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The Wisconsin Light

Resolution Urges End to Anti-Gay Military Policy

[Washington, DC.]— On November 6, 1991, a congressional resolution calling for an end to the policy barring Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Americans from military service was introduced in the House of Representatives by Rep. Barbara Boxer (D-CA). The resolution is the first of its kind regarding Gay people in the military and is the first such Congressional initiative to use the words "Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual" in its text.

Joining Boxer as original sponsors were Reps. Barney Frank, Gerry Studds (D-MA) and Ted Weiss (D-NY).

"It is time we put a stop to this legacy of unfair and malignant discrimination in the armed services," said Rep. Boxer at a Capitol Hill press conference announcing the resolution. "Too many men and women in our armed forces who have served their country with distinction in both peace and wartime have been punished and discharged from the military simply because of their known or suspected sexual orientation."

The resolution, House Resolution 271, urges President Bush to rescind "Department of Defense Directive 1332.14, Section H.1 so that all Americans, regardless of sexual orientation, currently serving their country in the Armed Forces, and those who want to serve, will not be prevented from, or punished for doing so." A resolution is being used because Bush can rescind the policy without specific legislation being passed by Congress.

In announcing his support, Studds said he joined Boxer and Weiss in "strongly urging the President to reverse a military policy that has proven costly, wasteful, damaging and counterproductive. It is nonsense to perpetuate the myth that Gays and Lesbians have not already served with distinction. We must put this discrimination to a complete stop now."

The resolution is the result of months of behind-the-scenes work by the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) and the Military Freedom Project, a coalition of groups working to end the discriminatory policy. NGLTF proposed the resolution earlier this year and kicked off a nationwide campaign to secure co-sponsors at its 1991 Creating Change Conference, held on Veterans Day weekend in Alexandria, Virginia.

Karen Stupski, co-chair of the Hampton Roads, VA Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Veterans of America (GLBVA) said: "Every member of our organization has been directly affected by the military's anti-Gay policy." Stupski is a former lieutenant in the Navy. While assigned to the U.S.S. Sylvania, Stupski attempted to hide her sexual orientation while she completed her tour of duty, but was discharged after confiding in a commanding officer.

"As I become more comfortable with the idea of being a Lesbian, my fear turned to anger and frustration at the discrimination that Gays and Lesbians face in our society, particularly in the military," said Stupski.

Alan Stephens, president of the Gay and Lesbian Veterans of Maryland, former Army captain and a teacher of learning-disabled teenagers in Baltimore, outlined the reasons the Pentagon has used to justify its policy, including the so-called "foxhole" theory.

The theory, he said, "is based on the assumption that as bullets are flying on some obscure battlefield, in some unknown war, deep inside a muddy foxhole occupied by a homosexual and a heterosexual, the military mission is going to be compromised by the raging hormones of the homosexual."

Stephens added, "I assure you my hormone level is the same as yours. The inference that homosexuals would rather look at someone's butt than guard the rear is insulting and ridiculous."

Besides NGLTF, GLBVA and the Human Rights Campaign Fund, the Military Freedom Project includes the National organization for Women, the ACLU and Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund.

School Board Battle Rages As 'Christians' Pack Meeting

By Jamakaya

[Milwaukee] - Hundreds of self-identified "Christians" packed the hearing room at the Milwaukee Public Schools' (MPS) Administration Building November 13 to express their opposition to a proposal for support services for Gay and Lesbian teens in the city's high schools. Many had responded to appeals broadcast over Christian radio and TV stations operated by Rev. Vic Eliason.

After three and a half hours of

passionate, sometimes angry testimony (detailed below), the Instruction and Community Relations Committee of the School Board, with just one "Aye" vote, sent to the full Board for its consideration the school administration's response to recommendations of the Task Force Regarding Gay and Lesbian Teens.

The recommendations drawing the most criticism from those in attendance concerned: 1) the integration of non-judgmental information on sexual

orientation into existing curricular areas; and 2) the development of materials about sexual orientation for the human growth and development curriculum.

Some speakers were particularly incensed at a phrase in the Task Force Report which says that young people of all sexual orientations should be taught that "homosexuality is normal and healthy."

Testimony

Rev. Randy Bonie of the Park Lawn Assembly of God said "Homosexuality is not normal or healthy," and Jeff Wert declared: "Homosexuality is wrong. It goes against the values and morals of our community. It's against natural law."

Keith Jago said the City of Milwaukee was sinking into a "moral quagmire," while Bobby Stokes said he didn't want the public schools to teach his children anything about sex.

One speaker said the proposals were "unconstitutional and a waste of taxpayer's money." Another worried how anyone could be sure "the people teaching these classes won't be soliciting these children?"

Glen Alioto said he was "appalled and outraged" that MPS would even consider such proposals. "We're fed up! This shall not be tolerated!" declared Gail Ramsey.

Ronnie Lattimore scoffed at the concept of Gay rights. He said: "A Gay's right is to 'get right' and keep their sexual

TURN TO SCHOOL BOARD, PAGE 12

Gay Issues and Candidates Fared Well in November Elections

By Jamakaya

With a few exceptions, candidates and issues of concern to Gays and Lesbians fared well in November's elections.

Attempts to repeal Gay rights and domestic partnership ordinances in St. Paul and San Francisco, respectively, were soundly defeated. A liberal Democrat, Harris Wofford, beat Richard Thornburgh in the Pennsylvania Senate race. And a number of Gay and Lesbian candidates were elected and re-elected to office, including the nation's first openly Lesbian Black official.

Referenda

In a referendum closely monitored by the mainstream media and Gay activists nationwide, residents of St. Paul, Minnesota defeated by a margin of 54.3% to 45.7% an attempt to repeal part of the city's human rights ordinance which gives protections to Gays and Lesbians.

Cynthia Scott, editor of *Equal Time*, the Twin Cities' Gay newspaper, outlined for the *Light* several factors in the victory.

Scott credited the "awesome organizing effort" by the anti-repeal forces, who made 35,000 phone calls in the week before the vote. She said that the local arts community and some religious leaders were particularly helpful allies in the coalition against repeal.

Scott noted the leadership displayed by Mayor Jim Scheibel, who spoke out against the repeal as well as the misinformation purveyed by Citizens Alert, the group that initiated the repeal effort. She said that Bob Fletcher, leader of Citizens Alert, "was thoroughly discredited and exposed as the one issue homophobe he is."

Scott also credited the people of St. Paul, who, she said, "no longer want to be perceived as bigots." (In 1978, St. Paul voters successfully repealed an earlier Gay rights ordinance.)

In San Francisco, Proposition K, an attempt to repeal the city's domestic partners ordinance, was soundly defeated, 59.6% to 40.4%. (The ordinance encompasses both Gay and straight couples.)

Organizers of the "No on K" campaign were concerned about a conservative backlash. Violent protests by Gays angered over Gov. Pete Wilson's recent veto of a statewide Gay rights bill had dominated the media.

But "No on K" coordinator Stephanir Ruby Klink saw an influx of volunteers, many motivated by the Wilson veto, pour into campaign headquarters in the last few weeks. And San Francisco Supervisor Carole Migden, a Lesbian, said she was "heartened" by the many new faces and the generation of new leadership she saw emerging during the campaign.

Tim McFeeley of the Human Rights Campaign Fund, a major contributor to pro-Gay campaigns and candidates, said of the St. Paul and San Francisco decisions: "These election victories clearly show the electorate is willing to support our community when we have the resources to counter the lies our opponents spread about us."

On the negative side of the ledger, in Concord, 25 miles east of San Francisco, voters decided by a slim margin, just 106

of almost 23,000 votes cast, to repeal the section of its human rights ordinance pertaining to sexual orientation. Concord's moderate Republican Mayor, Byron Campbell, opposed the repeal, but the Traditional Values Coalition, which initiated the repeal effort, squeaked to victory.

Also in Concord, Gil Block, a transvestite better known as Sister Sadie the Rabbi Lady, lost his/her bid for a seat on the City Council. Sister Sadie was expected to be disqualified anyway because s/he failed to meet the city's residency requirement.

While Sister Sadie added much color to the campaign, organizers working against the repeal expressed concern that Sadie's

TURN TO ELECTIONS PAGE 10

Helms NEA Amendment Defeated; New Grants for Hughes, Miller

By Jamakaya

[Washington, DC.]— After heated debate, much flip-flopping by Congress, lengthy negotiations and plenty of political machinations, the US Senate on Halloween voted 73-25 to defeat Sen. Jesse Helms' attempt to place more restrictions on grants distributed by the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA).

Wisconsin's Democratic Senator, Herb Kohl, voted against the restrictions while Republican Sen. Robert Kasten voted with Helms.

In a double rebuke for Helms (R-NC), just days after the defeat of his measure, NEA officials announced the awarding of two new \$8,000 grants to Gay performance artists Holly Hughes and Tim Miller.

Hughes and Miller, along with John Fleck and Karen Finley (the "NEA Four"), are currently fighting in federal court for reinstatement of NEA grants denied to them in 1990 because of the controversial nature of their work.

The vote on Halloween was on whether to reinstate the Helms amendment to the Interior Department's \$12 billion appropriations bill. The measure, dubbed the "Sex or Ex" amendment, would have denied NEA funds to "promote, disseminate or produce materials that depict or describe, in a patently offensive way, sexual or excretory activities or organs."

Earlier, both the House and Senate had passed the Helms amendment. But on October 17, a House-Senate conference committee deleted the amendment in exchange for dropping a measure that would have doubled grazing fees on federal lands. Rep. William Dannemeyer (R-CA) denounced the deal as a "swap of corn for porn" and Helms decried the "backroom deals and parliamentary flim-flam" that doomed his measure.

During debate on the bill, Helms had asked the "ladies" in the Senate chamber to avert their eyes as he flashed photos of allegedly obscene art funded by the NEA before the Senate cameras. He railed against "garbage" and "filth" and singled out Holly Hughes and the Gay and Lesbian film festivals in New York

and San Francisco as examples.

Sen. Tim Wirth (D-CO) responded by holding up reproductions of classic Renaissance paintings — some of them nudes — and suggested that the Helms measure would ban such art. Sen. Dale Bumpers (D-AK) warned that the first thing Adolf Hitler did after coming to power was to control art and literature. Sens. Ted Kennedy and Robert Byrd, both Democrats, also played key roles in Helms' defeat.

While advocates of artistic freedom won this year's NEA battle against Helms, lobbyists cautioned that the North Carolina Senator was likely to use the same homophobic scare tactics over the authorization bill for the Corporation for Public Broadcasting.

Meanwhile, in announcing the grants to Hughes and Miller, NEA Chairman John Frohnmayer, who has been criticized for allowing conservative pressure to taint the grant process, went out of his way to defend the new grants.

Frohnmayer said that a peer review panel of theater experts as well as the National Council on the Arts had recommended the grants for Hughes and Miller.

The NEA chief declared: "Our birthright in America is to look at what people do rather than what they are. I hope that these two individuals would not be vilified simply because of who they are. That's not what we in America stand for. If they are obscene, there are laws to remedy that. I will not blacklist."

On his NEA application, Miller described himself as a "Gay kid from Whittier on Planet Earth" who works as a "cultural provocateur." Hughes stated that her work challenged "assumptions about identity and gender." She said her work had been misunderstood because of the movement in Congress to "equate homosexuality with obscenity."

