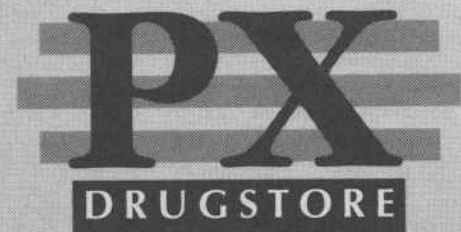
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POLITICALLY SPEAKING

Some Stories You Won't Likely See In Tomorrow's Newspaper

By Bill Meunier

Here are some stories you're not likely to see in tomorrow's newspaper, on the other hand you never know.

BLANCHARDVILLE, WI. Following the acquittal of a local police officer in Wisconsin's first ever Hate Crimes Case, the City Council announced that the town will soon market a video tape course. Entitled "Fag Bashing 101", the course is intended to help law enforcement officers should they run afoul of a crusading D.A. who for some reason doesn't believe that the police are above the law.

The marketing brochure says "In the first tape you will learn how to catch a queer running in fear of his life, tackle him, beat him up and then make a semi believable claim that you were really trying to help him all along."

Large orders for the tapes have already come in from Milwaukee's Second Police District, and the Los Angeles Police Department.

Meanwhile an Appleton attorney announced a companion video course to be used by Defense Attorneys in Gay bashing cases. This course described as "a must see for jurors" is called, "How to Avoid Choking When Swallowing Stories Told By The Police in Court."

FOND DU LACE, WI Republican Congressman Petri followed up on his recent statement to the United States Student Association that "homosexuality should be outlawed," by introducing a bill to outlaw homosexuals.

Petri announced that his idea has already garnered support from Jesse Helms, the Aryan Christian Nation, the American Nazi Party, Radio Station WISN's, Mark Belling and other "kindred spirits."

Congressman James Moody announced that he would seek to amend Petri's bill so that it will only outlaw, moronic Congressman from Wisconsin, thereby making Petri, Steve Gunderson, James Sennsebrenner, Toby Roth and Scott Klug ineligible to continue in their present jobs. Moody's amended version is given a 50-50 chance of passing.

Senator Bob Kasten's office confirmed that the Senator thanked Moody for not including "stupid Senators from Wisconsin."

In a related development a Republican Wisconsin Congressman who requested anonymity announced that he will oppose both versions of this bill since either one would make him ineligible to continue in office.

MILWAUKEE, WI. In light of the recent Club 219 raid, The Milwaukee Police Department denied allegations about the lack of 'butchness' in the Department.

The Department did announce, however, that its Police Academy has added two new courses, "How To Arrest Six Guys For Dropping Their Drawers Using Less Than 40 Officers, 22 Paddy Wagons, 29 Squad Cars and a Fleet of Ambulances" and "How to Watch a Men's Hot Buns Contest Without Getting Excited or Feeling that Your Manhood Is Threatened."

WASHINGTON, D.C. The late National Republican Chairman, Lee Atwater returned from the grave to issue yet another apology. Before he died Atwater apologized to 1988 Democratic Presidential Nominee Michael Dukakis for lying about him during the campaign.

Now Atwater has apologized to heterosexual victims of AIDS. Echoing a comment made last year by Ronald Reagan, Atwater said, "How were we supposed to know it would affect children, Republicans and white people too?"

When asked to comment, a stunned Vice President Quayle said, "AIDS affects children, Republicans and white people too? Maybe we ought to do something about it."

UNITED NATIONS, NY. The United Nation's Security Council voted to condemn Iran for its executions of Gays and Lesbians. The Bush administration scrapped plans to set up refugee camps for fleeing Iranian Gays and Lesbians after the Pentagon objected to American troops coming into contact with them. Said the Pentagon "We don't mind facing tough enemies like the Iraqi army, but having Queers around just gives us the willies."

Every other NATO country, all of which allow Gays and Lesbians to serve in their armed forces, volunteered to take the place of the Americans.

HELENA, MONTANA The Board of Tourism announced that the State had lost

a substantial portion of its tourist and convention business due to a Gay boycott which followed the State Legislature's 76 to 24 vote against a bill that would have legalized Gay and Lesbian sex.

Montana's Governor consoled distraught business owners by telling them "That's okay. We still have our sheep."

MADISON WI The State Legislature approved a Gun Control Bill that outlawed automatic weapons and handguns. The new law was passed following the National Rifle Association's refusal to double its campaign contributions.

After signing the bill into law, Governor Thompson commented, "They dug their own grave. Its one thing to go against the people when big money is involved, but its quite another matter when there's no big payoff."

The NRA was hurt when its crack team of lobbyists was caught flatfooted. They were all in Northern Wisconsin shooting at spearfishing Indians.

MILWAUKEE, WI A member of the Conservative Catholic Forum, which had picketed Gay Pride Week fundraisers held at St. Pius church admitted that all but one of the groups members are fundamentalists. Said one member, "We had to come clean with this, we don't even like Catholics."

Bill Meunier Responds

My January 18th column gave arguments from both sides but urged everyone not to demonstrate against the war. I was attacked in the letters column as "war monger" and "a fascist" even though I never said I favored the war option.

Now I'm attacked for not defending the war in a column about its political repercussions.

