



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

The Wisconsin Light

Four Arrested At Queer Nation Demonstration

By Terry Boughner

[Milwaukee]- Four people were arrested in Milwaukee on October 7, 1991 when over two dozen people held a demonstration to protest the Mayor's, the media's and the police department's handling of the Jeffrey Dahmer serial murder case. People from as far away as Tokyo, Japan, Seattle, Minneapolis and Chicago joined Milwaukeeans for the protest.

According to Dan Fons, one of the organizers, the purpose of the demonstration was to "demand that the Milwaukee Police Department, the Mayor's office and...the media put an end to their unwritten policies of prejudice and discrimination against queers and people of color."

The demonstration was sponsored by the Black Ribbon Committee, Queer Nation/Milwaukee, ACT UP/Milwaukee and the Community Action Coalition.

The demonstration began shortly after 11:00 a.m. in front of City Hall with participants marching in a circle, chanting.

Speaking to the press, Fons condemned Mayor John O. Norquist for "repeatedly" refusing to meet with representatives of Gay and lesbian organizations and for "not once" addressing the Gay and Lesbian community since the start of the Dahmer case. "Mayor Norquist has forgotten that we helped elect him and that we can help remove him from office, too," said Fons.

(According to a spokesperson for the Lambda Rights Network, the Mayor has met and spoken more than once with representatives of that organization on Lesbian/Gay concerns.)

From City Hall, the demonstrators marched to the Journal/Sentinel Building where they gathered in the lobby. They were addressed by Jamakaya, News Editor of *Wisconsin Light*, who condemned the major media for "sensationalist reporting" of the Dahmer case and for the use of the term "homosexual overkill" in their reporting. She held up *Wisconsin Light* and *In Step* as "the only accurate sources of reporting" on the Lesbian/Gay community.

She further condemned the *Journal* and the *Sentinel* as "one big monopoly" and strongly denounced the papers for failing to report: Lesbian/Gay testimony before the Mayor's Blue Ribbon Commission hearing, the Lesbian/Gay Pride March which drew over 6,000 people to Madison October 5 or the largest midwest display of the NAMES Project AIDS Quilt in Madison that same weekend.

TURN TO POLICE, PAGE 11

Lavender Network's Proposals Adopted By Commission Report

By Jamakaya

[Milwaukee]- The recommendations issued by Mayor John Norquist's Blue Ribbon Commission on Police-Community Relations October 15 incorporate many concerns of the Gay and Lesbian community, according to local activists.

"The report and recommendations are quite well done," said Scott Gunkel of the Lambda Rights Network (LRN). "It's more direct than I thought it would be and they seem to have included many of our proposals."

Kitty Barber of the Lesbian Alliance of Metro Milwaukee (LAMB) agreed: "I'm very pleased with the Blue Ribbon Commission report. With the exception of hate crimes reporting, which may have been beyond their mandate, they included every significant suggestion from the Lavender Network's proposal."

The Lavender Network is a coalition of Gay and Lesbian groups, including LAMB and LRN, that sought to ensure that Gay and Lesbian issues were addressed in the findings of the Mayor's Commission. Mayor Norquist established the Commission in August after allegations of police racism, homophobia and misconduct arose in the context of the Jeffrey Dahmer serial murder case.

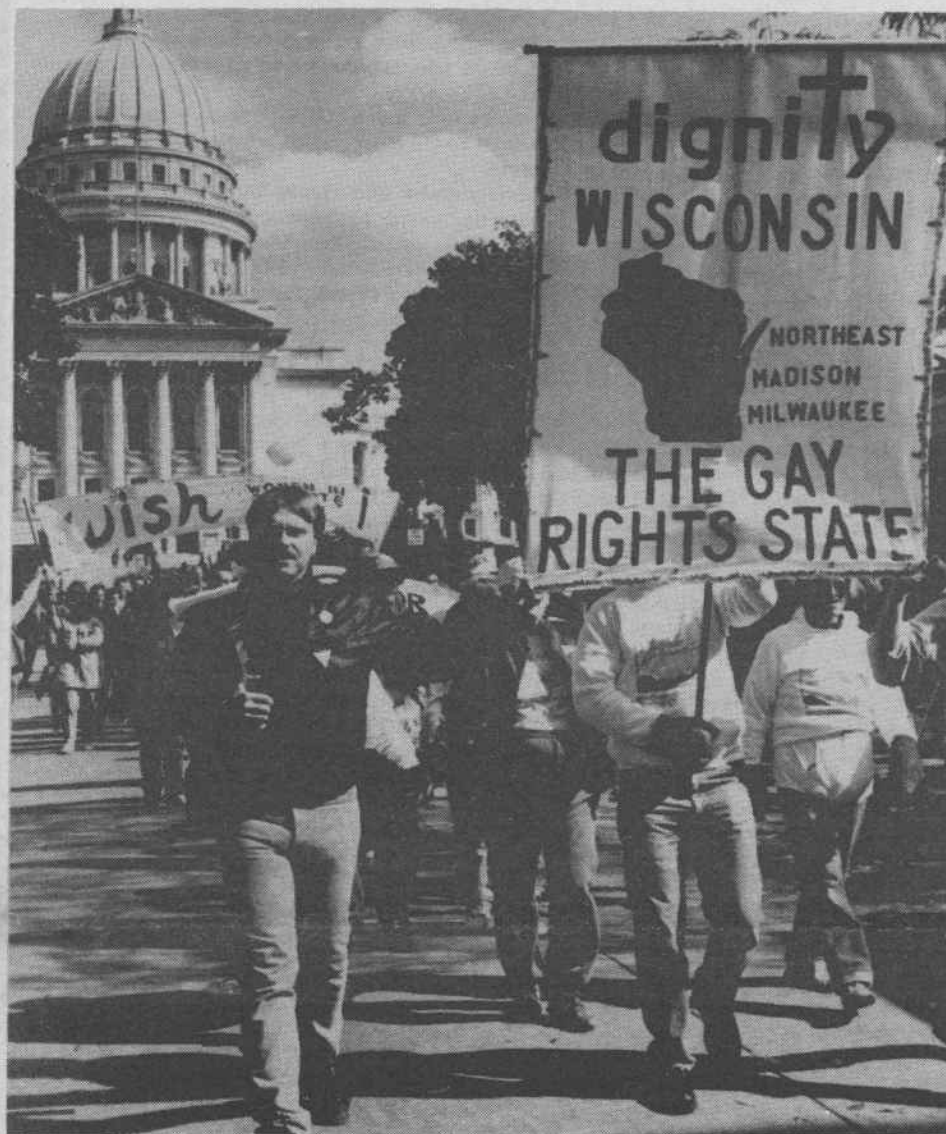
The Lavender Network conducted extensive research, including a survey of Milwaukee's Gay and Lesbian community and its experiences with the Milwaukee Police Department (MPD). It helped organize a special hearing before the Commission at which long-standing grievances of the Gay and Lesbian community were aired. Based on these efforts, the Lavender Network produced and submitted its own proposals to the Commission October 1.

"We did have access. We did get involved. We worked very hard to have input, and I think that's reflected in the findings," said Barber.

Among the recommendations are: police liaisons to the Gay and minority communities; increased sensitivity training for Department personnel; recruitment of Gay and Lesbian officers; disciplining of officers who exhibit racist, sexist or homophobic behavior; and a streamlined citizen complaint process — all consistent with the overall goal of "community oriented policing."

"The next few months will really tell the story," said Barber. "We need to monitor the progress of these recommendations and work with the

TURN TO COMMISSION, PAGE 2



Wisconsin's State Capitol building could be seen in the background as an estimated 6,000 people took part in Madison's second march for Gay rights and pride on October 5.

6,000 March With Pride Through Capital of the Gay Rights State

By Terry Boughner

[Madison]- On October 5, a sparkling crisp Saturday afternoon in the Gay Rights State, Lesbians, Gays and their friends left Capitol Square in a big display of Pride, marching down State Street toward James Madison Park.

According to Nancy Graham, a GALVANize Board member, some 2,000 people started out, but as the march went along, others joined in by the thousands so that by the time the Park was reached, Madison Police estimated that there were 6,000 plus walking along.

I had placed myself at the front and saw the March begin with a roar of motorcycles — Dykes on Bikes! — closely followed by the distinctive banner and many members of GALVANize. Then came the proud contingent representing Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays and after them, the National Organization for Women and representatives from Dignity chapters from all over Wisconsin.

Looking back up State, I could see the Rainbow flags, dozens and dozens, snapping in the wind. Why is it that I always get a good, warm shiver up and down my back whenever I see that flag? And balloons! There must have been thousands, all colors, but the ones I remember best are the pink ones. They seemed to be everywhere.

And what would a Gay Pride March be like without condoms, reminding everyone about safe sex? In this case, one giant condom (looking hopelessly human) was a big favorite with the crowd.

