



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

# The Wisconsin Light

## City Hall May Nix Funds For Pride Committee

By Jamakaya

[Milwaukee]— Still reeling from the effects of the fundamentalist backlash at November's School Board meetings, Milwaukee's Lesbian and Gay community braced once again for battle when it was reported that Alderman Michael Murphy plans to oppose a \$5,000 grant of city festival funds to the Lesbian/Gay Pride Committee.

The Pride Committee is one of 39 groups which applied for 1992 funds from the Milwaukee Festival Fund Board. The Festival Board, comprised of five citizen volunteers appointed by the Mayor, serves the purely advisory function of reviewing applications from non-profit community groups and, according to its guidelines, recommending funds for "the broadest array of neighborhood and holiday celebrations, environmental projects and civic observances." Its budget for 1992 is \$200,000. Most of the recommended grants range between \$2,000 and \$6,000.

In addition to the Pride Celebration, events recommended for funding next year include: the Riverwest Art Walk, the St. Patrick's Day Parade and the Puerto Rican Festival, Downer Days, Farm Fest, EcoCircus Traveling Theatre, a Kwanzaa Celebration, the Veteran's Day Parade, YWCA's Racial Justice Convocation, the Coffee House's Mid-Winter Folk Festival and the Mexican Independence Day Parade.

### Committee Vote

The Common Council's Committee on Economic Development is scheduled to vote on a resolution which contains all 39 grants on December 18. The full Council will then consider the resolution December 20. Scuttlebutt out of City Hall is that the vote may be delayed until January, but that could not be confirmed by the **Wisconsin Light**.

Alderman Marvin Pratt chairs the Economic Development Committee. Murphy is vice-chair. Aldermen John Kalwitz, Chris Krajniak and Steve Cullen are also members. The **Light** called each committee member to inquire about their views. Murphy was the only one to answer his own phone and talk with us. None of the others returned our calls.

Alderman Murphy has been a past sponsor of the city's annual Gay Pride Week proclamations. He told the **Light** he supported the proclamations because they were simple statements about non-discrimination and treating Gays and Lesbians with respect, but he opposed the use of taxpayers' money to support what he called a "lifestyle" event.

When told that the Pride Celebration was a large cultural event similar to the city's other ethnic and neighborhood festivals, Murphy again said that he objected to promoting "Gay culture and lifestyle." He said he would also oppose a similar request by a heterosexual group wanting to promote its "lifestyle."

Murphy said: "Some of my best friends are Gays and Lesbians. A lot of them who I've talked to about it say they don't really care anyway. They don't see it as a big major issue and I hope it isn't made into one."

### 'Manipulation' by Whom?

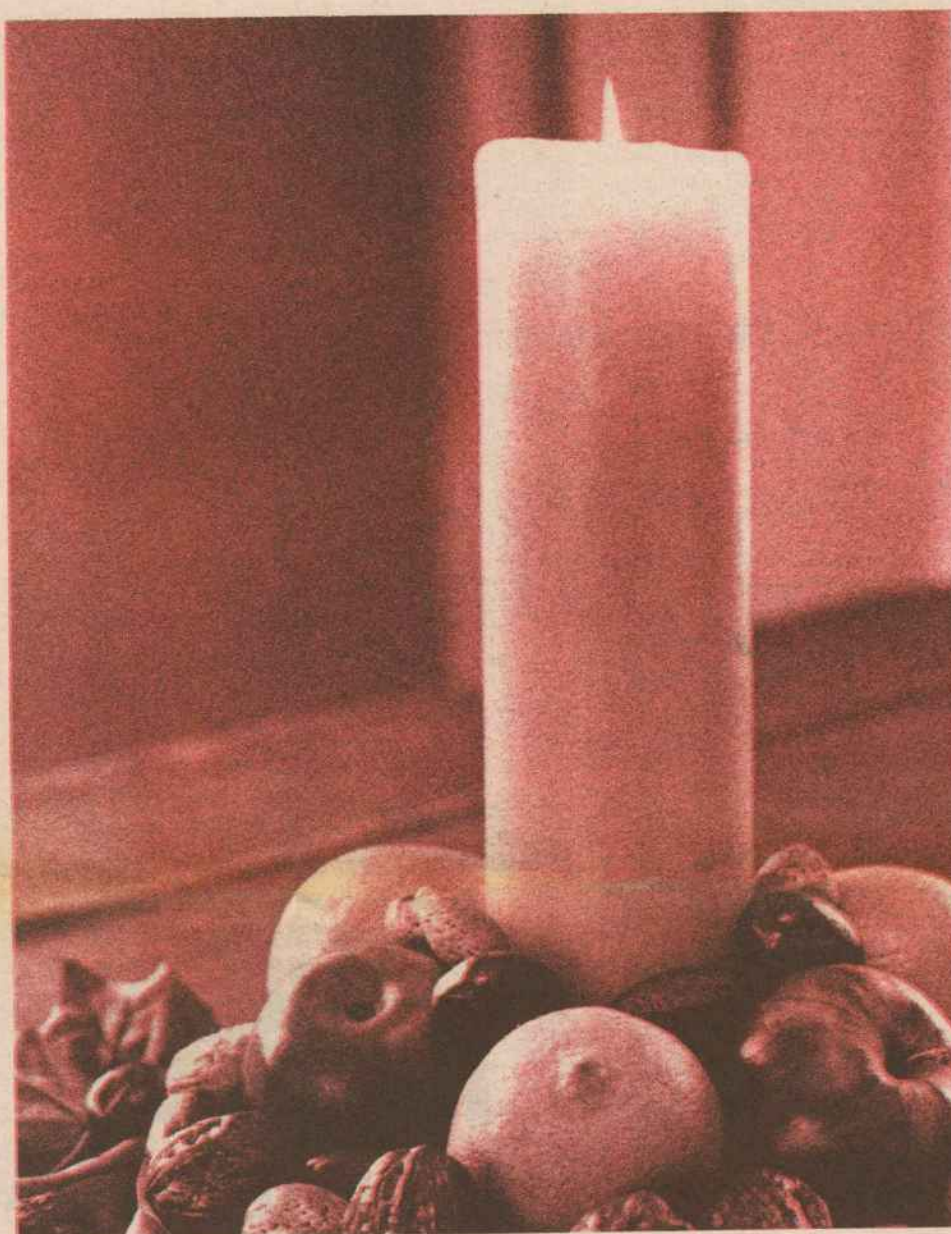
When he expressed concern that the **Light** might try to make an issue of it, this reporter suggested that it was Mark Belling of WISN Radio and the fundamentalists who were already making an issue of it, just as they had the School Board vote in November.

Murphy said it was wrong for people to "manipulate" the issue. He said he had even called the **Milwaukee Sentinel** to complain about their coverage of the story. Both the **Sentinel** and **Journal** in their headlines and stories juxtaposed the Pride Committee's proposed grant of \$5,000 with the fact that veteran's groups, which organize the Memorial Day and Veterans Day Parades were only offered \$1,000.

Murphy called the coverage  
TURN TO MURPHY, PAGE 13

## Holiday Season Marred By Violent Attacks Against Gays

By Terry Boughner and Jamakaya



[Milwaukee]— One Gay man was shot, Lesbian activist Miriam Ben-Shalom received a death threat and at least one other elderly man was brutally mugged in a series of anti-Gay incidents which marred the early holiday season in Milwaukee. Several of the attacks were linked to recent media reports about Gays and to the homophobic outcry by fundamentalists at last month's School Board meetings.

Jim Beck of Racine County, whose partner, Bill Meunier, is a **Wisconsin Light** columnist, was robbed and then shot in an incident of anti-Gay violence late Friday night, December 6. The robbery/shooting took place in the Menomonee Street parking lot across from the Wreck Room bar at 266 East Erie.

According to Beck, he was getting out of his car when he was assaulted by two men he described as approximately in their middle twenties and Black. At least one of the assailants was armed. The assault took place just before midnight.

Beck said that one of the men pointed a gun at him, saying, "Give me your money, fag!" Beck complied, giving them his wallet containing \$15, his payroll check and the extra set of keys to his car. Then for no apparent reason he was shot, with the bullet hitting him in the upper right shoulder. The two assailants fled down an adjacent alley.

### No Help From Bar

Beck, who did not realize he had been wounded, was forced to beg money from a passer-by to call his lover from a pay phone in the Wreck Room bar, whose personnel offered him no assistance. Afterward, he spotted a squad car sitting on Erie Street and went to report the crime.

It was only when he was sitting in the squad car with police, recounting the incident, that Beck realized he was dripping blood and had, indeed, been shot.

Police summoned paramedics and Beck was taken to the Milwaukee County Medical Complex for treatment. He was released Saturday morning. Doctors have informed Beck that he is likely to lose some of the mobility in his arm.

Police were on the scene that night, responding to a call of another robbery they said took place in the same area approximately 20 minutes before Beck was shot. In that incident, a man who identified himself as Gay but who would not give his name, had been forced at gunpoint to hand over his wallet. The officers indicated they believed the two robberies were committed by the same men. As of press time, no suspects had been apprehended.

Beck, his partner Meunier and other staff members of the **Light** who arrived at the scene reported that the officers  
TURN TO HATE CRIMES, PAGE 13

## Homophobic Backlash Envelopes Students at UW-Whitewater

By Jamakaya

[Whitewater]— Polly Robinson, Photographic Editor of the **Royal Purple**, the student newspaper at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater, was assaulted twice in November by assailants motivated by anti-Gay hatred. Both attacks occurred off campus in the parking lot outside her apartment. No suspects are in custody.

On November 18, Robinson suffered a minor concussion after being hit in the face by someone who yelled: "You fucking dyke!"

Several days later, Robinson discovered a copy of the **Royal Purple** on the windshield of her car. A message scrawled on it said: "Dike, you deserved what you got [sic]."

On November 25, Robinson was again assaulted, this time with a blunt object which put a two inch gash in her head. The attacks were preceded by harassing phone calls.

Shelby Mallonen, President of the Gay and Lesbian Student Union (GLSU) at UW-Whitewater, also received threatening and obscene phone calls during November. Mallonen attributed these attacks to an "atmosphere of hostility on the Whitewater campus" that, she said, had intensified this Fall.

Campus debates over funding for the GLSU and a homophobic editorial that ran in the **Royal Purple** [RP] seem to have fueled the violence.

In October, Bill Drebenstedt of the **RP** wrote an opinion piece criticizing government and university funding of what he called "fringe groups." He cited the GLSU along with ACT UP and Queer Nation (neither of which receive government funding), calling members of such groups "mutants." The GLSU was

in the process of applying for student funds available to all student groups through the proper university channels.

Then, on October 30, Managing Editor Jeffrey Slagter wrote an editorial called "Gay Movement Way Off Base," which ignited a campus-wide controversy.

In response to the placement of a copy of the **Wisconsin Light** on the Student Association bulletin board (later admitted to by Drebenstedt), Slagter wrote an inflammatory diatribe, calling Gays and Lesbians "closet fiends" who lack the courage to come out of the closet. He complained sarcastically about having to be "sensitive" to "poor homosexuals." Slagter claimed Gays were forcing "their extreme views on the masses" and that  
TURN TO WHITEWATER, PAGE 15

## Federal Judge Okays Pentagon Ban; Joe Steffan to Appeal Decision

[Washington, D.C.]— On December 9, 1991, Federal District Court Judge Oliver Gasch upheld current Defense Department policy banning openly Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual people from military service.

In a case brought by Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund (LLDEF) — the national Gay and Lesbian legal organization — Gasch ruled that the anti-Gay policy "rationally furthered state purposes," and then denied relief to former Naval Midshipman Joseph Steffan.

Gasch's opinion was unprecedented because it upheld the Department of Defense (DOD) policy on the grounds that it is a legitimate tool to prevent the spread of AIDS within the armed forces, the first

time such a rationale has ever been expressed.

Paula Ettelbrick of LLDEF said: "The health rationale is absolutely outrageous because it bans an entire class of people without any justification."

Steffan was forced to resign from the U.S. Naval Academy in May, 1987, a few weeks shy of graduation, after he disclosed his homosexuality to an academy chaplain. Up to that point, Steffan had an impeccable record both academically and in terms of military service. He was scheduled to graduate near the top of his class and be commissioned as an officer.

In December, 1988, Steffan and Lambda filed suit challenging his  
TURN TO NAVY, PAGE 15



## NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### More Gays Murdered in Texas

[Houston, TX]- Gays and Lesbians protested recently at City Hall and the Houston Police Department demanding greater protection from authorities after a second man was killed leaving a Montrose area Gay bar called Heaven.

Phillip W. Smith, 24, was shot to death in November while walking to his car after leaving the bar. A 20 year old suspect has been charged. In July, Paul Broussard was beaten to death near the same bar by a gang of young men who wielded boards with exposed nails and shouted anti-Gay slurs. Ten men have been charged in Broussard's death.

Meanwhile in Dallas, a Gay man was killed and his friend wounded while sharing an order of fast food at a picnic bench in Reverchon Park. Three men with guns approached the couple, calling them "queers" and "fags" and making slurs about the Vietnamese heritage of one of the men.

After being forced into a secluded area, Thanh Nguyen was shot in the stomach and killed. His friend Hugh Calloway is recovering from bullet wounds to the leg and face. No one has been apprehended.

### Lesbian Jokes Do Not Amuse

[Washington, DC]- Sen. Bob Kerrey (D- NE) and an aide to Vice President Dan Quayle have apologized for jokes they made about Lesbians in November. But Gay and Lesbian leaders are neither amused by the jokes nor satisfied with the apologies.

Kerrey, a Presidential candidate, told a sexually explicit joke about Lesbians at a fundraising event in New Hampshire November 15. Jerry Brown, another Presidential candidate, was the butt of the joke. Quayle's press secretary made this comment at a Republican fundraiser November 21: "The good news is that the Lesbians are upset with Kerrey. The bad news is that they'll be coming our way to support us."

The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, which demanded apologies from both men, said it would not be satisfied until Sen. Kerrey signed on as a co-sponsor of the federal Gay rights bill. Tim McFeeley of the Human Rights Campaign Fund said: "There is nothing funny about sexual jokes. They degrade women by holding them up to ridicule and abuse. They help to sustain a climate in our country where Lesbians are attacked by Gay bashers and thugs."

### Supremes Consider Hate Crimes Law

[Washington, DC]- The Supreme Court heard oral arguments in early December on the constitutionality of the hate crimes ordinance of St. Paul, Minnesota. A St. Paul teenager found guilty of burning a cross on the lawn of a Black family appealed his conviction to the nation's highest court.

The St. Paul ordinance is phrased more broadly than most similar measures. It defines as a crime the display of any symbol that may arouse "anger, alarm or resentment in others" based on their race, sex or religion.

Justices Antonin Scalia and David Souter questioned the attorneys representing both sides aggressively and expressed concern about the law's possible infringement on the right to freedom of expression. The Court's decision, expected to be rendered by next Summer, could have wide-reaching consequences for other hate crimes laws.

### Cracker Barrel Feels Pressure

[New York, NY]- Pressure is mounting against the Cracker Barrel restaurant chain to adopt a non-discrimination policy regarding sexual orientation and to rehire at least eleven employees fired earlier this year because they were believed to be Gay.

The New York City Employees' Retirement System, a pension fund that owns \$2.8 million in Cracker Barrel stock, has asked the company to "add explicit prohibitions against such discrimination" to its employment policies.

Members of the American Public Health Association (APHA), which has gone on record against the Cracker Barrel policy, recently joined with Queer Nation activists in a sit-in at a Cracker Barrel restaurant near Atlanta. Dr. Joshua Lipsman told *Southern Voice* that APHA "will not tolerate a policy as openly bigoted and prejudiced as this one."

Meanwhile, dozens of protesters have been arrested at regular Sunday picket lines at a Cracker Barrel that just opened in suburban Detroit. In addition, a recent segment of ABC's 20/20 informed millions of Americans about the company's discriminatory policy.

### Women Lawmakers More Liberal

[Coronado, CA]- A survey conducted by Rutgers University's Center for the American Woman and Politics reveals that women legislators, Democrat or Republican, are more supportive of a wide range of measures protecting and extending women's rights than are their male colleagues.

The survey, released at a convention of women state legislators, also found that women have policy agendas much different from those of men and that they are consistently more liberal than men.

Women currently hold 18% of the seats in America's state legislatures and 6% of those in Congress. Three women serve as governors: Democrats Barbara Roberts of Oregon and Ann Richards of Texas and Republican Kay Orr of Nebraska. Nancy

Kassebaum (R-KS) and Barbara Mikulski (D- MD) serve in the US Senate.

### Quickies...

[New York, NY]- Nineteen AIDS activists dressed as Santa Clauses were arrested after chaining themselves together inside Macy's Department Store to protest the store's refusal to rehire a store Santa who is HIV-positive. They were charged with criminal trespass and resisting arrest.

[San Francisco, CA]- George Michael will donate some of the proceeds from his single "Don't Let the Sun Go Down On Me" to the San Francisco AIDS Foundation and to Project Open Hand, which delivers free meals to people with AIDS in the Bay area.

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.

## LAW &

Wills  
Probate  
Probate Avoidance  
Partners Separation  
Agreements  
Bankruptcy  
Real Estate  
Traffic Defense  
Drunk Driving



## KLAUS

Custody  
Visitation &  
Divorce  
Personal Injury  
&  
Workers  
Compensation  
Title XIX  
Ask Us!!

*"If it concerns you,  
it concerns us!"*

ATTORNEYS

Carol L. Law and Warren J. Klaus

## LAW & KLAUS

In Memorial of Jill Klaus  
Free Living Wills

FREE FIRST MEETING  
with attorney regarding any legal matter.  
Call for an appointment. Available weekdays,  
weekends and evenings.