Out of human decency we should help the blacks of South Africa even if Winnie Mandella is one of them, but I have not noted a large involvement on the part of Gay and Lesbian organizations in the effort to stop apartheid or to promote civil rights for other groups.

For some people any effort to fight against white supremacy is too much.

We all know the type, they're the kind who object to supporting a Hate Crimes Bill because it protects others too.

Given the tone of this letter, I must wonder if that Gay Nazi group in California has opened a new chapter in the Midwest.

Human Rights Campaign Targets Wisconsin

[Washington, D.C.] Wisconsin has been targeted as a key state for increased constituent mail by the Human Rights Campaign Fund (HRCF). The nation's largest Lesbian and Gay organization hopes to dramatically expand the Speak Out constituent mail program in the state and thereby convince Senator Kohl and other members of Wisconsin's congressional delegation to support and co-sponsor the federal Lesbian and Gay civil rights legislation.

To build Speak Out participation in Wisconsin, HRCF's National Canvass Manager, Cathy Nelson announced that they hope to identify an on-going organizer to serve as HRCF's "Area Canvass Supervisor" (ACS) in the state.

ACS's recruit and train people to sign up concerned citizens--Lesbain, Gay and non-Gay alike--for the constituent mail program. Nelson said that Speak Out enrollments are a great way to earn a part-time paycheck or even to raise money for their favorite community group.

In addition, HRCF will pay other volunteers who will set their own hours. As the local coordinator for Speak Out, ACS's are paid at a higher rate.

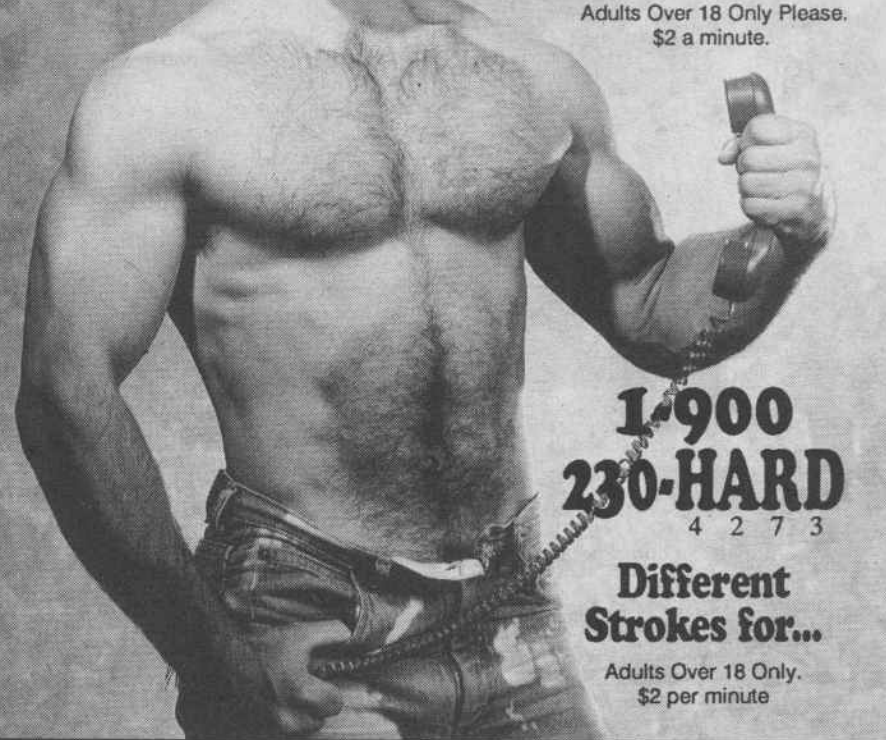
Because the orientation and training involved and the fact that Pride Days are fast approaching, HRCF urges those interested in canvassing or in serving as ACS's to contact Cathy Nelson or Tom Swift, Asst. Canvass Manager at (202) 628-4160 or write: HRCF Canvass Unit, Field Division, P.O. Box 1723, Washington, D.C. 20013.