On learning of his new grant, Miller told the *New York Times* he was pleased but that "the chilling effect is still very much there for artists." Hughes agreed: "It's good news for me, but I don't think it means that the struggle is necessarily over for the art world."

NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

Condoms Approved For Schools

[San Francisco, CA]- In October, the San Francisco Board of Education approved a plan which would make condoms available in sixteen of the city's public high schools. The Board also agreed to make other forms of birth control available through city sponsored, school based clinics.

The action by San Francisco's school board followed by just a month the adoption of similar condom distribution programs by the cities of New York and Los Angeles. Condoms are already available through clinics in Chicago and Baltimore public schools, and Philadelphia is considering such a program.

Skyrocketing rates of teen pregnancy and AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases among teenagers are contributing to the establishment of the programs. "I have seen my friends waste away," Isela Lopez told the San Francisco School Board. "Maybe some of these kids wouldn't have died if they had condoms."

Virginia Liquor Law Overturned

[Richmond, VA]- In what some called "a major victory for Gay rights in Virginia," a US District Judge on October 23 signed an order declaring three sections of the state's liquor laws pertaining to Gays "unconstitutional and void." The statutes voided, dating back to 1934, forbade homosexuals from entering establishments licensed to sell alcoholic beverages and prohibited such bars and restaurants from serving or employing Gays.

The judge's order requires the state's Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) Board to inform all alcohol-selling establishments about the change and requires the state of Virginia to pay the legal fees of the plaintiffs.

The plaintiffs included: Murray Greenberg, owner of Alexandria's Gay French Quarter Cafe, who was concerned about a crackdown after a visit from ABC officials; the Gay Alumni Association of William and Mary College, which was denied the use of banquet facilities by a Ramada Hotel; and Dale Barnhard, a woman forced to leave an Alexandria bar after she began dancing with a female companion.

Shirley Less of Virginians for Justice told the *Washington Blade* her group was "absolutely thrilled" with the judge's order. "We received exactly what we asked for without a protracted court battle."

Gay activists noted that Virginia Gov. L. Douglas Wilder, a Democratic candidate for President, repeatedly refused to take a public stand on the issue.

Plato, Send Your Consent Form!

Los Angeles, CA]- According to the *Advocate*, the *San Luis Obispo County Telegram-Tribune* required a local Gay group to obtain consent forms from the family heirs of 50 historical figures whose images the group wanted to include in a special advertisement for National Coming Out Day. Among the famous Gays: Plato, Socrates, Michelangelo and Alexander the Great.

"It's absurd," Dana Belmonte of the San Luis Obispo Gay and Lesbian Alliance told the *Advocate*. "I told them, 'I'm Italian. I'll sign for Michelangelo.'"

Another local paper ran the ad without question, but the *Telegram-Tribune* is apparently still awaiting receipt of the consent forms before publication. The *Telegram-Tribune* also refused to print the names of 50 local Gays and Lesbians who agreed to be included in the ad.

Boy Scouts Out of Schools

[San Francisco, CA]- Citing its discrimination against Gays, the San Francisco Board of Education voted 5-1 in September to prohibit the Boy Scouts of America from conducting its programs during daytime hours in the city's public schools. (After hours access to public buildings by community groups is guaranteed by California law.) In October, the Alum Rock School District (San Jose) terminated a teaching contract with the Boy Scouts which allowed Boy Scout employees to teach elementary school classes.

Kim Yeager, a Gay activist, said: "It's really a great victory. Everybody saw it as sending a message to Dallas [Boy Scout HQ] as saying we don't tolerate this kind of discrimination in San Jose."

The New York City Board of Education is also evaluating whether the Boy Scout policy violates city and/or state equal rights protections.

Prominent Editors Out of Closet

New York, NY]- Linda Villarosa, senior health editor at *Essence* magazine, came out to her readers in a recent issue, and the newly appointed editor of the *New Republic*, Andrew Sullivan, is an openly Gay man.

In an article called "Coming Out," co-authored with her mother last Spring, Villarosa talked about her family's response to her Lesbianism. A more recent issue of *Essence* included "Readers Respond to Coming Out," in which Villarosa shared readers' reactions to her revelation, mostly positive.

Meanwhile, 28 year old Andrew Sullivan, British born, conservative and openly Gay, was appointed editor of the *New Republic*. Sullivan attended Oxford and earned his Ph.D. from Harvard. He describes himself as a "conservative with a small c," and is expected to move the magazine, once a bastion of liberalism, further to the right.

Sullivan recently told W: "Being Gay is not a political act. To me, it's not even the most important part of my life. It's about people and friends and a sensibility that is not political. But to defend one's freedom to exercise that, you have to be political at some point."

Quickies...

[New York, NY]- Jennie Livingston, director of *Paris Is Burning*, has been sued for \$30 million by Paris Dupree, who was featured in the film about drag balls. Dupree claims Livingston misled him into believing the film was a non-commercial venture and never paid him. It took Livingston five years to raise the money to shoot the film and find a distributor. It has grossed about \$3 million to date.

[New York, NY]- The governing body of the Ancient Order of Hibernians in New York City has expelled the division which allowed Irish Gays and Lesbians to march in the St. Patrick's Day parade last March. Mayor Dinkins, who marched in solidarity with the Gays, expressed dismay, while the Irish Gays and Lesbians vowed that this would not be the end of the controversy.

[Norman, OK]- In the first ever Gay "Kiss-In" held in Oklahoma October 10, 20 Gays and Lesbians kissed their partners in the President's Office at the University of Oklahoma. They hoped to get the university to recognize Gay alumni groups as part of the U. of Oklahoma Alumni Association.

[Los Angeles, CA]- Actor Dack Rambo, 49, who played Jack Ewing on *Dallas*, left the daytime soap *Another World* in mid-September after testing positive for HIV. His manager said Rambo wants to devote his time to AIDS Project Los Angeles and encourage others to be tested for the virus.

[Hanover, NH]- The Board of Trustees of Dartmouth College has decided to eliminate its ROTC program if there is no change in the Pentagon's policy banning Gays by 1993. Dartmouth's equal opportunity policy includes sexual orientation along with race, sex, religion, age, national origin, disability and veteran status.

[Fort Wayne, IN]- The Student Government and Faculty Senate of Indiana-Purdue at Fort Wayne rejected a new student code of rights after the phrase "sexual orientation" was deleted from its anti-discrimination section by Purdue's Board of Trustees.

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.

Taco's Quilt: A Remembrance Of Many Lives Lived and Lost

[Madison]- We started out calling it "Taco's Quilt," but it's not. In fact, it's not a quilt in the traditional sense, and it's not a quilt panel like those in the NAMES Project.

"It's really a memorial, like some of the veterans' memorials," explained Art Cooper. "It's a way to unite the people who have died, to show that their lives are not forgotten." Cooper (Taco to his friends) created the banner, every stitch by hand.

When the idea first started, Taco was unsure of the theme and design. With the help of his mother, Linda Cooper, he decided on the Ryan White theme of following the light. They chose a blue fabric background with light blue lettering and three large white stars.

There were smaller stars, too, in two-toned blue, over 45 of them, each representing the life of a Madison AIDS Support Network (MASN) client who has died. They are clustered together, focusing on the total — all of the people whose lives have been cut short by AIDS from 1989 to the present.

The banner has been seen throughout southern Wisconsin. It has hung as a backdrop for benefits, special events and informational booths. And it will hang at World AIDS Day 1991 at the State Capitol. But its real purpose is a memorial.

"When a client at MASN dies, the banner is hung in front of the house for a few days as a remembrance," said Taco. Hanging the banner signifies a loss and has become part of the grieving process

for staff and volunteers at MASN. When it is hung, it makes an impression. "When I turn into the driveway (at MASN) and see it, my heart stops," said one volunteer. The banner serves as a notice, each star a reminder of the person.

The hardest part was making a perfect star," said Taco. "But it is also hard adding stars, especially for close friends." What was the best part of making the banner? "Working together with my mom. It helped her understand the loss I feel and brought us closer together."

Taco has helped make panels for the NAMES Project. With his mother's help, he hopes to make his own quilt panel. Although they haven't decided on the design, the panel, like the banner, will celebrate living and dying with AIDS.

Editor's Note: I was much moved by this article which appeared in the November MASN News. We thank MASN for allowing the *Light* to reprint it. Whoever wrote it, created something beautiful.

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Positive Health is a project funded by the National Institute of Health to evaluate the best ways to help people who are HIV positive to adapt and cope. The project has careful safeguards to protect participant confidentiality, and is offered by faculty in the Medical College of Wisconsin's Department of Psychiatry and Mental Health Sciences.

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MAP and Children's Hospital To Coordinate Pediatric HIV Care

[Milwaukee]- "We are experiencing rapid growth in the number of children with HIV disease," said Doug Nelson, Executive Director of the Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP).

Currently, 16 children regularly receive services through MAP's case management and support service systems. Projections from the Metropolitan Milwaukee AIDS Planning Consortium indicate that within the next three years at least 120 children in the Milwaukee area will be HIV-infected.

For this reason, MAP and Children's Hospital of Wisconsin have entered into a unique agreement to provide medical care coordination, support services and HIV education to families and children who are HIV-infected through Children's Hospital's Pediatric HIV Care Center.

"This agreement with Children's Hospital is a milestone in Milwaukee's continuing effort to manage the AIDS epidemic and is essential if we are to meet increased demand for pediatric HIV care in the future," said Nelson of MAP. "We must continue to build collaborative systems such as this to address the increasingly complex challenges presented by the HIV epidemic in Wisconsin."

Women and children are two of the fastest growing segments of the population becoming affected by the AIDS epidemic. As the number of HIV-positive women continues to increase, the number of children affected will also grow. Together MAP and its affiliate, the Southeast Wisconsin AIDS Project in Kenosha serve nearly 90 women. The virus is generally transmitted from an infected mother to her child before or during birth.

According to the agreement, Children's

Hospital will serve as a Pediatric HIV Care Center, providing medical and educational consultation, as well as onsite care to children who are HIV infected.

"The entire spectrum of MAP's support services will be available for utilization," said Cheryl Vaughn, Director of MAP's Life Care Services Department.

MAP's free services include individual and family counseling; coordination of health care services; legal, rent and housing assistance; food pantry; transportation; support groups; and financial assistance.

A MAP case manager, specifically assigned to serve both women and children, will also assist in securing enrollment in federal, state and local public assistance programs.

Earlier this year, MAP was granted \$172,000 in federal Ryan White funds from the State Division of Health AIDS/HIV Program. Of that, \$50,000 has been designated for services specific to women and children. MAP will fund a portion of Children's Hospital's pediatric care nurse specialist and its case manager position with these funds. MAP will also work with community agencies to design and implement systems for foster care and respite care for women, children and families affected by HIV disease.

As the need for services for children becomes more apparent," said Vaughn, "we will be constructing a children's playroom and implementing a children's social group at MAP to better respond to children's needs."

Items available in MAP's food pantry will expand to include infant formula, disposable diapers and other food and personal care items necessary for children.

Fair Housing and Employment Panel Seeks to Eliminate Discrimination

[Milwaukee]- The saga of the Clarence Thomas hearings has generated worldwide concern and discussion involving conduct in the workplace. To address this and other related issues, a new agency, the Fair Housing and Employment Commission, was formed by the City of Milwaukee. It is actively engaged in the receipt and investigation of complaints brought by citizens against employers and housing providers suspected of violating the city's Fair Housing and Employment Ordinance.