Along the line of March, there were a lot of friendly faces, a lot of smiles, of waves. There were a couple of scowls too, mainly from inside store windows, and there was one guy I won't forget.

He was young, a student maybe,

walking with a young woman. Just as the Parade got to them, he grabbed her hand. They hurried past me, but as they did I heard her laugh and say, "What are you trying to do? Use me to prove you're not Gay?" I would have given a bundle to hear his reply, see his face.

The apres-Parade rally was held in James Madison Park along the shore of Lake Mendota — and it was packed. Entertainment was provided by jazz vocalist Jan Wheaton, backed by the Harris Lemberg Trio, and by the windblown but gorgeous Flirtations. The crowd enjoyed itself hugely.

Speakers included State Rep. David Clarenbach (D-Madison) currently running for Congress, and Tammy Baldwin, an openly Lesbian Dane County Supervisor who is running for a seat in the State Assembly. If elected, she will be the highest openly LesGay official in Wisconsin.

Inside a large tent, Miriam Ben Shalom was selling T-shirts for the Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual Veterans of America and next to her, Dennis Bunch was selling pins, buttons and shirts for the Milwaukee Lesbian/Gay Pride Committee. Outside, I ran into Ron Geiman, publisher of *Wisconsin In Step*. He had ridden in the Parade in his Lincoln, but was having a heck of a time holding down his balloons.

Throughout the weekend of Pride events, the NAMES Project AIDS Memorial Quilt was on view at McClain Athletic Facility. Graham, a member of the Quilt Display Committee, said that approximately 4,000 people visited the display of over 1,600 panels.

It really was a fantastic weekend. GALVANize and all those who worked on it have reason to take great pride in what they did.



The wrong arm of the law reached out and grabbed Tim Grair as he and Stan Straka placed red hand prints on Milwaukee's Police Administration building on October 7 during a demonstration protesting the police treatment of Gays and Lesbians.

NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

AIDS Panel Faults Leadership

[Washington, D.C.] In its most comprehensive report to date, the National Commission on AIDS has criticized the U.S. government's inadequate response to the epidemic and recommended a national plan of action to combat the disease, including universal health care for all citizens.

The Commission's report, *America Living With AIDS: Transforming Anger, Fear and Indifference into Action*, declared: "In the past decade, the White House has rarely broken its silence on the topic of AIDS. Congress has shown leadership in developing critical legislation but has often failed to provide adequate funding for AIDS programs. Articulate leadership guiding America toward a proper response to AIDS has been notably absent."

Among the report's 30 recommendations: a comprehensive AIDS plan to identify the priorities and resources needed for prevention and treatment; a major HIV prevention campaign; and universal health care coverage for all citizens. Proposals for interim steps prior to the implementation of universal health care include the extension of Medicaid coverage to all low income people who are HIV-infected and sponsorship and direct distribution of AIDS treatment drugs through the Department of Health and Human Services.

DDI, Second AIDS Drug Approved

[Washington, D.C.] The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has approved DDI — dideoxyinosine — as the second major drug to treat the failing immune systems of people who have HIV/AIDS. It will be prescribed to patients who are unable to tolerate AZT or whose immune systems have failed to respond to AZT.

Scientists do not fully understand how DDI works, but many AIDS patients using the drug have exhibited an increase in the number of T-4 helper cells, which indicates a relative strengthening of the body's immune system.

DDI was approved before the full array of tests usually undertaken by the FDA was completed. Dr. David Kessler, FDA Commissioner, said the agency would closely monitor its use and results. DDI was approved for adults and children over six months old and has the added advantage of costing, on a yearly basis, about 20% less than AZT.

Bristol-Meyers/Squibb, producer of DDI, has promised to supply the drug free to poor patients not covered by Medicaid.

'Dobie,' 'Bewitched' Stars Come Out

[Los Angeles, CA] Sheila James Kuehl, who played brainy but boy crazy Zelda Gilroy on the old *Dobie Gillis* TV show, and Dick Sargent, who played Samantha's husband, Darrin, on the last three years of *Bewitched*, came out to a national audience viewing *Entertainment Tonight* on National Coming Out Day, October 11.

Kuehl, now a Harvard educated attorney who heads the Southern California Women's Law Center, told Mary Hart: "I wish now that I'd been able to come out. I was scared to death. I was kicked out of my sorority at UCLA because I was Gay. That was when I was doing *Dobie* and I sweated bullets for years...I hope that the United States, the people who watch this show, will understand that Gay and Lesbian people are wonderful people. I'm one and I'm doing great!"

Sargent, a businessman who still does occasional stunts on *Murder, She Wrote* and other shows, said: "It's a relief. You know we've been second and third class citizens — for all my life I've been hiding somewhere and lying. It's just dumb. There's a better way to live and I'm doing it now...I'm very happy being Gay and I hope that maybe my appearance will make some people who are possibly in the closet think a little better about being Gay. I hope so."

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.

COMMISSION

Continued from Page 1

Police Department, the Fire and Police Commission and the Mayor's Office to see that they are implemented."

In presenting the findings to the public, Blue Ribbon Commission Chair Father Albert DiUlio, President of Marquette University, said that the twin challenge facing the MPD in the 1990's was "restoring trust and confidence in the Police Department" while responding to a city "rapidly becoming more diverse and facing complex socio-economic problems."

Commission Proposals

The proposals for reform cover five primary areas:

1. Community Oriented Policing: Within 90 days, Police Chief Philip Arreola must submit to the Fire and Police Commission an implementation plan for Community Oriented Policing, a proactive strategy that stresses community involvement in fighting crime. The report mandates representation by the Gay and Lesbian, Black, Hispanic and other minority communities on a police-citizen work group to develop the plan.

The report also urges that Chief Arreola establish positions for liaisons with "communities that have been victims of harassment and misunderstanding," including the Gay and Lesbian community.

Noting that many citizens testified that officers "do not listen to witnesses, especially if they are members of racial, sexual or other minority groups," the Commission said that all police personnel "must interact with the people of our community as allies, as sources of valuable information."

2. Police Training: The Commission declared: "Verbal or behavioral expressions of racism, sexism, homophobia, or differential treatment because of age or social class are totally unacceptable."

Training that emphasizes the value of diversity must extend from early academy and field training through ongoing in-service and promotional training of all police personnel. Senior command staff should be the first trained "so they will set an example for the Department."

In addition, the report recommends that liaisons from community groups should be allowed to observe and participate in

such training.

3. Personnel Management: "The MPD must create a working environment in which officers are respected for their work, and in which race, sex and sexual orientation are irrelevant. The Chief must declare an unambiguous Department policy of valuing diversity among its members, and must enforce discipline against violators of this policy."

"Outreach to the Southeast Asian community and to the Gay and Lesbian communities" as well as the Black and other minority communities "must be included in MPD recruiting efforts."

"Demonstrated human relations and community relations skills should have an impact on career progression."

4. Citizen Complaint Process: The Commission said the complaint process should be streamlined with more rapid response time ensured. It should also include a mechanism for referring complainants to legal assistance.

Complaints against Department policies as well as individual officers should be accommodated. In addition, an ongoing analysis of complaints should be conducted to "identify patterns of behavior, officers complained against or situations which seem to give rise to complaints."

5. Fire and Police Commission: The Fire and Police Commission must "expand its review of Police Department practices" as well as the public's awareness of its role as the citizen oversight body.

Ultimately, the Fire and Police Commission, Police Chief Arreola and Mayor Norquist will be responsible for implementing these reforms.

Kitty Barber urged Gays and Lesbians to stay involved in the process. To that end, the Lavender Network will hold a meeting on October 30 at 7:00 p.m. at the Counseling Center, 2038 N. Bartlett Avenue, at which expanded proposals will be drafted and future strategy mapped.

Barber expressed appreciation to the small core group which did the lion's share of the Lavender Network's work: Karen Gotzler, Margaret Snow and Karen Z. — all members of LAMM — and Robert Zimmerman. She also lauded Blue Ribbon Commissioner Gary Hollander for "his courage and service to our community."

HIV+?

Learning that you tested positive for HIV can be frightening. The load is getting bigger for AIDS Service organizations and health care providers. There is a need for additional ways of getting the information and support you need to live and cope with HIV.

A computer program is being developed at the University of Wisconsin in Madison with these goals in mind.