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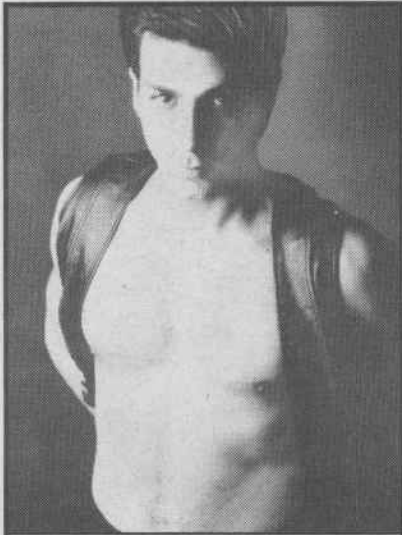
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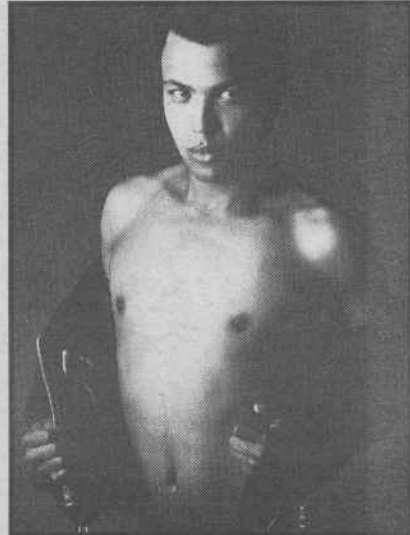
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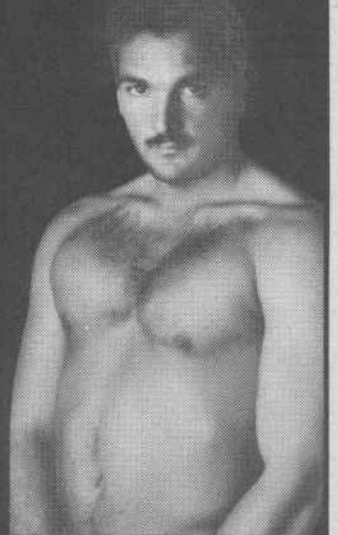
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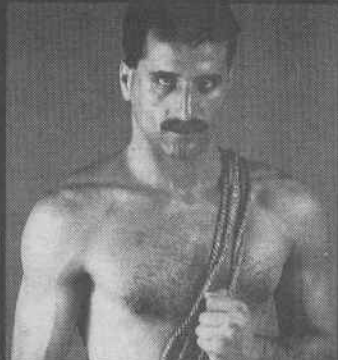