CPA Services Available

5665 S. 108th Street

Hales Corners

529-2800

Ample Street-Level Parking



# THIS IS IT!

Joe, June and the Staff

WISHES YOU A

Merry  
Christmas  
&

Happy New Year



Milwaukee's Warmest and  
Friendliest Bar!

418 East Wells Street

Milwaukee

278-9192



## PARTNERS

Ride Into 1992 in Style with Partners on  
New Year's Eve. Enjoy a traditional  
New Year's Celebration with hats, horns,  
confetti & balloons. Buffet from 9pm to  
4am. Champagne at Midnight.

813 South First Street • Milwaukee • 647-0130

## Eastmore

REAL ESTATE



Real Estate Services  
Brokerage • Management • Rentals

Leonard J. Sobczak, President  
3287 N. Oakland Ave.  
961-1822





# THANK YOU



We proudly express our heartfelt thanks to the Lesbian and Gay Community for your loyal support this year.

Thank you for the thousands of hours of volunteer time that you have dedicated to help us deliver vital services to our community and to our clients.

Thank you for your support of our fundraising events. With your help, we raised more than \$700,000 -- the largest amount ever raised for AIDS care and education in Wisconsin.

Thank you for the many benefits produced throughout the year by bars, groups of friends and energetic individuals. All of these benefits are vital to our financial strength.

Most of all, thank you for being our most faithful source of support. The continuing commitment of the Lesbian and Gay Community has helped us to prepare for the difficult challenges of AIDS that lie ahead.

**MILWAUKEE AIDS PROJECT  
SOUTHEAST WISCONSIN AIDS PROJECT  
AIDS RESOURCE CENTER OF WISCONSIN, INC.**



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

## The Wisconsin Light



### Executive & Editorial Offices

1843 N. Palmer

Milwaukee, WI 53212

(414) 372-2773

Light FAX: [414] 289-0789

### PROFESSIONAL STAFF

#### Publisher

Jerry Johnson

#### Executive Editor

Terry Boughner, Ph.D.

#### News Editor

Jamakaya

### Arts & Entertainment Editor

Geno

### Advertising Manager

Jerry Johnson

372-2773

### Advertising Representative

Chris Baster

### COLUMNISTS

State Rep. David E. Clarenbach, Karen Lamb, Ph.D., Jamakaya, Bill Meunier, Maytee Aspuro, Deb Procknow.

### REPORTERS

Eugene Brzenk, Ph.D., Sue Burke, Michael Lisowski, Jeb Loew, Bill Lyne, John Quinlan

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

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

Copyright © 1991

By Novo Graphics, Ltd.

### Office Hours:

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

24-hour recording

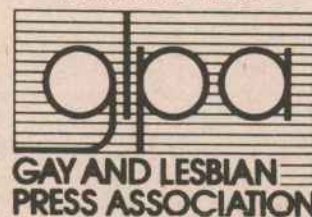
### SUBSCRIPTIONS

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

# Gay Bashing Thrives in Climate Where 'Good People' Do Nothing

Gay bashing comes in many forms: in overt acts of violence against Lesbians and Gay men in the streets and in more subtle forms of abuse, prejudice, neglect, even silence — especially silence.

Nineteen ninety-one has certainly been a banner year for the bashers. Even the much vaunted "Season of Light" has been tarnished by senseless acts of hatred and ignorance against members of the Gay community.

A Gay man is shot on Milwaukee's near South Side while another is brutally mugged on the North Side. A woman in Whitewater with the courage to speak out against homophobia is repeatedly assaulted while another in Milwaukee is threatened with a shotgun blast to her back.

"Fag!" "Dyke!" "Queer!" "Fruit!" The cacophony seems endless, bolstered, of course, by a Federal Judge and a Milwaukee School Board Director who can't understand what's wrong with these "Homos."

Jeffrey Dahmer kills seventeen young men, mostly Gay, mostly men of color, and the questions asked are not "Why was this allowed to go on so long? Why was no pattern detected?" but "Why were the victims so reckless? Why were they asking for it?"

Bible-thumping parents pack a School Board meeting to oppose services for Gay teens — some, no doubt, their own children. They decry homosexuality as an "abomination" and predict "hell and damnation" for "perverts" while denying statistics about an epidemic of suicide among Gay and Lesbian youth — some victims of which, no doubt, are their own children.

Milwaukee's Lesbian/Gay Pride Committee, whose goal is to promote self-esteem among and understanding about Gay people, faces a stinging rebuke from the city "fathers," who, one would think, particularly in the year of Dahmer, would extend a hand to say: "Yes, we want to listen, we're ready to learn, to help."

But no, this is Milwaukee after all, where media outlets recklessly cite "homosexual overkill" as a new category of crime and a radio shock jock like Mark Belling can say that mass murder/dismemberment is the "logical extension" of the "Gay lifestyle."

Madness surrounds us. And the most disheartening aspect of all is the lack of leadership, the absence of voices (other than our own) raised in our defense. The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is that good men and women do nothing. Milwaukee's Lesbian and Gay community is living that nightmare.

When Mayor John Norquist, just a week after the shameful display of bigotry at the School Board meeting, gave a major speech in which he touted "traditional values in our families," we reached new depths of despair. We want to believe he did not appropriate and use the rhetoric of the right wing for political gain, but frankly, we're feeling a bit cynical. Cynical, isolated and totally besieged.

The Milwaukee Journal published a strongly worded editorial against the hatred being leveled against our community. We just wish their daily reportage would reflect that sensitivity. The Interfaith Conference just released a statement criticizing the intolerance expressed at the School Board meeting. We are grateful, but it sure would have helped several weeks ago when we were in the belly of the beast.

The absence of real political and moral leadership in this community is criminal. The silence is killing us. It is allowing the bashers free rein.

In the year of Jeffrey Dahmer, almost every attempt by the Lesbian and Gay community to reach out for compassion and to work for redress and reforms through the proper political channels have been closed to us. Beware the consequences of this indifference. Repressed communities have a way of asserting themselves that is often unpredictable. We are on the edge. Before it is too late, lend us a hand, please help pull us back from this precipice.

## The LIGHT Begins Fifth Year Of Covering the Gay Rights State

We are proud to report that in November, the Wisconsin Light began its fifth year of publication. Over the years and particularly since the Jeffrey Dahmer murders and the homophobic backlash which has ensued, we have become keenly aware of the role we play in accurately reporting our community's concerns.

Every appearance of the Light is a minor miracle brought to you by a small band of dedicated volunteers who understand the importance of Gays and Lesbians and our supporters having our own media. The hundreds of hours of labor that go into producing each issue are sometimes exhausting, but truly a labor of love.

We want to thank all the reporters who cover events, the readers who phone in tips and send us letters, the photographers (we need more!) who snap the pictures, the distributors who carry our paper and the advertisers who help us pay the bills.

We are also aware of our limitations, and would like to put the word out once again that the Light's content is largely dependent on input from the community. More advertisers would enable us to expand the paper, and more correspondents feeding us tips and covering stories would diversify the paper's content.

We particularly need to communicate more regularly with Gays and Lesbians in Green Bay, Superior, Madison, Wausau, Prairie du Chien, Whitewater and parts between to reach beyond our base in Milwaukee to truly cover the entirety of the Gay Rights State. If you're willing to help in any of these ways, give us a call at (414) 372-2773.

In our fifth year, we pledge to continue our efforts at bringing you accurate reporting and thoughtful commentaries. With your active support, we can only get better!

## LETTERS

### WISN's Damage

#### TO THE EDITOR:

The newscast that ran on Channel 12 dealing with homosexuality was probably the most damaging legal discrimination I have ever witnessed. The discrimination was not in the news presented, but in what was left out of the report.

As in a legal testimony, people are sworn in to tell the WHOLE truth and nothing but the truth. I would think that a news station would follow those precedents.

The report aired was not only one-sided, but biased. The crew went into the slums of the Gay community and portrayed that as the "norm." This action would be much like taping at Hoops in Milwaukee to portray the average heterosexual man, or going to a shelter to portray the average Black man.

I'm not saying that the report was incorrect. I am only letting you know that there are many upstanding, Christian, monogamous homosexuals who are being defaced by this kind of one-sided broadcast.

If only they had decided to do some research before going on the air, you would have noticed that the grand majority of homosexual singles' ads say things to the effect of: looking for a longtime companion/not into the bar scene, etc....

I am speaking with accurate insight, I believe, for the large percentage of "normal" homosexuals that do not go to leather bars to pick up a one-night stand. We are outraged at the way a few stereotypical, loud-mouthed Gays have ruined all chances for decent homosexuals with values.

If all people knew about heterosexuals

consisted of what they heard on the news, they would find a sick, twisted, child-molesting, rapist infested society.

I am a 17-year-old female that attends a Brookfield high school. I love my parents, do my best in school and attend Catholic Church services with my girl friend on Sundays. I do not scream "I am Gay" in people's faces. I don't wear leather pants, smoke cigars and belch. I do not stare down the other girls in the gym locker room and I have no desire to make a pass at a fellow classmate.

I have as much respect for straight people as I believe they should have for me, and I'm not a rare person. I know many Gays who think and act with good moral judgment. You just don't hear about us. We're not sick enough to get on Phil Donahue and don't usually desire to get into protests by yelling "We're here, we're queer" and dressing like stereotypical fags to get recognition.

I'm not going to start a rally and boycott Channel 12 News. I just hoped I could let you know that I agree that sexual deviance does exist in the Gay community, just as it does in the heterosexual community.

Please, if you wish to help save the hearts and souls of an entire generation of young, decent homosexual people, tell it like it is, not merely how it appears.

—Name Withheld on Request

### WISN Exposed

#### TO THE EDITOR:

Editor's Note: The following letter was sent to WISN Channel 12, all the other Milwaukee major media and to Michael Horne.

Yesterday I was talking with a Gay person I'll call "Dave." Dave had a very interesting experience in Underwood Park some weeks ago. Dave says that he came upon an unusual

man in the park. One thing unusual was that the man had a bag at his side which hung over his shoulder on a strap. What was not particularly unusual, according to Dave, was that the man had his penis out. Dave said that when he went over to the man and began fondling him, the man made no objection, but urged Dave to take his own penis out with words something like "Let's see what you've got." The second unusual event of the incident, according to Dave, was that when he obliged the man by taking out his penis, instead of fondling it, the man backed off at some distance and just stood looking at him.

After hearing about and seeing your "expose" of Gay life, Dave now wonders whether the man he encountered was your reporter and whether he is in your files on video tape. I wonder that too. Given the history of William Randolph Hearst, I certainly wouldn't be surprised if the odd man with the shoulder bag and the unusual behavior was one of your employees. Perhaps you should investigate. It may be that your reporter was exposing himself and inviting people to fondle him and expose themselves so he could film them. I would certainly like to hear a denial. If, on the other hand, your reporter was doing these things, you will have a good story for your next "sweeps week."

Another disturbing thing about your "expose" was that Dave said he and a friend clearly recognized one of the people you showed as a married man who works in an executive position. If they recognized him, one has to wonder about his family and co-workers. Well, you certainly have done your good deed for the century, haven't you? This even tops the incident of Jerry Taff's mother's house.

—Al Geiersbach  
Milwaukee

## Death in Waupun

### TO THE EDITOR:

Mr. Gee was 76 years of age or thereabouts. He was just another inmate at Waupun Correctional Institution, housed in the Self-Care Unit of the Health Services Unit Building at the prison.

The Health Services staff thought Mr. Gee was a malingering, always complaining about lung problems, his difficulty breathing and coughing. He saw the prison doctor on November 12, 1991. Whatever the prison doctor said to him, it seems like nothing at all because Mr. Gee died on November 13.

In the late morning hours, Mr. Gee had difficulty breathing. A nurse finally saw him and did little to nothing and said he'd be okay. The prison doctor was in the building at the time, but did not examine Mr. Gee.

Approximately 15 minutes later, a fellow inmate found Mr. Gee in his cell. He was not breathing. Two nurses and the prison doctor worked on him with just their hands even though other equipment was available in the building. After all, Mr. Gee was just another inmate. A few short minutes later, Mr. Gee was dead.

The care and treatment that Mr. Gee received did not meet community standards. This is common practice at Waupun Correctional Institution.

There are many inmates like Mr. Gee who have health problems who must rely on prison officials for care and treatment. But to rely on them may result in another Mr. Gee. And who is Mr. Gee? Just another dead inmate.

—Anthony Bucaro  
Waupun, WI

## Hooray, Oberons!

### TO THE EDITOR:

On December 6, the Oberons Christmas Club for Children with AIDS presented gifts to caseworkers at the Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP) for distribution to the 67 young clients and children currently receiving services from MAP programs.

The Oberons would like to thank Bill Kindt, owner of the Wreck Room, his staff and the patrons who helped raise \$1,179 for this effort.

Special thanks to the individuals who gave large anonymous donations. Our success at exceeding our goal encourages us to aim higher in the future.

—The Oberons

## Gay Methodists Hold Potluck December 21

[Madison]- The Madison Affirmation group will hold a potluck on Saturday, December 21 at 6:00 p.m. Affirmation is a national organization of Lesbian and Gay United Methodists and their friends. This gathering will hopefully revitalize the local group which has been inactive for two years. Anyone is welcome to come and celebrate new friends and visions for the upcoming year. Contact the University United Methodist Church at (608) 256-2353 for location and directions.



### 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.



## Brady Clinic Wants Patients To Check on HIV Test Results

[Milwaukee]- "There are 11 people from the bars who have tested HIV-positive, five of them in the past week, who have not come for their test results," said Ross Walker, Vice President and HIV Manager of the Brady East STD Clinic. "These people are walking time bombs," he added.

Walker said that he could not "emphasize too strongly" how "extremely" important it is for those people and all who have been tested for HIV infection to come to the Clinic and get their results. "It is better to know and to take advantage of the treatment available," Walker said.

Testing, counseling and post-counseling at Brady STD Clinic is "completely anonymous" Walker stressed, and all services and therapies are free.

Walker also said that there is "no waiting" for testing or counseling. This, in contrast to New York where there is a

seven month waiting period.

Other services offered by the Brady STD Clinic include an anonymous HIV-positive support group and referrals to physicians familiar with HIV and other infectious diseases. In addition, the Brady Street Clinic sponsors four to six clinics each month, traveling to every Gay and Lesbian bar, the Galano Club and other locations.

The Clinic, Walker said, is "especially sensitive" to Lesbians and Gays, but is "available to everyone without discrimination."

The Brady STD Clinic is located at 1240 E. Brady Street on Milwaukee's East Side. Hours are 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. Monday and Wednesday nights by appointment. The phone number is (414) 272-2144.

If you have been tested and have not yet received your results, please do so as soon as you can. It really is a matter of life and death.

## Wisconsin Womyn's Land Co-op Offers Winter Weekend Retreats

[Madison]- The Wisconsin Womyn's Land Cooperative (WWLC) invites women to visit D.O.E. Farm during two winter outing weekends. On the between the holidays weekend, December 27-29, there will be a "Slumber Party." February 7-9, 1992, will be a "Cabin Fever Cure" weekend.

Facilities include a secluded chemical-free farmhouse, sauna, sledding hill, and space for breaking cross-country ski trails. Cider, popcorn and videos will be furnished. Bring a sleeping bag and pad, food, towel, sled or toboggan, skis and favorite women's music tapes or CDs.

D.O.E. Farm is southwest of Tomah, about five miles off I-90. WWLC is requesting a \$5 per night donation from each visitor during these two weekends. To make reservations or for more details, call (608) 244-3154 in Madison or the WWLC number: (608) 269-5301.

D.O.E. farm is owned and managed by members of the Wisconsin Womyn's Land Cooperative. Membership is open to

any woman who supports the co-op's purpose. WWLC is looking for women to work as Summer caretakers. For more information, write: WWLC, Rt. 2, Box 42, Norwalk, WI 54648.

## Grants From Kissing Girls Available

[Madison]- Kissing Girls Productions (KGP) is pleased to announce its third season of Lesbian Culture and Creativity Grants. These grants are intended to encourage Lesbian culture and creativity primarily in Madison, but throughout the Midwest. Grants will be awarded to Lesbians who work in arts, crafts, music, drama, film, literature, comedy, dance, visual and performing arts and other activities that enhance Lesbian Culture.

KGP has decided to award the 1992 grants to individuals, groups and private non-profit Lesbian community groups.

KGP will award grants primarily for public performances or showings, entry fees, supplies, travel expenses, rehearsal/studio space, or the publication/printing of work though alternative proposals will be considered.

KGP will judge grant requests on the basis of the following: quality of the proposal, diversity of applicants, impact within the Lesbian community and the applicant's ability to successfully complete the project. Acceptance of a grant award by an applicant will carry

with it the expectation that the applicant will participate in the 1992 Lesbian Variety Show, Art Show or Poetry Reading...if they are an appropriate forum.

Applications are due February 15, 1992. Applications must be postmarked by February 14, 1992. Award announcements will be made in the April and May, 1992 issues of local Lesbian, Gay and Feminist publications. Please send for a grant application to: KGP, Box 6091, Madison, WI 53716.

### SOAP OPERA NEWS

1-900-PRO-UPDATE

• Daily Updates! •

• The Latest Gossip! •

Touch tone phone required • 95¢ Per Minute  
Prices subject to change without notice

### HOROSCOPE

1-900-PROPHECY

• What does your future hold? •  
• Daily lucky numbers! •

Touch tone phone required • 95¢ Per Minute  
Prices subject to change without notice

## Live Tarot Card Reading



Call Now!

1-900-737-2348

1-900-PERCEIVE

\$3 PER MIN • MUST BE 18 OR OLDER AND HAVE A TOUCH TONE PHONE  
FOR MORE INFO CALL (312) 988-7464 • ©1991 REAL PEOPLE, LTD.

