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The Wisconsin Light

Victory Fund To Support Tammy Baldwin's Election Bid

[Washington, D.C.]— Wisconsin's own Tammy Baldwin is one of six openly Gay and Lesbian candidates selected by the Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund to receive contributions from its nationwide network of member donors, according to William Waybourn, Executive Director of the Victory Fund.

Baldwin, a Lesbian attorney who is currently a member of the Dane County Board of Supervisors, is seeking a seat in the Wisconsin Assembly vacated by Rep. David Clarenbach, who is running for the U.S. Congress. She has an excellent chance to become the first openly Lesbian or Gay person in the Wisconsin Assembly. Redistricting is still unresolved, but the 78th Assembly District has a large Gay and Lesbian population with liberal voting patterns.

Baldwin was first elected to the Dane County Board of Supervisors in 1986, where she has led the battle for AIDS funding in the county. As an attorney, she represented many Gays and Lesbians in anti-discrimination cases and lobbied for the creation of a county AIDS task force, serving as its first chair.

Local Benefit for Baldwin

A local fundraiser for Baldwin will be held on Thursday, March 19 from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Cafe Europa, 102 King Street, just off the Capitol Square in Madison.

Suggested donation for the event is \$30, but any contribution is appreciated. For more information about Baldwin's campaign, call (608) 258-9298.

The Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund which is supporting Baldwin is a nationwide organization of members who



Dane County Sup. Tammy Baldwin

join with a \$100 contribution. Members agree to support at least two candidates with contributions of \$100 or more over a two year cycle. The Victory Fund enables qualified Gay-supportive candidates to gain access to early money, which is critical in establishing credibility.

The Victory Fund has also become the nation's first organization to utilize new 900-number technology to raise funds for openly Gay and Lesbian political candidates. The Victory Fund's national donor network is the first to become operational after recent approval by the Federal Elections Commission (FEC) of 900 numbers by political action committees and candidates.

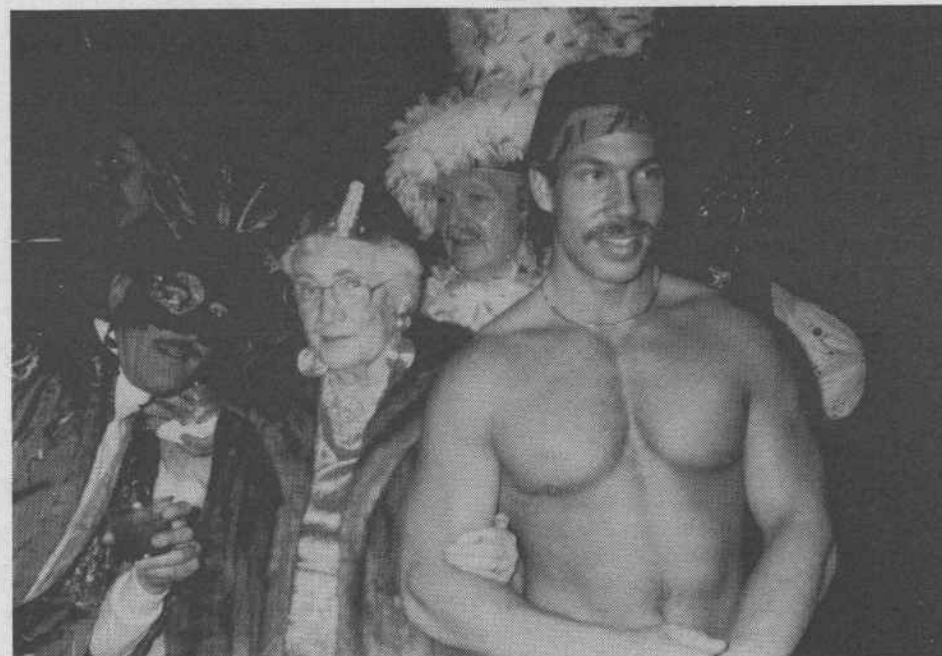
Donor Network Operational

The number [1-900-678-3863 or 1-900-67V-FUND] allows anyone from anywhere in the U.S. to call and contribute \$19.92 directly to five recommended candidates or to the Victory Fund itself. Callers hear a personal message from the candidate, plus updates on their respective campaigns.