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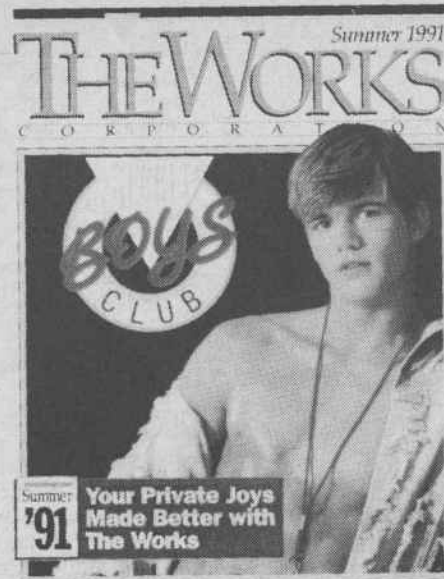
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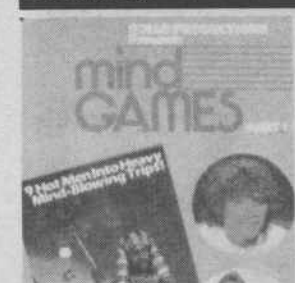
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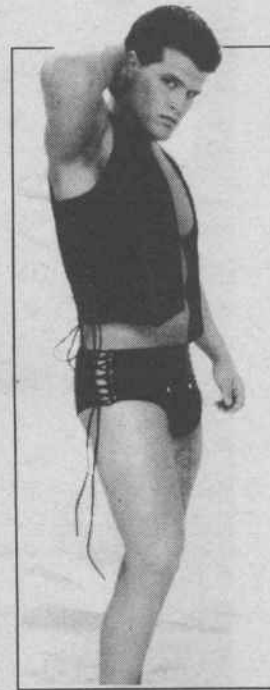
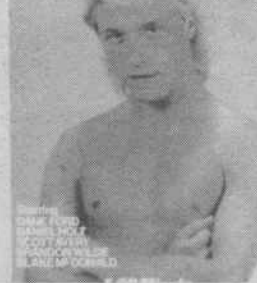
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GAY AND LESBIAN
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EDITORIAL

Recommendations of Mayor's Panel: Real Work Has Only Just Begun

The recommendations of the Blue Ribbon Commission on Police Community Relations that were presented to Mayor John Norquist and the Milwaukee Fire and Police Commission on October 15 have caught the Gay/Lesbian community and even the Wisconsin Light a bit off guard.

When the Commission was formed in August in the wake of the Dahmer serial murders, both the Gay and Black communities expressed strong skepticism. Yet another study seemed like business as usual to these groups, for decades alternately ignored and abused by the city's power structure.

However, many of the recommendations included in a proposal by the Lavender Ribbon Network have apparently been included in the Commission's report. These include: police liaisons to the Gay, Black and minority communities; a strong endorsement of community-oriented policing; recruitment of Gay and Lesbian officers; stepped-up sensitivity training; disciplining of officers found to be racist, sexist or homophobic; a revised citizen complaint process; and more.

It is an impressive agenda for reform. Gay and Lesbian leaders who worked hard to see that our community's concerns were addressed, and the many Gay citizens who came forward at the public hearing September 17 to tell their harrowing tales of police abuse, have rendered a significant public service. They/we have a right to be proud.

But we also have a responsibility to be vigilant. The power to implement the proposed reforms lies with the Fire and Police Commission, Police Chief Arreola and Mayor Norquist. In some ways, the real work has only just begun.

To that end, the Light encourages readers to attend a meeting of the Lavender Network on October 30 at 7:00 p.m. at the Counseling Center of Milwaukee, 2038 N. Bartlett Avenue. The Network is scheduled to discuss additional recommendations to be submitted to the Fire and Police Commission and the best strategy to achieve successful implementation of the reforms.

Let's keep our sleeves rolled up and press the advantage!

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Look at it. There sat the 14 men of the Senate Judiciary Committee in all their solonic majesty, saying in effect (the Republicans particularly): "Girls, girls, what's a little sexual harassment?" They then went on to savage Professor Anita Hill.

And where were the Democrats in all this? Mostly hanging around like a Greek chorus slightly taken in wine — including "Nobody's Senator but Yours," who demonstrated all the intellectual acuity of a post.

It's almost irrelevant whether Clarence Thomas is guilty or not. (He isn't qualified to hold the position he's got now, anyway).

Most important in the obscene circus we all witnessed was the fact that these men showed that no woman is to be taken seriously; that no woman can come forward and complain of offenses committed against her by males and get away with it with her character and good name intact; that no woman is really anything more than a slightly ditzy second class citizen whose main purpose is to make homes and babies and otherwise keep her mouth shut! There isn't a woman in America who shouldn't be outraged.

And where do Gay men and Lesbians fit into all this? Just here.

There's an idea out there, backed up by patriarchal religions hauled out to reinforce the ignorance, that Gays are men who act like women. Since as the "thinking" goes, women are inferior, men who act like women are even worse.

And Lesbians? They're just "women out of their place." What they "need" is a macho, red-blooded male of the species and they'll be okay.

Need it be said? Since what's been going on in Washington, it does. Women are not equal, not to be taken seriously, not to be respected. America is "Man's Country" (mostly white men) and women are in chains.

You want to know why women's health issues are not addressed? You want to know why the war against Iraq is more highly esteemed than the war against AIDS? Take a look at the Senate, particularly the Republicans, and you'll have your answer.

As long as this is true — and it is — Gay men and Lesbians will never, ever be free.

Editor's Note: Don't anyone talk to me about love in all this. My father loved my mother deeply. She was a highly educated person, but when she wanted to use that education, get a job, he absolutely forbade it. She argued and argued, but

nothing would change him.

I loved my father, but she should have divorced him — on the spot.

But she was of another time and era and she yielded. I knew what was happening. I couldn't stop it. Unable to use her mind, unable to fulfill herself in a career, she sank into the doldrums, went back into the kitchen and died.

It's hard to admit this, but my father killed my mother just as surely as if he'd stabbed her with a knife.

I absolutely believe that if my father could have accepted women as full persons, equal to himself in every way, my mother would be alive.

— Terry Boughner

LETTERS

'Justice?'

TO THE EDITOR:

Hey, is it just me, or is anyone else out there struck by the extreme irony of the fact that Clarence Thomas is addressed by the title "Justice?"

—Mary Shafer
Park Falls, WI

Pride Money

TO THE EDITOR:

It has come to the attention of the Milwaukee Lesbian/Gay Pride Committee (MLGPC), that there are rumors that some of the money raised this year was misspent.

Our fiscal year ended September 30, 1991. At this time we are working on closing the books for 1990-91 and expect that by the next issue of Wisconsin Light, we will be able to publish a yearend financial statement. We are also contacting an outside auditor to go over the books as required by law for all not-for-profit organizations.

As with any non-profit organization, we are required by law to have our records available to anyone upon request.

—Gary Wells, President MLGPC

HRCF Responds To Campbell

TO THE EDITOR:

Tim Campbell's recent "Guest Editorial" entitled "Something Rotten on Capitol Hill" charged that during the recent "outing" of Wisconsin Representative Steve Gunderson the staff of Human Rights Campaign Fund (HRCF) "custom designed a report card for Gunderson on which they gave him a 100% rating."

HRCF issued a voting record for Members of Congress using 10 selected votes on Lesbian and Gay issues cast during the 101st Congress. All 10 votes were used for all members of the House. Mr. Campbell was faxed a complete copy of the voting record for all Members on July 2, 1991. While anyone is entitled to disagree with the votes HRCF selected, the statement that the votes were "custom designed" to give Gunderson a 100% is simply untrue.

Mr. Campbell further states that HRCF "overlooked votes for both Bork and Souter" by Rep. Gunderson. Mr. Campbell "overlooks" the fact that the Senate, not the House, is given power over confirmation of Supreme Court nominees.

HRCF has a good working relationship with many Queer Nation members in the Washington, D.C. area and throughout the country. Mr. Campbell's assertion that the opposite is true is simply not true.

This is not a major controversy, merely a minor disagreement. HRCF disagrees with Mr. Campbell on the issue of outing and we are sorry that he finds it necessary to make false and damaging claims in order to advance his point of view.

Can we disagree with each other without becoming disagreeable? Is it too much to hope that we would make an effort to respect the right to disagree without having one's motives attacked unfairly or positions distorted beyond recognition? HRCF certainly hopes so, despite Mr. Campbell's efforts to confuse readers regarding our positions.

—Tim McFeeley
Executive Director
HRCF-Human Rights Campaign Fund



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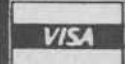
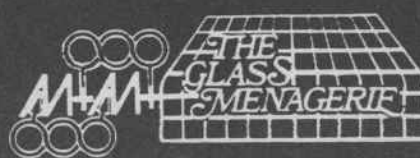
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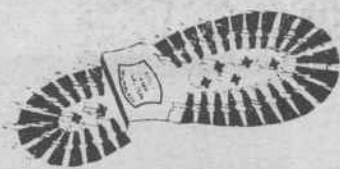
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The Light LIVELY ARTS



Jerry Johnson

The Flirtations attended Madison's October 5 march and rally prior to their evening concert at the Barrymore Theatre.