*LaCage*



## X MAS PARTY & SHOW SUNDAY DEC. 22nd

DRINK SPECIALS — GIVEAWAYS  
PLUS  
SANTA AND HIS BAG OF GIFTS

*dance dance dance*

## Happy Holidays To All!



### NEW YEAR'S EVE

Top 10 Video Countdown

Top 10 Music Countdown

- 5 BARS • 2 DANCE FLOORS
- TWO BUFFETS (Early & Late)
- COMPLIMENTARY CHAMPAGNE

*Celebrate All Nite Long At  
Wisconsin's #1 Gay  
Entertainment Center*

801 - 805 South 2nd Street Milwaukee, WI 383-8330

*Grubb's Pub*



## POLITICALLY SPEAKING

Street Bashers, Political Bashers  
Are All of The Same Stripe

By Bill Meunier

In early December, someone who has been a big part of my life for over nine years was shot and robbed after being called a "fag." I wish I could tell you how it feels to stand there shivering looking at the blood covered hand of someone you love, someone who was shot because he loves you.

I wish I could express the anger, the pain, and the fright. Thinking back I can very clearly remember how I felt, but there are no words that I can use to adequately describe it.

They took him to County General. The doctors said he was lucky. Lucky because normally the bullet would have bounced around inside of him, hitting a lung or his heart. Lucky because a fraction of an inch away from the bullet is the nerve that controls his arm movement. Had the bullet hit there he would have never moved that arm again. He was lucky they said, as they explained to me they would not take the bullet out because it would cause more damage to remove it than it would to leave it in.

My lucky man, however, will carry that bullet around for the rest of his life along with the pain, hurt, and anger that inevitably results from being shot. My lucky man who never hurt anyone will never be the same. To the punks who pulled a gun and then used it, this incident is probably no big deal, but the man they shot lost more than his wallet, he lost his trust.

I suppose I should be grateful that my tears are hitting this computer keyboard and not a casket, but somehow I don't feel lucky. I have too many questions.

I wonder why there was such an uncaring feeling in one of our bars, why, unlike the way things used to be, there were no immediate offers of help and support.

I wonder why WISN didn't listen when we begged them not to tell others about our area in Milwaukee's Third Ward. Were the ratings so important that they had to show a map of our Third Ward bar and cruising area? We were told that the police expect more incidents like this as a result.

Most of all I wonder how much it will take before the Bible thumpers, the media and opportunistic politicians stop preaching hatred, always of course under the guise of fairness.

I wonder and I think about Milwaukee Alderman Mike Murphy announcing he opposes using City Parade funds to support the Lesbian and Gay Pride parade because he doesn't want to "promote a lifestyle."

I am sure that Mr. Murphy would not see his comments as bigoted. But considering the fact that many of Milwaukee's parades promote ethnic and civic pride and, more subtly, the heterosexual lifestyle, and our Pride

parade promotes pride in ourselves, I do.

I wonder why only after Mayor Norquist called him did School Board Member David Lucey apologize for the vicious remarks he made at a School Board meeting. And I wonder why he claimed that he said those things "in the heat of the moment." I was there as the man coolly, calmly and very deliberately said that Gays were sick and abnormal.

In the "old South" they objected to civil rights laws for Blacks with key phrases about how these laws would mean "special treatment" and "promote a race." Sound familiar? It should. Those arguments didn't mask bigotry against Blacks then and they don't mask homophobia now.

I wonder if the Murphys and Luceys of the world realize that we know what they are saying (no matter how much they may deny it): that we are less than others and not entitled to the same treatment. I wonder if they realize how much violence they are promoting.

I may wonder about our enemies, but not my friends. I am grateful to my friends, the Editor and Publisher of this paper, Jerry Johnson and Terry Boughner, who rose from a sound sleep and came rushing to our aid.

I am grateful to Miriam Ben-Shalom who rose from bed the next day to rush to County Hospital to get the antibiotics and pain killers we had forgotten. I am grateful to the users of the Crossroads Computer Bulletin Board for their phone calls and messages of support.

I am especially grateful to the police officers, Thomas Bohl and John Szveda, and Detectives John Franckowiak and Dan Teske for their understanding and compassion.

They didn't make snide remarks, but they did make a point of telling us that although they are straight, our lifestyle made no difference to them. "A crime is a crime," they said "and we are sworn to protect everyone." They kept me informed and treated me with understanding just as they would have had I been a legal spouse.

This makes me grateful to those who have worked hard on Police-Gay/Lesbian relations. It seemed to me on that cold winter night that while we may not win all the battles on that front, we may be winning the war. People like Scott Gunkel, Karen Gotzler, Mike Lisowski, Kitty Barber, Stephanie Hume, Karen Zimmerman, Margaret Snow, and so many others are real assets for us all.

It is that gratitude for good friends that has helped us see that we really do have a community, that people really do care. It is that vision that strengthens our faith in our Lesbian/Gay community. We must not let thugs, whether they be on a School Board, a City Council, in Congress or in a dark alley, rob us of that faith. They have taken enough.

## Karen Thompson Appeals Sharon Kowalski Guardianship Decision

[St. Paul, MN]- Attorneys for Karen Thompson have asked the three judge Minnesota Court of Appeals to reverse an earlier decision by St. Louis County Judge Robert Campbell to appoint a third party as Sharon Kowalski's guardian.

Thompson and Kowalski's parents have engaged in visitation and guardianship battles over Sharon Kowalski since she was severely brain-injured in a car accident in 1983.

Donald and Della Kowalski relinquished guardianship in 1990 and, in April of this year, Judge Campbell awarded guardianship to Karen Tomberlin, a woman who coached Kowalski in athletics in high school.

M. Sue Wilson, Thompson's attorney, argued that Campbell ignored the testimony of 16 medical experts who said that Kowalski was capable of communicating with whom she wants to live. Kowalski has indicated she wants to be with Thompson, who was her lover at the time of the accident.

A attorney with the Minnesota Civil Liberties Union said there was evidence of "judicial hostility" in the case because of the women's Lesbian relationship.

Tomberlin's attorney said that Kowalski's current statements about where she wants to live should not be the final determinant. He said she was not fully informed of the conflict between her parents and Thompson and may be unable to understand what is happening.

Fred Friedman, the court-appointed

attorney for Kowalski, said he had recommended Tomberlin as a "neutral" party because of the "hostility" between Thompson and Donald and Della Kowalski. But he said he thought Sharon should be moved to a rehab facility nearer to either Thompson or the Kowalskis.

"I think she should be closer to people who love her. Now, people are pounding the highway to see her," said Friedman.

The Appeals Court is expected to rule on the case in 60 days.

## LAMM to Hold Holiday Party December 19

[Milwaukee]- All Lesbians are invited to the annual Holiday Potluck Party sponsored by the Lesbian Alliance of Metro Milwaukee (LAMM) on Thursday, December 19. Festivities begin at 6:00 p.m. with a potluck supper. LAMM will supply turkey, buns and beverages and partygoers are asked to bring turkey trimmings or treats to share.

Entertainment includes raffle drawings, a sing-along with the Mukwonago Feminist Singers and Eaters, and a female stand-up comedy film.

The location is the Milwaukee Enterprise Center, 2821 N. 4th Street. Secure, lit parking is available. For more information, call Aderonke Akiwowo at (414) 374-0882.

## Milwaukee Unitarians To Hold Variety of Christmas Services

[Milwaukee]- The First Unitarian Society of Milwaukee will hold four services to celebrate the holiday season.

The church, at 1342 N. Astor Street, is part of the Unitarian Universalist Association, a denomination that stresses freedom of belief and diversity among members. It has been working for equal rights for Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual people since 1975.

A "Mitten Tree" ceremony will be held at 5:00 p.m., Saturday, December 14. The family ceremony is highlighted by the decoration of a pine tree with mittens, scarves and hats that will be donated to

needy children. A potluck dinner will follow.

The service at 10:00 a.m., Sunday, December 18, will include a sermon on "Unexpected Blessings," a recounting of unexpected holiday events, including disasters that are funny in hindsight.

The service at 10:00 a.m., December 22, will be a Winter festival celebration for all ages, examining the traditions of Hanukkah, Winter Solstice and Christmas, with an expanded choir. Food and cash donations for the Hunger Task Force will be collected.

A Christmas Eve candlelight service with special music will be held at 5:30 p.m., Tuesday, December 24.

The Rev. Andrew C. Kennedy is the minister of the First Unitarian Society. For more information, the church can be reached at (414) 273-5257.

## New Hope MCC Christmas Service December 22

[Milwaukee]- New Hope Metropolitan Community Church will celebrate the birth of Christ with a special Christmas worship service on December 22, 1991 at 6:30 p.m. in the upper chapel of Kenwood United Methodist Church at 2319 E. Kenwood Boulevard.

Rev. Chris Pasinski will be delivering the Christmas message. There will be a Christmas social hour and caroling following the worship. Everyone is welcome! For more information, please call (414) 332-9995.

COME UP  
AND SKI US!

2 people, 3 nights: \$90 plus tax; 2 people 5 nights: \$140 plus tax. Sun.-Thurs. excluding holidays at your bed-&-breakfast second home in the great north woods. (Ask about Northstar House for group outings!)

**NORTHLAND HOUSE**  
609 Hwy. 77, Pence, WI 54550  
(715) 561-3120

Wisconsin's Gay Owned/Operated Travel Agency  
Specializing in Gay/Lesbian Cruises, Tours,  
and Guest Houses

## Bottom

## Line

3610 North Oakland Avenue

## Travel

(414) 964-6199

800-933-8330

## FOR ALL YOUR TRAVEL NEEDS

&gt;GAY AND LESBIAN TOURS

&gt;GAY CRUISES

&gt;INDIVIDUAL TRAVEL PLANS

&gt;GROUP TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS



AIR---LAND---SEA PACKAGES FOR ALL BUDGET NEEDS

**TRIO**  
TRAVEL & IMPORTS LTD.

2812 W. FOREST HOME AVENUE  
MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN 53215  
(414) 384-8746

From cruises to safaris to outdoor  
and undersea adventures.

This packet contains information on over 40 different vacations that are available for the gay and lesbian public to enjoy in 1992. And there's more... So, if you're looking for something new to do in '92. Send an \$8 check or money order along with your phone number to:

VACATIONS '92  
P.O. Box 2154  
Neenah, Wisconsin 54956



Offer ends February 1, 1992  
All information is confidential



## Conference of Gay Officials Energizes Wisconsin Delegation

By John Quinlan

[Houston, TX]- Members of Wisconsin's delegation of openly Lesbian and Gay elected officials left Houston on November 24th feeling excited and empowered by the successes of their colleagues nationwide.

Dane County Supervisors Dick Wagner, Tammy Baldwin and Marc Pocan described the Fifth Annual Conference of Openly Lesbian and Gay Elected and Appointed Officials as the perfect antidote to the exhausting County Board budget hearings they'd just completed in Madison.

"The delight of going to Houston was in hearing from openly Lesbian and Gay candidates who'd just won their first races," said Tammy Baldwin. "Especially inspiring was hearing about the victories of Sherry Harris and Tom Duane."

Harris, about to be sworn in as a Seattle City Council member, is the first African-American Lesbian to be elected to office in the U.S. Duane, a New York City Councilman, won his election both as a Gay man — and someone who was open about his HIV positive status.



When Baldwin attended the first conference of Lesbian and Gay officials in 1987, there were less than 20 openly Lesbian and Gay officials in the entire country. "Our victories have been astounding," she said. "Now, only four years later, there are almost 50 of us."

"Here in the Gay and Lesbian Rights State, we've got to get moving," she added. "Wisconsin has yet to elect an openly Gay or Lesbian legislator. In Massachusetts, Maine, Oregon, Washington — and now even Texas — openly Lesbian and Gay politicians are currently in the statehouse."

"It's Wisconsin's turn now," said Baldwin, a candidate for the Wisconsin State Assembly. Currently Wisconsin's only openly Lesbian politician, Baldwin said that she received enthusiastic pledges of financial and strategic support for her candidacy from politicians attending the conference.

"The importance of having a seat at the table can't be overemphasized," said Dane County Board Chair Dick Wagner. "When we're out there as openly Lesbian and Gay politicians, it means that our allies and supporters can't ignore our

community's concerns." Wagner, who has been in office for almost a decade, presided over several of the conference's sessions.

"Over the years, these conferences have been enormously strengthening," he added. "They give us the chance to trade stories of the progress we're making across the country, through our candidacies and through other important work we've been doing in our communities."

Newly-elected Dane County Supervisor Marc Pocan was especially excited to hear about the impact of Lesbian and Gay political groups nationwide. "Here in Wisconsin, we must continue to elect openly Lesbian and Gay candidates, but we must do so much more," he said.

Pocan sees victories such as the domestic partnership ordinances in San Francisco and Seattle as one type of success story he'd like to see duplicated here in Wisconsin. Just as important, however, is for politically active Lesbians and Gays to have a visible presence in major campaigns. "It's something that hasn't happened nearly enough in Wisconsin yet," he said.

Pocan said he would like to help organize a statewide Lesbian and Gay political action group that would call candidates on their Gay rights stands in everything from the upcoming Presidential primaries to Congressional races. By way of example, Pocan, a supporter of State Senator Russ Feingold's run for the U.S. Senate, is organizing phone banks run by Gay and Lesbian volunteers as a high visibility way of showing the importance of the Gay community's support.

For Pocan, being at his first conference of Elected Lesbian and Gay Officials, held a special meaning.

His recent "coming out" as an openly Gay official coincided with his personal decision to "come out" to family and friends — a decision delayed by the consequences of a Gay bashing several years ago.

"I know now how important it is for Lesbians and Gays, especially young women and men, to have people they can look to as role models, and I'm out and I'm out to stay," Pocan declared.

Pocan had begun the initial steps of coming out three and a half years ago when he was attacked by two young men who followed him out of a bar and beat



DANE COUNTY SUPERVISOR TAMMY BALDWIN  
SEATTLE CITY COUNCILWOMAN SHERRY HARRIS

him into unconsciousness. He described his initial reaction as extreme humiliation and fear.

Because he'd been knocked unconscious, Pocan was doubtful he'd be able to provide a detailed description of his assailants. He had just begun a new business and was concerned that adverse publicity over a Gay bashing would doom its success before he'd even opened the doors. He chose to hide his pain and retreated back into the closet.

His work volunteering for people with AIDS and a growing realization of the rising incidents of suicide among Gay and Lesbian youth caused him to take a hard look at himself a year and a half ago, he said. Slowly he began to grapple with his own pain and began the personal process of coming out.

By the time Pocan ran in a special election to replace retiring Gay County Supervisor Earl Bricker, he realized that being an openly Gay politician was the only road he could choose.

As a politician, he's been very out, including taking out a special ad in GALVANize's Pride March Program with his Dane County Board colleagues Baldwin and Wagner. And yet, the personal process of coming out still continues for him.

"Just the other night, I was having supper with some friends. Somehow the conversation wandered to the County Board and the fact that there were three

openly Lesbian or Gay supervisors. One of my friends said, 'Well, there's Wagner and Baldwin and, and...'"

"...And me!" Pocan interjected. It was a surprise to his friends and then they all laughed. It's an example of the positive, though sometimes awkward, coming out experiences that have been a part of Pocan's life recently.

Pocan's activism shows no signs of receding. He'll be running for his first full term as a County Supervisor in the Spring and supporting the candidacy of Tammy Baldwin for State Assembly in the Fall. He hopes to form the Gay and Lesbian political action committee by year's end.

## MASN: Keep People With AIDS In Mind When Sharing Holiday Gifts

[Madison]- The holiday season is a time for remembering neighbors who have special needs — and it's extremely important to put people with AIDS high on your list when contemplating holiday giving, according to Robbie Webber, Operations Manager of the Madison AIDS Support Network (MASN).

MASN runs a client food pantry and can always use contributions of canned fruits, vegetables and meats. Contributions of clothing and personal care products are also needed, she added.

MASN also runs a "Loan Closet" as a way of providing clients with everyday items and to help in meeting their basic medical needs. "For example, if you've been taking care of a sick relative, look around the house for special medical items that they're not using anymore," Webber suggested.

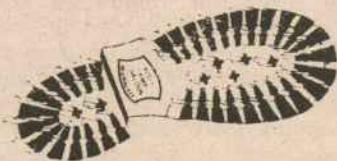
Webber said the need is especially great for items designed to help people

with mobility problems, everything from wheelchairs and hospital beds to shower stools and handles. Some clients can also make use of plastic sheets and adult diapers.

"Almost everyone has extra sheets, towels and blankets in the house," said Webber. "This is a major need of our clients, and unlike clothing, these items don't have to be the right size for our clients to use them."

Webber stressed that, when the holiday spirit strikes, people should contemplate making a contribution that lasts throughout the year — the gift of themselves. Signing up for a volunteer training program is the most important way to show neighbors with AIDS that you care, she said.

For more information on how you can help, call MASN at (608) 238-6276 or (800) 486-6276.



**BOOT CAMP SALOON**  
MILWAUKEE'S  
LEATHER / LEVI BAR

209 E. National  
Milwaukee, WI  
414-643-6900

## Portrait Photography

Business • Personal  
Passports  
Old Photographs  
Copied & Restored  
Theatrical  
Pets

**Breitlow Studio**

7405 West Harwood Ave.  
Wauwatosa, WI

476-3777

## Dykes To Watch Out For







# The Light LIVELY ARTS

## Actress Brings Emily Dickinson To Life in 'The Belle of Amherst'

By Terry Boughner

[Milwaukee]— I have studied Emily Dickinson. I've written and published quite a lot about her, the shy, New England poet-recluse of Amherst. But since she died in 1886, I never expected to feel quite so close to her as I did interviewing Debra Babich.