The 900 number is being announced in a national ad campaign, beginning with *The Wisconsin Light*, *The Advocate*, *The Washington Blade*, *The Dallas Voice*, *The Weekly News* (Miami), *Chicago Outlines* and other Lesbian/Gay publications

TURN TO VICTORY FUND, PAGE 11

Fate Of Hate Crimes Law Up To Gov. Thompson And The Courts



EASY PICK-UP— Tarzan had no problem finding a date at the Mardi Gras Masquerade Ball held at Milwaukee's Mitchell Park Horticultural Domes on March 1. The Ball attracted a diverse crowd and raised several thousand dollars for Milwaukee's Lesbian/Gay Pride Committee, whose annual parade and festival is set for June 14.

MASN Receives \$1.2 Million Grant To Build The Rodney Scheel House

By Terry Boughner

[Madison]— Senator Herb Kohl (D-WI) announced on February 28, 1992 that the Madison AIDS Support Network (MASN) will be awarded a \$1.2 million grant by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to build the Rodney Scheel House for persons living with AIDS.

HUD officials telephoned Kohl's Madison office on Thursday, February 27 to notify him of the award, the only project of its type to receive funding in Wisconsin in 1992. Formal written notification of this major grant will be sent by HUD to MASN shortly.

"Last Summer I heard about the fundraising efforts of the many friends of Rodney Scheel who were working so hard to fulfill his life-long dream of providing housing for persons with AIDS," said Kohl. "I am delighted that we were able to identify a new program at HUD as a source of funds for this project and work throughout this highly competitive application process."

Scheel, the owner of Rod's bar in Madison and a long-time activist in the Lesbian/Gay community, died of AIDS on July 12, 1990. He had been a tireless worker in the fight against the disease which took his life.

Madison Couple Loses Court Appeal But Won't Give Up The Fight

By John Quinlan

[Madison]— In the latest round of a five year legal fight, the 4th District Court of Appeals in February upheld a lower court's decision denying family health insurance coverage to the Lesbian partner of a state employee.

However, in an interview with *Wisconsin Light*, it was clear that defeat was the last thing on the minds of the women who filed the suit, Jerri Linn Phillips and her partner, Lorri Tommerup, of Madison. Both women — who will celebrate their tenth anniversary together next year — see their case as just one part of a larger struggle to gain recognition for Lesbian and Gay families.

"We weren't just in this for the victory. As a matter of fact, in the current legal morass around what constitutes a family, we weren't really expecting a victory," said Phillips. "I look at what we've accomplished as a necessary part of the process — the definition of the issues."

Rodney's Dream

"Rodney's dream was that persons with AIDS could live their lives in a comfortable, warm family environment," said Pam Geisler, a member of the Board of Directors of the Rodney Scheel House Foundation.

For this reason, following his death, friends worked to raise money for the Rodney Scheel House. Geisler said that in one year, \$60,000 had been raised to build and furnish the house. Now organizers will get the HUD grant.

In speaking to *Wisconsin Light*, Geisler was obviously excited and thrilled. "We went crazy!" she said when the news reached Madison. "We are so happy, so grateful, so proud."

Geisler spoke too of the apprehensions that she had as the grant was being written. There were rumors that HUD never funded first-time projects; that HUD wasn't interested in projects like the Scheel House and so on. All these things and more, she said, were going through her mind as they pushed the grant proposal to completion. But, as they sometimes do, the fears proved groundless.

"Madison Should Be Proud"

Geisler spoke glowingly of the people of
TURN TO HOUSE, PAGE 11

"Health insurance is just one of those issues, particularly for Lesbian and Gay families with children," she added, citing child custody laws, adoption procedures, and property rights as just a few areas where the law doesn't offer equal protection to Lesbians and Gays in Wisconsin. "Our families need and deserve equal protection under the law."

Doing Their Part

"We have had so many people come out to us to tell us they're in similar circumstances," Tommerup said. "Lesbians and Gay men all over the place are doing various things as families to identify the problems they face. This is our part in that."

"The issue of committed partnerships is new for people," she observed. "They don't understand that we can form committed relationships because the stereotype is that we don't. People need to hear our stories if they're going to be able to identify with us."

TURN TO FAMILIES, PAGE 9

By John Quinlan and Jamakaya

[Madison]— A flurry of judicial and legislative activity late last month placed the fate of Wisconsin's hate crimes law in the hands of Gov. Tommy Thompson and the State Supreme Court. The United States Supreme Court is also expected to rule soon on the constitutionality of a St. Paul, Minnesota hate crimes ordinance.