The five member Commission, which was appointed by Mayor John O. Norquist, meets monthly. It is staffed by two Equal Rights Specialists who seek to eliminate discrimination by means of education, conciliation, investigation and persuasion. Litigation by the City Attorney is utilized when the foregoing means fail.

The Commission itself is ultimately responsible for providing equal opportunities in housing and employment to all City of Milwaukee residents without regard to sex, race, religion, color, national origin or ancestry, age, handicap, lawful source of income, marital status, sexual orientation or familial status.

The Commission staff has conducted a drive to contact Community Based Organizations to inform them of the Commission's existence and services. They will also be participating in Community Affairs Programming on local radio and television stations in order to inform those citizens of Milwaukee, who feel that they have been discriminated against because of membership in one of

the protected classes, that there is a means for remedy.

Two local attorneys have been engaged by the Commission to serve as Administrative Law Judges who will hear appeals of those cases in which findings of probable cause occurred. An effort is under way to select a consultant who will act as technical advisor to the Commission and staff.

Individuals wishing to, may come to the Commission office to file complaints against employers or housing providers suspected of violations, or they may call the office to request that complaint forms be mailed to them.

Complaints must be filed with the Commission within 300 days of the alleged discriminatory act. Remedies include reinstatement and backpay for the Complainant, and/or forfeitures to the City in varying amounts ranging from \$500 to \$10,000.

The Fair Housing and Employment Commission is located in Room 606 of City Hall. The telephone number is (414) 286-5967. The office is open Monday through Fridays, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:45 p.m.

Editor's Note: Wisconsin Light publisher, Jerry Johnson sits on this commission. If any reader feels they have cause for complaint, he encourages a call to the commissions office. Speakers are also available to attend group and organizational gatherings to explain the purpose and operation of the commission.

Holiday Gift Cards Benefit MAP Clients

[Milwaukee]- In response to requests from throughout the community, the Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP) has developed a new holiday gift-giving program that will directly benefit people living with HIV disease.

"Instead of purchasing gifts for friends and family members, many people have asked to provide a financial donation to MAP that can be acknowledged as a gift to a loved one," said Chris Doerfler, Director of Development at MAP.

MAP has developed holiday cards to acknowledge such gifts. These attractive cards feature cover artwork created by a client of MAP, along with a message from the artist.

To find out more about this new program, call Chris Doerfler at MAP, (414) 273-1991.

New Hope MCC Opens New Office, Plans Thanksgiving Potluck

[Milwaukee]- New Hope Metropolitan Community Church (MCC) will celebrate the opening of its new church office on Sunday, November 24 with a special "Office Blessing" during the regular Worship service beginning at 6:30 p.m. The office is located in the Kenwood Methodist church at 2319 E. Kenwood Boulevard in the rear of the second floor chapel.

The opening of a church office is a grand occasion for this Milwaukee congregation. New Hope's congregation, Board of Directors, and co-pastors, Rev's. Chris Pasinski and Nancy Smiegowski, are delighted to see this goal become a reality.

According to Rev. Pasinski, "The office space is a sign and a symbol of our stability in this community. We as a church are committed to sending the message that God's love is boundless and cannot be contained by social and theological prejudices. Sending a positive

and affirming message, especially to those who have suffered the pain of rejection from family, friends and other churches, is a critical part of our mission."

New Hope MCC will celebrate its annual Thanksgiving Potluck earlier that afternoon beginning at 3:00 p.m. in the Kenwood Methodist Church Fellowship Hall. There will be a bounty of holiday delights and the community is invited to share in the celebration. Bring a favorite dish to share and come join in the fun. You are sure to discover plenty of good food, friends and holiday cheer.

Rev's. Chris and Nancy will have weekly office hours on Tuesday evenings from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m. and on Saturdays by appointment. Those seeking further information may call the church's new phone number, (414) 332-9995 to schedule an appointment or simply "drop in" and chat.

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Office Hours:

Monday-Friday-9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

24-hour recording

SUBSCRIPTIONS

First-class subscription rate is \$24.95 for one year (25 issues).

Third-class subscription rate is \$11.95 for one year (25 issues).

Foreign subscription rates available upon request.

Institutional Member



GAY AND LESBIAN
PRESS ASSOCIATION

EDITORIAL

Shameful Displays of Bigotry Won't Silence or Intimidate Us

As one of the most visible public symbols of the state's Gay and Lesbian community, the **Wisconsin Light** is regularly bombarded with threats and hostility from members of the non-Gay community, ostensibly 'Christians,' who want us to disappear. The level of hatred has intensified in recent weeks and culminated with the shameful display of religious zealotry and ignorance at Milwaukee's School Board Committee meeting November 13.

Item 1: The **Light** recently received a(nother) letter saying: "I hope you all die of AIDS and rot in hell." It was signed, "A Concerned Christian."

Item 2: Jeffrey Slagter, in an October 30 column in UW-Whitewater's student newspaper, **The Royal Purple**, referred to Gays as "closet fiends" afraid to come into the open for fear of discrimination. Slagter then proceeded to prove through his own prejudicial, defamatory, colossally stupid remarks just why Gays should be afraid.

Item 3: We were equally dismayed at the comments made by one of the good 'Christian' parents at Madison's Rainbow's End Christian Day Care Center when the Center's owners decided to exclude an 18 month old child because its mother — its mother — is HIV-positive. Said the 'Christian': 'We have to be careful. We still don't know how AIDS is transmitted.' We know exactly how AIDS is transmitted and it certainly isn't transmitted by HIV- negative babies!

Finally, the debacle at the School Board Committee hearing, in which hundreds of 'Christian' people vented their bigotry against Gays (all the while professing their 'Christian' love) was a chilling example of religiously-induced anti-Gay psychosis. Every ignorant misconception about Gays that has ever been devised was aired that night.

It is clear that in trying to sensitize the Milwaukee Public Schools to the needs of Gay and Lesbian teens, a great deal of remedial education needs to be targeted toward their parents. No amount of Bible thumping will rescue Gay teens from their isolation and confusion. Rigid dogma only compounds the problem.

The **Light** would like to single out for special contempt the machinations of one 'Rev.' Vic Eliason, who orchestrated the massive turnout of the 'faithful' by appealing, as usual, to people's worst fears. Men like Eliason (and Mark Belling of WISN Radio) seem oblivious to the damage they are causing, the hatred they are unleashing, the lives they are destroying. All in the name of Jesus.

Milwaukee's Gay community is deeply wounded but will not be intimidated or silenced. The full School Board will consider the administration's response to the Task Force Report on Gay and Lesbian Teens on Wednesday, November 20 at 8 p.m. No public testimony will be heard that night, but the **Light** encourages our readers to contact Board members before then and, in calm, rational terms, make the case for supporting Gay teens.

Committee members seemed deeply impressed with the personal testimony delivered at an earlier hearing in which Gays, uninterrupted by hecklers, told of traumatic experiences in high school. Those compelling voices were silenced at the most recent hearing by the roar of ignorance and intolerance. Let the voices of reason be heard!

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK UW-Whitewater Newspaper Offers Safe Port for Homophobe

Commentary by Terry Boughner

According to an October 30 issue of **The Royal Purple**, the student newspaper of UW-Whitewater, a copy of **Wisconsin Light** was placed anonymously on the Wisconsin Student Association's billboard along with a sign declaring "We celebrate diversity." This drew the ire of Jeffrey Slagter, the Managing Editor of **The Royal Purple**.

In a lead editorial titled "Gay Movement Off Base," Slagter, who call **Light** an "underground newspaper," blamed the posting on "some wimp" or "lost individual," (He also referred to closeted Gays as "fiends.")

He wrote: "How can we respect the rights and views of others when we don't even know who they are?"

Well, okay Jeff. I'm Gay, a very proud, very open, very out, Gay man. Secondly, **Light** is anything but an underground paper. So let's talk.

First, may I point out that your editorial does your institution no credit. It's far too strident and stridency, as I've written before, can not take the place of profundity no matter how hard it tries. Instead of sounding like someone with a modicum of learning and wit, you come off like a bishop slightly taken in wine. Perhaps you should look into taking some Literature, History, Psychology and a little Soc.

Second, one of the lessons anyone should learn in English 101 is that you only write about what you know. Unfortunately, your editorial violates this little rule all over the place.

For example, saying that Gays have a "global objective" of creating a "predominantly homosexual society" is just plain silly. Statements like that and others such as only homosexuals engage in sodomy — just make you sound like your long on words and short on experience, very sophomoric. When I got to those parts of your essay, I was tempted to write in the margin "I don't know where you're going, but I'm getting off here" and give it back to you to research and rewrite.

In addition to those courses I mentioned, you might want to travel a bit. Learn there's a whole big world out there that, from the sound of your writing, would be brand new to you.

Oh yes, while I'm at it, you don't have to worry about anyone inviting you to a Gay/Lesbian event. Things like that usually require a certain, shall we say, style, sophistication, elegance, some manners?

Let me say, Jeff, that what we Gays and Lesbians want, is equality. But you know

— or should if you've taken some history (or has it taken you?) that equality is what this country is all about. If that's a "radical" cause, if that's "hopeless," then I feel sorry for us all.

I must say and say emphatically, that I regret the death threats I've heard you received. I get them myself. They're disgusting, the products of sick minds, Gay or straight. Be sad about them and try to ignore them, but don't ignore this.

Prejudice is not a singularity, but all of a piece. I've found out and you will too one day that if you're prejudiced against one group, all the rest are included not too far below the surface.

You have a complete right to say what you've written, but you also have a responsibility to be informed — for your own good as well as everyone else's. Anything else is childish.

LETTERS

UWM Security

TO THE EDITOR:

I returned to UW-M — and was greeted by a number of things — 70% of college students not doing homework (what's the point?). But since I am 51 and fatherly or avuncular, many young students (Gay) "coffee" with me and I was shocked to find out that the UWM Security Force is "entraping" young students relating to their cruising activities. (cops dressed as students).

I just paid a private attorney a \$450 retainer to sue the University and the officer. The young Gay Black male was also an epileptic and was very distressed about being "set up."

Why do they persist in entrapment when there is real violence, dousing students with gasoline, or many rapes in the University vicinity?

If you fellows don't speak up as well as Gay University teachers, this detestable practice will continue.

—Name Withheld on Request
Milwaukee

Editor's Note: In order for anything to be done, these incidents have to be reported. Usually, they are not.

Anti-Gay Bigot

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

[Name of a **Light** subscriber] died of AIDS in May.

DO NOT send any more damn newspapers. [Subscriber's name] roommate also died of AIDS just like I hope you all die of AIDS and rot in HELL!! and we do not care to receive this trash. I hope you rot!! Jesus wants you all dead!

—Sincerely
A Concerned Christian

Classic Cleaners

TO THE EDITOR:

On November 6, 1991, I was sent a certified letter advising me that I had five days to pay the rent for my floral shop or have my tenancy terminated.

This surprised me as I had always paid my rent in the same manner, to the same party, and on time for four-and-a-half years. Somehow, my check was lost in October and not delivered to my landlord, Paul's Classic Cleaners.

Rather than call me on the telephone in a civil, courteous manner and advise me that they had not received the check, they sent me a threatening letter via their attorney.

When I called John Nebl, the Vice President of the company, I was called a "fucking sniveling faggot" by him. If this is his attitude toward Gays, I would strongly urge a boycott of any and all Classic Cleaner establishments in Madison.