Babich will be playing Emily Dickinson in the Boulevard Ensemble's production of William Luce's one woman play, *Belle of Amherst*. The play is set to run through December.

With an old-fashioned white net throw pulled about her shoulders and wearing a floor-length dress, Babich looked the very image of Emily. Even the expressions on her face, her gentle eyes peering over her glasses, and her delicate, china-teacup voice, lent credence to the idea that Babich had so immersed herself in the poet, she was Emily herself.

"Her work is so accessible," Babich said, her fingers splayed out on the table, fluttering a little like butterflies on a Spring day. "She fights so hard to choose the right word." Babich says it in the tone and manner of one who was telling me what she, as Emily, had gone through in creating those marvelous bits of verse.

Dickinson created those poems, almost as ephemeral as wisps of fog, in her "Chamber facing West." This was her bedroom in a house she rarely left after her love for Catherine Scott had failed. It was here that the poet traveled "the road to my soul."

It was a long and, at times, an excruciatingly painful journey for Dickinson. She had no name for what she felt and less understanding perhaps, but "to hold her tenderly" as Babich said, she must take her audience down that same road.

The audiences, Babich said, must see a "strong woman," one of "ideas and principles," a woman of hushed, yet burning "intensity."

Babich tells the story of the time when, in the women's seminary that Emily attended, the teacher asked all who had committed to Christ to raise their hands. All did — except Emily. She said quite



DEBRA BABICH

frankly that she hadn't been persuaded. On another occasion, said that the Bible was just another book. This, in Victorian New England!

But Babich thinks there is more to Emily than that. "She says things," Babich says, speaking of Emily in the present tense, "so succinctly. She cuts to the core."

At the end of the play, Emily becomes reconciled with her own death — a reconciliation, a peace-making, where the embers of lost love still glow.

The play's director, Susan Fete, listened through all of this, smiling, and said to Babich "How happy Emily must be knowing you're playing this role."

*The Belle of Amherst* will be presented Thursdays through Sundays, December 12 to 29 at the Boulevard Theatre, 2250 S. Kinnickinnic Avenue in Bay View. If you want to get a true sense of what a poet is and why and how she creates, if you want to peer into a beautiful soul, see *The Belle of Amherst*.

For more information and reservations, call (414) 672-6019.

## 'Christmas Carol' Radio Play at Cafe Melange December 21

[Milwaukee]— The Boulevard Ensemble will conclude its 1991 season of Melange Radio Theatre presentations with a staged reading of Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol* at the Cafe Melange, located in the Hotel Wisconsin on N. 3rd Street and just off Wisconsin Avenue.

Performances will be held at 7:30 and 10:00 p.m. on December 7 and 21. There will be a \$3 cover charge for the shows held on the 7th.

A benefit for the Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP) will be held on the 21st, with all proceeds being donated to MAP. The cover charge for this benefit will be \$5.

In addition to the regular Melange Radio Theatre cast, the MAP Benefit will feature a variety of guest performers reading the many smaller character roles so abundant in any Dickens' work. These "thespians" will include local politicians, civic leaders, editors and writers from throughout the Milwaukee community.

For information, call Boulevard Ensemble General Director Mark Bucher at (414) 672-6019 or Cafe Melange owner Larry Krueger at Cafe Melange at (414) 291-9889.

## Theatre Group Sets Auditions

[Milwaukee]— The Boulevard Ensemble is seeking actors and actresses of all ages and ranges for the third production of its 1991-'92 season, either Moliere's *The School for Wives* or Shakespeare's *Much Ado About Nothing*.

Auditioners should prepare two contrasting classical monologues no more than two minutes in length. Auditions will be held January 7, 8 and 9 at the Boulevard Theatre, 2250 S. Kinnickinnic Avenue, in Bay View. Call 672-6019 for audition appointment. Auditions for the third production will be presented at the Boulevard Theatre, 2250 S. Kinnickinnic Avenue.

## Go 'Home For The Holidays' With Fest City Singers December 15, 22

By Geno

[Milwaukee]— Milwaukee's Original Fest City Singers (FCS) will usher in the traditional festivities of Christmas in the manorial splendor of the Villa Terrace with two Sunday evening concerts at 8:00 p.m. on December 15 and 22.

In the past, the Singers have presented a Dickens Christmas and an extended family Christmas, among others. This year's "Home For The Holidays" is a remembered "Celebration of Christmas Traditions."

Music Director Charles Golden has selected well known and less familiar carols and noels beginning with "Where Would We Be Without Christmas?" "Don't Be a Scrooge at Christmas," and "Shall I Dream a Dream?" Concluding with "Family," "Song of Friendship" and "Going Home for Christmas," these musical questions and answers form a framework for the recreation of a Christmas memory.

Even in rehearsals, the centerpiece of the production, the presentation of a medieval Mystery Play, has generated excitement among the Singers themselves. As a young person reminisces about the annual Christmas school pageant of childhood, members of the chorus don gorgeous brocades, shepherds' cloaks and angels' wings in full view of the audience as they become Lords and Ladies, Guildsmen and Apprentices and the Holy Family.

The very names of the songs accompanying the tableaux, the singing

and the dancing conjure up the richness of the tradition: "The Coventry Carol" and the "Boar's Head Carol;" soloists, carolers and ensembles singing "Greensleeves," "Bring a Torch, Jeanette, Isabelle" and "While By My Sheep."

Would you like the recipes for Sack Posset, Syllabub and Wassail? The Fest City Singers oblige with a demonstration while pipers pipe and tambourines provide the pulsing rhythms for the Spanish "Riu Riu" dancers.

Artistic Director Peter Mortensen has written a sparkling holiday production which combines simplicity with spectacle. As choreographer, he has designed the dances, stately processions and tableaux; he also created those wimples, tabards and rich cloaks.

Each year the Fest City Singers present an original interpretation of "The Twelve Days of Christmas," and this year is no exception, with a Santa Claus who needs no padding as the guiding spirit for activities that engage the audience as part of the family fun. As always, children are the Singers' special guests.

Both concerts are at 8:00 p.m. The evening of Sunday, December 15 is SRO (though seats generally can be found to accommodate a small overflow); tickets are still available for the evening of Sunday, December 22. The Villa Terrace is located at 2220 N. Terrace Avenue. For tickets or further information, call (414) 962-7221.

## Cream City Chorus Concert: Nice Touches, But Rough Edges Too

By Bill Meunier

[Milwaukee]— The Cream City Chorus Christmas Concert December 8 marked two firsts, the group's first concert without former Director Scott Stewart, and its first in Vogel Hall of the Performing Arts Center.

There were some nice touches, such as a moving candle lighting ceremony. These should have been exclamation points accenting a solid performance by the entire chorus, but sadly the performance was less than solid.

"Who Is Santa?" — several songs about the jolly elf interspersed with narrative opened the show. With an adult, mostly Gay and Lesbian audience in attendance, the choice of so many songs about a children's character was inappropriate in and of itself. Opening the concert with these selections, none of which conveyed a sense of energy or emotion, only served to make that choice look worse.

The chorus plodded through this long segment as if it were as bored as many in the audience were. That, and the use of a slower tempo, made the opening seem even longer and took away much of what energy was in the music.

The lack of tightness was especially apparent during one of these numbers when an almost constant hiss was heard as the out-of-synch chorus members pronounced the letter "s."

During the first half of the concert, only "On the Roof," another song about you-know-who, but done rock and roll style, was really outstanding.

The Beauty Shop Quartet appearing just before the intermission provided welcome comic relief. Their outfits were as as riotous as their rendition of "Sisters."

The second half opened with a strong set by the Creamettes singing a variety of songs of the season. The well performed music picked up where the Beauty Shop Quartet left off.

When the full chorus returned to the stage it was very good in performing "Noel, Noel" and "O Come, O Come." For these selections the chorus was led by the expressive movements and gestures of Kim Hah.

Those two songs and an excellent solo of "Heirloom" performed by Garret

James, highlighted the remainder of the musical portion of the program. James is a real show stopper.

Although it sounded better doing it, just as it had with all those opening Santa numbers, the chorus practiced overkill with "Home for the Holidays" "Home For Christmas" and "I'll Be Home For Christmas," sung consecutively and at a slow tempo.

One must ask if one of these wouldn't have been sufficient, especially when other Christmas themes such as peace on earth were not included in the program.

Cream City did better in the concert's second half than in the first, but after its first two songs the tightness that separates a really good chorus from an average one was not consistently present until the chorus performed its signature song, "I Love Myself."

There were mitigating circumstances that hampered Cream City's ability to rise to the occasion. The transition from Stewart has been chaotic and the final decisions on the music to be performed was not made until 6 weeks before the concert. But the \$10.00 tickets didn't contain any warnings to that effect. Cream City should realize that ticket purchasers expect performers to be fully prepared. Unfortunately for much of the time this chorus was not.

## Bay City Chorus Holds Christmas Concert Dec. 21

[Green Bay]— The Bay City Chorus, with many Gay and Lesbian members, will hold its first-ever Christmas concert on Saturday, December 21 at Union Congregational Church, 716 S. Madison Street in Green Bay.

Doors will open at 7 p.m., a short organ recital is scheduled for 7:30 and the Bay City Chorus will perform Christmas favorites at 8:00 p.m. Punch and Christmas cookies will be served in the church hall.

Tickets are \$5 for adults, \$3 for children, students and senior citizens and can be purchased in advance or at the door. Please call (414) 469-2897 for advance tickets or for further information.

**PARTNERS**

THURS. DEC. 19<sup>th</sup>

Partner's Christmas Party with a Special X-Mas Show by the Milwaukee Wild Boyz. Free House Specialty Shots on the Hour starting at 9pm. Gift Clips with Surprises Inside. Open Christmas Eve & Day with traditional Holiday Treats.

813 South First Street • Milwaukee • 647-0130





# Madison's 'I Got This Way From Kissing Girls 6'



**THAT'S LESBO-TAINMENT!**—Kissing Girls presented Madison's 6th Annual Lesbian Variety Show to packed houses at the Barrymore Theatre November 23 and 24. Clockwise from left top: Elizabeth Austin and Roann Phillips blissfully embrace in a scene from *Last Summer at Bluefish Cove*; a dapper Dana Alder and the charming Diane Painter served as MCs; Poet Karen Snider

wowed 'em with witchy cackles and 'Once Upon a Fat Dyke's Farm'; Iowa's Theresa Fish performed her original compositions and hometown gal Lynda Finn threatened to tell S&M jokes to the politically correct crowd if they weren't more responsive!

## Humor, Pain, Erotica, Irreverence Highlight Lesbian Poetry Reading

By Maytee Aspuro

[Madison]—Apple Island became the new home of Kissing Girls Productions' 1991 Lesbian Poetry Showcase and Art Show, held in conjunction with the annual Variety Show, "I Got This Way From Kissing Girls." The Poetry Showcase was held Friday, November 22nd. The full house enjoyed a variety of poetic presentations.

Marilyn Annucci's confident and humorous readings span the fantastic "Butterfly Exhibit" to the seductive

"Grapes." Blending her unique insight with mirth, she quickly won over the attentive audience.

Karen Snider, a Milwaukeean, rendered a heart-breaking reading in a child's voice. Her vivid diction conveyed the confusion, fear and trust bound to a child's limited experience. Her work included "Beginning to Babble" and "Cherry Blossoms." I could not help but feel a profound vulnerability during Snider's readings.

Rosemary Fandel provided a change of

pace. Her work is direct. Her canvas of political and personal observations included poems such as "Ash Garden," "Take Back the Night" and "You Can't Touch Her Here." In addition, Fandel warmed the audience with an erotic ditty or two.

From Chicago, LaJunessee Jordan spoke with carefully measured rhythms. The majority of her work is in rhyme, admittedly contrary to modern conventions. Jordan's reading of her poetry engaged this listener. It was a pleasure to exercise my ear to every nuance of voice as well as word. Her most memorable pieces included "She is Dying," about a woman with AIDS and "Hug Me," which explored the nature of

consolation.

Finally, Falcon River provided some irreverent story telling to the pleasure of all. Her southern colloquialisms and rich rural imagery gave life to a story of youthful mischief making.

In conjunction with the Lesbian Variety Show and the Poetry Showcase, Apple Island at 849 E. Washington also provided gallery space for the annual Lesbian Art Show, featuring some of the finest women artists in Wisconsin and the Midwest. Hundreds viewed the art work on display throughout the weekend of November 22-24. Just like last year, the works were diverse in media and engaging both to the eye as well as to the mind.

## CCF Grant Helps Stock MAP Food Pantry

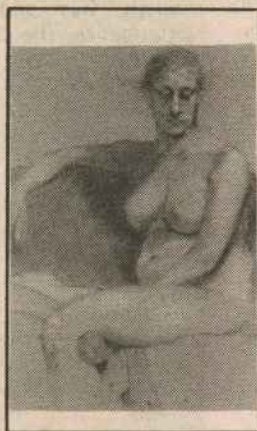
[Milwaukee]—For the second time in 1991, and just in time for the holiday season, the Cream City Foundation (CCF) has approved a grant to help stock the Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP) Food Pantry.

While the previous grant added 10,000 pounds — 5 tons — of food to the Pantry, this grant will be used by MAP to make appropriate purchases of personal care items for Food Pantry clients. This is one of the most desperate needs often faced by the Project, and one which often fails to receive attention. The Food Pantry administrators will be able to use the money from this grant to acquire personal care items of all types (including shampoo, conditioners, soap, razors), which they will issue to persons with HIV.

This grant was made possible largely by an anonymous donation of \$500 to the Foundation. It is yet another example of how donations to CCF help all areas of the community. Donations to CCF are always welcome, but year-end gifts can be especially helpful, both in making CCF better able to plan for the coming year and in helping your own tax situation in 1990.

Contact CCF at (414) 265-0880 about this or any CCF program benefiting the Milwaukee Gay/Lesbian community. Foundation offices are at the Milwaukee Enterprise Center, 2821 N. 4th Street, Suite 217B, Milwaukee, WI 53212.

heart ♥ throbs



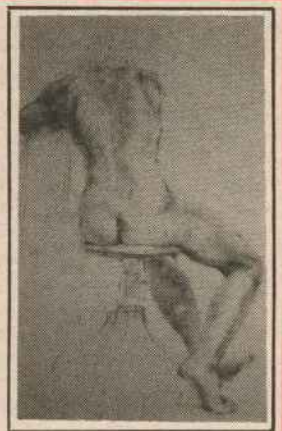
A



B



C



D

Enjoy wearing one of these sensual masterpieces drawn by Wisconsin artist K. Gray Schallock. A classical selection of male and female nudes laser copied in color onto white 50/50 blend T-Shirts. S,M,L, XL, XXL avail.

Any combination of one or two designs per shirt. One design per shirt \$26; two designs per shirt \$31.50. Tax included.

Shirt Design: Front \_\_\_\_\_ Back \_\_\_\_\_ Size \_\_\_\_\_  
 Shirt Design: Front \_\_\_\_\_ Back \_\_\_\_\_ Size \_\_\_\_\_  
 Add \$3.00 shipping and handling for each shirt ordered.

Send to:  
**Schallock Studios**  
 1726 N. First St.  
 Milwaukee, WI 53212

Quantity ordered \_\_\_\_\_ Total Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Daytime Phone \_\_\_\_\_





**SIR JOHN TRIUMPHS**—Critics are calling Sir John Gielgud's performance in *Prospero's Books* the crowning achievement of his 80 year career in theater and film. Widely revered as the greatest actor in the English speaking world, Gielgud is a Gay man who lives with his long-time companion in rural England. *Prospero's Books* is now playing at Milwaukee's Downer Theatre.

## 'Stepping Out': Liza Reprises Delightful 'Mickey & Judy' Formula

By Geno

In Director Lewis Gilbert's *Stepping Out*, Liza Minnelli teaches an evening of tap dancing class in a former church building. She enters and turns on the lights. Shelley Winters as Glenda, her frumpy piano accompanist, enters grumbling. The story line begins.

Soon, the members of the class arrive, each individual with a characterizing entrance: the chubby man-chaser, the timid lady librarian, the brassy dress-saleswoman, the mousy housewife. Each will reveal her reasons for joining the tap class, each will reveal a personal story. Sound familiar?

It's one of the oldest formulas in the world, but author Richard Harris has given each character a distinct personality with enough foibles to make that individual come alive.

Shelley Winters is an engaging eccentric senior citizen who is really an old softie underneath her grumpiness — "You're a wicked old broad," Minnelli tells her with a hug. How predictable it is that Bill Irwin as the klutzy insurance salesman and the only man in the class will be attracted to Sheila McCarthy (the mousy housewife). But how will their encounter turn out?

British actress Julie Walters as Vera adds another standout performance to her memorable role as Gilbert's "Educating Rita." Vera is a perfectionist and a compulsive cleaner, the kind of person who tells everyone else in the chorus what they're doing wrong. She gets her expected come-uppance, but we learn in the process what makes her tick. Like her, each of the dancers is more than a flat, stock character.

There are charming bits along the way that move the action outside the drab church practice room: Minnelli singing "Mean to Me," in a shit-kickers bar to earn some bread and shots of the eager dancers practicing to the music of

"Happy Feet" and showing off their steps to admiring audiences at home, in the street and before hospital patients. Liza breaks into song unexpectedly and a spotlight goes on and a full orchestra plays unseen in the tap studio just as they did in the old musicals!

The class is offered a spot to perform at a big charity event, and in our minds Mickey and Judy can be heard echoing: "Let's put on the best darned show — it's our big chance, we'll show 'em."