On February 25, the State Supreme Court heard arguments in a case challenging the constitutionality of Wisconsin's hate crimes law. A decision in the case is expected in June of this year.

On that same day, just hours before the justices heard the case, a revised version of the hate crimes law, which strengthens and clarifies its language, passed the State Senate by a 26-7 vote. The bill, which the Assembly passed earlier, is now awaiting Gov. Thompson's signature.

The hate crimes law enhances penalties for crimes against people and property which are motivated by bigotry based on race, religion, color, disability, sexual orientation, national origin or ancestry. Attorneys for a Kenosha man have challenged the law on the grounds that it violates his First Amendment right of freedom of expression.

Hate Crimes Appeal Case

In October of 1989, a group of black youths beat up a white teenager in Kenosha. It was determined during the trial that the youths had just returned from the movie *Mississippi Burning*, which featured a scene in which a black child was brutally beaten by a Klansman. Todd Mitchell, 23, was charged in the case.

As 14 year old Gregory Reddick passed the area where the youths were gathered, Mitchell reportedly said: "Do you all feel hyped up to move on some white people? There goes a white boy, go get him." The subsequent beating landed Reddick in a coma for four days.

The effect of Mitchell's conviction under the hate crimes law was a doubling of his original two year sentence for battery to four years. His attorney, Bernard Goldstein, acknowledged the fact that the racial motivation of the crime had an added impact on its victim. "That, however, does not address the question of whether we should now be punishing motive, free speech and other factors in the case," he said.

Assistant Attorney General Paul Lundsten said that it was clear that Reddick had been singled out because of his race. "What we really have is a legislative judgment that when you combine intentional selection with the underlying crime you have something that's more serious than the underlying crime itself," he told the court.

Chief Justice Nathan Heffernan replied: "All I can say is, I'm not convinced."

Justice William Bablitch expressed concern about the "vagueness" of the law, saying he was unclear whether bigotry had to be the sole motivation or just part of the motivation for the crime for the statute to be applied.

Law enforcement officials have occasionally found themselves in the same quandary, encountering several obstacles to enforcing the law. In some cases, criminals have escaped the hate crimes penalties because they were wrong about the victims' minority status; in others, they have been cleared because bigotry was only part of the motivation for their crime.

Revised Hate Crimes Bill

Assembly Bill 507, now on Gov. Thompson's desk, makes two changes to address that problem. First, it allows a jury to find that a hate crime has been committed if the criminal acted "in whole or in part" because of the victims'

TURN TO HATE CRIMES, PAGE 11



000- LA-LA!— Marie Antoinette with her constant, long-time companion the Duchess de Polignac on her arm attended the Mardi Gras Ball March 1 at Milwaukee's Mitchell Park Domes. The Ball was a fundraiser for Milwaukee's Lesbian/Gay Pride Committee.

NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

Suspect Nabbed For Killing Gays

[Minneapolis, MN]- Minneapolis police have arrested Jay Thomas Johnson, 25, for the murders of two Gay men last Summer in the Twin Cities, according to *Equal Time*.

Johnson, who is believed to be a Gay man, was apprehended after sending an anonymous letter claiming credit for the killings to local media outlets, including Gay newspapers. The letter claimed responsibility for the deaths of former State Sen. John Chenoweth and Joel Larson. The letter threatened further attacks against Gays and people with AIDS and was signed: "The AIDS Commission."

Police identified and arrested Johnson February 21 after he phoned the Gay and Lesbian Community Action Council and talked to crime victim advocate Patti Abbott about the murders. The caller told Abbott his "roommates" had committed the crimes and that he had written the threatening letter. Police were able to trace Johnson when he telephoned Abbott a second time. They found a .38 revolver at his home.

A high school classmate who once encountered Johnson at a Gay bar told *Equal Time* that Johnson was very closeted and worried that people might learn he was Gay. A college classmate recalled Johnson, who is half black and half white, defending South African apartheid. Kathy Lee told ET: "It was a telling example of how disconnected he was from his identity."

Meanwhile, Minneapolis Police Chief John Laux told the press: "I cannot emphasize enough the importance of the relationship between the Gay and Lesbian Action Council and the Minneapolis Police Department. That relationship has been instrumental in leading to this arrest."