Kate and Flirts At The Barrymore: A Brilliant Double Booking

By Jamakaya

The jewel in the crown of Madison's recent Pride weekend for this lucky Lezzie was the Saturday night (October 5) entertainment at the Barrymore Theater. The evening featured separate shows by comedian Kate Clinton and the a cappella quintet, the Flirtations. Kudos to Fallen Woman Productions and the Madison AIDS Support Network for this brilliant double booking.

Kate was at her razor sharp, her-sterical best in two long sets of politically charged and Lesbian-oriented material that ran the gamut from the Persian Gulf war, "stealth" Lesbians and the three dribble rule to Cheetos' residue, Depends undergarments and the hazards of menstrual belts (cheap perhaps, but effective!).

Kate, never one to mince words, called the Senate hearings on Clarence Thomas (pre-Anita Hill) "a circle jerk for the ethically impaired." Her favorite contingent in the Washington peace march earlier this year was L.A.B.I.A.: Lesbians Against Boys Invading Anything!

Kate regaled the audience with her own scenario for an episode of *L.A. Law* to follow up on the famous kiss between characters Abby and C.J., and chided actress Sharon Gless, a dyke favorite, for sending mixed signals to her Lesbian fans: after marrying producer Barry Rosenzweig, Gless honeymooned in Provincetown!

Kate frets that "It's hard to be a dominatrix in a kinder, gentler nation." But this self-declared "authority on Bush" had no problem getting the capacity crowd to "read these lips!"

The only downside to a Kate Clinton performance is the sore cheek and stomach muscles one develops after laughing so hard and so long. No one is funnier than Kate Clinton. She is just unbelievable. She'll be at Milwaukee's Centennial Hall December 14 (with opening act Jamie Anderson). Don't miss her!

Many Lesbians stuck around for the concert by the Flirtations. They were amply rewarded. The mixed crowd of men and women added to the solidarity of the

TURN TO CONCERTS, PAGE 11



"Stop the Church," a documentary about ACT UP's 1989 protest at New York City's St. Patrick's Cathedral will be shown at the "Banned by PBS" Film Festival at UWM on Oct. 25 and 26.

'Tongues Untied,' 'Stop the Church' at 'Banned by PBS' Film Festival

[Milwaukee]- Whose Point of View is it?

Find out when Great Lakes Film & Video presents a festival featuring three films "Banned By PBS" from its P.O.V. independent filmmakers' series. Screenings are scheduled at 7 and 9 p.m. on Friday, October 25 and Saturday, October 26 in Room B91 of UW-Milwaukee's Mitchell Hall at the corner of Downer and Kenwood. Admission is \$4 and seating is limited, so

filmgoers are encouraged to come early.

Here is some background on the films "Banned By PBS" which are scheduled to be shown.

Tongues Untied, the award-winning documentary by Marlon Riggs, mixes narration, interviews, poetry and visual imagery in a profound exploration of Black Gay men, their lives and sexuality.

Milwaukee's PBS affiliate censored this groundbreaking film last Summer, TURN TO BANNED FILMS, PAGE 11

three films by Derek Jarman

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Scott FAVOR (Keanu Reeves) and Mike Walters (River Phoenix) take a ride on Scott's motorcycle in the film "My Own Private Idaho" which opens October 18 in Milwaukee and Madison.

'Caravaggio,' 'Garden' Highlight Derek Jarman Festival at UWM

By Geno

Three films by revolutionary British director Derek Jarman will be shown at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee International Cinema, Friday through Sunday, October 24-27. The three films are: **Caravaggio**, **The Garden** and **The Last of England**. The first two merit special consideration for their treatment of "the struggle for personal and sexual identity in a society in crisis," according to Jarman.

Caravaggio, the earliest of the three (1986), is generally listed in video stores as a Cult Classic, and like the other films by Jarman, it fulfills the expectations of that intriguing classification. It chronicles significant events in the life of 17th Century Italian painter Michelangelo Caravaggio as he lies on his death bed. His was a life of creative exploration, violence, scandal and a search for "him whom my soul loves," and it bears a strong resemblance to Jarman's own examination of his homosexuality in relation to his society.

In the telling, Jarman presents his audience with stark, sensual images of street urchins, criminals, Gay cardinals and an artistic genius at work — many of the well known paintings come to life on the screen. As the dying artist alternates between lucidity and a dreamlike state, Jarman uses Caravaggio's technique of "chiaroscuro" to achieve a riot of color and dramatic poses and movement.

It is evident that incidents, attitudes and characters in the movie mirror patterns of Jarman's life, and the autobiographical note figures even more largely in his latest film to be released — **The Garden**. A change of attitudes, a quiet note, has entered Jarman's work amid the fascinating imagery, and Jarman himself appears in the film dealing with the paradox of finding solace in a Church which still persecutes homosexuals.

The garden in **The Garden** could (and probably does) refer to the Garden of Eden, Bosch's Garden of Earthly Delights, the Garden of Gethsemane. It is also Jarman's own garden which actually lies in the shadow of a nuclear power plant in Dungeness, Kent. Critics, citing the fact that Jarman is living with AIDS and the quieter tone of the film, have seen **The Garden** as elegiac, a valedictory. In contrast, it is notable that in **Caravaggio** the artist's dying moments climax with a remembered male-male sexual encounter

while in reality he is fighting off the priest who is trying to force a crucifix into his hands.

But don't write Jarman off just yet. His film, based on the life of Edward II, one of England's homosexual kings, has been completed with funding from the BBC at a time when Jarman's health was so bad that "it was a public act of faith and commitment." And it is good to hear that Jarman is full of ideas for the future.

'My Own Private Idaho': A Quirky Street-Wise Film By Van Sant

By Geno

Director Gus Van Sant, best known for **Drugstore Cowboy**, the masterpiece that won the National Society of Film Critics awards for Best Picture, Director and Screenplay of 1989, stands a good chance that as writer, director and producer for **My Own Private Idaho** he may repeat the hat trick. This quirky, street-wise film will open at Madison's Orpheum Theatre and Milwaukee's Prospect Mall Cinema on Friday, October 18.

My Own Private Idaho opens with a close shot of River Phoenix's face, clearly experiencing orgasm followed by the unseen John's throwing ten dollar bills on the lad's still unbuttoned fly. This is the introduction to "Mike" and a young male hustler subculture which does not consider itself Gay, or which simply does not want to think about it.

Little River Phoenix who was so watchable in **Stand by Me** and **The Mosquito Coast** here plays a scruffy street hustler who is searching for his mother, a home and ultimately, love. It is a touching portrayal.

Two other main characters in this loosely organized gang living in abandoned houses and under bridges are Scott FAVOR (Keanu Reeves) and Bob Pigeon (William Richert) whose story melds with Mike's search. And their story is a modern retelling of Shakespeare's **Henry IV, Parts I and II**. It doesn't matter if you've neglected to

brush up on your Shakespeare because the story of Scott who hangs out with the street gang, like Prince Hal with the Pistol's crowd, determines to have his virtues shine even brighter when he gives up his wicked ways — and he does, taking over from his father, the late Mayor of Portland and becoming a stuffy pillar of the community.

Bob FAVOR as a modern day Sir John Falstaff, is an old, fat, puffy renegade who consorts with the boys, sometimes their leader and sometimes their dupe, as Falstaff was at Mistress Quickly's bawdy house. William Richert gets all the juices out of this plum of a role and the scene in which the reformed Scott gives him the "Get thee gone, old man, I know thee not" speech in modern lingo, is as heart-breaking as it was in the original. It's rather campy, too, to have the actors from time to time breaking out in choice Elizabethan invective.

Director Van Sant can always be counted upon for in-jokes (the boys in the gang drinking nothing but Falstaff beer) and for tricky departures from reality.

One of the best examples of the latter is a scene in an adult bookstore where the young studs on the magazine covers come alive and converse with one another about their profession. This alone is worth the price of admission. Van Sant has mapped out a fun tour with a bunch of picaresque (and rather picturesque) rascals. Join them and have a nice day (another in-joke).

"The best American movie of the Nineties!"

- Donald Lyons, FILM COMMENT

"Gus Van Sant makes a big bold leap to join Jim Jarmusch and the Coen brothers in the front ranks of America's most innovative independent film makers. The film itself is invigorating - written, directed and acted with enormous insight and comic élan."