It's hoky, but let's face it, even *Chorus Line* has some pretty sloppy moments, too.

And in *Stepping Out*, it's Minnelli as Mavis who pulls it all together and makes it believable. When her boyfriend leaves for L.A. and she learns that she is pregnant, she doesn't fall into soap opera bathos; it's a modulated performance and a varied one. She is sympathetic when the young nurse tells of the death of her first patient, but she is tough yet understanding, as she whips her motley charges into shape for the big show.

Well, they don't get a call to perform on Broadway, but their first night audience finds their performance endearing, their bravely smiling, but not-quite-perfect performance. "But wait till next year," they say, "We'll knock their socks off!" And, of course, they do. Even the baby is in the wings waving to Mom and the dancers.

With Minnelli leading them, they deliver a show-stopper that is doubly affecting because we have seen them at their best and worst and watched them develop as dancers and as individuals. Each gets a turn in the spotlight and they surprise the audience with how terrific they can be. And when Minnelli is center stage, there are moments when Judy is there for us once again, singing and dancing like old times. Call me an old softie. I loved it!

## 'Adam and the Experts': Debut of New Theatre Troupe A Success

By Gary Wells

If you weren't there December 6 at the sold out opening night performance of *Adam and the Experts*, the debut production of the new Different Drummer Theatre Alliance, you still have a chance to see this fine production on December 13 and 14. The curtain rises at 8 p.m. at the Bauer Contemporary Ballet Studio Theatre at 727 N. Milwaukee Street.

*Adam and the Experts* by Victor Bumbalo portrays the experiences of four friends who are coping with the ordeal of AIDS. The play expresses a somewhat fatalistic view of the AIDS crisis, set in New York City, and how it continues to be terrible fact of life for many Gay men. Not since Larry Kramer's *The Normal Heart* has there been a play that so compellingly conveys the full impact the disease has on people's lives and relationships. Through the characters' struggles, the audience feels the gamut of emotions from joy to tragedy.

Despite a shaky start and a few slipped lines, which I attributed to opening night jitters, the cast settled into a well paced and very enjoyable show. I thoroughly enjoyed the entire cast, but was particularly impressed with Matthew Herman's portrayal of angst-ridden Adam and Vince Lombardo's depiction of his father.

I also liked the minimalist staging which allowed the full emotionality of the play to show through without much distraction. Director Stephen D. Spera is to be credited for this most effective

approach.

The cast included Rachael Winkley as Sarah, the female friend who helps to hold things together during the crisis; Joseph Rabensdorf as Jim; Kelly Crisman in a moving performance as Eddie, the friend living with AIDS; James Bolton as the alter-ego of Adam and Brian Crane as a Gay priest trying to help others as he deals with his own personal crisis of faith. Kristie Coryell and Michael Jaske both acted in small multiple parts quite ably, providing needed humor and additional insight. Supporting parts were played by Brian Dettmering as William and Patrick Murphy as Ralph. The technical crew, guided by stage and production manager Jay Hanson, did their part to help make this first effort a professional production.

If this production is any indication of what the Different Drummer Theatre Alliance, a Gay and Lesbian troupe, has in store for us in the future, I can hardly wait for its next offering. Tickets for the remaining performances of *Adam and the Experts* will be available at the door, or you can order in advance by calling (414) 347-0673.

Play-goers and supporters are invited to a cast party fundraiser on Sunday, December 15 at Cafe Melange, 720 North Old World Third Street, beginning at 8 p.m. The party features live entertainment, with a raffle ticket included in the \$5.00 per person donation.

**Editor's Note:** Dan F. Schramm contributed to this article.

## BOOKS

### 'What the Dead Remember' Tells Haunting Rites-of-Passage Story

WHAT THE DEAD REMEMBER, Harlan Greene, Dutton, \$18.95

By Carl M. Szatmary

Every so often, before the alarm clock gets a chance to announce morning, there will be a moment, just a moment, when consciousness and dream merge. In this rarefied, shadowy moment our perceptions are heightened yet we seem guided on a journey not of our own making, but which we must complete. A similar journey can be experienced while reading Harlan Greene's remarkable new novel, *What The Dead Remember*.

Several years ago Harlan Greene's first novel, *Why We Never Danced The Charleston* explored growing up Gay in a pre-Stonewall Charleston. In *What The Dead Remember*, Greene again returns to Charleston in this contemporary rites-of-passage tale.

Greene's unnamed narrator is an unlikely hero, an ungainly child, slightly overweight, rather bookish, and with a spiteful nature which masks his loneliness. His first Summer in Charleston is one of discovery. It is an ad of boys in BVDs, first spied, then stolen from a magazine in a small corner drugstore, which awakens his sexual awareness. More importantly, it is his friendship with Stevie, a sweet, slightly retarded boy that causes Greene's narrator to learn acceptance of the differences in himself and others.

When the narrator returns the following

Summer, all has changed. Stevie has a job at the local gas station, new friends, and less time for the narrator. The wild boys of the neighborhood who so attracted the narrator during the previous Summer despite their indifference to him, now find him a suitable choice in a sexual initiation. This would be his last youthful Summer in Charleston.

Years later, aimless and having distanced himself from his family, fate offers the narrator a chance to return to Charleston, a chance to reclaim the innocence gained and then lost during those Summers so many years before. As Greene's tightly woven tale pushes incessantly toward its shattering climax, the narrator desperately seeks to hold together the divergent elements of his life: his relationship with Stevie and his sister on the one hand, his forays into Charleston's shadowy and closeted Gay life on the other.

Greene's lush and poetic language creates a dreamlike landscape which initially embraces, then smothers the reader. The world Greene creates in *What The Dead Remember* is rarely fair or just or kind. Greene's narrator is faced with the choices that are never simple. That he must shoulder responsibility for his actions makes the narrator achingly real and most accessible. The novel's final, brutal twist is certain to leave the reader stunned and exhausted. This hypnotic, haunting and disturbing novel should not be missed.

### Gay and Lesbian Books Are Ideal Gifts For the Holiday Season

By Carl M. Szatmary

While we are decking our halls and donning our gay apparel, our true loves may be looking for more than a partridge in a pear tree this gift giving season. No problem. This holiday season finds an abundance of Gay and Lesbian literature suiting even the most discriminating reader.

Fans of Joe Keenan's madcap farce, *Blue Heaven*, will not be disappointed with *Putting On The Ritz* (\$18.95). This delightful follow-up traces the escapades of Phillip, Gilbert and Clare as they weave their way among the tables of New York cafe society.

Nearly as irreverent, but intriguingly set in Excellent, Idaho, is Tom Spanbauer's *The Man Who Fell In Love With The Moon* (\$21.95). Featuring a pink whorehouse, a Lesbian madam and a Gay, half-breed protagonist searching for the meaning of his Indian name, this western is sure to change how you'll view those old John Wayne films.



TEE CORINNE

Back in New York City is David Feinberg's *Spontaneous Combustion* (\$19.95); a comic AIDS novel and sequel to the immensely popular *Eighty-Six*. Also on the lighter side is Carole Paulson's *Life Without Socks: View From A Barmaid* (\$11.95). Paulson's comic protagonist is a cocktail waitress who spins yarns of wisdom.

Focusing on a varied group of transplanted Southerners in San Francisco, Tee Corinne's *The Sparkling Lavender Dust Of Lust* (\$8.95) boasts not only thoughtful and delightful writing, but a terrific title as well. Corinne's books of Lesbian erotica, *Lovers, Dreams Of The Woman Who Loved Sex, Riding Desire* and *Intricate Passions* are also guaranteed to warm hearts and bodies over the Winter months.

On the more serious side, this Fall's

highlight is Harlan Greene's poetic *What The Dead Remember* (\$18.95), a haunting rite-of-passage novel set in Charleston. British writer Neil Bartlett makes an extraordinary debut with *Ready To Catch Him Should He Fall* (\$19.95). Also highly recommended are *Neons* (\$18.95), a violent sexual fable from French writer Denis Belloc, Joey Manley's *The Death Of Donna-May Dean* (\$17.95), and finally, Paul Russell's gritty, compelling portrait of the underside of love and obsession in New York City street life in *Boys Of Life* (\$19.95).

Two outstanding Lesbian novels of the moment are Diane Salvatore's *Benediction* (\$9.95), about the joys and angst of first love within the confines of a Catholic girl's academy, and Judith McDaniel's *Just Say Yes* (\$8.95), about the amorous misadventures of a group of friends spending summer vacation in Provincetown.

Adrienne Rich, widely recognized as one of our country's greatest poets, shares more of her wisdom and artistry in the latest collection of her work, *An Atlas of the Difficult World, Poems, 1988-1991* (\$7.95). Becky Birtha's *The Forbidden Poems* (\$10.95), an impressive first collection, explores race and class divisions, grief over the death of a lover, anger, forgiveness and coming to terms with oneself.

Minnie Bruce Pratt, who won the 1990 Lamont Poetry Award for *Crime Against Nature*, has just published a book of thoughtful prose work, *Rebellion: Essays 1980-1991* (\$10.95).

Cartoonist Alison Bechdel has now published three collections of her *Dykes to Watch Out For* comic strip. The original, *More Dykes...* and *New Improved Dykes...* (\$7.95) are ideal stocking stuffers, reasonably priced and sure to bring a smile to the face.

Recent paperback highlights include David Leavitt's superb short story collection, *A Place I've Never Been* (\$8.95) and Matthew Stadler's lyrical first novel, *Landscape: Memory* (\$9.95).

Lesbian and Gay mystery fans will find many new titles available. Popular Lesbian crime writer, Katherine Forrest, brings back L.A. Policewoman Kate Delafield in *Murder By Tradition* (\$16.95). Also available in paperback is Forrest's *The Beverly Malibu* (\$9.95). Lambda Literary Award-winning Lauren Wright Douglas is out with her third Caitlin Reese mystery, *The Daughters of Artemis* (\$8.95), a mystery that invites more cogitation than just "whodunit."

Complex plotting, memorable characters and some sizzling romantic interludes highlight Mary Morrell's *Final Session* (\$9.95). Also worth a peek are Sandy Baker's psychological suspense thriller, *Crystal Cage* (\$8.95) and Nikki Baker's first Virginia Kelly mystery, *In*

TURN TO BOOKS, PAGE 13



## A Christmas Short Story

## THE MESSAGE OF THE BELLS

By Terry Boughner

It was snowing lightly, gentle flakes dancing in the early morning air. Over all the little town there was a hush, a stillness bringing with it a magic, grace, beauty and wonder that comes only with the first light of Christmas Day.

Kevin did not know the town. He was quite sure that he had never been there before. But that didn't matter. The beauty of the place charmed him and caught him up as a lover would in his arms, gently, tenderly enfolding him.

Before him was a narrow street, canopied by tall trees laced with snow. All along on either side were houses, towering Victorian mansions, standing silent and majestic, each one framed in colored lights. It was all breathtakingly beautiful, so hushed and full of peace.

Kevin walked slowly, stopping before each house, peering at it as if searching for something or someone, yet he could not have said for what or whom. After a bit, he walked on.

In the distance there were bells, Christmas bells, sweetly ringing, playing out their old familiar song of Peace on Earth, Good Will To All. But Kevin paid no attention. Somewhere in this town — somewhere...

...

Mary McNamara stopped in front of room 1900. She was a short woman, not unattractive, with a kind face and soft, compassionate eyes that showed evidence of suffering. She listened. The long hall on the great hospital's 19th floor was quiet, a stillness broken now and again by expected night sounds — nothing alarming to a nurse such as Mary was and had been for 20 of her 42 years.

She sighed deeply, glancing down at her sturdy, no-nonsense watch. It was nearly 5:00 a.m., the time when the human body reaches its lowest point. It was then, most often, Christmas or no, in that dark and lonely hour, that death came, an icy specter stealing life away. Even now, she knew, it was hovering again over Room 1900.

She placed her hand on the door, calling on all her professionalism to resist the nearly overwhelming temptation to turn away and go on about her duties. After all, what could be done? He was in a coma, had been now for three days. What comfort, what possible aid could she offer that could be of any help? He was beyond that and soon would be beyond life itself. Death would take him in an instant and he would be gone, would cease to exist as if he had never been. She couldn't stop it. Her presence would be useless. There were other things to do.

But her hand was on the door and with a deep sigh she knew that her mind was only offering excuses to spare her heart more pain. She must go in. She must and would stand the watch — if only in memory of David.

Inside there was only the ethereal blue glow of the fluorescent light shining softly over the single bed with its pale figure, his frail hands lying, fingers entwined, on the sheet. How thin he was, so pitifully emaciated that there was barely a rise in the sheets to indicate where his body lay. But such, she well knew, were the ravages of AIDS.

She walked to the side of the bed, drawing in a deep, sad breath as she looked down upon him. His name was Kevin. She knew that about him and not much else for certain, except about the disease that was to take his life this Christmas morning and that he was 21 — just three years younger than David had been.

She sniffed. Hot tears stung her soft gray eyes as an image of him, of David, her kid brother, shimmered before her mind. It had been just November, almost to the very day and hour, that she had stood in this same room, by this same bed, her hand on his as it was on Kevin's now. Then, as now, the room was empty. Her family, David's family, had all fled leaving her alone to be with him, watching as he gave up his life to AIDS.

She had not since spoken to any of them beyond what was required by the necessary formalities. The breach, she knew, would heal with time, but for now she needed her space, her distance from them. She could not bear to see their looks and hear her mother's wailing about how David wasn't Gay — and if he was, if he had had a "few little experiences," it was only because others had enticed him into such wrongs.

Horse shit! David had never been "enticed" into anything. He was Gay because he'd been born that way. And if anything was wrong in his life, it had nothing to do with his being Gay. It was that he had fallen in love — deeply, overwhelmingly in love — and had not had time to bring it to flower. David had told Mary and her mother that just before he died, practically the last words he had ever said.

But her mother had angrily dismissed it as "delirious ravings." For the same reason, she'd absolutely refused to allow any of his friends to come near him, even when one had tried. "An obvious, confirmed pervert" she'd called whoever it had been when, in an angry gust, she'd stormed back into the room.

Then, she had left, taking the rest of the family with her. By that time, David had slipped into a coma. But he would not die, her mother had said. He would come out of it, if only long enough to confess his "sin."

Mary wiped her eyes, bending over to smooth Kevin's dark chestnut hair. It was so soft, so silken. Funny how he wore it; close cropped all around except for a low pompadour that swept up from his forehead giving him a slightly '50's look.

His brows were thick, slanted upward from the bridge of his nose to form a V over his deep-set eyes, giving him a slightly impish, almost Peter Pan appearance.

Then, from somewhere far away, she heard the sound of bells pealing deep in the lonely dawn. She listened and, in bleak despair, bowed her head, thinking how death and bigotry mocked their song of love and peace. Of those things, she wondered hopelessly, of love and beauty, what could either David or Kevin know now — or ever again?

...

Kevin walked on. The snow continued to drift down like bits of cotton dancing in the frosty air, making a silvery-blue Christmas world of white. It was so beautiful, he thought, so lovely that his heart ached. He had known so little of such beauty in his life.

His parents called themselves Christians, "born-again in the Lord" they said, and



anointed thereby to wage war against sin. As it turned out, "sin" took many forms: certain movies, many books, modern art, anything that might "lead the flesh into temptation."

Every day of every week Kevin heard about sin. And on Sunday it only got worse as the "godly," pear-shaped minister (a man, Kevin thought, who had a hole in his heart), purred on in an oily voice about God's burning wrath and terrible vengeance to be visited on those He despised.

Kevin was 12 or so when he discovered that he was one of the sinners the preacher was always talking about. He was Gay.

The minister didn't call it that. He called it "homo-sucksual," always with a sneer. But whatever the name, he said God hated people like Kevin, and had condemned them to the eternal fires of Hell for "choosing" to be what they were.

Kevin had suffered in silence and with terrible guilt, cowering in fear before the minister's angry words. He didn't want God to hate him. He didn't want to burn in Hell for something he knew he could do nothing about.

He'd thought about going to his parents, hoping to find in them some love, a little understanding. But then Johnny Martin was killed, his head bashed in with a 2x4 because, it was said, he was a "faggot," a "queer" who spread AIDS. Kevin's parents said it was all very sad, but such was the way of a just God. Hadn't Johnny, after all, gotten exactly what he deserved? Didn't the Bible say that "sodomites" should not be allowed to live? That the wages of sin was death?

Kevin had been 15 when Johnny was murdered, and he'd left, just walked out. They wouldn't search for him. He was sure of that because he'd left them a note telling them frankly and honestly what he was.

That note was the hardest thing he had ever done and though neither he — nor they — would think of it that way, by the note he had honored them. His "coming out," even in the form that he did it, was an act of love.

After that, he'd wandered the streets, going with whatever man could offer him some food and a bed — and always hoping that somebody would love him. But no one ever did...

Except once, and then it had been too late.

One night at a bar, on a whim, he had taken a test for HIV. At the clinic, four days later, they told him he was positive.

There was counseling, of course, but it really hadn't helped much. Sex, AIDS, being Gay, they were all connected, weren't they? Just like the minister had said, Kevin thought, AIDS was the wages of sin, God's punishment for being what he was. He just didn't want to die in the streets. Please.

There was a young man at the agency named David — tall, slender, olive-complected with the kindest, most tender eyes and sweetest smile Kevin had ever seen. David had taken a liking for him, seeing to it that Kevin, as he called him affectionately, had food, a room to sleep in and someone there for him when he needed to talk.

Then one day, when Kevin went in to the agency, David was gone. A woman told him sadly that David had become very ill in the night. They had rushed him to the hospital. It was not thought that he would survive.

Kevin had tried to visit David, but David's mother, a dark little woman with fierce, burning eyes, wouldn't let him in.