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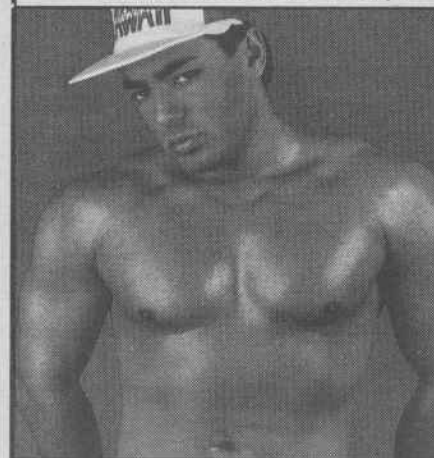
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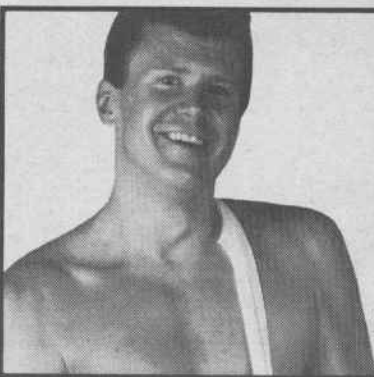
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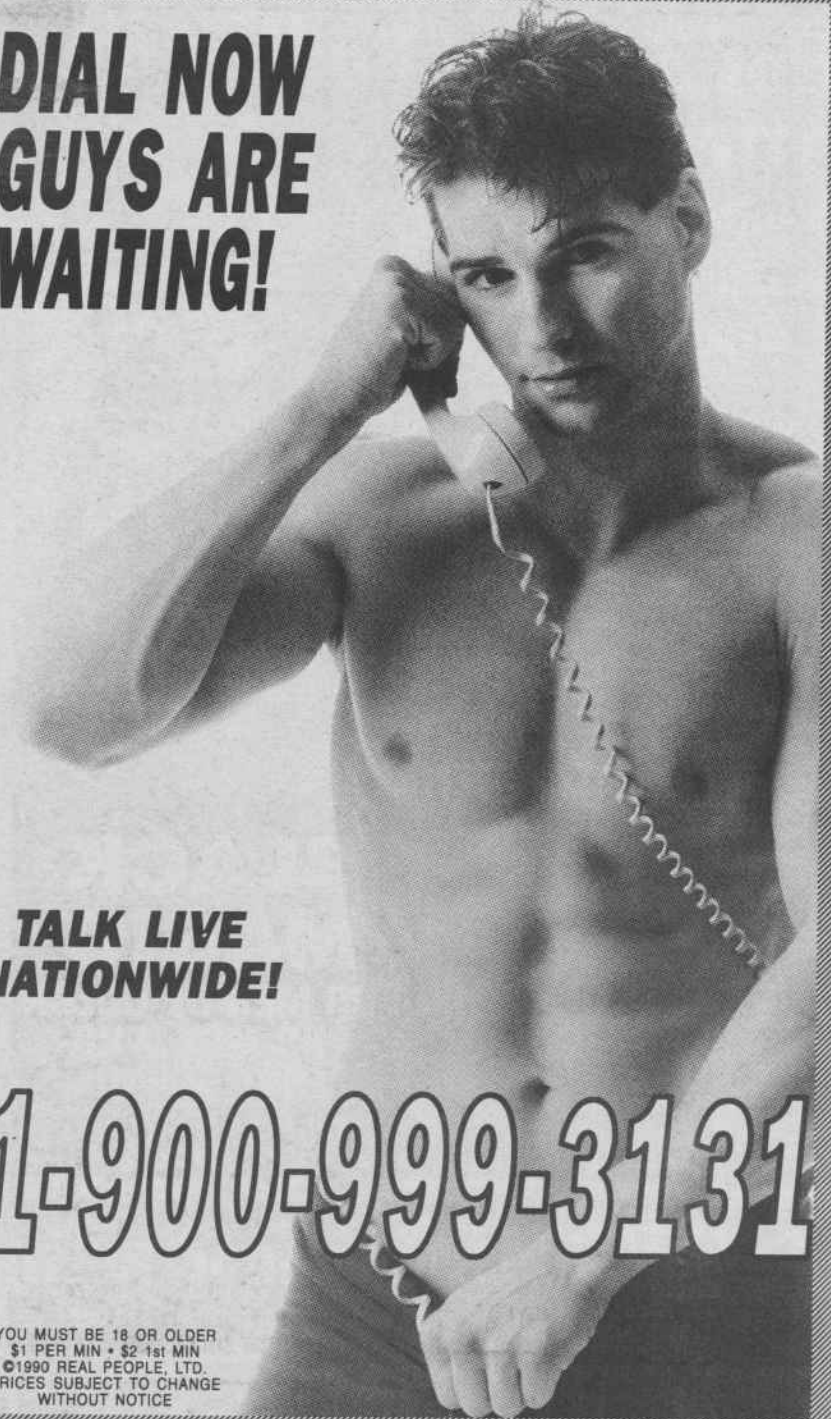