- Vincent Canby, N.Y. TIMES

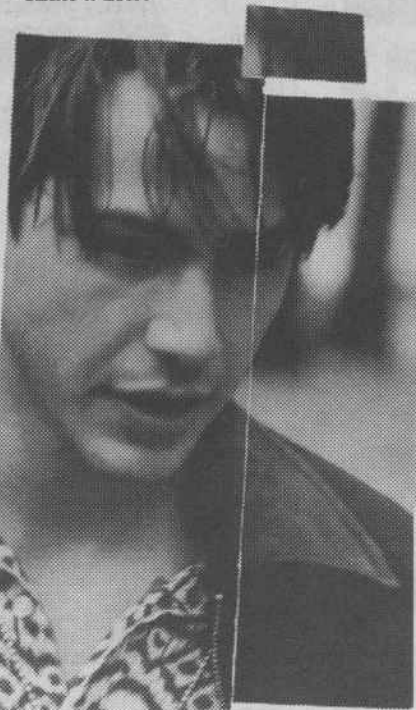
"★★★★ Exceptional . . . so delightfully different and daring that it renews your faith." - Marshall Fine, GANNETT NEWS SERVICE

"★★★★ Van Sant performs the same miracle he did with Matt Dillon in 'Drugstore Cowboy.' Nothing could prepare you for this unapologetic, uncompromising piece of renegade cinema. A deeply moving experience." - Lawrence Frascella, US

"Two Thumbs Up!" - Siskel & Ebert

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FROM THE DIRECTOR OF DRUGSTORE COWBOY MY OWN PRIVATE IDAHO A FILM BY GUS VAN SANT

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JAMES RUSSO WILLIAM RICHERT RODNEY HARVEY MICHAEL PARKER FLEA CHIARA CASELLI AND
UDO KIER as "HANS" CO-EXECUTIVE PRODUCER ALLAN MINDEL COSTUMES DESIGNED BY BEATRIX ARUNA PASZTOR EXECUTIVE PRODUCER GUS VAN SANT
PRODUCTION DESIGNED BY DAVID BRISBIN EDITED BY CURTISS CLAYTON DIRECTORS OF PHOTOGRAPHY ERIC ALAN EDWARDS AND JOHN CAMPBELL
PRODUCED BY LAURIE PARKER WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY GUS VAN SANT

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Madison Pride March

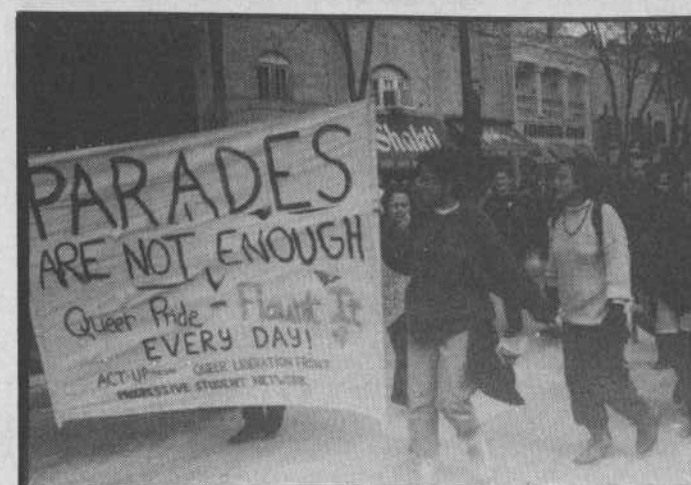
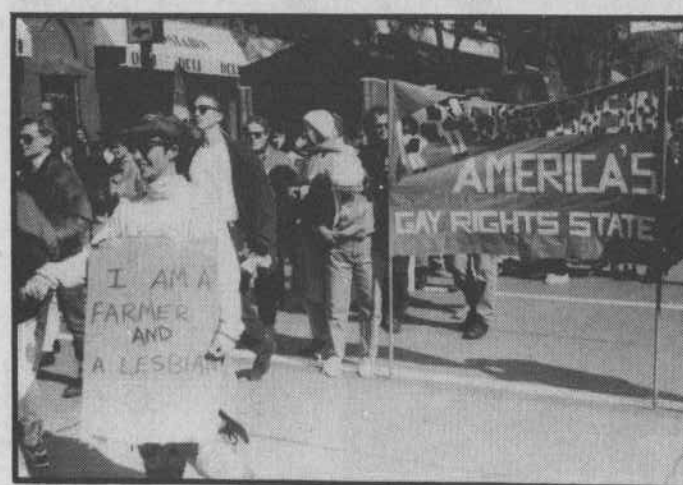
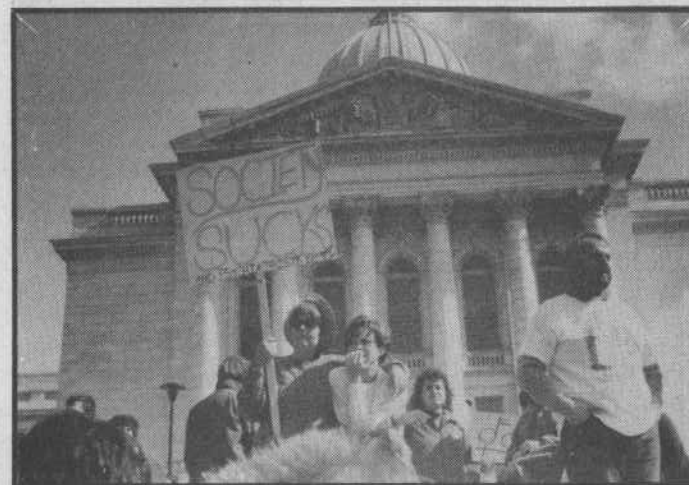
October 5, 1991

Photos by
Marny Malin



And
Jerry Johnson





NGLTF's Vaid, UW's Joe Elder Deliver Powerful Pride Speeches

By Bill Lyne

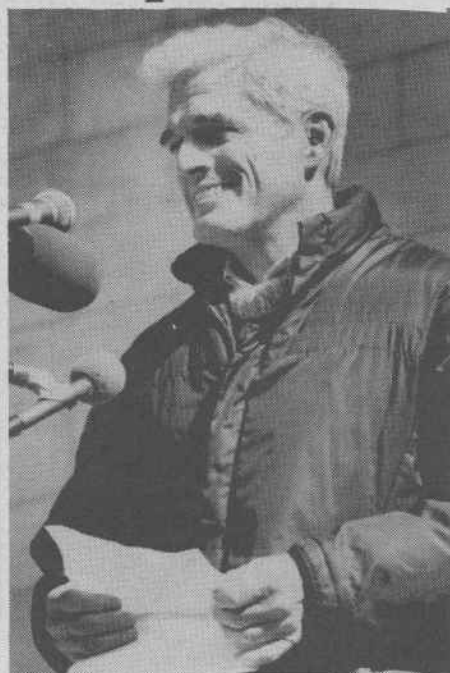
[Madison]- Thousands of people gathered for the October 5th March for Lesbian and Gay Rights and Pride in Madison heard two impassioned speeches at a pre-march rally on the State Capitol grounds.

Openly Gay Madison Alderman Ricardo Gonzalez introduced keynote speaker Urvashi Vaid, Executive Director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF), and UW-Madison Sociology Professor Joe Elder, an activist in the efforts to remove ROTC from campus due to its discriminatory practices against Lesbians and Gays.

Vaid's address was an indictment of what she described as President George Bush's policy "of proving his manhood by engaging in 100 days of senseless war in Iraq...and now perpetrating Operation Distraction — keeping the focus away from the real domestic problems that face us."

Topping the list of those domestic problems, said Vaid, was the AIDS crisis. "The streets of Madison, Dallas, New York and San Francisco are filled with the faces of the dead, as are the streets of Baghdad. We are engaged in a fight for our lovers and friends who are dying...We must defeat everyone who uses homophobia as a weapon and eliminate AIDS."

"There is no peace in this country for Gays and Lesbians," Vaid asserted. "Doctor Martin Luther King said that peace was the presence of justice, not just the absence of tension...There is no peace when one third of all suicides involve Gay or Lesbian teens, when hate spews from out legislators with impunity, when our



JOE ELDER

NGLTF Director.

The crowd gave Vaid a rousing ovation as she finished with the call to "march for those we love and have loved, and for those still in the closet."

Professor Elder, a member of Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays and an activist at UW-Madison, said the Reserve Officer Training Corps program in Wisconsin "has to change its policy of systematic discrimination against Gays and Lesbians to one of tolerance and acceptance."

"In February of last year, the University of Wisconsin Board of Regents rejected a Faculty Senate vote calling for ROTC's removal from all system campuses, deciding instead, to change the military's practices through persuasion... We recently wrote to Secretary of Defense Dick Cheney. His reply stated there are no plans to reassess the military's policy and therefore there was no need to meet on the issue," Elder said.

"What's next?" asked Elder. "It seems we need to turn to the State Attorney General's Office, asking that the continuing illegal acts of ROTC be investigated and that the law be enforced...."

Elder concluded with a call for ongoing use of "the creative tension that Martin Luther King said was sometimes necessary for backing the rights of all people."

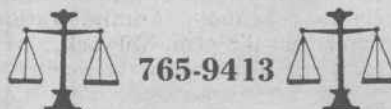
Theatre Company Holds Auditions For First Show October 21, 22

[Milwaukee]- The "Different Drummer Theatre Alliance"(DDTA) will hold auditions for its first production, *Adam and the Experts* by Victor Bumbalo, on October 21 and 22 at 404 S. 7th Street in Milwaukee at 7:00 p.m. There are roles available for five men and two women, ranging in age from 22 to 58 years. A prepared monologue will not be necessary.