Gays Vow To March On St. Pat's

[New York, NY]- On March 2, just two weeks before the annual St. Patrick's Day Parade, the Irish Lesbian and Gay Organization (ILGO) filed suit in federal court to force the Ancient Order of Hibernians to allow the Gay group to march.

ILGO's action came several days after an attempt at reconciliation and compromise with the Hibernians, the parade's organizers, failed. The lawsuit was filed just days before an administrative judge on the city's Human Rights Commission was set to rule on an anti-discrimination complaint lodged against the Hibernians by the Office of Mayor David Dinkins.

The federal suit claims that ILGO's exclusion from the St. Patrick's Day Parade violates the civil rights of its members. It seeks revocation of the Hibernians' parade permit if the organization persists in excluding the Irish Gays.

When asked by reporters at a press conference what would happen if both legal actions were unsuccessful, ILGO spokeswoman Eileen Clancy declared: "We intend to be there on Fifth Avenue on March 17."

Thompson/Kowalski Victory Secured

[St. Paul, MN]- In mid- February, the Minnesota Supreme Court refused to review the December Appeals Court ruling which granted guardianship of Sharon Kowalski to her Lesbian partner, Karen Thompson. The eight year ordeal for Kowalski and Thompson, which began after the 1983 car accident which disabled Kowalski, is finally over.

The State Supreme Court let stand the unanimous and strongly worded opinion of the Court of Appeals which granted Thompson guardianship. The Appeals Court had said: "Thompson's eligibility for guardianship was overwhelmingly clear from the testimony of Sharon's doctors and caretakers." The judges also called the Lesbian couple "a family of affinity, which ought to be accorded respect."

Kowalski still resides in the Trevilla of Robbinsdale rehabilitation facility outside Minneapolis but is spending an increasing amount of time at the couple's home along the Mississippi River in Clearwater.

In an interview with *Wisconsin Light*, Thompson expressed both "relief" and "sorrow" at the Supreme Court's decision to close the book on the case. She is relieved that the long struggle is now over and that she and Kowalski can make their own decisions. But she said she is also "grieving" over the many years of their lives lost through all the legal wrangling and the years of medical neglect which have exacerbated Sharon's disabilities.

Donations to cover their substantial legal expenses can be sent to the Karen Thompson Legal Fund, 3070 Fulton Circle, Clearwater, MN 55320.

Levi's Offers Benefits To Partners

[San Francisco, CA]- Levi Strauss & Company, one of the world's largest clothing manufacturers, announced in February that it would extend health coverage to the unmarried domestic partners of all its U.S. employees — whether Gay or straight.

The policy, effective June 1, applies to any of Levi's 23,000 workers in the U.S. who live with and share finances with an unmarried partner. "We want a non-discriminatory workplace," said Reese Smith, Levi's Director of Employee Benefits.

Levi Strauss now joins the Lotus Development Corporation and Montefiore Medical Center in New York City as the first major U.S. businesses to extend benefits to unmarried domestic partners.

Quickies...

[Washington, D.C.]- John Frohnmayer, the Chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), who was criticized by conservatives for subsidizing sexually explicit art and equally reviled by progressive artists for denying grants for homoerotic works, was forced to resign by the Bush administration in February.

Art lovers note that President Bush, under attack by rival Republican candidate Pat Buchanan for allegedly promoting "pornography" through the NEA, is likely to appoint someone even further to the right than Frohnmayer.

[Rochester, NY]- In a 5-2 vote, the Rochester School Board banned military recruiters from city high schools because of the Pentagon's exclusion of Gays. "To me, this is a civil rights issue," said Board member Karen Grella. "We need to say something about discrimination in this country."

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.

Queer Nation Participates In Amnesty International Conference

[Milwaukee]- As part of their continuing commitment to "stay in the Mayor's face," members of Queer Nation/Milwaukee made a highly visible appearance during Mayor John Norquist's opening remarks at the Midwest Regional Conference of Amnesty International (AI) at Marquette University on February 22.

Angered that Mayor Norquist was asked to speak despite his recent veto of Gay Pride funding and aware that AI adopted jailed Gays and Lesbians as "prisoners of conscience" just last year, Queer Nation (QN) posed this question to those in attendance: "Does Amnesty International truly support queer rights?"

A QN flyer distributed before the conference began described the veto and stated that "John Norquist is an example of the official homophobia that AI so recently pledged to fight." The flyer ended with the question: "You wouldn't listen to the South African government, would you?"