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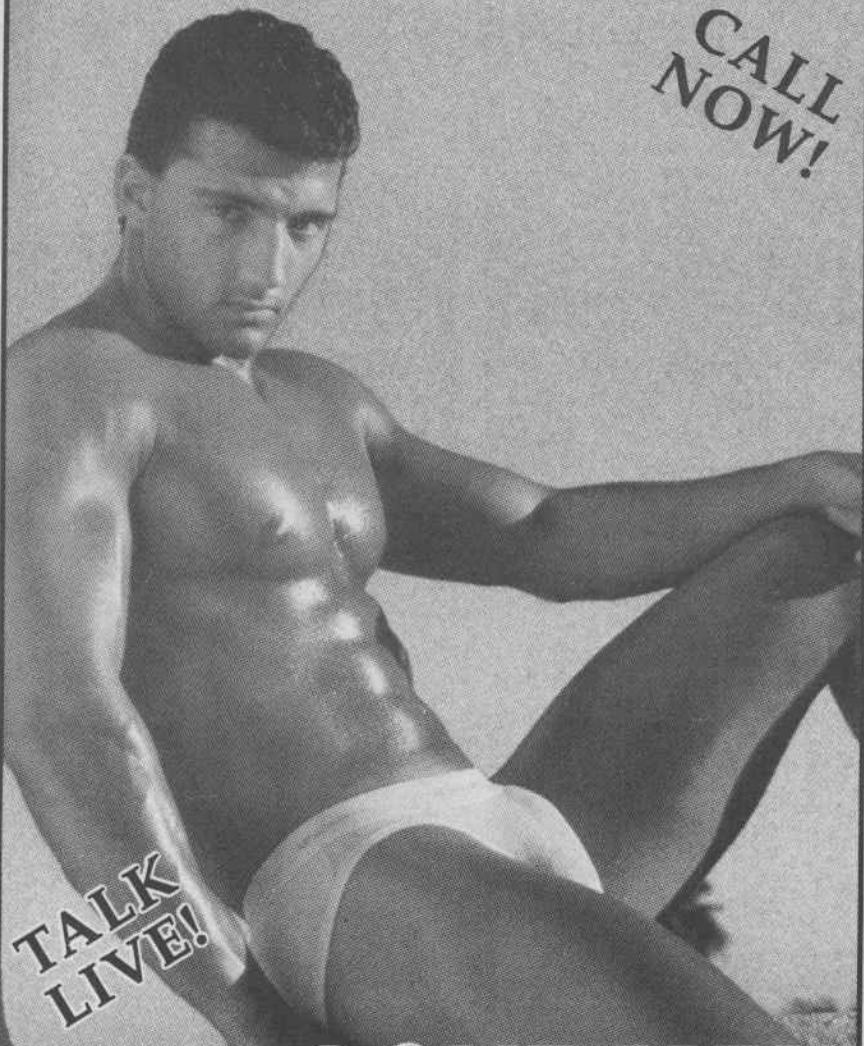
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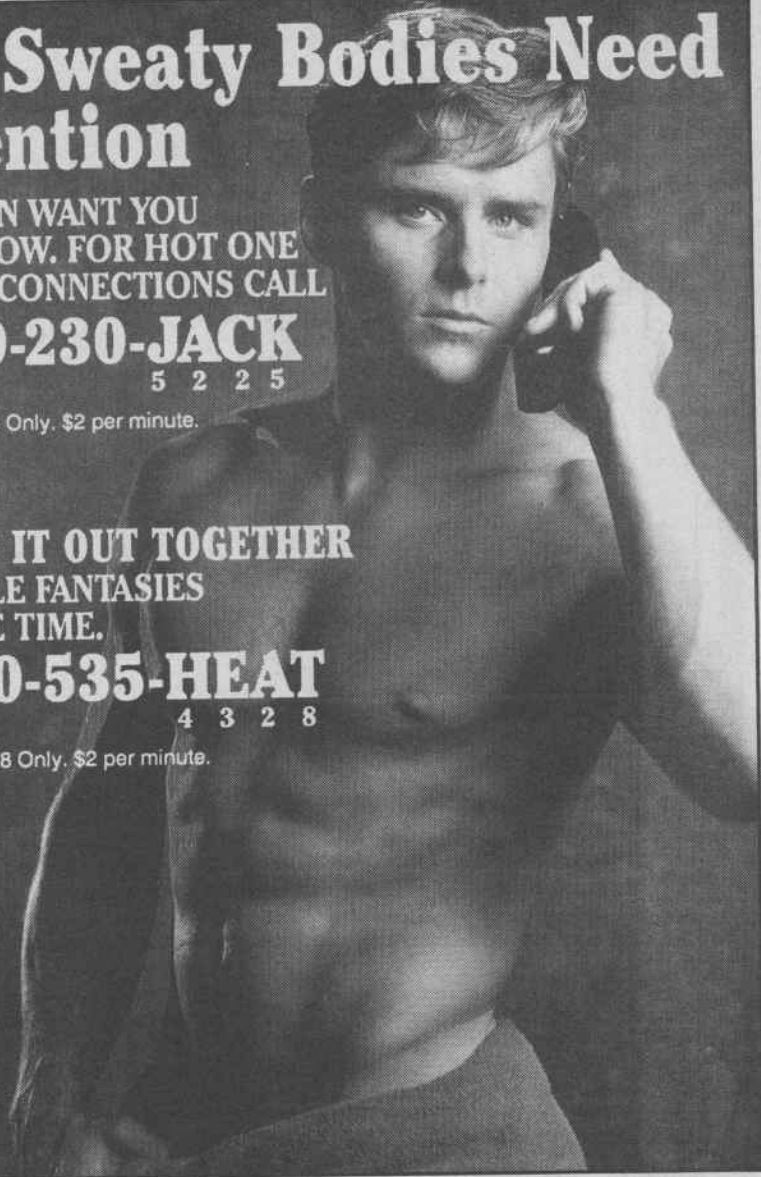
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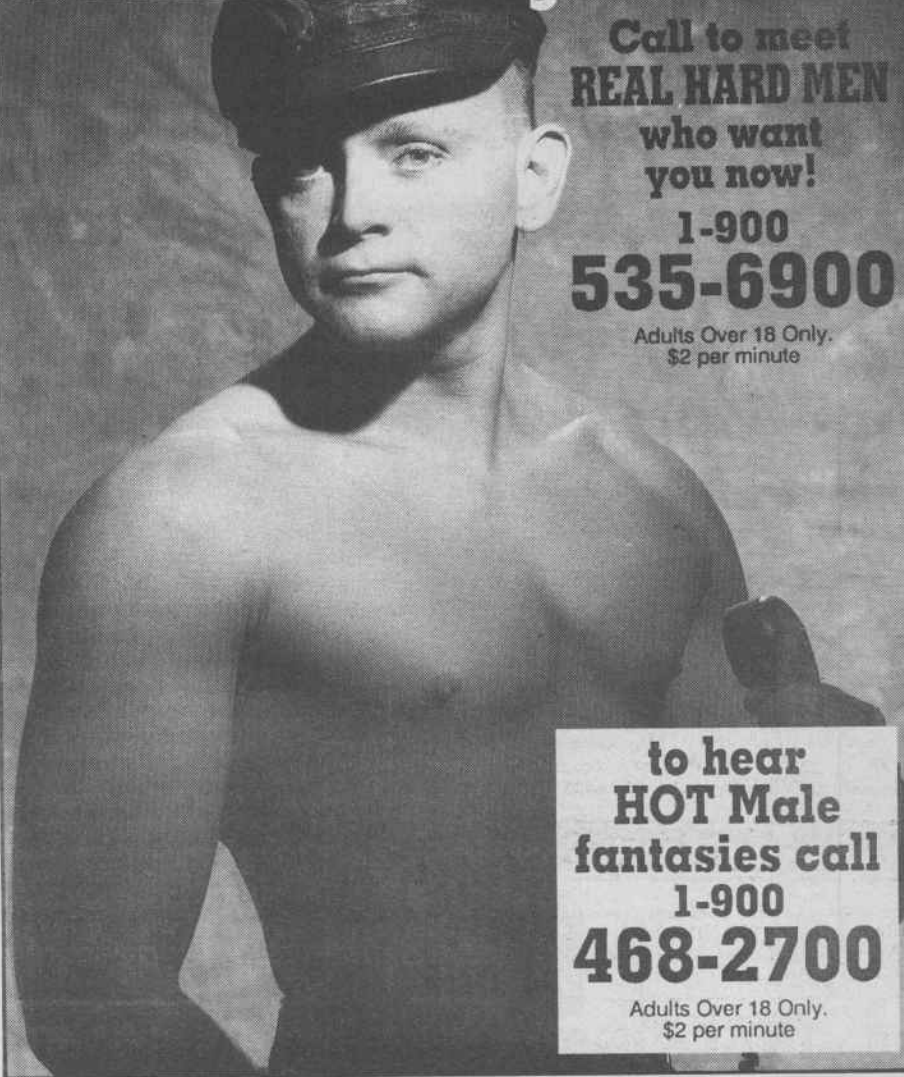