"It's dirty little perverts like you, gave this to him," she'd shouted at Kevin as they both stood in the hall. "David isn't a queer. He isn't. Wasn't that. Filthy scum like you, you inducted him in this sin."

Kevin had turned away. In the hospital lobby hot tears flooded his eyes and he wept bitterly, for the pain the woman had caused with her biting words and more. Because he would never see David again and he knew just how very much, how deeply, he loved him.

After that, life seemed to drain out of him like blood oozing from an open wound. There were those at the agency, kind people, who tried to help him, but it was no use. He missed David too badly. The agency staff, as good as they were, couldn't restore David to him. Nobody could do that.

Still, even though he had been carefully taught that God hated him for that love, he clung to it with a tenacious faith. It was all he had.

But now he was in this town he didn't know, walking along a beautiful yet unfamiliar street, searching for something — or someone — he truly believed he had to find. He must find whoever or whatever it was. He must. His happiness and life depended on it.

...

Mary patted Kevin's silken hair back and then walked over to the window to look out onto the city. It was so ugly, so bleak, she thought. If only it would snow. David had loved

Continued on Page 12



*Wishing you all a happy, healthy,  
and safe Holiday Season!*

*Bob and staff*





She bowed her head, feeling the tears well up again. Oh David, David, what a wonderful spouse you would have made for...for...whoever he might have been.

She raised her head and wiped the tears away, feeling sorrow and grief being replaced by anger, anger at a religion that could condemn him for being Gay. What right? What kind of god could allow its followers to consign Lesbians and Gay men, someone like David, to everlasting Hell?!

No kind of a god, that's what. She could not accept that there even was a god; not from the hands of a miserable little cleric who, in the name of his church, treated AIDS as a moral condition. Damn him! He was the same one who had told her that he couldn't even shake hands with anyone he knew was either a "sodomite" or who had HIV.

Then, from somewhere, came the muffled sound of bells pealing in the night. Despairing, she remembered the old carol. The bells were right if that was their message. There was no peace, no god, no faith worth having. There was only mocking hatred, anguish, plague and death.

• • •

Kevin walked on, his eyes searching each house he came to, looking for he did not know what. Then he stopped.

The house was large like all the others he had seen. Candles burned brightly in the windows and in the wide front yard and there were pine trees aglow with colored lights.

At first he was tempted to move on, but something held him back. Perhaps whoever lived there would not mind if he took a closer look.

There was a black iron gate standing slightly ajar. He pushed it aside, entering cautiously. At any second, someone might see him and order him away.

Halfway along the walk that led to the wide front porch he stopped, listening to the sound of bells ringing clearly, joyously, loudly and more deeply. The wrong had failed they said, and the right, the good was now triumphant, bringing with it in its train happiness and peace.

The bells fell silent and a hush returned to the air, just as the front door to the house opened and a figure of a man stood silhouetted against the light inside.

Kevin started and began to back away, but then a voice called out, "Wait, Kev, wait. Don't go."

Kevin stopped and stared. The voice...That voice was so familiar. Then, as the man hurried out onto the porch, calling his name again, Kevin knew. He suddenly knew and it could not be! It was not possible. But there was no mistake. None.

"David?" Kevin called tentatively, not daring to even begin to hope.

But it was David, wonderful, beautiful David, running down the steps. David rushing toward him. David, his David, with a warm smile on his handsome face. And before Kevin could think about what was happening or could even react, David had taken him into his arms to hold him close and cover his face with kisses, just as the bells began to ring again.

"Oh David, David, David," Kevin repeated over and over again, the words almost lost as he buried his tear-streaked face in David's chest.

"Don't cry, Kev," David soothed as he stroked Kevin's hair. "It's over. That hell we've both been through is over and done with. You're here now with me. We're together, huh? I've been waiting for you. It's Christmas and you're home now where you belong." He took Kevin into his arms again and kissed him, firmly, warmly and with exquisite passion full on the lips.

Finally, Kevin stood back a little, looking at David questioningly. "David, you — I mean — I — they said you died. You're dead."

David smiled indulgently. "Kevin, do I look dead?" Kevin shook his head slowly, wondering. "And I'm no ghost either," David said. "Did my lips feel dead, cold?"

Kevin, weeping with happiness, could only swallow and shake his head as the bells pealed again, jubilantly in the breaking dawn.

"Kev, listen to the bells, hear what they say. There is a God, not the cruel little patriarchal thing the religionists have dreamed up, but a wonderful, kind spirit, intelligence structured on light, a being more vast than it's possible to imagine, who is Love itself. That's what Christmas is all about, Kev...love, hope. That's what it means.

That's what the bells are saying. They're saying AIDS isn't the end any more than any other disease or death is. There is no end other than Love itself and love is life. That's the promise of Christmas. That's the message of the bells."

Kevin could feel his throat constrict. Hot tears filled his eyes and overflowed onto his smooth cheeks. "David. Oh David," he sobbed. "Oh David I...I..."

Quickly, David took the weeping Kevin into his loving arms. "Oh, Kev, Kev," he whispered softly. "How much I do love you. And Love, Kev, Love itself, does not despise our love, no matter what the bigots say. Because if it did, it would have to despise itself. That's why we're here in this place that Love itself has selected for us and others like us." Tenderly he held him, gently. Then once more they kissed.

"Others?" Kevin asked.  
"Uhm-hum. Others like us, like Johnny Martin—all Lesbians or Gay men who listen to the bells."

"Like us," Kevin repeated in amazement.

"Uhm-hum," David repeated. "Like us." He stopped, his warm eyes glowing in anticipation as they turned toward the house. "Now, come here. Sex and love go together and I've waited a long time for you."

Without question or argument, Kevin flung himself into David's waiting arms as the bells, the Christmas bells, sang out more wild and clear.

• • •

It was shortly after five when Mary left room 1900 to notify the desk of Kevin's passing. He had died a quiet death, more peaceful and serene in one way than David's had been.

David had just slipped away, a final breath and he was gone. But with Kevin, just before the end, just as the bells finished their song, a gentle smile had parted his full lips.

She was glad for Kevin, glad that he had not suffered. Now if she could only know that David was somewhere, happy and at peace, perhaps, Mary thought, she could accept the final message of the bells.

## Midwest Leather Weekend Set For January 24-26

[Chicago]- Chicago's Levi/Leather organizations are pleased to announce the 2nd Annual Midwest Leather Weekend set for January 24-26th, 1992. The contest will be held 8:00 p.m. on Saturday, January 25th with IMsL Kay Hallenger and IML D. Cannon as hosts. The contest will be followed by a set of very hot bar parties.

Contestants will be pre-judged by a distinguished panel of judges. Judging will be based on contestant attitude and personality, dress leather and a 3-5 minute fantasy. Levi/Leather organizations and businesses across the Midwest are encouraged to enter representatives. Applications will be available at the beginning of December, 1991.

For more information, contact David Schuminsky or John Owen at (312) 525-5923 (that's an order!).

### HAPPY HOLIDAYS

## TRIANGLE

Hot  
Music

Hot  
Men

135 East National  
Milwaukee, WI

643-9758

# MILWAUKEE'S 1991 PROUD CROWD

### INDIVIDUALS

Anonymous  
Goldie Adams  
Chris Ahmuty  
Barthelemy Andrews  
In Memory of Steve Ausman  
Tim Baack  
Kitty Barber  
Bob Battersby  
Mark Behar  
Bim  
Walter Brandt  
Warren Breitlow  
Chuck Brotz  
Mike Brown  
Bruce (EWOK)  
Eugene "Geno" Brzenk  
Dennis L. Bunch  
Liz Burden  
Kevin Burns  
Steve Byers  
Chunga & Toddie  
Don Clabots  
Jack Corbin  
Victor Cripps  
Dean & Dean  
Chris Doerfler  
Allen R. Eslinger  
Bill Frank  
Charles A. Golden  
Ron Geiman  
Karen Gottzler  
Greg Grassold  
De Gross  
Tim Hansen  
Bradley Hausler  
Annabelle R. Havlicek  
Leona Herod  
Larry Hicks  
In Memory of Rafael Infante

Jamakaya & Ella Fitz Kitty  
John & Rey  
Gary Jechorek  
Ben Johnson  
Jerry Johnson  
Nelson Johnson  
Kimberly Ann  
Brian J. Kemper  
Tim Kennedy  
Julie Kleppin  
Christina Kotlowski  
Larry Krueger  
Joan Lawrence  
Michael S. Lisowski  
Sue MacAreney  
Ron Manville  
Thomas W. Mielke  
Claire Moore  
Doug Nelson  
Mike Pazdan  
Kristin Palmquist  
Ron Peierl  
Stephen Polomis  
Brent Priebe  
Deb Procknow  
Kevin Quader

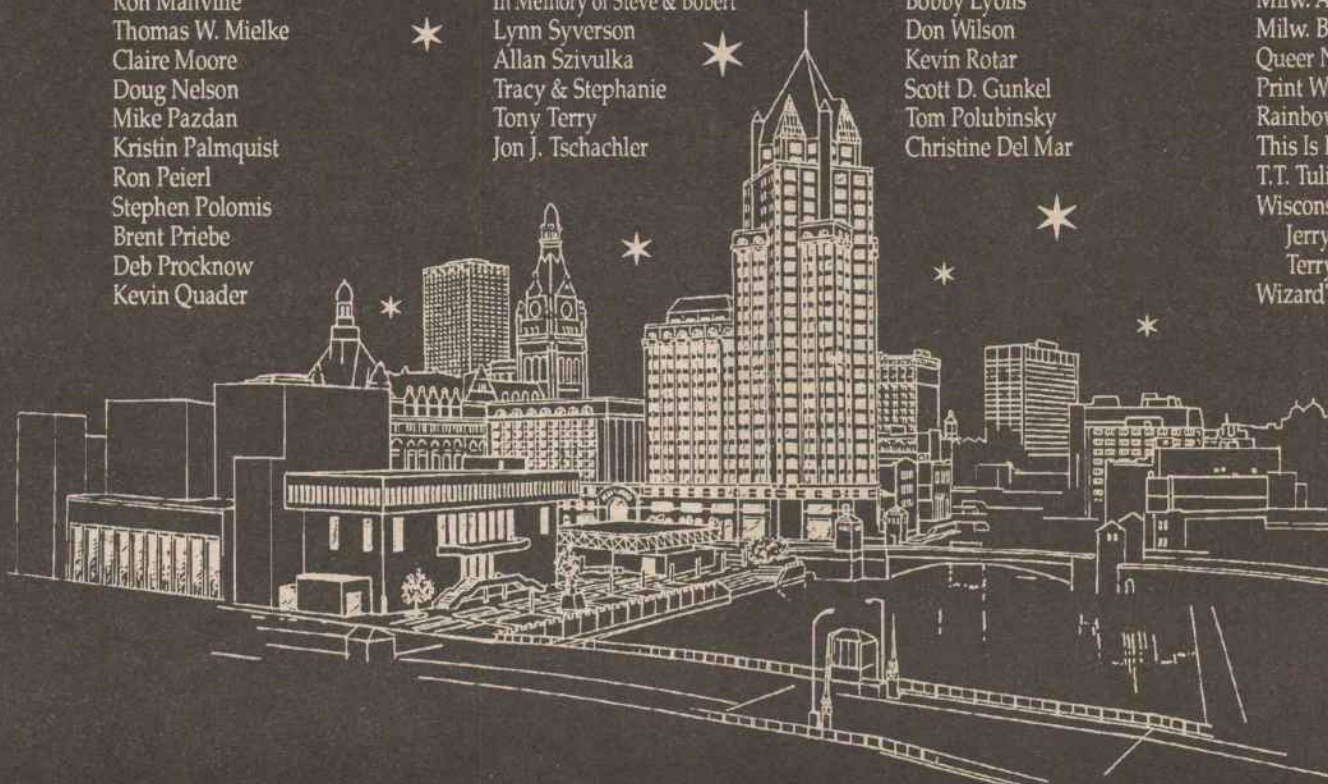
Jacque Reidelberger  
Phil Rhode  
Warren Rick  
Samuel Roberts, Jr.  
Eve Roland  
Ross  
Lou M. Santaniello  
Robert Schlack  
Dan Schramm  
Susan Schramm  
Kim Magnum Sharp  
Bill Sparks  
Jerry Allen Smith  
Richard E. Steele  
Steve Steinhauer  
In Memory of Steve & Robert  
Lynn Syverson  
Allan Szivulka  
Tracy & Stephanie  
Tony Terry  
Jon J. Tschachler

Elizabeth Van Ness  
Cheryl Vaughn  
Gary D. Wells  
Glen Westphal  
Glenn White  
Bill Wood  
Joe Zopp

### ORGANIZATIONS and BUSINESSES

ACLU  
BARIC Enterprises  
Beer Town Badgers  
Cafe Melange  
Club 219 Plus  
Bobby Lyons  
Don Wilson  
Kevin Rotar  
Scott D. Gunkel  
Tom Polubinsky  
Christine Del Mar

James M. Lonegran  
Scott D. Long  
Club 94  
Cream City Chorus  
Cream City Cummers  
Cream City Foundation  
Dignity-Milwaukee  
Gay/Lesbian Int'l News Network  
Gay Youth Milwaukee  
Grubb's Pub  
Havlicek & Associates  
In Step  
In Towne Secretarial (and More)  
La Cage  
Lambda Rights Network  
Milw. AIDS Project  
Milw. Bondage Club  
Queer Nation-Milw.  
Print World  
Rainbow Review  
This Is It  
T.T. Tulip  
Wisconsin Light  
Jerry Johnson  
Terry Boughner  
Wizard's Pub





## OBITUARIES

## Dynamic Entertainer Ginger Spice Succumbs to AIDS at Age 31

By Terry Boughner

Richard J. Wyatt, better known as Ginger Spice, one of Milwaukee's most beloved female impersonators died on November 26, 1991 at St. Joseph's Hospital of complications due to AIDS.

Though Ginger had been ill for some time, she had lived so courageously with the disease that she was a role model in her suffering for all of us. Her death came as a deep and profound shock, sending reverberations of sorrow through the community.

Ginger was the ideal entertainer, magnificent on stage, a study in class. She was one of the original 219 Girls and became their director and headliner. Ginger always held her audiences at Club 219, at the Pageant and elsewhere in willing thrall, bringing them to their feet in appreciation of her talents and in genuine and undisguised love.

And why not? Ginger was beautiful, gracious and friendly, but above all "Miss Show Biz" to the nines, holding the titles of "Miss Gay Wisconsin" and "Miss Chicago Continental" over the years.

Off stage, she was warm-hearted, kind, and generous with tips to younger performers. Her friends were legion.

Ginger is survived by her partner of six years, Chris Gorski, as well as hundreds of fans and friends. Cards and



GINGER SPICE PERFORMING (1990)

condolences may be sent to Chris Gorski, 5820 N. 34th Street, Milwaukee, WI 53209. Memorials in Ginger's name may be sent to the Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP), 315 W. Court Street, Milwaukee, WI 53212.

As of press time, plans are being firmed up for a January memorial show at Club 219 to benefit MAP.

Private services were held November 29 in Ginger's native Illinois.

## Dan Gordon, Long-time MAP Employee Will Be Missed

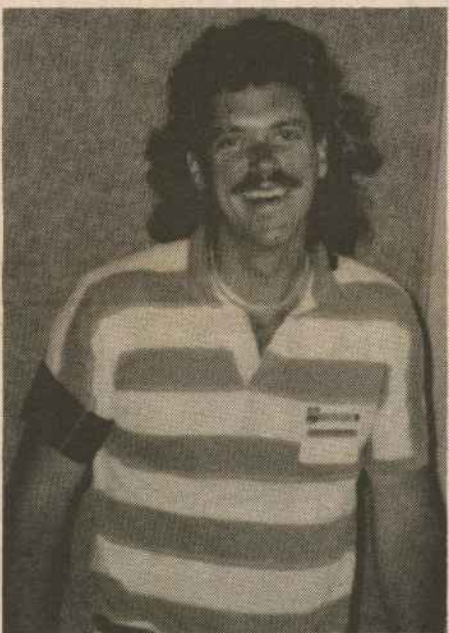
Dan Gordon, a long-time friend and employee of the Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP), AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin, Inc. (ARCW), passed away on Friday, November 29, 1991. Dan had been hospitalized at St. Luke's Hospital for seven weeks due to AIDS-related complications.

Dan was employed by ARCW in the Spring of 1989 as Business Manager. He devoted an enormous amount of effort constructing the financial management system now utilized by the agency, a system that will serve ARCW well for many years to come. Dan was promoted to Director of Administration and Finance in 1990.

Dan's good work at ARCW was motivated by his dedication to people with HIV disease. In 1988, he established AIDS Information Milwaukee (AIM), an educational group for individuals with HIV infection. AIM remains one of the most successful support groups provided by the agency.

In 1990, Dan was selected by the national People Living With AIDS organization for a scholarship to attend the International AIDS Conference in San Francisco. It was there that he was drawn to participate in the ACT UP demonstrations, which inspired him to return to Milwaukee and help build the Milwaukee ACT UP chapter.

Dan was most proud of his work at



DAN GORDON

MAP and asked that memorials in his name be given to the Milwaukee AIDS Project, P.O. Box 92505, Milwaukee, WI 53202.

Dan was an inspiration and a friend to all who knew him. We will miss him and will always be grateful for his enormous contribution to the continuing struggle against AIDS.

discriminatory. It absolutely is a legitimate cultural event with a parade, art festival, speakers, performers, tons of food — and we've had more and more people each year."

Wells bristled at the idea that tax dollars should not be used for the Pride celebration. "Pardon me," he said sarcastically. "Whose tax dollars are they? Tens of thousands of hard-working Gays and Lesbians in Milwaukee pay their taxes too." Wells also said that the thousands of people who attend the annual June event pour a significant amount of money into Milwaukee's economy. "That money argument is really insulting," he said.