—John Baker, owner
Capital City Floral
Madison

Editor's Note:

At press time, Baker said that he had sent one of his employees with the check. Nebl, he said, would not come out to receive it. The check had to be given to someone else.

Milwaukee School Board Directors

The **Light** urges readers to call these Directors to express support for the Task Force Report on Gay Teens.

Jeanette Mitchell
461-4311

Donald J. O'Connell
774-3627

Mary Bills
962-3845

Jared M. Johnson
562-3266

David M. Lucey
963-0064

Joyce Mallory
372-4115

Lawrence J. O'Neil
321-7222

Christine Sinicki
481-7667

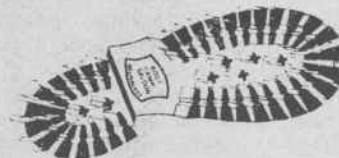
Sandra J. Small
466-1947

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.

EARLY DEADLINE NEXT ISSUE

Due to the Thanksgiving holiday, the next issue of **Wisconsin Light** will be published on Monday, Nov. 25. Editorial copy MUST be submitted by Wed., Nov. 20 and Ads by Sat. Nov. 23.



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The Light LIVELY ARTS



Sweet Honey in the Rock, the world renowned a cappella quintet that mixes lush harmonies while raising political consciousness, will appear in the Pitman Theater at Alverno College November 23. Call (414) 382-6044 for tickets.

Thin Lips Theatre Company To Present 'Sister Mary Ignatius'

[Madison]- In a four day run November 18-21, Thin Lips Theatre Company will present two one-act plays: Christopher Durang's *Sister Mary Ignatius Explains It All For You*, along with curtain-raiser, *A Letter From The Earth*, adapted from *Letters from the Earth*, by Mark Twain.

Both productions will be directed by Dan Savage, who is known to many in the Madison area as a member of the direct action group ACT UP. Savage, who holds a BFA in Theatre from the University of Illinois, will turn his talents from street theatrics to the stage of the Frederic March Play Circle for this evening of entertaining and thought-provoking theatre.

Sister Mary Ignatius is a controversial play which has been attacked by many Catholic and other religious groups since its premiere in New York City in 1979.

Written by ex-Catholic Durang, author of *Beyond Therapy* and *The Baby With The Bathwater*, the play presents a lecture by a fifth grade teacher, Sister Mary, on Catholic dogma. Her lecture is interrupted by four former students who, after twenty years, have come back to visit her. What ensues is a hilarious and harrowing black comedy.

The character of Sister Mary, very

different from the sweet nuns portrayed in *The Sound of Music* or *Nunsense*, is portrayed by Jane Triller. Triller, a resident of Beaver Dam, appeared in the recent production of *The Wind in the Willows*. Also featured is David Laine-Lucas, who recently appeared in the Madison premiere of Robert Chesley's *Jerker*, at the Kanopy Dance Theatre.

A Letter From The Earth is a cynical, engaging look at humanity and religion. Archangel Lucifer, better known as Satan, has been banished to Earth. The Devil is most amused and perplexed by what he sees and marvels at the human being's construction of God and religion. The role of Satan will be played by Carrie Sandahl, a grad student of theatre at UW-Madison. Slide-projected scenery for this production will be created by local photographic artist Glenn Trudel.

Performances will be held on November 18, 19, 20 and 21 (Monday thru Thursday), at 8:00 p.m. at the Frederic March Play Circle, located on the second floor of the University of Wisconsin Memorial Union, 800 Langdon Street, in Madison. Tickets are \$4.00 and are available at the Union Theatre Box Office (608) 262-2201, or at the door on the night of the performance.

'Home for the Holidays' Concert Planned by Fest City Singers

[Milwaukee]- The Original Fest City Singers will present an original musical play, *Home For The Holidays*, on Sunday, December 15, at Villa Terrace, 2220 N. Terrace Avenue. The performance begins at 8:00 p.m. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased from Chorus members or by calling the Fest Line at (414) 962-7221.

The show, a celebration of Christmas traditions, was written and will be directed by Peter Mortensen.

Musical Director Charles Golden, has chosen music which spans the ages from ancient French and 16th Century Spanish carols (sung in the original languages) to

traditional carols and contemporary songs.

A Medieval Mystery Play will bring the audience back to the origin of the Christmas pageants we all remember from grade school days.

Where is home in this transitional world? What is home? What and who makes home... HOME?

On December 15th you will find not only answers to those questions, but for the evening, will become part of the Fest City Singers' family, as they promise to take you *Home For The Holidays*.

'Adam and the Experts' Set For December Run in Milwaukee

[Milwaukee]- The Different Drummer Theatre Alliance (DDTA) will present its first production, *Adam And The Experts* by Victor Bumbalo, on December 6, 7, 13, 14 at 8:00 p.m. at the BCB Studio Theatre, 727 N. Milwaukee Street. Tickets are \$10 (group discounts available) and can be obtained by calling (414) 347-0673, or by writing: DDTA, P.O. Box 92756, Milwaukee, WI 53202.

Adam And The Experts is a particular kind of "journey play" about two waiters — not two college graduates, not two "really, really rich" people, not two powerful people, not two "very, very famous" people — just two waiters...two average homosexuals...you know, two people who are very together, best friends, and having a very nice time in New York.

The play examines these "Homosexual Everymen" who come to the Big Apple to live for very uncomplicated reasons, who get something totally different from what they'd imagined and who handle their circumstances elegantly.

Bumbalo's play expresses a mood of exhaustion, fatalism and embattled determination as the AIDS decimation

continues and has become the overshadowing fact of homosexual life.

Directed by Stephen D. Spera, the play will see Mathew Herman and Kelly Crisman in the leading roles of Adam and Eddie. Their best girlfriend, Sarah, will be played by Rachael Winkley while their best friend, Jim, will be played by Joseph Rabensdorf. In the role of Adam and Eddie's "fantasy man" is Joseph Bolton.

Others in the cast include: Kristie Curyell, Patrick Murphy, Brian Crane and Vince Lombardo.

The play finds bitter humor amid outrageous tragedy. *Adam And The Experts* is quite funny in a dry, satiric, sad and heroic sort of way. The humor is deployed by the author to reveal the pathetic, ludicrous defenses that people adopt to shield themselves from terrifying realities. It celebrates the will to live of average people who circumstances turn into heroes.

The DDTA is Milwaukee's first Gay and Lesbian theatre company which promises to present works that represent "our community, our lives and our issues."

Theater X Offers Two Holiday Classics December 5-29

[Milwaukee]- Milwaukee's Theatre X will present a new adaptation of Truman Capote's classic story, *A Christmas Memory*, for the holiday season. Set in the Depression-era South of Capote's boyhood, *A Christmas Memory* recounts the humble adventures shared by a boy and his eccentric spinster cousin as they prepare for the holidays.

Theatre X's production of *A Christmas Memory*, directed by Wesley Savick, will feature company members Flora Coker and John Starmer.

Audiences will also have the opportunity to sample the famous fruitcake which has been recreated from the original Capote family recipe by Milwaukee baker Michael Maloney. All proceeds from the sale of the fruitcake will benefit the Multiple Sclerosis Foundation.

A Christmas Memory will be presented on a double-bill with *The 15 Minute Christmas Carol*, an original farce created for Theatre X. Scrooge approaches warp speed in this bobsled rendition of the Charles Dickens classic.

It's *A Wonderful Life*, Frosty, Rudolph, Bing, the Grinch and other holiday icons get swept along for the ride in this tangled avalanche of holiday images. "Bah Humbug" may never sound the same.

Theatre X will continue to host special

pre-show dinners on Wednesdays, December 11 and 13, and Fridays, December 6, 13, 20 and 27th. A reception begins at 6:00 p.m. followed by dinner at 6:30. The price of the dinner/theatre package is \$25.00. Reservations are necessary.

This special Theatre X double-bill will be presented Wednesday through Sunday evenings with special 5:00 p.m. Saturday matinees from December 5th through December 29. All performances will take place at Theatre X's space at 158 N. Broadway in the Historic Third Ward.

For ticket information, please call the Theatre X box office at (414) 278-0555.

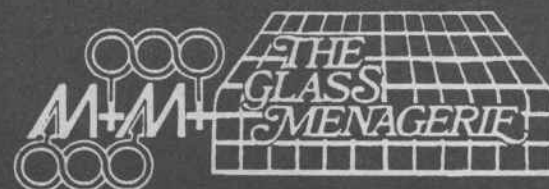
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PLEASE BRING A NON-PRISHABLE FOOD ITEM FOR THE MILWAUKEE AIDS PROJECT

'Voices of Life' By Milwaukeean Is Chosen for Amsterdam Film Fest

[Milwaukee]- *Voices of Life* a tape by Patrick Wright, a graduate student and associate lecturer in the Film Department at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, is part of the Amsterdam International Gay Film Festival, November 23-30, 1991. Wright will appear with his tape at the film festival.

The tape also will be part of the Lesbian/Gay Film and Video Festival sponsored by Great Lakes Film and Video, to be held at UWM March 6-13, 1992.

Wright describes *Voices of Life* as combining the elements of an entertainment, documentary and educational film. "I'd been involved with AIDS education for a long time and when I became interested in filmmaking, decided to combine the two," Wright said.

Voices of Life investigates two subjects at once, AIDS and the media. The tape begins as a portrait of three people living with AIDS, juxtaposed with an analysis of

public service announcements (PSA) produced by the Centers for Disease Control. As the tape progresses, the interviews become more stylized and choreographed. Midway through the tape, the PSA's turn into autobiographical stories, while outtake footage reveals that the interviews were staged. The actors are then interviewed about their experiences as part of the documentary and their real-life relationship to AIDS.

"In addition to educating people about AIDS, I wanted to educate them about how the media works," said Wright. "Part of the tape shows me and my crew taping, for example. The audience can see how, through the editing process, a documentary can become almost fictional."

"While we're taught that something shot in a documentary style is real, people need to realize that, by deciding what footage to use or not use, the director can create his own truth," said Wright.

Tri-Cable to Feature Gay Teens, Their Experiences and a Mom!

[Milwaukee]- The November-December episodes of *The New Tri-Cable Tonight*, Milwaukee's Gay and Lesbian cable TV show, will feature Gay high school teenagers and their experiences of isolation and harassment.

Moderator Michael Lisowski will interview Gay and Lesbian Milwaukee high school teens along with the Milwaukee Public School Administrator for Interscholastic Sports, Jan Doleschal, about the recently approved School Board Task Force policy for supportive services and a safe educational environment for Gay and Lesbian students.

"Awesome!" exclaimed Tracy Zwiacz about the changes underway to provide support that she needed a few years ago.

Joining Tracy and Jan will be Jed Dienerberger and Bernell.