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ACLU Joins Illinois Mother in Custody Case

[Chicago, IL]- The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of Illinois has joined forces in the Illinois Appellate Court with a mother who was denied custody of her daughter because the trial court concluded the mother is a Lesbian.

The mother not only lost custody of her daughter in a battle with her husband last April. She was prohibited by the court from any visitation with her daughter in the presence of any female with whom she (the mother) is living.

"This is an important, first-of-its-kind case for Illinois courts," said John Hammell, ACLU attorney. "It hopefully will lead to a decision once and for all that Illinois parents cannot be denied the right to raise their children solely because of their sexual orientation."

"What the trial court did in this case was truly outrageous," said Hammell. "Not one bit of evidence was entered during the trial that showed that the mother's sexual orientation had injured or endangered her daughter in any way."

Many studies have shown that an individual's sexual orientation does not affect their ability to be good parents, or affect the well-being of their children. A 1986 report of the American Psychological Association found that there is no evidence that homosexuals are less effective parents than other people.

"The court's order that the mother cannot visit with her daughter when any female housemate of the mother is present is also patently offensive and not allowed under Illinois law," Hammell said.

The ACLU brief argues that parents have a fundamental constitutional right to raise their children, and that right can be denied only if there is a compelling justification. In addition, it violates a mother's rights to due process and equal protection of the law if she is denied custody of her child solely because of her sexual orientation.

The Illinois chapter of the National Association of Social Workers has joined the Illinois ACLU by filing an amicus brief in support of the mother in this case.

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What? Where? Why? How?**

See the next issue of the Wisconsin
Light for more information.

Chad Bowman is U.S.A.'s Third Openly Gay Professional Athlete

By Terry Boughner

[Milwaukee]- Up until recently, there have been only two openly Gay professional athletes in the U.S., both male body-builders. Now there is a third, a professional wrestler known as "Fabulous Fabian Adonis, The San Francisco Heartthrob," more familiar to patrons of The Triangle and La Cage as Chad Bowman.

Bowman, a Native American, began professional wrestling right out of high school under the name "Billy Bald Eagle." "I liked the crowd," he said, "the enthusiasm. I eat up that audience." And he was good. At 18, he was the Mid-West Wrestling Association's Rookie of the Year, the same year he got the Association's light heavy weight title. But things happened.

He had knee problems and he left the ring for awhile, during which time, he "came out," a decision he does not in the least regret.

For a year and a half he worked at The Triangle Bar, an experience he remembers fondly. He remembers how "good and understanding" Al Thomas, the Triangle's owner was to him. "Al was the best boss I ever had," Chad said. And, it was at the Triangle, that he developed the persona of "Miss Chastity Belt." As Chastity, he appeared in many Triangle shows as well as on Channel 12's "Milwaukee's Talking."

Now he's working out daily, building up weight and bulk and will return part-time to the ring this Summer, wrestling for the North American Wrestling Federation at fundraisers for high schools and at state fairs all over the mid-west, performing in drag, as Fabulous Fabian.

He does not worry about audience reaction to him as a Gay wrestler. "Fabian's the bad guy," he says of his persona in the ring. "He breaks the rules. The audiences love to hate him." It is as Fabian that he gets security around him.

He speaks of his fellow "performers", other wrestlers, warmly. They accept him, have no trouble with his being "out."

By Fall, wrestling part-time will give way to full-time in either Memphis, Portland, Oregon or Calgary. He is looking forward to it, the excitement and color of the ring, the travel, meeting new people, mingling in other Gay communities. "I want the support for being an openly Gay professional athlete," he says and adds that he plans to go to all the Gay bars in the various

cities in which he will be performing.

The prep work is hard, very hard, but worth it. "I feel like Rocky on the come-back trail," he says. Come back? At 24, he's handsome, his life is before him, he's at peace with himself and he's single. "I'm looking," he says. "I'm looking."

The eventual pace will be grueling — 7 nights a week for three weeks and then one week off and, he says of the sport, "It's a lot rougher than anybody realizes. 'Till you get there, you don't know how rough it is." But he loves it, the lights, the applause, the shouts, the glitter, and he is on his way.

Come Fly A Kite May 5 With GAMMA

[Milwaukee]- GAMMA's least vigorous sport, kiting, will draw our Ben Franklins to Milwaukee's Veterans Park on Sunday, May 5. Meet near the rental hut at 2:30 p.m. A group of kites will first gather for brunch at M&M's (124 N. Water St.) at 12:30 p.m. Some of the more adventurous may even go rollerskating along the Lake front. Call Bob at 963-9833 if the weather is uncertain.

Other GAMMA events for the merry month of May include "west side" biking on May 4, ice skating at Wilson Park on May 7, volleyball on May 9, a hike to Devil's Lake on May 11, and a sheephead session on May 14. All members for the Milwaukee Gay community are welcome to join us. Contact GAMMA at 963-9833 or write P.O. Box 1900, Milwaukee, 53201 for complete information about the twenty activities scheduled for the month of May.

Bowling AIDS Benefit May 18 In Milwaukee

[Milwaukee]- H.I.T. Against AIDS strikes again on Saturday, May 18 at the Red Carpet Regency at 6014 N. 76th St.

This bowling tournament follows a regular scratch format. The bowler gets pledges, either flat or so much per pin. Then, after bowling three games, the pledgers owe on the best of three. No handicapped scores are used. The bowling is of no charge to the bowlers.