At press time, Gay and Lesbian community leaders had not yet mapped a strategy to respond to the latest crisis. To a community already reeling from the Dahmer murders, the recent School Board hearings and a spate of violent Gay bashings, the unending process of what one activist called "damage control" goes on.

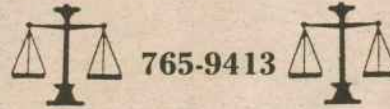
Readers wanting to take action and get involved in the latest skirmish should call the Pride Committee at (414) 32-PRIDE or the Lesbian Alliance at 264-2600.

To reach City Council members at City Hall, call 278-2221.

**Editor's Note:** At some point in the conversation with Alderman Murphy, he indicated he had never attended a Gay Pride Celebration. When this editor

## DIRECTORY OF PROFESSIONALS

**Thomas E. Martin**  
ATTORNEY AT LAW  
General Practice of Law  
Fifteen Years Experience



765-9413

### Small Computer Owners DO IT BETTER

on the CSP/GLINN Super System.

Access a BIG BBS with a little computer easy and fast. Our Node 12 Special Access Line at (414) 277-0131 is designed for computers with small displays and/or slow modems. Gay Wisconsin's most advanced computer BBS. Free files for all small & orphan computers, plus total access, with on-line faxing, private file transfers. (Other computer callers use main nodes (414) 289-0145.)

**CSP/GLINN Multi-Board Super System**  
P.O. Box 93626, Milwaukee, WI 53203-0626  
New to BBSing? Order our Power Users Guide \$3.00

proffered an invitation to the 1992 event, Murphy replied: "I may take you up on that."

### BOOKS

#### Continued from Page 10

**The Game** (\$8.95).

Joseph Hansen's latest is **A Country Of Old Men** (\$17.95). Featuring his longtime Gay sleuth Dave Brandstetter (in his last appearance), this intelligent mystery is a fitting finale for the genre's first openly Gay hero. Chicago writer Mark Zubro has his fourth mystery out this Fall, titled **Sorry Now?** (\$17.95), as well as the paperback of his third Tom and Scott mystery, **Why Isn't Becky Twitchell Dead?** (\$8.95).

The unlikely pairing of a Gay ghostwriter and an over-the-hill (and straight) detective highlights Stan Culter's **Best Performance By A Patsy** (\$17.95). My personal recommendation goes to Grant Michael's delightful, **A Body To Dye For** (\$8.95), featuring Gay hair dresser-investigator Stan Kraychik.

Looking for something other than fiction? This year's Lesbian highlight is Lillian Faderman's **Odd Girls And Twilight Lovers** (\$30.00), a fascinating Lesbian social history. For all those interested in Lesbian literature, **The Safe Sea Of Women: Lesbian Fiction 1969-1989**, already considered to be the definitive source on the subject, is now in paperback at \$14.95.

John Preston has edited two new fascinating titles. First is **Hometowns** (\$21.95). Rich and diverse, this collection contains memories of growing up Gay in America by leading Gay writers and, in the process, examines the Gay man's element in the American landscape. **The Big Gay Book** (\$14.95) is an indispensable guide and resource book for any Gay man seeking to live the Gay life.

Don't be put off by its scholarly title, but Bruce R. Smith's **Homosexual Desire in Shakespeare's England** (\$39.95) is a fascinating, lucidly written history which develops a poetics of homosexual desire in the Renaissance.

Looking for a lavish gift book for a loved one, or for oneself? Receiving tremendous publicity even before its release is **Duo** (\$45.00). Herb Ritts' photography of bodybuilders Bob Paris and Rod Jackson. Sure to please is **Bruce Weber** (\$50.00), Weber's latest limited edition opus. A little more affordable is **Men! 31 Curious And Remarkable Postcards**, a whimsical collection of '20's duotones.

Thanks to the continued efforts of Gay and Lesbian publishers as well as several large mainstream publishers, these are but a few titles from the tremendous variety of Gay and Lesbian Literature available this holiday season. So, Merry Christmas to all and to all a good book!

**Editor's Note:** Carl M. Szatmary is the manager of Webster's Bookstore at 2559 N. Downer Avenue in Milwaukee. Webster's has recently re-stocked and expanded its Gay/Lesbian book section.

### HATE CRIMES

#### Continued from Page 1

involved conducted themselves professionally and compassionately.

Two of the officers present surprised Beck and his friends by suggesting that the evening's anti-Gay attacks and "others like them" could, they believed,

Serving the Lesbian and Gay Community.

### PROCKNOW

#### ATTORNEY AT LAW

Domestic partner protection (wills, power of attorney, etc.), Unemployment Compensation, Equal Rights, Family Law, Landlord/tenant, and Social Security disability.

Home Visits Arranged

Call Deb Procknow (414) 769-7265

## BESTD

1240 East Brady Street • Milwaukee, Wisconsin

HIV Counseling and Testing  
Sexually transmitted disease diagnosis, testing and treatment  
Alternative Women's Clinic  
CALL FOR INFORMATION  
AND APPOINTMENT  
272-2144

OFFICE HOURS BY APPOINTMENT



THEODORE I. FRIEDMAN, PH.D.  
COUNSELING PSYCHOLOGY

SUITE 206 SUITE 2506  
2266 N. PROSPECT AVE. 55 EAST WASHINGTON ST.  
MILWAUKEE, WI 53202 CHICAGO, IL 60602  
PHONE: (414) 272-2427 PHONE: (312) 726-5241

be attributed to the recent report "Flirting With Danger" broadcast on WISN TV 12. "This is what comes from the Channel 12 report," one said. The other officer agreed.

The WISN TV news series, which ran November 19-22, purported to investigate dangerous conditions in Gay bars and cruising areas of the city in the wake of the Jeffrey Dahmer murders. It was condemned by local activists for its sensationalism and its unbalanced look at the city's Gay community. Gay and Lesbian leaders had warned that it could lead to further anti-Gay violence.

(Please see Bill Meunier's column on p. 6.)

### Ben-Shalom Threatened

In another incident, Miriam Ben-Shalom, known nationwide for her battle for reinstatement into the Army Reserve, received a hand-written letter through the mail on November 25 in which the author threatened her life.

The writer called Ben-Shalom a "cunt-lapping, nigger bitch" and warned her that "vengeance would be coming soon" in the form of a shotgun blast to her back. Ben-Shalom turned the letter over to Milwaukee police.

Ben-Shalom told the **Light** the letter was related to her recent appearance before the School Board in which she spoke in support of proposals to help Gay and Lesbian students. She said she has received many rude, anonymous, sometimes threatening phone calls about the School Board issue.

Ben-Shalom, a teacher in the Milwaukee Public Schools, served as a representative of the Milwaukee Teachers Education Association (the teachers' union) on the School Board's Task Force on Gay and Lesbian Teens. When she spoke at a School Board Committee hearing on November 13, she was heckled by many fundamentalists present.

Ben-Shalom, who has endured much hostility in her almost 20 years of activism, remained stoic. "The more you hassle me, the louder I'm going to speak out," is the message she wants to convey to her detractors.

Also, on November 26, an elderly Gay man who uses a cane because of arthritis, was attacked by five young men shouting "Faggot! Die faggot!" at N. 41st and W. Wright Streets at 7 p.m. The thugs stole his cane, beat him around the face and body and took his wallet and a bag of work clothes.

The victim fled to a nearby residence where police and an ambulance were called. He was treated for cuts and bruises at the hospital. The assailants were described as young Black men wearing athletic jackets and caps. Police believe the mugging may have been gang-related.

TURN TO VICTIMS, PAGE 15

### MURPHY

#### Continued from Page 1

"misleading." He said "It is absolutely not an issue of veterans versus Gays. I never ever said it was like that."

Gini Holland, chair of the Festival Board, told the **Light** the veterans groups had simply not submitted an application, but that the City Council was likely to raise their allocation. Of the Pride Committee's application, she said "It was very thorough and contained all the required documentation. It corresponded to the Festival Fund's guidelines and, like all the other applications, we judged it on its merits. Our recommendation is only advisory, so at this point it's out of our hands." She said the Festival Board's purpose was to celebrate the diverse cultures of the city and to promote understanding and unity among all its people. She felt the Pride celebration was a part of that effort.

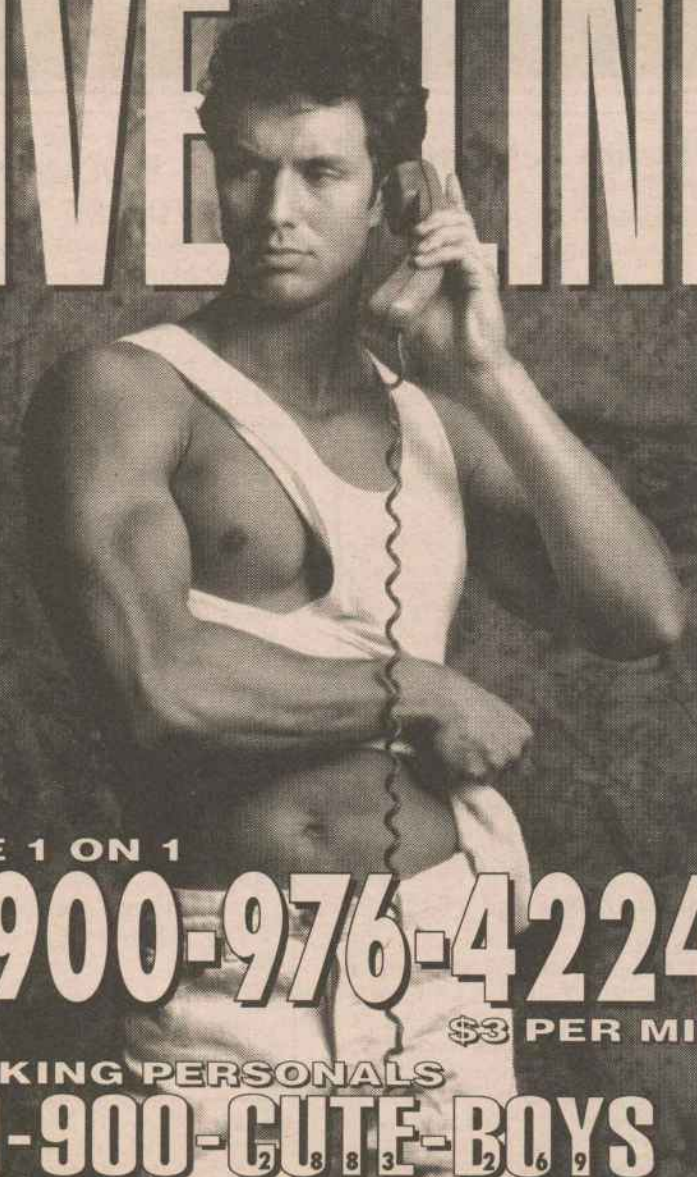
If the Common Council Committee decides to veto the Pride Committee's grant, it would have to be accomplished through an amendment specifically deleting it from the list of the 38 other groups.

### Gay Response

Gary Wells, who served as President of the 1991 Pride Committee and who submitted the grant request, said: "I would hate to see the Council vote it down. I think it would clearly be



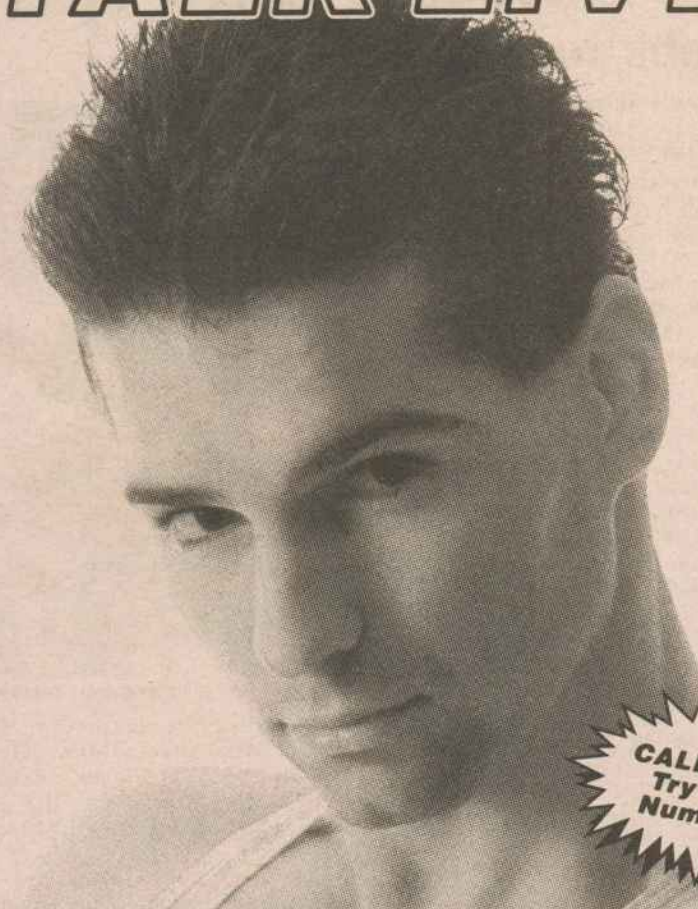
# LIVE LINE



**LIVE 1 ON 1**  
**1-900-976-4224**  
 \$3 PER MIN  
**TALKING PERSONALS**  
**1-900-CUTE-BOYS**  
 \$2 PER MIN

Audio Entertainment Network Carson City, NV Must be 18 yrs. of age

# TALK LIVE!



**CALL NOW! Try Both Numbers!**

**1-900-CUTE-HUNK**  
 BILLED TO YOUR TELEPHONE • \$3 PER MIN  
**1-800-666-9666**  
 BILLED TO YOUR VISA, MASTERCARD OR CONNECT CARD • \$3 PER MIN

**CONNECT CARD**

©1991 REAL PEOPLE, LTD. • MUST BE 18 OR OLDER AND HAVE A TOUCH TONE PHONE  
 PRICES SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE • FOR MORE INFO: (312) 988-7464

**YOU'VE TRIED THE REST...  
 COME BACK TO THE BEST!**  
 (AND THE HOTTEST)



**CONNECTIONS USA**  
 TALKING PERSONALS

- Thousands of Voice Ads
- Dozens of Categories
- Hot Dates and Friends
- Phone Numbers OR Voicemail
- WHY SETTLE FOR LESS?

**1-900-407-3900**  
 \$2/min.

Meet Americans OR Canadians!  
 VISA OR MC—HAVE YOUR CREDIT CARD READY!  
**1-800-669-DATE**  
 \$2/min. +50¢ service charge per call—Touch-Tone phone required

Gay owned and operated. Information: (305) 565-4455, Ext: 1807

# WISCONSIN Phone Personals

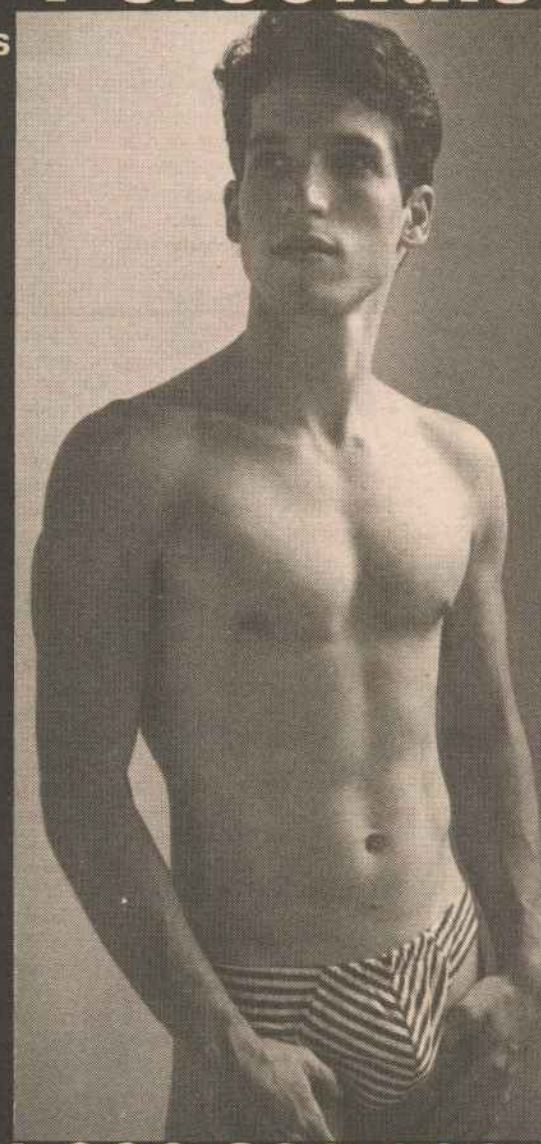
Call to meet guys in Wisconsin for friendship, dating & relationships!

Specialty Datelines at only .99/min!

**1-900-896-2992**  
 Couples/Groups  
 Bodybuilders

**1-900-933-6565**  
 Phone Action  
 Asians  
 Leather/Levi  
 Mature Men/40+  
 Hot Latins

**1-900-933-7575**  
 Black Men  
 Well Endowed  
 Bears & Daddies  
 Military  
 Young 18-25



**.99/min 1-900-896-2992**

Touch-tone required / Must be 18 / PEI, P.O. Box 19149, Washington, DC 20036



## CCF Awards Scholarship; Another Planned

[Milwaukee]- Milwaukee's Cream City Foundation (CCF) has awarded the second John M. Cowles Memorial Scholarship to a local student, Brenda Witkowski. The \$500 scholarship covers the current (1991-'92) academic year and may be used by the recipient for tuition and other academic expenses.