Adam and the Experts is a particular kind of "journey play" in which two waiters, two very average Gay guys, best friends, live and work in New York City for the most mundane of reasons. The

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play examines these Gay Everymen who get something far, far different from anything they imagined and who handle their circumstances elegantly.

Bumbalo's play expresses a mood of exhaustion, fatalism and embattled determination in the midst of AIDS. But there is also a bitter humor woven into outrageous tragedy spread out on the stage to reveal the pathetic, even ludicrous defenses that people adopt to shield themselves from terrifying realities. In the end, as life sometimes does, Everyman becomes a hero.

DDTA is Milwaukee's first Gay and Lesbian theatre company. It aims to present works that represent "our community, our lives and our issues." *Adam and the Experts* will be staged December 6, 7, 13 and 14, 1991.

Those interested in auditioning or in assisting in other aspects of the production should write: DDTA, P.O. Box 92756, Milwaukee, WI 53202 or call (414) 347-0673.

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URVASHI VAID

society values war toys more than health care for all. There is no justice when society takes the courage of Lesbian and Gay soldiers, but then hunts and hounds them from service when they acknowledge who they are."

"The wicked do not know what justice means. Gays and Lesbians are often called sinners...but those who hold power and oppress us are the sources of real sin," Vaid said. "Evil is a President who twice campaigns for Jesse Helms...evil is a Dallas judge who says a Gay life is worth less than a straight life."

Vaid then called upon the crowd to counteract these "evil forces by accumulating our own power for social change."

"Support our community groups, come out in the media, at your work place and to your families...face down discrimination with pride. If we do anything to respond to oppression we accumulate power. Freedom is not a one day event, a T-shirt we put on, but a yoke we take off throughout our lives," declared the

Dykes To Watch Out For



School Board Committee Okays Support for Gay/Lesbian Teens

[Milwaukee]- On October 16, the Instruction and Community Relations Committee of the Milwaukee School Board voted unanimously, 4-0, to accept the "Report of the Task Force on Gay and Lesbian Teens." The full Board is expected to vote on the report at its October 30 meeting.

Seven individuals, including a Gay teen, spoke in favor of the report at the hearing. No one expressed opposition. Each Committee member — Joyce Mallory, Jared Johnson, Mary Bills and Christine Sinicki — voiced strong support for the report's recommendations.

The report recommends that curriculum materials, teaching strategies and school policies include non-judgmental information on sexual orientation. It proposes that all school personnel be

prohibited from making deprecating or prejudicial statements and that they receive sensitivity training on Gay and Lesbian issues.

The report also recommends that drop-out prevention strategies be targeted to Gay and Lesbian youth and that community and school-based resources be made available to assist them.

The proposals are aimed at high school students, but Sinicki suggested they might be valuable for middle school students as well. If the full Board adopts the report, it will be up to the Milwaukee Public School Administration to implement the plan. Milwaukee would be the fourth major city in the country to have policies to protect and offer support to Gay and Lesbian youth.

Milwaukee Agent Labels Gay Travel Markets 'Fruit Stands'

[Milwaukee]- "Most of us want to remain travel agencies, not become 'fruit stands.'" So wrote Larry Koralewski, CTC, in a letter published in the "Readers' Forum" section of *TravelAge MidAmerica* on September 26, 1991. The magazine is the trade publication for travel agents.

Koralewski, who identified himself as being from Maxam Tour & Travel in Milwaukee, was responding to an article in the September 2, 1991 issue of the magazine entitled "Operators Create Specialized Packages for Gay Travelers." The article, by-lined to Peter Callahan, addressed those agents looking to "break into the Gay travel market," identifying tour companies that cater to Gays and Lesbians, including RSVP Cruises.

Koralewski further wrote: "The travel industry is having a difficult enough time with image without having to engage in the open promotion of perversion."

Koralewski asked that his subscription to the magazine be canceled. The magazine, however, is free.

In a letter to *TravelAge MidAmerica* responding to Koralewski's letter, Gail Unger of Horizon Travel in Menomonee Falls wrote: "It is difficult to understand the narrow-minded mentality that completely eliminates a viable segment of

our population from consideration. His views smack of self-righteous ignorance."

Unger went on to note that if the travel industry wants to correct its image, "it will not be accomplished by operating his Maxam agency as a 'vegetable stand.'"

As of press time, Koralewski could not be reached for comment. However, David Love, a spokesperson for the American Society of Travel Agents (ASTA) of which Maxam is a member, said: "We do not promote any type of discrimination whatsoever. The views of any member are not the views of the organization."

Maxam Tour & Travel is located at 5530 W. Forest Home Avenue. Its telephone numbers are: 1-800-728-1703 or (414) 543-5220.



Medical College Awarded Grant to Study AIDS and Mental Illness

[Milwaukee]- The National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) recently awarded the Medical College of Wisconsin (MCW) over \$2.2 million to undertake the first comprehensive studies evaluating approaches to lessen the risk of AIDS in the chronic mentally ill. The study will be conducted at the Milwaukee County Mental Health Complex, a major MCW teaching affiliate.

In an effort to look at this problem, nationally recognized MCW psychologist Jeffrey Kelly, Ph.D., conducted a preliminary study to examine high risk behavior in the chronic mentally ill. Based on this pilot study and his model intervention program of education and preventive approaches to reduce the risk of AIDS, NIMH awarded Dr. Kelly the grant.

In the pilot study of 60 chronic mentally ill patients living in the community, Dr. Kelly found alarmingly high rates of HIV risk behavior. Risk levels were highest for males under age 35. Of the 32 males interviewed, 75 percent had multiple partners and few used condoms during intercourse, making sexually transmitted diseases common in this group. Of the 28

women in the study, 33 percent under 35 were at high risk.

Dr. Kelly also found that patients ended up in situations where they were sexually coerced by others, had sexual activity after using chemical substances, engaged in sexual activity with casual partners, or had sex for money and a place to stay. Twenty percent of participants met their partners on the streets.

The chronic mentally ill often have problems establishing stable sexual relationships. Many live in inner-city neighborhoods where drug and alcohol abuse, sexually transmitted diseases and HIV infection are more of a threat, said Dr. Kelly.

One of the MCW prevention studies will include 400 volunteers, 200 women and 200 men from inner-city mental health clinics who meet criteria for HIV high risk behavior. Participants will be assessed on their knowledge of AIDS prevention and other factors to determine if they are in danger of contracting AIDS.

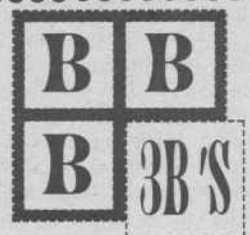
Minister Speaks To Unitarians On 'Wizard of Oz'

[Milwaukee]- The Rev. Tony Larsen will present a sermon emphasizing the Unitarian Universalist Church's goals for including racial minorities and Gays and Lesbians in the church community during a visit to the First Unitarian Society of Milwaukee on Sunday, October 27, 1991.

Larsen, the minister of Olympia Brown Unitarian Universalist Church in Racine, will speak on "The Wizard of Oz," with a theme of promoting the church as a place for inclusivity based on racial background and sexual orientation.

Accompanying Larsen will be The Troubadors, a talented musical group from Olympia Brown Church.

The service starts at 10:00 a.m. at First Church, 1342 N. Astor Street in Milwaukee. For more information, call (414) 273-5257.



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OPINION: NAMES Quilt Sullied By Marketers, 'Emotional Vampires'

By Dan Savage

I hate the Quilt.
I do not hate the fabric, the seams or the mementos that comprise the panels. I do not hate the people who have made or are making panels for the Quilt. I do not hate the people who view the Quilt. I believe it should be seen and experienced, and I urge people to do so. I urge those who have lost loved ones to AIDS to make a Quilt panel if they choose.

But I hate the Quilt because it has been purposely distanced from the Gay community, has fallen victim to crass commercialism and has become the icon of a quasi-religious cult that seems to feed upon death and suffering. It has better housing than thousands of persons with AIDS and grows ever larger as the death toll mounts.

The Quilt is a stunning and beautiful testament to what our community has lost in this health crisis. And I mean the Gay male community. Gay men are not the only people who have died or are dying from AIDS, but we suffered the initial blows and have been the hardest hit by this crisis. We are, for the most part, the ones out there fighting this battle.

To quote PWA Michael Callen of the openly Gay Flirtations, "If I hear one more time that AIDS is not a Gay disease, I shall vomit! Most of what has been noble about America's response to AIDS has been the direct result of the Lesbian and Gay community."