To get your pledge sheets, call Timm at 289-9398 or Tim at 223-3139. Sheets are also available at all bars. Last year \$2500 was raised for MAP. We'd like to see that figure doubled! Get your pledge sheets and sign up your friends. We'll see you Saturday, May 18, at 1:00 p.m. for an afternoon of bowling and fun.

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EROTIC MEN. Erik Mainard invites you to a sacred sex seminar, as Joseph Kramer's Celebrating the Body Erotic seminar comes to Chicago May 11, 12. You will experiment with erotic rituals based on Trantric, Taoist and Native American traditions. Erik will teach you the pleasure of giving and receiving complete Taoist Erotic Massage. You will relearn sex as sacred, playful, non-addictive, and non-stop. The cost is \$250. For information and free brochure, call (608) 256-8204 or Body Electric School at (415) 653-1594. Honor your sexuality now.

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DEADLINE for placing a classified ad in WISCONSIN LIGHT is noon Wednesday prior to publication. If you mail your ad we must receive it on or before Wednesday. **NO CREDIT** or **BILLING SERVICES** are offered, and we **DO NOT** accept any classifieds on the phone for placements or renewals.

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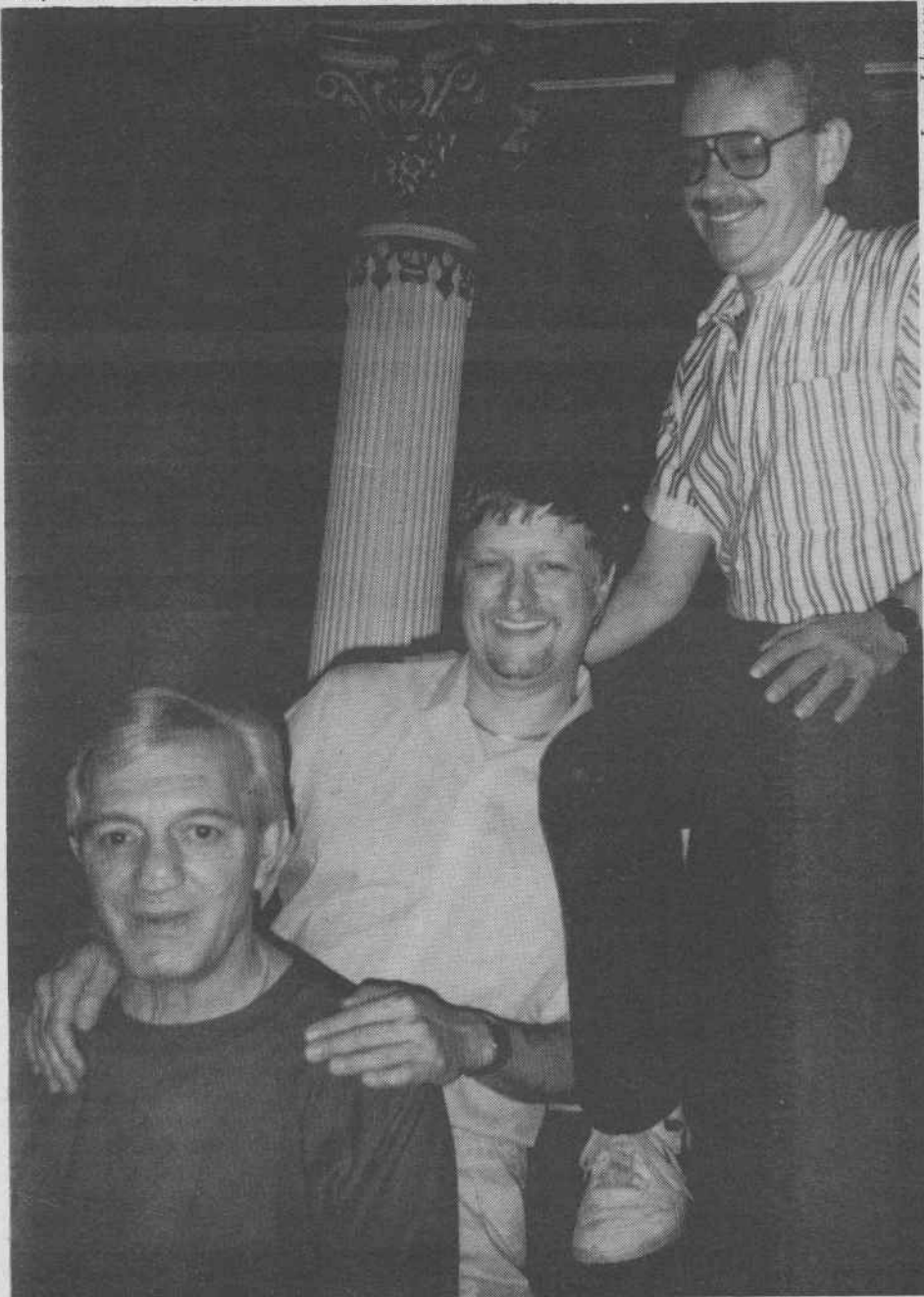
FOR RENT: 1 bedroom upper, carpeted. June 1st. Prefer Lesbian or Lesbian couple. \$325.00/mo. \$325.00 deposit. Call 873-1726.