The majority of the hundreds of people in attendance, many from neighboring states, were surprised to learn of the mayor's action and agreed to wear fluorescent red "Veto Norquist" stickers QN handed out.

As the conference opened, Queer Nationals, wearing "Veto Norquist" stickers, sat directly in front of the podium and waited for the mayor. They did not disrupt Norquist as he spoke but, as one member explained later, "making him sweat was just as effective."

According to QN, the mayor seemed visibly shaken, and when he mentioned his support of people of all sexual orientations, a low, steady hiss could be heard from the audience.

During the conference itself, a workshop devoted to the issue of homosexuals as oppressed people and AI's new policy adopting Gays as prisoners of conscience drew almost 60 people.

Discussion focussed on raising the awareness and sensitivity of local chapters of Amnesty to the mistreatment Gay people face. Working through the homophobia that may exist in Amnesty's own ranks seemed to be a priority.

Queer Nationals in attendance were able to refer AI members to a variety of community resources to help educate themselves and their chapters about Gays and Lesbians. AI members thanked the Queer Nationals for their suggestions and participation.

Meanwhile, Queer Nation has reiterated its demand that Mayor Norquist meet with an open forum of Gay and Lesbian constituents before the April 7 election. QN wants the Mayor to detail exactly what he will do for Milwaukee's Gay community if re-elected.

Queer Nation meets every first and third Sunday at 3 p.m. in the Milwaukee Public Library's first floor meeting room. Readers can contact QN at (414) 384-3911.

The Milwaukee chapter of Amnesty International can be reached at (414) 344-5745.

Please see the "International News" column in this issue to read about the plight of Gays in Colombia, Russia and Lithuania.

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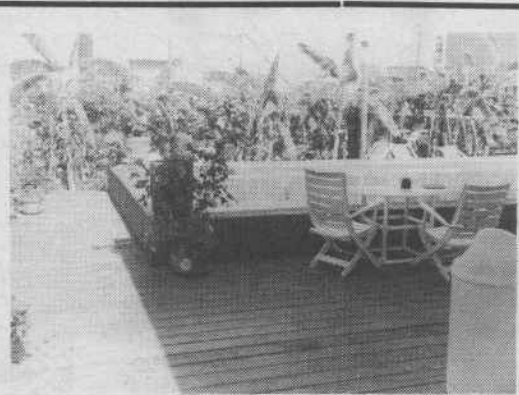
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You may choose to designate your contribution to any of the five candidates below, or directly to The Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund.

This phone call makes the difference between electing someone who forgets our support once elected, versus a qualified gay or lesbian official. As the adage "if you want it done, do it yourself" indicates, this is truly the difference between listening and being heard.

Your phone call is that important. Call now. If we don't help elect our own, who will?



GLEN MAXEY
Candidate for Texas House of Representatives

First elected in a special election last Spring, Glen is now running for a full term in the Texas House of Representatives. When he first took his seat, several colleagues moved because they didn't want to sit next to a "known" homosexual.

An important leader in ending Texas' anti-gay sodomy statute, Maxey needs your help to win a very tough primary battle.



TAMMY BALDWIN
Candidate for Wisconsin State Assembly

A member of the Dane County (Madison, WI) Board of Supervisors, Tammy could become the first openly lesbian/gay member of the Wisconsin State Assembly. As an attorney, she has an impressive track record representing gays and lesbians against discrimination.

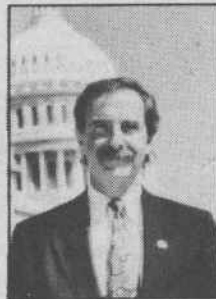
She also lobbied for the creation of an AIDS Task Force and became its first chair. Tammy is locked in a fierce battle with three men and will need help from other lesbians and gay men to win.



JERRY KEENE
Candidate for Oregon House of Representatives

A win by Jerry could make his election the "turning point" in gaining crucial Republican support for passing a gay rights bill in Oregon. Facing a seven-term incumbent, Jerry needs your help to ensure his victory.

He plans to counter the anti-Gay Oregon Citizens' Alliance (OCA) as a "responsible, progressive, pro choice gay Republican with no time for their brand of bigoted nonsense." He will need your help.



TOM NOLAN
Candidate for U.S. Congress

Tom is running to become the first openly gay man ever to win election to Congress. (Barney Frank and Gerry Studds each came out after they were elected.) As the popular and accomplished former-president of the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors, Tom is far more than just a "gay" candidate. But he does have tough opposition in the Democratic primary.