The Quilt was conceived by a Gay man and was initially created by the Gay community. It is steeped with Gay aesthetic. Anyone who claims otherwise has their head up their ass. But those who own and manage the Quilt would have us forget its origins and overlook that aesthetic.

"The NAMES Project...has siphoned hundreds of thousands of dollars out of Gay pockets, but omits the word 'Gay' from its literature and puts a photograph of a mother and children on the cover of its commemorative booklets," charges Randy Hill in *The Village Voice*. "When the Quilt was displayed in Washington, organizers gave parents and relatives of the dead — people who are conspicuously

absent from the ranks of AIDS activism — priority over lovers and friends at the front of the memorial procession."

Those who own and control the Quilt have sought to distance it from the Gay and Lesbian community because of fears that we would tarnish its luster and damage its marketability to straight people. As the Quilt distances itself from us, should we keep running to it? If those who own it are ashamed of the Quilt's Gay roots, ashamed of us, why did we bring it to Madison for our Pride March?

At the first display of the Quilt, a few T-shirts and posters were sold. By 1989, when I returned to Washington to again see the Quilt, the marketing staff had taken over. There were booths selling T-shirts, sweatshirts, buttons, calendars, pens, pencils, postcards ("Crying my eyes out, wish you were here?") and god-only-knows what else.

The Quilt had been hijacked. What had been a tasteful memorial to our dead was now a vulgar merchandising opportunity on a scale that would make Bart Simpson blush.

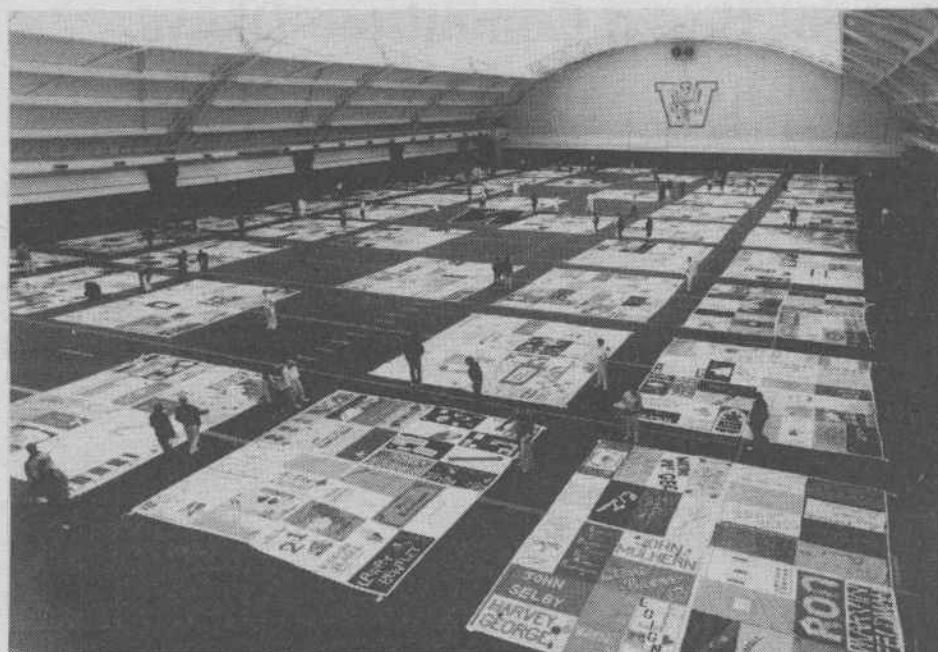
And somehow, in two short years, the Quilt had become a cult. There was an opening "ceremony," filled with ritualistic protocol that bordered on the quasi-religious.

There were also counselors. Counselors?

In 1987, you could experience the Quilt relatively unmolested. In 1989, a SWAT team of counselors dressed all in white, wearing armbands and bearing Kleenex, would swoop down upon you the moment you showed emotion, offer comfort and, like emotional vampires, suck the grief right out of you with fetishistic glee. I felt violated, as if my grief was a show for the nice, and now largely straight, volunteers.

In 1987, there were only enough volunteers to set up the Quilt. In 1989, there were more volunteers than there were things to do.

And so many of the volunteers were straight! Now I like straight people as well as the next fag, but why are they all getting involved in our memorial? Where were they when we were marching for our



Over 1600 quilt panels from the Midwest were displayed in Madison during the weekend of October 5-7.

rights? Or fighting to stay alive? Nowhere to be seen. They can bring themselves to associate with us only when we are dead.

The damn Quilt is still better housed than thousands of people living with AIDS throughout the country. That thing lives in a climate-controlled warehouse that cost over \$100,000 to purchase and renovate, while people are dying in the streets without health care, housing or even a quilt to cover themselves.

The Quilt has become so big, and we celebrate its growth without even pausing to think what that growth means. It means people are dead! "In its entirety, the Quilt covers nearly nine football fields, contains 32 miles of seams and weighs 31,500 pounds!" That's from the GALVANIZE newsletter announcing the Quilt's arrival in Madison.

Does the person who wrote that copy realize that the reason the Quilt is as big as it is because people are dead?

Each death is a potential new panel. We should be angry that the Quilt has become so large. It is nothing to celebrate! It is a fucking scandal!

Editor's Note: Dan Savage, a Queer Nationalist, is active in ACT UP/Madison. This article first appeared in *The Insurgent*. Savage says he expects to catch hell for his opinion.

Ann Reed Plays The Barrymore October 25

[Madison]- Ann Reed, nationally noted songwriter and musician, will be appearing in Madison on October 25 in a benefit concert for Take Back The Night. The Benefit will take place at 7:30 p.m. at the Barrymore Theatre, 2090 Atwood Avenue.


Reed, whose latest album is called *Road of the Heart*, will be appearing with Kate McKenzie of Stoney Lonesome and Joan Griffith of Naima.

Alternating skiffing blues-based numbers with meditative ballads and humorous novelty songs, Reed and her 12 string guitar are veterans of the women's music circuit. Reed has won the Minnesota Music Academy's Female Folk/Blues Award and, in 1990, was named Minnesota's Musician of the Year (beating Prince!).

Tickets are \$11-\$13-\$15 sliding advance/\$13-\$15-\$17 at the door. Tickets are available at Room Of One's Own, Four Star Fiction and Video, Green Earth and the Barrymore, or charge by phone (608) 241-8633. For childcare, access and other information, call (608) 845-6893.

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Madison Concert By Ruth Barrett, Cynthia Smith on November 5

[Madison]- Ruth Barrett and Cynthia Smith will be appearing in concert in Madison on Tuesday, November 5, 1991 at the Friends Meeting House, 1704 Roberts Court at 8:00 p.m. The concert is being sponsored by the Re-formed Congregation of the Goddess.

Barrett and Smith have been at the forefront of neo-pagan music and the Women's Spirituality movement, creating original songs and instrumentals celebrating the Earth's seasonal cycles and Goddess-mythic imagery. Their music is inspired and drawn from woman-identified mythology and traditional music of the British Isles.

Tickets are \$7- \$10 on a sliding scale and are available at A Room Of One's Own Bookstore, 317 W. Johnson, and at the door. The Friends Meeting House is wheelchair accessible. Childcare is available.

POLICE

Continued from Page 1

The demonstrators moved on to the Police Administration Building where they gathered at the front door. There were more chants, including "MPD, you can't hide/We charge you with homicide!"

Speakers included Dallas Drake of the Bathers Get Caught Campaign in Minneapolis. Drake said that "Bathers who wear a uniform" can be stopped. He urged people to get badge and squad numbers of police officers who abuse them and to, above all, report incidents of police abuse.

Tim Grair called for "a real investigation" of the Konerak Sinthasamphone incident and demanded that there be liaisons "set up between police and all minority communities."

Larry T. said he is "Black and Gay" and "what the hell is wrong with it?" "Why do white people have to act so damn racist?" he asked.

Speeches were followed by a die-in, with five demonstrators representing the five victims who were killed after Konerak Sinthasamphone was returned by Milwaukee police into Jeffrey Dahmer's custody on May 27.

Following the die-in, some members covered their hands with red tempera paint, and put "bloody" handprints on the outside walls and door windows of the Police Administration Building.

The police subsequently arrested Grair, Stan Straka, Larry T. and Dennis Bunch, all of Milwaukee, for defacing public property. They were released later in the day.

CONCERTS

Continued from Page 4

show, a benefit for Madison's AIDS Support Network.

The Flirts wove their gorgeous harmonies through material ranging from '50's and '60's ditties like "Johnny Angel" and "To Know Him is to Love Him" to more sobering ballads and story songs by James Taylor and Bernice Johnson Reagon.

"Little" Jimmy Rutland brought down the house with a hysterically funny version of Julie Brown's "The Homecoming Queen's Got a Gun," and Aurelio Font won the hearts of all the Lesbians present by dedicating the '50's tune "So Much In Love" to his Aunt Candalaria and her partner of 51 years, Marta. ("La Fontessa" has an extraordinary blood line: in addition to his aunt, two of his sisters are Lesbians!)