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Non-smoking roommate needed to share upper story and attic of duplex in Riverwest. 175/mo +175 sec. dep. and 1/2 of gas and electric. Must like dogs - mine is big but nice. Apt. is clean and furnished except your bedroom. Call Mathew at 372-2267. Move in June 1, 1991.

Personals-Men

GOM, cute, personable, 22yrs, artist, seeks pen friends, any age. Write Ren Manabat, c/o Protacio Boafique, 313 Jones Ave., Cebu City 6000, Philippines.



Jerry Johnson

Bob Schickler, Pat Prudlow and Bobby Cole with Bruce Lemke (not pictured) are the new owners of the "3 B's" Bar in Milwaukee.

Milwaukee's Jet's Place Bar Being Sold on June 1

By Terry Boughner

[Milwaukee]- They say that all things change, and so it is with Jet's Bar, long a familiar and popular landmark in the Milwaukee Lesbian/Gay scene.

As of June 1, 1991, Jet's will be Jet's no longer, but the "3 B's", named after three of the four new owners, Bobby Cole, Bob Schickler and Bruce Lemke. The fourth is Pat Prudlow. In a sense, it's not like some shifts in ownership inasmuch as all four have worked for Jet herself through the years. "It's the employees who have bought the bar," Bob said.

This lends an air of continuity to the change that otherwise, might not have been; a sense that while there will be changes, they will come, not abruptly, but in process and keeping with what is and has been.

For example, the Country-Western atmosphere will remain with Tuesday and Thursday Country-Western nights. There will be two-step Texas style dancing — the only bar in town to have this, according to Bobby. The strong emphasis on AIDS benefits for which Jet's has always been justly famous, will continue as will a lot of the rest.

But there will be changes. There's to

be new lighting to accent the walls and those luscious pictures will be taken down from the dimness, framed and hung. The back bar (with that wonderful old-fashioned bar) will be opened up with its own bartender. The men's room will be redone and, withal, there will be "the most reasonably priced drinks in town," according to Pat.

But one thing will not change. That is the atmosphere of neighborliness, of conviviality. "It's a bar for you, the people," Bruce said. "It's what you want it to be."

In line with this, there will be a suggestion box so the customers can make changes too.

Two events to keep in mind. One is the "bash" on May 31 as Jet's closes out as Jet's, something like New Year's Eve.

Then, on July 20, there will be a Grand Opening at 3 B's with food, music and all sorts of good entertainment.

Jet has left her work in good hands, hand that, like she herself, liked and enjoyed her customers as friends. As Bob said, "Our customers are the best, a real nice class of people. We, the new owners, want to grow with them."

A Mass Wedding Ceremony To Be Held at June 15 Rally

[Milwaukee]- Queer Nation (QN) will be conducting a mass wedding ceremony at this year's Milwaukee Lesbian/Gay Pride Rally on Saturday, June 15.

QN says that the ceremony will be "open to Queers of all faiths" and that the actual vows will be left open to the participants. The only requirement to take part in the ceremony is that all partners consent to be united.

According to its press release, QN "firmly believes that it is a family's right to define itself." QN "makes no judgments about what a union should be. All consensual unions are valid."

For more information, contact Tim and Chris at 384-3911 or Stan and Bart at 643-5833 or write to QN-Milwaukee at P.O. Box 93951, Milwaukee, WI 53203

In a related story, QN-Milwaukee is circulating a petition to insure the "rights of all Queers" to be married to the person of their choice.

Copies of this petition will be presented to Milwaukee County Clerk of Courts Rod Lanser, Wisconsin State Attorney General Jim Doyle and the Wisconsin State Legislature during Milwaukee's Lesbian/Gay Pride Week.

QN will return to the Milwaukee County Court House on Monday, June 17th, to hand-deliver a copy of the marital rights petition to Lanser while "Queer couples attempt to apply for marriage licenses."

On February 14, 1991, two members of QN were denied an application for a marriage license at the Milwaukee County Court House.

QN invites "all Queers" to attend on June 17 and are encouraged to participate.

QN meets the 1st and 3rd Mondays of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the downtown Milwaukee Public Library (8th and Wisconsin Ave.) in the first floor meeting room.

Memorial Day Dinner and Dance to Benefit ACT UP

[Milwaukee]- "Life isn't always a picnic." No, sometimes it's a dinner and dance. So, after your Memorial Day picnic activities in the unpredictable sunshine, join ACT UP (AIDS Coalition To Unleash Power) in the evening at the Cafe Melange for a benefit night of showtunes and dance.

On May 27, the events begin with dinner starting at 6:00 p.m. with entree choices of fresh Norwegian salmon filet, New York strip, or a vegetarian medley. Then, starting at 8:00 p.m., the dance will begin for all couples to the music of John Schneider and his orchestra, with special guest Paula Dewey.

Dance tickets are \$10 per person, and dinner tickets which include the dance, are \$25 per person. There is limited seating so reservations are required for dinner guests, and recommended for the dance.

ACT UP hopes you will all come join them and lend your support in the fight against AIDS. For reservations and more

information, call either the Cafe Melange at 291-9889 or ACT UP at 769-8708. There is reduced admission for all PLWA's.

JET'S PLACE

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