Witkowski was awarded the Scholarship due to her excellent academic credentials, outstanding references and her commitment to being further involved in the causes of the Lesbian and Gay community in the future. CCF congratulates Witkowski and wishes her continued success in her education.

The Foundation also has announced that another scholarship in this program is now available for award. Applicants must be entering their Junior or Senior year at an accredited college or university in the Metro Milwaukee area.

For the first time, they may be pursuing any major. The previous requirement that they be pursuing a degree in the sciences is not applicable for this award.

Applicants must possess a 3.0 GPA, have a demonstrable interest in the Gay/Lesbian community, and be a U.S. and Wisconsin citizen.

The scholarship program was initiated by CCF as a memorial to the late John M. Cowles, a community leader and CCF board member, who died in January.

Applications for the scholarship (retroactive for the full academic year beginning Fall, 1991), may be obtained by calling CCF at (414) 265-0880 or mailing a request to P.O. Box 204, Milwaukee, WI 53201.

Previous applicants will be automatically reviewed for this award and need not resubmit their credentials.

### NAVY

#### Continued from Page 1

discharge and Pentagon policy. In the Spring of 1991, during hearings on the lawsuit, Gasch referred to Steffan as a "homo" three times. An opinion from the Justice Department stated that "homo" was not a derogatory or prejudicial term and Gasch subsequently refused to disqualify himself from the case. Attorneys for LDEF have said that they will appeal the ruling.

"The surprise in this ruling is not Judge Gasch's prejudice — that was clear earlier this year. The shock here is the use of AIDS as a rationale to justify the military's anti-Gay exclusion," said Urvashi Vaid, Executive Director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF).

"Even the Pentagon has never made this argument. Military policies on HIV

and AIDS have nothing to do with the more than 48-year old ban. To rely on the former to bolster the latter is outrageous," said Vaid.

NGLTF has worked politically to overturn the Pentagon ban on Gays since 1988 through its Military Freedom Project. In November, 1991, NGLTF secured the introduction of House and Senate Resolutions calling on the President to rescind the DOD policy. The Senate resolution, S. Res. 236, was introduced by Sen. Brock Adams (D-WA), and presently has four co-sponsors. The House resolution, H. Res. 271, was introduced by Rep. Barbara Boxer (D-CA) and has 39 co-sponsors.

According to NGLTF, as of December 3, 1991, no one from the Wisconsin delegation has signed on. Wisconsin Rep. Les Aspin, a Democrat, chairs the House Armed Services Committee.

"Grassroots activists should urge their members of Congress to co-sponsor these resolutions," said Tim Drake, Director of NGLTF's Military Freedom Project. "We can't sit back any longer and wait for Judge Gasch or President Bush to catch up with the American people on this issue. We must not tolerate taxpayer-funded discrimination against anyone who has served our country honorably."

### VICTIMS

#### Continued from Page 13

##### More Attacks

In the early morning hours of November 20, two men leaving Club 219 on S. Second Street were nearly run down by a black, late model Corvette with either Illinois or old Wisconsin license plates with the first three digits GBI. Gay bar patrons are asked to be on the lookout and to report any such vehicle to police.

Earlier the previous evening, two Gay men walking toward the Triangle bar on E. National Avenue were hit by a bottle thrown from another car. The victims discerned four young white men in the car, who shouted anti-Gay slurs as they drove past.

Many other incidents of verbal harassment against Gays have occurred near the Gay bar district along S. Second and E. National Avenue. Bar patrons and all people walking in that area are asked to be alert to potential danger. Several incidents have also occurred recently on the East Side near the North Avenue bridge and along Prospect Avenue.

**(Editor's Note:** Please report any incidents of anti-Gay/Lesbian harassment or violence to the **Light** at (414) 372-2773. We want to monitor this backlash more closely and publish updated information to keep our community fully informed. The mainstream media did not cover any of these attacks. As usual, we must depend on each other. We also urge that all such incidents be reported to the police.)

these articles and that concerns me. It is my expectation that UW-Whitewater will always be a caring family that accepts diversity regardless of race, gender, creed, national origin and sexual orientation... We may not always agree as to what is right and what is wrong, but we must always work to protect the human dignity of each individual."

Chancellor Greenhill's plea for tolerance did not stop the threatening phone calls or some individuals on campus from distributing a leaflet headlined: "Homosexuality: Illegitimate Deathstyle, They Call This Love?" The filer, attributed to AALARM — the Association Against Learning in the Absence of Religion and Morality — quoted the Bible, accused Gays of being child molesters and endorsed the "Traditional Family, Foundation of Civilization."

Mallonen described the current atmosphere for Gays and Lesbians on campus as "Unsafe. We are really very fearful... Students are having trouble sleeping and concentrating on their studies. The homophobia is everywhere. Some are returning to the closet."

Already vulnerable from the threats against them, UW-Whitewater's Gay community suffered a further blow December 2. That evening, the Student Association, dominated by conservative elements, cut the GLSU's budget for 1992-93 to just \$410. The group originally requested \$880.

"We are stepping forward to put a stop to this," Mallonen told the **Light**, referring to the pervasive homophobia on campus.

On the funding front, the GLSU plans an appeal to the Dean of Students. And the group has drafted a set of proposals for Chancellor Greenhill to act on. Among them are: offering a reward for information that leads to the apprehension of Robinson's assailant/s; a stronger public statement by the Chancellor condemning the attacks



**THE QUILT**— Hundreds of people viewed panels of the Names Project AIDS Memorial Quilt which was on display at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Nov. 30-Dec. 2.

against UW-Whitewater's Gay and Lesbian community; the inclusion of Gay and Lesbian issues in course curricula; and sensitivity training for administrators, faculty members and campus police.

Mallonen said she hopes that students returning after the semester break will return to a safer more supportive environment.

**Women's Program Coordinator** to market and implement services to a Lesbian population. Bachelor's degree, health care background, strong communication skills and program management experience required. Master's degree preferred. No calls, please. Send resume and cover letter to:

Howard Brown Memorial Clinic/OO  
945 W. George Street  
Chicago, Illinois 60657

## CLASSIFIEDS

### Announcements

#### MEN

Whatever your taste or fantasy, you will find it deep without our catcombs. From ranch-hand to pig, w/s to enemas, denim to leather, trainers & trainees. All are welcome, but beware, no vanilla sex can survive. Be ready for hot, sweaty man on man sex! For free info, send a SASE to RAP, 8721 Santa Monica Blvd. #658, Los Angeles, CA 90069. a

#### RELATIONSHIP ASTROLOGY

Are you compatible with your lover, friend, or other? What strengths and challenges do you face? This 20-25 page report unravels the mysteries. Understanding leads to health and harmony. Write or call: Julie's Astro Service, P.O. Box 8331, Madison 53708 or 608-251-6303 y

## CLASSIFIEDS

**CLASSIFIED ORDERS:** Completely fill out this form and mail to WISCONSIN LIGHT, 1843 N. Palmer, Milwaukee, WI 53212.

**RATES ARE \$2** for each line. Each line can contain up to 42 characters, (including spaces). Indicate if you would like a **BOLD HEADLINE** of up to three words above your ad for an additional \$2.50. Also indicate classification under which your ad is to be run.

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

NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE
CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE

PLEASE CHECK THE ISSUE(S) IN WHICH YOU WOULD LIKE YOUR AD TO APPEAR.

☐ Jan. 9; ☐ Jan. 23; ☐ Feb. 6; ☐ Feb. 20

### Buy/Sell

**GAY WORLD ON-LINE** Discover the world of Gay Computer Bulletin Boards. Complete book on floppy disk in easy to use hypertext. Everything you need to know to get on-line. For all IBM compatible computers. Specify 5.25 or 3.5 inch disk. Send \$9.95 or ask for free brochure to: GLINN Publishing Corp., P.O. Box 93626, Milwaukee, WI 53203-0626. **SYOPS**— List/Advertise your BBS. Call (414) 289-8644 for full info. Deadline Dec. 12. Disks shipped Dec. 16.

### Employment

**Carpenter** — Perhaps retired or semi-retired and willing to work on a Victorian house porch restoration? Detailed spindles and other decorative wood pieces needed to restore 1881 house. Can pay for materials and some time but can't afford full market rates. Call Jerry Johnson or Terry Boughner for more information (414) 372-2773.

**MALE MODELS NEEDED**— Serious work for new product packaging, mail order catalogs, and advertising. Couples needed too. Call for appointment. Portfolio and resume helpful, but not required. GLINN Publishing Corporation (414) 289-8644.

**Opening Soon:** New "Leprechaun Lounge" applications for bartenders now being accept. Call 425-7134.

### Organizations

**GALANO CLUB.** A social club serving the recovering Gay and Lesbian community. Regularly scheduled AA, NA, Al-Anon, ACOA and other 12-step meetings. Open nightly. 2408 N. Farwell Avenue, (414) 276-6936. x

#### LATINS R US

Latins and admirers meet in a private, discreet system. Largest nationwide. Meets friends, dates, lovers, pen pals. This is an active group that wants you! Stop waiting! Send SASE for free info: HMS, 8721 Sta. Monica Bl. #338, Hollywood, CA 90069. y

### Vacation

**INN AT PINE RIDGE**— A B&B especially for womyn. Hot tub, sauna, x-country ski. Near Eau Claire. Reservations only. 715 984-2272. y





MICHAEL LISOWSKI

## Lisowski Sees Positive Outcome To Milwaukee School Board Vote

Commentary by Michael S. Lisowski

Before I begin to write my impressions regarding the recent Milwaukee Public School Board of Directors' vote on the Task Force Report Regarding Gay and Lesbian Teens, I personally want to thank all of you who so tirelessly testified, supported and assisted in the process of the vote, those who attended the committee and full Board meetings, and those who called their respective School Board members. In the political process, every small word, action or phone call is crucial.

For those of you who did not involve yourselves, I urge you to start involving yourself in some small way in our Gay and Lesbian community. Success, even in a small sense, is very additive. We can make a difference. We have made a difference. And we will continue to make a difference.

To begin with, I was disturbed with the non-Gay newspaper analysis of the final vote November 20. The *Sentinel* wrote that the Board "backs down" and the *Journal* stated that the Board "rejects" the Gay proposals. Both papers, although the *Sentinel* coverage was more accurate in tone, erroneously highlighted that the entire proposal was based on a "Gay curriculum."

The Task Force never intended to implement a so-called "Gay curriculum" as either the main thrust, hidden agenda or even as a part of the Task Force proposals. Simply stated, we never intended to push for a Gay studies course.

No matter how many times I focused on the distinction between a Gay studies course (which we did not include) and implementing appropriate "supplemental materials that can be integrated into existing curricular areas," most newscasters and newspaper reporters were not able to decipher the difference.

(I thought that a B.A. degree was the minimum requirement for a job in journalism, but the B.S. that was misfed to the public at large obviously helped inflame the populace. Journalistic heterosexual overkill?)

There are numerous instances whereby non-judgmental information can be included in the curriculum. English class: James Baldwin, American author, African-American and Gay. Baldwin's entire life experiences forged his writing. Social Studies: civil rights movements — an opportunity to discuss the civil rights movement, the women's movement, and the Gay rights movement. We can even be nice and include a non-judgmental discussion of the religious right movement in our Milwaukee public school system. How were all of these movements similar? Different? What changes in society brought them about?

History: Supreme Court decisions like *Plessy vs. Ferguson* (1896, "separate but equal"), *Brown vs. the Board of Education* (1954, "separate...is unequal"), *Roe vs. Wade* (1973, the right of a woman to choose an abortion), *Bowers vs. Hardwick* (1986, states retain the right to prohibit sodomy). How do these cases define the individual's right to use his/her own person? How do these cases influence society's perception and treatment of the group members?

Now, if teachers in our school system can't be non-judgmental dealing with these discussion topics in the classroom, maybe we do need to overhaul our teaching strategies. If David Lucey failed to see how non-judgmental curriculum materials could be implemented in such a fashion, even after I had personally

spoken with him concerning any questions he had with the Task Force resolutions, perhaps the chameleon School Board Director should direct himself to a sensitivity seminar as quickly as he can fax an apology letter for his homophobic comments.

As I have mentioned to others, I do consider the outcome of the Gay/Lesbian Teen Task Force Report a success for these reasons:

Last April Kathy Herbst and I went in to former Superintendent Robert Peterkin with nothing. On November 20 we finished with:

- After hearing compelling testimony from Gay citizens, the Instruction and Community Relations Committee of the School Board forwarded the Task Force Report to the full Board on October 13;
- The full nine-member School Board unanimously forwarded the Task Force Report to the MPS administration for its response on October 27;
- The Instruction and Community Relations Committee squeakily passed the administration's response to the Task Force report on November 13, thereby allowing it to be voted on by the entire School Board, in spite of 3 hours and 40 minutes of the most hateful, slanderous, bigoted and ignorant comments I have ever heard (with about 10 Gay/Lesbian community supporters getting a chance to speak in favor); and,
- The final showdown on November 20, where the administration's response to the Task Force Report's resolutions was approved with a compromise vote by 7-1, under the threats and taunts of nearly 800 fundamentalist bigots and with the support of about 50 Gay/Lesbian community members.

I choose to realistically consider this historic precedent a success. First of all, I do not believe that we could have accomplished this last year. Having closely scrutinized the School Board race, I believe that the best candidates were elected, except for David Lucey (although I will still allow him the opportunity to redeem himself other than with a fax machine).

This entire process galvanized many of us in our community and enabled us to realize that we can and shall overcome hatred, bigotry and ignorance, no matter how great the odds, when we work together. We must realize that we do have support from powerful individuals and organizations within our Milwaukee community, although they may not always vocalize and make that support apparent.

We must continue to establish, nurture and strengthen bridges and networks with our supporters. We cannot win by only focusing our efforts within our community. In our democracy, the majority allows the minority its freedoms. We can demand all we want, but the reality is that the majority grants us the rights we seek.

We also, as a community, need to look past the issues of HIV and AIDS. The epidemic needs our attention, but there are other issues of importance. We will no longer be effective if we burn ourselves out. We must disperse our creative energies and talents in many directions. For when we turn our backs to one issue, there remains, most likely, double or triple the work to regain lost ground.

Finally, when re-reading the final amended resolutions for the umpteenth time, we do emerge victorious regardless of the wording. I like to read between the lines, and I find the spacing quite adequate. We have sensitized the entire metropolitan Milwaukee community to the

issue of the criminal neglect of Lesbian and Gay youth in our schools. We have established and maintained a constructive working relationship with the Milwaukee Public Schools' administration. We have only begun the long, arduous process of vigilant maintenance of full and proper implementation of the Task Force's proposals.

Regardless of one's interpretations of "guttled," "watered-down" or whatever, these proposals prove that Gays and Lesbians do care about the future of their 'children' in our schools and will continue to advocate on their behalf. The door is open for administration, teachers, faculty, staff and students to become more sensitive to the concerns and needs of Gay and Lesbian students. Once awareness begins, genuine concern, assistance and advocacy will surely follow. Gay and Lesbian students will now have access to information and services which for too long have been denied to them.

Above all, we must remain steadfast in our vigilance. Believe it or not, the easy part of the struggle is over. The continued proper implementation of these proposals is most crucial. Finally, it must be remembered that our 'children' are the reason for these proposals in the first place. We need to make them aware that it is good, healthy and normal to discover and develop their sexual orientation as they feel comfortable.

Lastly I wish to thank Bernell Howard, Ruben Evans and "D" — the three courageous young Black Gay students who testified during the hearings in front of hundreds of ignorant bigots. The risk that these young men undertook sets a shining example as daring role models for every Gay and Lesbian student, and for our entire Gay and Lesbian community. They deserve our support and appreciation.

Debbie Davis and I are planning to organize a watchdog committee comprised of concerned individuals within our schools primarily to monitor student safety concerns. We will record and report violations to the proper school officials. Anyone, whether within the school system or not, is encouraged to contact us to get involved. Please call (414) 265-8500.

Keep in mind also, that Gay Youth Milwaukee meets the first and third Saturdays of the month from 1:00-3:00

p.m. in the first floor meeting room of the Central Library on 8th Street and Wisconsin Avenue downtown.

## Training On Battered Women Scheduled

[Milwaukee]— The Task Force on Battered Women is planning a training session to prepare volunteers to serve as Hot-Line Counselors, Advocates for Battered Women or Support Group Co-Facilitators. The training consists of two sessions: Friday, January 17, 1992 from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. and Saturday, January 18th from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Potential volunteers must be able to attend both sessions.

Extensive training on the issues of domestic violence, communication skills for crisis intervention and methods for obtaining legal protection will be given.

A registration packet including job descriptions for each volunteer can be obtained by calling Joyce at (414) 466-1660. The fee for the training is \$25.



HAPPY HOLIDAYS

Dec. 22  
Christmas Party  
3 P.M. - ??  
FREE FOOD

Dec. 31  
New Year's Eve Party  
10:30 P.M.  
4th Annual  
"Stars for AIDS"  
Show  
\$3 Donation  
672-5580

1753 S. Kinnickinnic Milwaukee, WI 53207

WE WOULD LIKE TO TAKE  
THIS OPPORTUNITY TO THANK  
THE FOLLOWING BUSINESSES AND  
ORGANIZATIONS THAT PARTICIPATED  
IN OUR OUTREACH PROGRAM IN  
1991:

BOOT CAMP SALOON

C'EST LA VIE

CLUB 219+

GALANO CLUB

LA CAGE

LEADED SHADE

M&M CLUB

PARTNERS

RAINBOW REVUE

3B'S BAR

TRIANGLE

WRECK ROOM

**BESTD**  
C·L·I·N·I·C

1240 East Brady Street • Milwaukee, WI 53202

(414) 272-2144