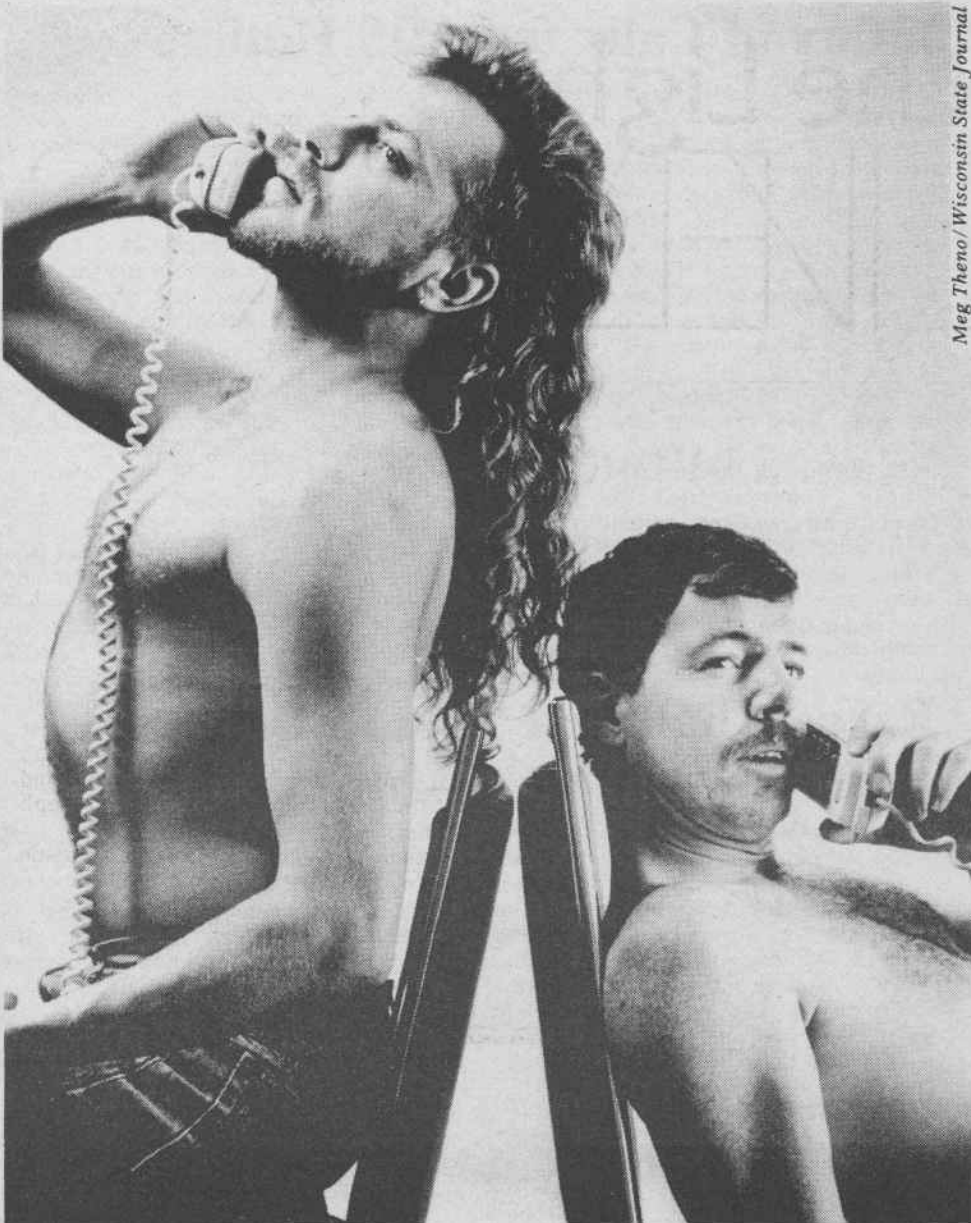
In the second program, Michael will interview Gay teenager Jed Dienerberger and his mother, Georgia Giese, who will talk about enduring and overcoming harassment while living in their rural

Horicon community. They are surviving, thanks to a loving and supportive relationship.

The *New Tri-Cable* is scheduled at 10:30 p.m. Thursday and Sunday evenings on City of Milwaukee Warner Cable MATA Channel 14. The first program is scheduled for November 14, 17, 21 and 24; the second program will air on November 28 and December 1, 5 and 8. Suburban viewers must specifically request the program for their own cable system in order for the program to be recablecast there.

Tri-Cable is in need of new people to help replenish its crew. Anyone interested in Gay and Lesbian programming, or with ideas for programs or comments to share, write to: P.O. Box 239, Milwaukee, WI 53201, or call (414) 265-0880.

The Milwaukee Gay/Lesbian Cable Network is a committee of the Cream City Foundation, Inc.



David Laine-Lucas (Bert) and Callen Harty (J.R.) performed in the play "Jerker" to sold out crowds in Madison.

Chesley's 'Jerker' Re-Charts The Limits of Theatrical Experience

By John Quinlan

[Madison]- In the best tradition of drama that forces you to re-examine the borders of your understanding, Robert Chesley's provocative play, *Jerker*, asks you to rechart the limits of the theatrical experience.

In attending a Chesley play, an audience member feels a lot like the present day mapmaker whose world has been radically altered after years when everything remained the same. Earlier this month, thanks to the vision of innovative director Paul Wells, Madison playgoers found ourselves being asked to erase the boundaries that inhibit our intimate interaction with the onstage actors in ways that challenged us as no play had done before.

Proceeds from the six standing-room only performances at the Kanopy Dance Theatre went to the Gay and Lesbian social service agency, the United, and several area AIDS-support groups.

As the lights go up on *Jerker*, we are confronted with the shocking and unexpectedly explicit image of two nude men lying in bed several feet in front of us graphically and convincingly "jerking off" in the context of a relationship defined by the anonymity of phone sex.

As the play progresses in phone call after phone call, the bounds of intimacy are challenged by the intensely erotic, but one-dimensional fantasies you'd expect to see in low budget Gay male video. By about five phone calls in, however, you're suddenly confronted by an emotional intimacy that catches you off guard and draws you into the play in a totally unexpected way.

Fantasy after highly erotic fantasy plays itself out between Bert and J.R. over the phone. Slowly, however, the two protagonists transcend the purely erotic as they begin to reveal their vulnerabilities as the love grows between them.

Toward the end of the play, J.R. explains to Bert a recurring dream he describes as an "affectional, not sexual fantasy." Fantasy and love meld together in a lyrical, evocative tale of two young princes on a voyage of discovery.

"When I was a kid," he says in prefacing the fantasy, "I didn't know what men did sexually. I only wanted to be with them, to touch them. I wanted affection. I guess that's still what I want most."

The play also explores several interesting subthemes. J.R., who was wounded in Vietnam, poignantly declares that "I saw what immoral means. That's why no one tells me that loving another man is evil... It's the exact opposite of the evil I've seen."

And Bert's soliloquy about the post-AIDS loss of a sexual freedom that knew no bounds provides important insights about the feelings experienced by our older brothers to those of us who "came out" in the years since the virus took hold. "It was living, it was loving," he exclaims. "And I don't regret a single moment, not one."

At play's end, you've gained a window deep into the soul of a significant part of the Gay experience you'd never thought possible at the outset.

Local actors David Laine-Lucas (as Bert) and Callen Harty (as J.R.) had the daunting task of moving from cocky, fantasy-defined caricatures to sensitive, three-dimensional human beings who find themselves in a loving, nurturing relationship. Laine-Lucas began with a powerful, lion-like stage presence that melted away credibly as he revealed the vulnerability and sensitivity lurking beneath the surface. Harty retained a quality of playfulness and boyishness even as he made the transition to revealing the full depth of his character's painful life experiences.

Depending on the nature of your own experience each of Chesley's skillfully written phone fantasies in *Jerker* takes you to a place of great pain or great joy.

A friend who had been sexually abused by his older brother found the recurring fantasy theme of big brother forcing little brother to have sex insensitive to the power relationships represented. A number of other friends expressed discomfort that many heterosexual members of the audience would view the play as typical of the Gay experience. They felt its representations of anonymous sex for the sake of sex reinforced stereotypes that were widely divergent from their own experience in longterm, loving relationships.

In a world where positive representations of Lesbians and Gay men are few and far between, I certainly understand these feelings of discomfort. However, as another friend pointed out, if we limit ourselves in the expression of what it means to be Gay, how will we learn to shake free of a larger society that constantly attempts to box us in?

Though many of the truths it presents are far removed from my own experience, *Jerker* represents realities that are undeniably a part of the full spectrum of the Gay experience. It provided me with a window on a part of the world I now understand a little better and can better relate to my own life. In the best traditions of theatre, *Jerker* challenged me in ways both painful and exciting.

GIVE A GIFT TO THE COMMUNITY Be Part of the Proud Crowd

For \$10.00 you can help make the 1992 Pride Celebration even better! With a \$20 or more donation, you'll receive a rainbow flag pin.* With a \$30 or more donation you'll receive a 1991 MLGPC T-Shirt.* "Proud Crowd" names will be published in the Holiday issues of Wisconsin Light and In Step.

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Milwaukee, WI 53203

*All gifts will be sent via return mail and are valid only while supplies last. Only one gift per person with qualifying donation.

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Fund Raiser



For more info call
32-PRIDE

Deadline December 10th

Milwaukee Cable Network Shows Featured on National Television

[Milwaukee]- Several excerpts of programs from a production of the Milwaukee Gay/Lesbian Cable Network (MGLCN) have been included in a national public access television program that aired October 29th and 30th on Deep Dish Television. **Idiot Box Savant** are two 30 minute programs "surveying the most innovative uses of access in the land," according to press releases.

Excerpts were taken from **A Special 90 Minute Live Edition of the New Tri-Cable**, which featured co-hosts Michael Lisowski and Michael Ross taking comments from a live studio audience and telephone callers about the Gay and Lesbian perspectives on after-effects of the tragic multiple murders. Mark Behar and Bryce Clark co-produced and directed the **Special Edition** program.

"The program reflects the ultimate in public access and the ultimate in innovation," according to Erin O'Meara, lead producer. "Mainstream media doesn't even come close to touching those real issues, such as Gays and Lesbians talking with each other," she said.

Over 100 tapes from around the country were reviewed for **Idiot Box Savant**, with only about a third of the programs used in the two, half-hour shows.

The programs will be replayed on MATA Channel 14 on City of Milwaukee Warner Cable on December 9, January 1 and 23 at 11:00 p.m. The programs also be viewable on Viacom North and South, Channel 11B on Tuesdays, December 3, 10, 17 and 31 at 6:30 p.m. Additional prime time cablecasts will be announced later. A public screening will take place November 22 at 8:00 p.m. at Club Garibaldi, 2501 S. Superior.

Idiot Box Savant was coordinated by Erin O'Meara in collaboration with

"1*4*ALL," a producer group working out of Milwaukee's access channel, MATA. Co-producers include Jamie Patten, Rob Danielson, Brian Smith and Rob Yeo.

Deep Dish TV is a non-profit, educational organization that provides opportunities for nationwide satellite linkages of locally originated public access programs. Programs coalesce material from around the country, focusing on a central theme, helping to inspire a true sense of community. Over 350 cities nationwide cablecast Deep Dish programs, and virtually anyone with a home satellite dish (Satcom 4, transponder 22 — F4, trs. 22) can tune in for free during cablecast times. You may also contact the local public access station in your community and ask them when they carry Deep Dish programs.

MGLCN produces two regular programs: **The New Tri-Cable Tonight**, which can be viewed on MATA Channel 14 on City of Milwaukee Warner Cable on Thursdays and Sundays at 10:30 p.m. **Yellow On Thursday** occasionally pre-empts **Tri-Cable** at the same days and times.

MGLCN has produced over 70 programs since its inception in 1986 and plans at least 5 more before the end of the year. This busy schedule requires a large number of ambitious and eager volunteers to write scripts, work cameras and editing equipment. Almost anyone can receive video production training through MATA, you're interested or have ideas for programs or just wish to express your comments, let us know!