The Flirts' reigning diva, Michael Callen, with his distinctive falsetto, camped it up throughout the show. Cliff Townsend, the "sonic bottom" who provides the group's bass, and John Arterton, the "control queen" and apparent mother hen of the Flirts, rounded out and anchored the group.

High points for me were two songs that never fail to bring goose bumps to my skin and a lump to my throat: "The Wallflower (Hold On)," a powerful statement about political prisoners that I also read as a tribute to the endurance of people with AIDS ("Though you may disappear, you're not forgotten here..."); and the stirring anthem to Gay and Lesbian Pride that's become a Flirts' standard, "Something Inside So Strong."

A bit of a bombshell was dropped with



KATE CLINTON

the announcement that Michael Callen, arguably the heart of the group, will be taking some time off. Michael, a longtime PWA who has written *Surviving AIDS*, has moved to sunny California for some much deserved R & R.

The group used its Madison gig to introduce Bill McKinley, "diva-in-waiting," who donned a boa and camped it up for "Lida Rose." Some Yahoo heckled him for flubbing the lyrics (which no one else seemed to notice). The audience was gleefully reassured that a measure of Michael's sassy faggotry will remain with the Flirts when the patient McKinley finally snapped back at his tormentor: "Oh, kiss my heinie!"

This review cannot fully convey the Flirts' outstanding vocal precision or the charm they exhibit in concert: their gentle dishing of each other and the joie de vivre and pride with which they perform their Gay-positive music.

Suffice it to say, the concert ended with two of the most spontaneous, genuine and thunderous ovations this reviewer has ever participated in. The Flirts came out a second (or was it a third?) time after the curtain had been drawn because the audience was still cheering wildly.

No contest here. It was the best concert I've seen in years.

BANNED FILM

Continued from Page 4

saying it was too explicit. But Jacques Jones of the *Black Film Review* said of *Tongues Untied*: "Nowhere else will you find a more complete dissection of the wholeness of the individual with this kind of haunting and eloquent truth."

Stop the Church by Robert Hilferly documents the 1989 ACT UP protest at St. Patrick's Cathedral against Cardinal John J. O'Connor's opposition to condoms, AIDS education, abortion and Gay rights. In one of its most controversial segments, the Catholic Mass is shown in fast motion while an irreverent song called "The Vatican Rag" is sung.

Members of the Catholic hierarchy, including Cardinal O'Connor and Cardinal Roger Mahony, orchestrated a campaign against the film claiming it indulged in "Catholic bashing." PBS executives gave in to the pressure and pulled the film from its schedule, citing concern over the public's reaction.

Son of Sam and Delilah, a dramatic allegory about AIDS and homophobic violence by Charles Atlas, is the third film to be screened in the "Banned By PBS" Festival.

Originally co-produced by Boston's WGBH and New York City's WNET for airing on PBS, a committee of PBS officials previewed the video and banned it from broadcast. They cited its lack of clarity and "excessive violence."

However, a spokeswoman for WGBH told the *Advocate* that PBS censored *Son of Sam and Delilah* because "it doesn't allow the usual comfortable distance between the television and the viewer. But that's part of what makes Charlie's piece so powerful. It's very raw and hard-hitting and also very loving and moving. I think it offers a sort of healing vision as well as a desperate one."

So, whose Point of View is it? Attend the "Banned By PBS" Film Festival October 25 or 26 and make up your own mind!

For more information, call (414) 229-6971.



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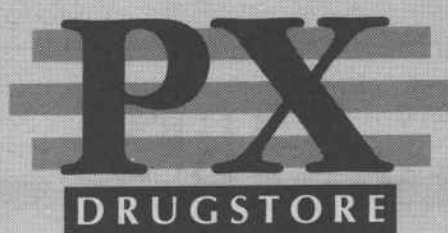
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The Origins of Halloween Hold Special Meaning for Gays, Lesbians

By Terry Boughner

In the golden light of late October, I can sense more strongly than ever, the blurring of distinction between the realms of matter and spirit. Now, more than at any other time, I seem to "feel" the interaction and harmony between the two. Why not? This is the time of Hallowe'en, the holiday of unique importance to Lesbians and Gay men.

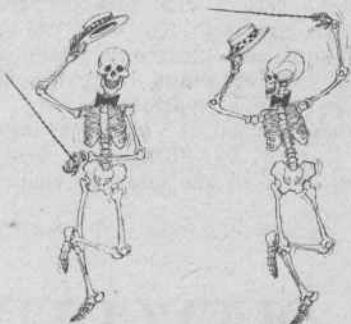
Its origins go back as far as there is written history and before; into the ancient matriarchal societies and to the worship of the Great Mother or, as she was sometimes known, "The Goddess of a Thousand Names."

The Celts called it Samhain, one of the four great holidays of the Wheel of the Year. To the Celts and witches, it was a time for the celebration of the harvest and the release of wonderful psychic energies, great powers that on that night (the eve of Samhain — October 31), swept out of the spirit realm to embrace the earth.

Incidentally, "witch" was not a gender term. Its derivation is a word meaning "wise." Some women were witches and it was presumed that all Gay men were, too.

The Christians hated and feared it. It was they who called it Hallowe'en (All Hallows Eve) — and despised it as a night when the all sorts of evil stalked the earth.

By the 11th Century and in a process too lengthy to go into here, its chief deity had become Diana, ancient goddess of the moon.



According to **Witchcraft and the Gay Counterculture**, Diana's adherents, women and Gay men, went out into the forests to worship her. In the midst of their circle, she would appear, clothed in mist and accompanied by an entourage of goblins, demons and other such creatures. Some maintained she had a male counterpart (Pan); others said she turned into a man (the Churchmen were never quite sure). But whichever, it was maintained that it was really the Devil who appeared (Satan as the very embodiment of evil (horns, cloven hooves, tail, the whole bit, had been defined by the Council of Toledo in 447 C.E.).

According to the Churchmen, the

worshippers reached these places riding through the night on broomsticks accompanied by bats, cats and all sorts of nocturnal creatures. Ghosts and skeletons, embodiments of hellish beings, were supposed to be part of the picture as were potions brewed in cauldrons heated by devil's fire.

Accounts say that the worshippers, women and Gay men, would build a bonfire and, dressed in various costumes, would gather round to sing and dance. Ritual sex, according to the tastes and nature of those involved, was part of the festivities.

To combat this and all forms of witchcraft and perceived heresy, the Inquisition was established. In 1484, Pope Innocent VIII said that all these goings-on came "from carnal lust which in some women and all sodomites is insatiable." The Pontiff went on to warn that anyone who took pleasure in sex or engaged in sodomy was "beyond all hope of salvation particularly if this should occur after the age of 25."

The stage was set for the so-called "Witch Craze" of the 15th-17th Centuries. The result being the mass murder of millions of women and Gay men. In fact, it got to the point where sodomy and heresy were equated and were punishable by death. So, as a man, if you didn't want to get killed in horrible ways, you had to prove you could have sex with a woman — and presumably, neither one was to enjoy it.

Today, many Lesbians and Gays celebrate Hallowe'en with much revelry, with costumes and all the ancient symbols decked about — though we may not be worshipping Diana. But maybe, after all, it's appropriate that we remember our ancestors, many of whom died for their independent and non-conforming beliefs.

Men's Coming Out Support Groups Formed

[Milwaukee]- The Counseling Center of Milwaukee will offer an eight to ten week support group for men who wish to explore their sexual/affectional orientation or who are beginning their own coming out process.

The group will be limited to ten members and is scheduled to begin in late October or early November. Fees are \$5 per group session, but can be negotiated. Group member participation is kept strictly confidential.

To apply for membership in the group or for more information, please call Tim Baack, MS, Coordinator of the Counseling Center's Men's Program, at (414) 271-2565.

MAP Sponsoring Safe Sex Workshops For Gay, Bisexual Men

[Milwaukee]- Men Aloud, a hands-on educational workshop for Gay and Bisexual men, is the first in a series of HIV risk-reduction workshops produced by the Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP) designed to meet the needs of Milwaukee's Gay/Lesbian community.

"Men Aloud uses discussion, games and video to help participants develop a more sex-positive attitude that will enable safer sexual behaviors," said Elizabeth Burden, Director of Education and Training at MAP.

The program will help participants to discover creative ways for safer sexual expression. Discussion and materials will provide HIV risk reduction information that will allow individuals to take charge of their sexual behaviors and eliminate

unsafe sex.

Sessions will be held from 7:00 - 10:00 p.m. on the following dates: Wednesday, October 30 and Thursday, November 21 at the MAP offices, 315 W. Court Street in Milwaukee.

As enrollment is limited for each session, contact Michael Lisowski at MAP at (414) 273-1991 to make a reservation.

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