Write: P.O. Box 239, Milwaukee 53201 or call (414) 265-0880. MGLCN is a committee of the Cream City Foundation, Inc.

Discussion on Racism Set For LAMM's November 21 Meeting

[Milwaukee]- "Racism II: An Exploration of Attitudes and Experiences" is the topic of the November 21 meeting of the Lesbian Alliance of Metro Milwaukee (LAMM). The program continues a series on racism that was begun by LAMM last year, and which has proven to be very well-received.

The focus will be on exploring attitudes and experiences that arise from skin color, and on brainstorming about what can be done to bridge the gap between women of different races.

First, there will be small group discussion about white privilege. A series of statements that identify some of the

daily effects white privilege has in the lives of both white women and women of color will serve as a starting point.

This will be followed by a discussion of the benefits of knowing women of other races and how to work together toward greater contact and interchange with women of all races.

The program begins at 7:00 p.m., after a 6:00 p.m. potluck, at the Milwaukee Enterprise Center, 2821 N. 4th Street, one block south of Locust. Secure, lit parking is available.

LAMM meetings are held regularly on the third Thursday of each month, and are open to all Lesbians. For more information, call (414) 264-2600.

Plans Already In The Works for 6th 'Make A Promise' Dinner

[Milwaukee]- The 6th Annual Make A Promise dinner will be held Saturday, March 21, 1992 at the Pfister Hotel. Proceeds will benefit AIDS care and education services at the Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP) and the Southeast Wisconsin AIDS Project (SEWAP).

"We plan to raise more than \$40,000 during this year's annual dinner and silent auction," said Chris Doerfler, Director of Development at MAP.

"Without the continued strong financial commitment from the entire community, MAP and SEWAP will be unable to meet the rapidly increasing

needs of people affected by AIDS," said Doug Nelson, Executive Director. "Through a series of exciting, high-caliber events like Make A Promise, we are able to continue to provide comprehensive AIDS services throughout southeast Wisconsin."

The MAP Fundraising Committee is in the process of assembling more than 200 items for a silent auction. They promise a wide range of items, including get-away packages and antiques. "Many people are sending their auction items in early in order to take the deduction on their 1991 taxes," said Doerfler.

Magic Johnson's Courage Prompts Influx of Calls to AIDS Hotline

[Milwaukee]- Minutes after professional basketball player Magic Johnson announced that he was infected with HIV, the phone lines at the Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP) began ringing. People from all walks of life were looking for answers. "How is HIV transmitted?" "Where can I get an HIV test?" "What are the symptoms of HIV disease?"

"My hope is that with the notoriety that Magic brings to the AIDS epidemic, his courage will finally cause the country to increase its investment in AIDS research, prevention and care for people affected by the disease," said Doug Nelson, Executive Director at MAP.

From Thursday through Monday evening, the Wisconsin AIDSline, a state-wide information and referral hotline operated by MAP, had received more than 750 calls from concerned individuals throughout the state. Usually, the hotline receives that many calls in a month.

Racquetball and Square Dancing Buffs Sought by GAMMA

[Milwaukee]- An informal racquetball group is being formed for Gays and Lesbians in the Greater Milwaukee community. The time and place of all matches will be arranged among players; a central facilitator will assign opponents.

Three skill levels, advanced, intermediate and beginner, will be

Psychic Faire Planned For November 16

[Madison]- The Re-formed Congregation of the Goddess is sponsoring a "Womyn's Psychic Faire" on Saturday, November 16, 1991, from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Friends Meeting House, 1704 Roberts Court in Madison. Admission is \$2.

Activities will include workshops, music and psychic readings. Crafts and refreshments will be sold. Readings can be arranged for \$3 to \$7, on a sliding scale. The Meeting House is wheelchair accessible. Any questions? Call (608) 838-8629.

Cream City Foundation Announces Grants

[Milwaukee]- The Board of Directors of the Cream City Foundation (CCF) has approved grants to the Milwaukee Host Committee for the AIDS Memorial Quilt Display and to the Milwaukee Council on Alcoholism for a survey of providers willing to treat Gays and Lesbians.

The CCF Board felt it was important to have the AIDS Memorial Quilt displayed in Milwaukee. The Host Committee asked for \$1,000, which was granted. The Quilt will be on display at the UWM Union November 30 through December 2, 1991.

The Milwaukee Council on Alcoholism will receive a grant of \$1,125. This will allow the Council to survey over 2,500 service providers in Southeastern Wisconsin. The survey will include a set of protocols on the treatment of Gays and Lesbians. Providers willing to sign on will have their names published in order to let members of the Gay community know where they can obtain treatment with dignity.

Nelson said that the phenomenal increase in people seeking information about AIDS is a testament to the fact that the disease affects all segments of our community and people are now taking notice of that.

Of the 761 calls received as of Monday evening, 265 were referred to anonymous HIV testing sites; 191 were given information on HIV transmission; 286 asked about HIV testing; and 105 had questions about safer sex.

Hotline operators indicated that the calls had not slowed down on Tuesday and that they were anticipating handling more than 1,000 calls directly related to the Magic announcement by Wednesday evening.

The Wisconsin AIDSline operates from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays and from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Fridays. In metro Milwaukee, the number is (414) 273-AIDS and in Wisconsin, (800) 334-AIDS.

identified. Those interested in joining need a racquet, a "home" court, gym clothes and a will to play.

This tourney is being sponsored by Milwaukee GAMMA. Call Bob at (414) 963-9833 to obtain information and to list your name in the Racquetball network.

In other news from GAMMA, the GAMMA Square Dancers will continue their program of teaching and dancing every Sunday at 3:30 p.m. at Three B's, 1753 S. KK in Milwaukee. Joe Frazier, formerly with a San Francisco Gay Square Dancing Group, will be caller and instructor.

Gay Square dancing is a popular activity throughout the United States and Canada. After a "trial" start a year ago, a full-fledged program is now underway in Milwaukee.

Milwaukee GAMMA is sponsoring the group. All members of the Greater Milwaukee Gay and Lesbian Community are welcome to participate. Beginners are encouraged to enjoy the fun of socialization with Western swingers. There is no charge. For more information, call Bob at (414) 963-9833.



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Gay/Lesbian Cable Network Wins Still More Philo Awards

[Milwaukee]- The Milwaukee Gay/Lesbian Cable Network (MGLCN) won several awards at the sixth annual Philo Community Programming Awards ceremony held at the Grand Milwaukee Hotel, November 1, 1991. **Yellow on Thursday** and **The New Tri-Cable Tonight** were among winning Gay programs.

Sponsored by the Milwaukee Access Telecommunications Authority (MATA), Philo Awards recognize excellence and achievement in locally originated cable TV productions and are equivalent to broadcast television's prestigious Emmy Awards.

The Best of Yellow on Thursday, a Gay comedy series, won a Philo Award for "Best Entertainment Program of the Year." The winning program featured segments from the first four episodes of **Yellow on Thursday**, highlighting the acting talents of Jorge Cabal, Joseph Rogan, Allan Kurth, Tom Liveri, Mike Westerhausen and **In Step** columnist W.W. Wells, among others. **Yellow on Thursday** is produced by William Attewell, Bryce Clark and Mark Behar.

The New Tri-Cable Tonight program dealing with safer sex, first cablecast in May, 1991, won a Philo Award for "Best Informational Program of the Year." Moderator Michael Lisowski interviewed health educators and "sex-perts," Juana Sabatino and Mark Behar about the details and specifics of safer sex.

A special 90-minute live edition of **The New Tri-Cable Tonight** won an honorable mention award in the "Live Community" category. The program featured Michael Lisowski and Michael Ross as moderators of a live studio audience/call-in program to provide unique Gay and Lesbian perspectives on after-effects of the Jeffrey Dahmer murders. Mark Behar and Bryce Clark were the producers of the show.

MGLCN also assisted in the production of **Milwaukee Health Beat: Breast Cancer Awareness**, which won two Philos in the "Educational/Instructional and Documentary" categories. This program highlighted the collaborative efforts of area health experts, agencies and survivors in dealing with breast cancer. Mark Behar, Cathy Meade and Jestene

McCord were the producers.

The Philo Award was named after Philo T. Farnsworth, the inventor of television. Area telecommunications, broadcast professionals and community activists served as judges for this year's competition.

MGLCN has won Philo Awards every year since 1988 and won first place for **Tri-Cable Tonight** in the "Best News Series/Volunteer" category in the prestigious 1989 Hometown USA Video Festival. All 1991 award winning entries will be submitted to the 1992 Hometown Festival which is the largest video competition in the world.

The New Tri-Cable Tonight can be viewed on City of Milwaukee Warner Cable Channel 14, Thursdays and Sundays at 10:30 p.m. **Yellow on Thursday**, which pre-empts Tri-Cable, is currently airing an all new episode in that time slot. Suburban viewers must request the program for their own cable system in order for the program to be recablecast there.

Ferron To Sing In Madison November 16

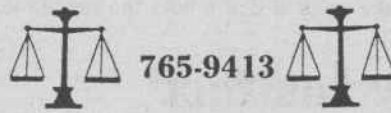
[Madison]- Tribade Productions and WORT- radio will present Canadian singer-songwriter FERRON, sharing her special blend of folk music, at Madison's Barrymore Theatre, 2090 Atwood Avenue, on Saturday, November 16 at 8:00 p.m.

Ferron is well known internationally for her unique ability to mix self-exploration with a variety of interesting musical forms ranging from warm heart-felt ballads to dancing reggae rhythms. This superstar has been recognized by many including **Rolling Stone** magazine, and is touring with material from her new hit album **Phantom Center**.

Tickets are available at Four Star Fiction and Video, A Room Of One's Own, Green Earth, and the Barrymore, or order by phone at: (608) 241-8864. Childcare, access and other info: (608) 845-6893.

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Lesbian Writers Fund Accepting Submissions For 1992 Grants

[New York, NY]- The Lesbian Writers Fund of the Astraea National Lesbian Action Foundation is now accepting entries for its annual awards in the categories of fiction and poetry. Prospective applicants must send for guidelines and an application form. Deadline for the 1992 cycle is March 13, 1992.

Now in its second year, the Lesbian Writers Fund was established by the Astraea National Lesbian Action Foundation to support the work of emerging Lesbian writers of fiction and poetry. Five awards of \$11,000 each (3 in

fiction and 2 in poetry) will be announced in June, 1992.

Applicants must have published at least one piece of work in a magazine, literary journal or anthology. A completed application form and writing sample must be submitted by March 13, 1992 to be considered for a grant in 1992.

For guidelines, eligibility criteria and application form, write to: Lesbian Writers Fund, Astraea National Lesbian Action Foundation, 666 Broadway, Suite 520, New York, NY 10012.

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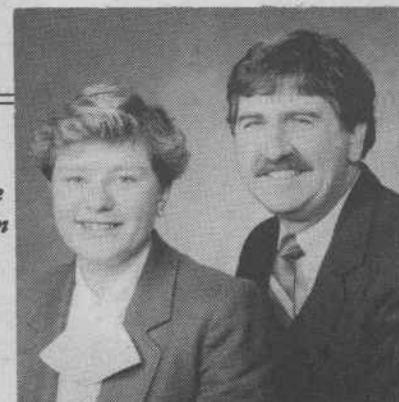
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3 B's Holds 'Turkey Bowl' and 'Stars for AIDS' for MAP

[Milwaukee]- Once again, 3 B's are celebrating the holiday season by going all out for the Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP).

Currently underway is the Fourth Annual "Stars for AIDS" project which began on November 1st. Bills pinned to sparkling stars hanging over the bar have so far totaled \$100 and, by the January 2nd close-out, will come to quite a bit more — if past years are any indication.

3 B's also has going their annual Food Drive for MAP. Stop in, bring with you either a perishable or frozen food item to share with MAP's clients. Cash donations are also welcome. So far, \$400

in cash has been collected and will be used to purchase food and personal items for the MAP Food Pantry. All items collected will be taken to MAP on the Monday before Thanksgiving.

The Christmas food drive will begin immediately thereafter.

In addition to the Dart Tournament for MAP, 3 B's will be holding their annual "Turkey Bowl" on the Friday after Thanksgiving. Frozen turkeys are used to knock down pins. The winner gets a cash prize.

It's all in a good cause, so stop in and help the folks at 3 B's help the people at MAP.

GLAAD Makes 'Basic Instinct' Organizing Packet Available

[San Francisco, CA]- The San Francisco Bay Area chapter of the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD/SFBA) has created a packet of information about the soon-to-be released Lesbo-phobic movie **Basic Instinct** for use by activists who wish to organize a response in their local communities.

Basic Instinct, starring Michael Douglas, directed by Paul Verhoeven and distributed by Tri-Star Pictures, depicts all three of its Lesbian or Bisexual women characters as vicious man-killers.

The packet contains the movie's script, copies of articles and opinion pieces about the film and background information on the history of Hollywood's portrayal of Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual people, as well as suggested organizing strategies and activities.

Distribution of this packet is being done at cost by GLAAD/SFBA as a community service. It is available for only \$10, which just pays for copying and first-class postage.

Please make your check payable to GLAAD/SFBA, specifying it is for the **Basic Instinct** packet. **Basic Instinct**, GLAAD/SFBA, 514 Castro St., Suite B, San Francisco, CA 94114.

Play Contest Sponsored By L.A. Theater

[Los Angeles, CA]- Celebration Theatre, Los Angeles' only Gay and Lesbian Theatre, is hosting its first annual New Play Competition in 1992. The plays must portray the Gay and/or Lesbian experience in a positive light. Winners will receive: 1st Place, \$200, 2nd Place, \$100, and 3rd Place, \$50.

For guidelines, send a SASE to Celebration Theatre, New Play Competition, 4470-107 Sunset Blvd., Suite 353, Los Angeles, CA 90027.

Int'l Pen-Pals To Publish List

North Hollywood, CA]- **International Gay Penpals [IGP]** will shortly publish its Winter newsletter. More than 300 listings representing Gay men from Europe, Africa, South Asia and East Asia as well as the USA and Canada are included.

Those men interested should send a stamped, self-addressed envelope to: IGP, Ste. 320, Box 7304, North Hollywood, CA 91603.

Holocaust Museum Seeks Materials

[Washington, DC]- The **Advocate** reports that the \$150 million United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, scheduled to open in April, 1993 in the nation's capital, is seeking materials related to Gay and Lesbian involvement in the Holocaust for permanent exhibition.

Sam Ekanazi, spokesman for the Museum, told the **Advocate**: "We want museum visitors to come away with the lesson that when one group is the target, we all become the target. We want it to be clear that Gays and Lesbians were victims of the Holocaust."

The Holocaust Memorial Museum is looking for donations of documents, letters, pictures and other memorabilia that sheds light on Gay and Lesbian oppression in the Holocaust. For further information, call (202) 822-6464.

ELECTIONS

Continued from Page 1

antics probably reinforced some of the worst stereotypes about Gay people at a time when broad public support was needed. The repeal won by only 106 votes.

Meanwhile, in the small town of Ferndale, Michigan, just north of Detroit, an attempt to include Gays under municipal civil rights protections was defeated 2,789 to 1,631.

Senator Wofford

Democrat Harris Wofford overcame an incredible 40% deficit in the polls just two months ago to defeat former Pennsylvania Governor and Attorney General Richard Thornburgh.

Wofford, 65, is a former law professor and college president who is often described as a "60's liberal." He co-founded the Peace Corps, served as an advisor to President Kennedy and Martin Luther King, Jr. and has continually worked for disarmament.

Wofford, who served four years as Pennsylvania's Secretary of Labor, emphasized unemployment and health care in his Senate campaign. He is pro-choice on abortion and is believed to be supportive of Gay rights. (A niece, Carrie Wofford, is News Editor at Boston's **Gay Community News**.)

Wofford's victory is significant for

several reasons: he has shown that a well-established, well-funded Bush Republican like Thornburgh can be defeated; and his victory solidifies the Democratic majority in the US Senate at 57 to 43.

Gay Candidates

In a stunning and historic victory, Sherry Harris, an engineer, captured 67% of the vote in a citywide, at-large election for Seattle's City Council and defeated a 24 year incumbent. In doing so, Harris has become the first Black open Lesbian to hold political office in the US.

Harris garnered support from a coalition that included Gays, women's groups and neighborhood organizations, while her opponent, Sam Smith, drew support from Seattle's business community and old guard politicians.

Harris got her campaign off to an early start and built momentum. She did not run as a "Lesbian" candidate per se, but addressed a broad range of issues: better mass transit and public safety; improved education and job opportunities; affordable housing and economic development; and more services for children and the elderly. She was ultimately endorsed by the city's two major dailies, the **Seattle Times** and the **Post-Intelligencer**. At her victory party, she thanked all her campaign workers as well as her lover, Judith Scalise, who joined her at the rostrum.

Also in Washington, openly Gay State Representative Cal Anderson was re-elected to office.

In New York City, two Gay men were elected to the City Council. Democrat Tom Duane, a longtime community activist who is HIV-positive, easily won election in the Third District. Another Democrat who is a relative newcomer to politics, Antonio Pagan, won in the Second District.

In Chapel Hill, North Carolina, Democrat Joe Herzenberg won re-election to the City Council.

Finally, in Massachusetts, David Scordas easily won re-election to the Boston City Council. But in Cambridge, Elaine Noble, the first open Lesbian elected to statewide office in 1974 (she served two terms in the state legislature), narrowly lost her bid for a seat on the Cambridge City Council.

The Human Rights Campaign Fund reports that 55 openly Gay and Lesbian Americans currently hold political office.

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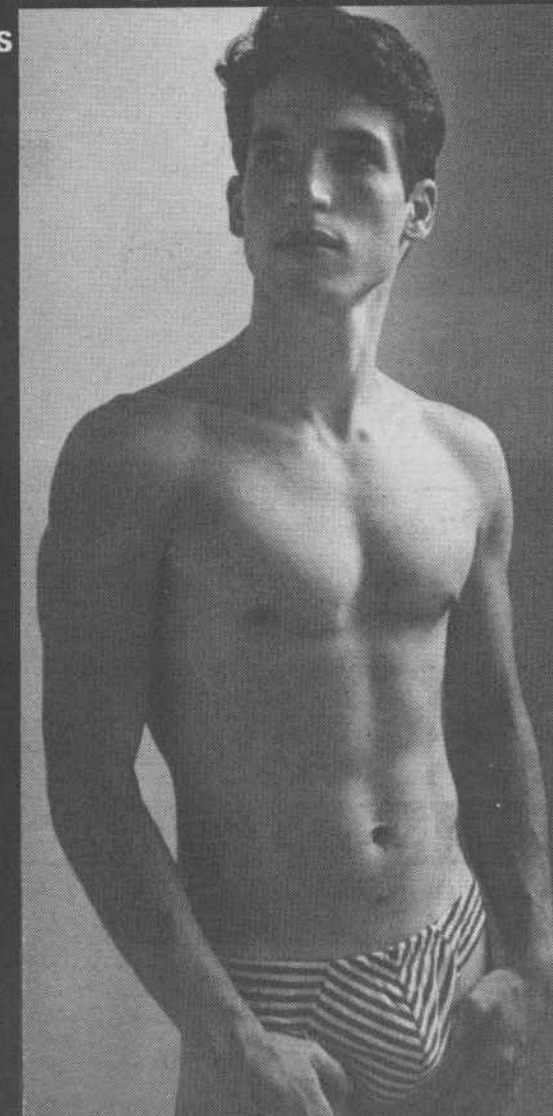
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Studds on Mandatory HIV Testing: Expensive, Unnecessary, Misleading

Viewpoint By Rep. Gerry Studds [D-MA]

With so many Americans suffering personal grief and loss because of AIDS, it is tempting to seek easy answers. It is much harder to chart an effective and affordable public health response.

We already know many of the things we must attend to:

- * Expanded HIV research for greater understanding, a vaccine and a cure;

- * candid, broad-based AIDS education, with targeted counseling for known risk groups to reduce future transmission of the virus;

- * increased drug availability and affordable, accessible, comprehensive health care for those battling the disease;

- * an end to the discrimination surrounding HIV that extracts such heavy societal consequences as a result of a completely indiscriminating epidemic.

Now the call has come to test — as a matter of federal statute — all health care workers for the virus that causes AIDS. I wish the answer were that easy. Unfortunately, it won't work, it will cost a fortune and it will sacrifice effective efforts to truly fight the spread of AIDS.

The public furor follows a report that five HIV-positive persons in Florida all shared the same HIV-positive dentist. That includes Kimberly Bergalis, who traveled to Washington with her parents to testify before the House Health Subcommittee of which I am a member. The story captured media attention and stirred in all of us the very real fear that there may be no fail-safe method to protect ourselves and our families from this horrible disease.

Whenever panic fills the air, there is invariably some salesman willing to pacify — and exploit — our fear. The snake oil proposed by Senator Jesse Helms would incarcerate and fine doctors and nurses who fail to disclose their HIV status before beginning "invasive procedures." That may vent some anger, but it would leave us every bit as exposed to the ravages of AIDS as before.

The reality is that the risk of contracting AIDS from a health care worker is virtually nil. You are likelier to be killed in an accident on the way to the hospital than to get the HIV virus during a routine surgical procedure.

Compared to the HIV virus, the risk of contracting hepatitis from your dentist is



Congressman Gerry Studds

100 times greater. The chances that your surgeon's abilities may be impaired by drug or alcohol abuse, or a variety of other medical conditions that actually affect the care you receive, are also much higher.

Who operates on you matters less than how they operate. By far, the most significant variable affecting the ultimate health of any patient is whether the doctor or nurse wears gloves, uses sterile instruments and practices strict infection control.

Senator Helms' proposal to criminalize behavior in this area, with \$10,000 fines and ten-year prison sentences, extorts an unconscionably high price from all of us. By elevating criminal punishment above public health, his bill would remove experienced doctors, dentists and nurses from offices, hospitals and clinics even in the face of a desperate shortage of health care resources.

Moreover, mandatory testing could mislead patients into false confidence about subsequent transmission. Because the test is limited to finding antibodies to the virus, rather than detecting the virus itself, it can take six months or longer for an HIV-positive individual to receive a positive test result. No matter what the test result reveals, there can be no guarantee your surgeon or dentist is negative. There is, in short, no proof whatsoever that Kimberly Bergalis would be any healthier today if Senator Helms' proposal were law.

And who would pay for this mandatory

testing? Massachusetts Public Health Commissioner David Mulligan estimates that testing health care workers in my home state alone would cost \$9 million. If we tested only health care workers doing invasive procedures, and did so no more frequently than every three months, annual nationwide estimates top \$220 million. For tests that tell us next to nothing? That's more mind-boggling than the S&L bailout.

Meanwhile, quality programs that could actually reduce further transmission in high risk groups go begging. A recent survey by the Boston University School of Public Health, for example, tells us that less than 40% of sexually active youth protect themselves and their partners with a condom. Obviously funds allocated there would dramatically improve public health and save young lives.

With each of us quite naturally frightened of the ravaging effects of AIDS, what can we reasonably do to protect ourselves?

In such tough economic times, an extra \$220 million in the federal budget could go a long way in the fight against AIDS, against cancer, against heart disease or Alzheimer's. But I would not squander it. There are countless medical priorities that actually save lives and that deserve

our attention and money. This is not one of them.

H.L. Mencken once observed, "There is always an easy solution to every human problem — neat, plausible and wrong."

Mandatory HIV testing of health care workers is all of that, and extremely expensive as well. Despite our fear and rage, we must still keep our wits about us. We lack the luxuries of abundant time and limitless resources.

It is no mere coincidence that the false prophets now preaching the gospel of mandatory health care worker testing have opposed practically every public health initiative to halt the spread of AIDS.

If they genuinely shared our concern for the disease, why have they restricted research funding, opposed sex education, sanitized educational materials and thwarted condom distribution? If their goal was compassion, why has their outrage suddenly been awakened for one person with AIDS, after 10 years of silence while 127,000 others died?

It is well past time to begin attacking AIDS candidly — but with realism, not panic. That means research, education, quality care and compassion. It does not mean squandering our scarce resources on mandatory HIV testing of health care workers.

Latest Pentagon Report Rejects Notion of Gays as Security Risks

[Washington, D.C.]—In October, Rep. Gerry E. Studds (D-MA) released a new internal Defense Department report that denies Lesbians and Gay men are security risks for the country. The report concludes: "Sexual orientation is unrelated to moral character."

The 39-page report, entitled **Homosexuality and Personnel Security**, follows two prior reports from the military's own Defense Personnel Security and Education Center in Monterey, CA. Both prior reports, made public by Congressman Studds in 1989, had concluded that a person's sexual orientation is irrelevant to his or her suitability for service in the Armed Forces.

Rep. Studds praised the report's conclusion that it is not valid to place all homosexuals in a morally suspect class. "I strongly endorse the requirement that every applicant for a security clearance be evaluated on a case-by-case basis, without regard to the person's sexual orientation," declared Studds.

"I am also realistic enough to recognize an official policy change alone will not be sufficient. Given years of societal prejudice," Studds cautioned, "training, instruction and consistent monitoring of security clearance investigators will be required to ensure that the case-by-case approach is truly implemented."

The author of the most recent Pentagon report had reviewed 100 books and

articles, including the Pentagon case histories of 117 Americans who committed or attempted to commit espionage since 1945. The motives for disloyalty were primarily money or resentment — not related to sexual orientation.

The new report says: "Both patriots and traitors are drawn from the class American citizen, and not specifically from the class heterosexual or homosexual."

The new report focuses on the issue of personnel security, rather than military suitability, and therefore has even broader implications for both civilian military personnel and employees of defense contractors where security clearances are required.

The draft of the report obtained by Rep. Studds is undated and has yet to be officially acknowledged by the Department of Defense.

"It is essential for the public to see this report and decide for themselves whether it is sensible to continue to exclude Lesbians and Gay men from positions of service," Studds declared. "Patriotism is not limited by someone's sexual orientation. The opportunity to serve our country in the armed forces or in sensitive positions likewise should not be."

Editor's Note: Copies of the suppressed Pentagon report are available from Congressman Studds' office in Washington, D.C.

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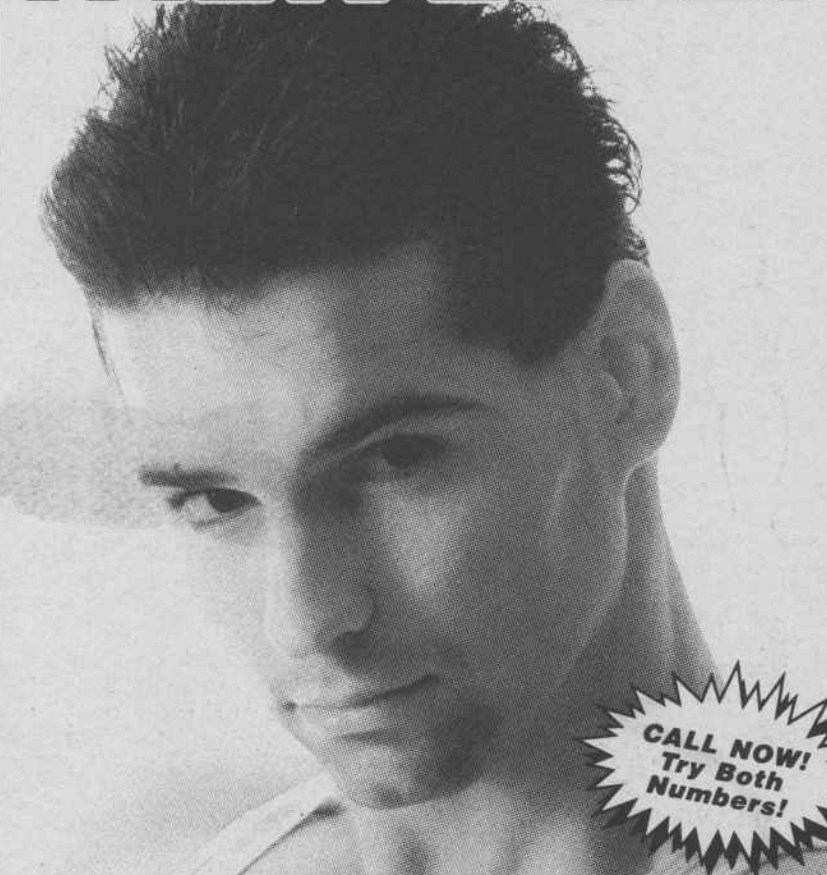
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'Making It Perfectly Queer' Set for Illinois April 2-4, 1992

[Champaign-Urbana, IL]- "Making It Perfectly Queer," the Second National Graduate Student Conference on Lesbian and Gay Studies, will be held at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign from April 2-4, 1992. It will run concurrently with Champaign-Urbana's Second Annual Lesbian and Gay Film Festival.

"Making It Perfectly Queer" will be a national, interdisciplinary gathering of graduate students working in the areas of Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Studies. The conference will focus on diversity within these communities — issues of race, class, ethnicity and gender.

Keynote speakers scheduled for the conference are Essex Hemphill and Judith Butler.

Hemphill is the editor of **Brother to Brother: New Writings by Black Gay Men**. His work also appears in Marlon Riggs' film **Tongues Untied**. Butler is the author of **Gender Trouble: Feminism and the Subversion of Identity**, as well as many articles on feminism and French

philosophy.

Interested graduate students are encouraged to submit proposals for papers and presentations. The organizers are looking for submissions from all disciplines as well as those which cut across disciplinary boundaries, make connections between academic and community concerns, and examine issues of diversity. People of color are especially invited to submit proposals.

Proposals (containing a current address and phone number) must be submitted by January 13, 1992 to either Robert McRuer, Department of English, 208 English Building, 608 S. Wright Street, Urbana, IL 61801 or to Cris Mayo, Department of Education Policy Studies, 360 Education Building, 1310 S. 6th Street, Champaign, IL 61820.

Registration materials and information on travel and housing accommodations can be requested from McRuer or Mayo. Conference registration prior to February 1 is just \$10.

SCHOOL BOARD

Continued from Page 1

preference to themselves." Johnnie Smith agreed. She said that Gays have "the right to turn to Christ for salvation, the right to be delivered from sin."

One speaker equated homosexuality with Satanism. Another compared homosexuality to sin, "just like murder, stealing, lying and killing." Many who testified read from the Bible. They decried the "evil," "wickedness" and "abomination" of homosexuality. Some said the only "redemption" was through Jesus Christ.

Speakers repeatedly linked AIDS with homosexuality and suggested that the higher rate of suicide among Gay teens was due solely to their "sin" and not to societal pressures.

And Robert Schmidt said: "Given MPS's inability to teach things as elementary as reading, I can't imagine they can teach something as complex as homosexuality."

Proponents

Vocal proponents were few in number and were occasionally heckled by the audience of Christians.

Michael Lisowski of Gay Youth Milwaukee said: "These proposals have nothing to do with promoting homosexuality. We're talking about saving children's lives."

Seventeen year old Bernell Howard spoke of being verbally and sexually harassed in school. "I want my education," he said. "I want my diploma. I just want my safety."

Miriam Ben-Shalom, a teacher in the MPS, recounted the "vile" anti-Gay names she often hears in the halls of her school. She pleaded with the hostile throng: "How many more of the kids in our community are going to have to die? Please give me the tools I need to at least help these kids."

Bill Nute spoke in favor of the proposals "so that we don't raise another generation of intolerance." And Carmen Fornes-Nute chided the audience: "Teach your child at home to respect all people and there would be no need to teach homosexuality in the schools." Many in the crowd mistook her words as criticism of the proposals. But Fornes-Nute told this reporter afterward that she was "shocked" at the ignorance being expressed.

Supporters of the Task Force recommendations left the meeting dejected. Some were in tears. Christians badgered them by praying aloud and laying their hands on them in quasi-religious ritual.

Substitute Motion

To quell the opposition, and as a means of compromise, School Director David Lucey (who does not serve on the Instruction and Community Relations Committee) offered a substitute motion which revised the administration's response. A part of his motion stunned the Gay supporters present.

It reads: "MPS does not condone or encourage any form of sexual conduct outside the institution of marriage, and believes that marriage is the foundation of family and society, and that the stability of marriage is basic to morality and civilization. If the task Force can identify supplemental curriculum materials that are consistent with these views, the administration will consider their inclusion in the existing curriculum."

When the substitute motion was voted on, Directors Mary Bills, Jared Johnson

and Christine Sinicki voted "Present," a neutral vote, which, in the absence of any "Ayes," defeated the measure. However, Lucey can re-introduce the substitute motion when the full Board meets November 20.

The Committee then voted on a motion to send the administration's response to the Task Force recommendations to the full School Board for its consideration. Jared and Sinicki both voted "Present," but Bills cast an "Aye" vote, thus gaining its passage.

The full School Board will discuss and either reject, revise or adopt the administration's response at its November 20 meeting, which begins at 8 p.m. There will be no time set aside for public comment, but judging from the emotional response at the Committee meeting, many citizens are likely to attend.

Dr. Howard Fuller, Superintendent of MPS, listened to much of the testimony November 13. Joyce Mallory, the fourth member of the Committee, who had previously indicated strong support for the proposals on Gay teens, was excused from the meeting and was not present.

[Editor's Note: Please see the list of phone numbers of School Board members in this issue of the **Light**. They are being harangued mercilessly by the 'Christian' element so, please, treat them with respect. Also, at the last full meeting of the School Board October 30, the Board unanimously passed a resolution to forward the Report on Gay Teens to the school administration for its response. The **Light** reported that the full Board had adopted the report.)

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