Your contribution could help him win and make history for all of us. (Since this is a federal race, corporate contributions are not permitted.)



GAIL SHIBLEY
Candidate for Oregon House of Representatives

A year ago, Gail became the first openly lesbian member of the Oregon House of Representatives when she was appointed to an open seat. Now she must win election in her own right, against tough opposition from the Oregon Citizens' Alliance (OCA), the anti-gay group that's also fighting to pass a state constitutional amendment condemning homosexuality. The OCA is raising lots of out-of-state money to defeat Gail. She'll need your help to win.



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will find their own way.

The Wisconsin Light



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GUEST OPINIONS

Paul Tsongas, Gay Rights Pioneer, Deserves Our Community's Support

Commentary By Steve Endean

Early on in the unfolding Presidential sweepstakes, I tried to sound the alarm about Senator Tom Harkin (D-IA), the so-called "liberal's liberal" who had a 17-year track record of silence on ending discrimination against Gay and Lesbian citizens, of occasionally voting for Jesse Helms' horrible homophobic amendments and taking credit for AIDS funding that insiders knew he usually had nothing to do with or had to be dragged into supporting.

And like many activists, I argued we must use the upcoming elections — for President and for Congress — to demand clarification of candidates' positions on our issues. They must end their silence on the National Gay and Lesbian Civil Rights Bill.

While we now have more than 100 co-sponsors for the Civil Rights Bill in the House and 15 in the Senate, when it was first introduced in the Senate, we couldn't find one Senator to serve as the chief sponsor. But Paul Tsongas of Massachusetts, who had just been elected to the Senate after several years in the House, agreed without reservation to introduce the bill.

And unlike so many legislators who drop a bill in the hopper but aren't really willing to work on it, Paul Tsongas proved an amazingly committed, hardworking sponsor.

Tsongas understood our ability to effectively advocate on behalf of the legislation was directly tied to our capacity to raise money, and agreed to meet with major donors and prospective major donors for our group and to also be the first speaker at the Human Rights Campaign Fund's first New England banquet.

In the context of Paul's long and distinguished record — and the silence and, in some cases, downright gutlessness of his Democratic opponents — I cannot honestly tell you why I failed to speak out for Paul Tsongas sooner. Now I know it is time for me to act.

In the context of Tsongas' long track record, I cannot be silent any longer. I hope Gay and Lesbian voters, and particularly activists who understand that silence is our enemy and that Paul was there with us from the beginning, will support Paul Tsongas' campaign for President.

I hope every Gay and Lesbian citizen will sit down today and write out the most generous contribution you can to Paul Tsongas for President. Send it to: Tsongas for President, Attn.: David Goldman, 2 Oliver Street, Boston, MA 02109.

Editor's Note: The writer was the first lobbyist and director of Gay Rights National Lobby and the founder of the Human Rights Campaign Fund. He is living with AIDS.

An Open Letter To Judge Gram Regarding Judicial Homophobia

Commentary By Stephen D. Spera

I take great issue, Judge Laurence C. Gram Jr., with your final statement presented at the conclusion of the Jeffrey L. Dahmer trial: "I believe what we had here was a homosexual who could not accept the fact that he was a homosexual." That statement is Gay bashing homophobia at its subtle best! It is yet another attempt to lay the blame of this tragedy at the collective feet of all Gay people. I totally reject your statement and I question whether any real justice, other than the actual sentences meted out, has been served.

Judge Gram, by your statement you apparently believe that Jeffrey Dahmer did what he did because he could not accept his sexuality. That may have been a contributing factor to Dahmer's psychological makeup, but, Judge Gram, you ignore certain other "facts" that your statement much too easily dismisses by their omission.

These "facts" are as follows:

Jeffrey Dahmer was born of and raised by heterosexuals. He received heterosexually oriented religious indoctrination. Dahmer was educated in heterosexually controlled elementary, junior and senior high schools and the Ohio State University. He even served a stint in that bastion of heterosexuality, the United States Army.

Jeffrey Dahmer was taught to despise just "not accept" himself through your heterosexist, homophobic institutions. He was force fed self-hatred and loathing by your heterosexually controlled newspaper, magazine, radio, television and film industries all his life!

So, Judge Gram, when your heterosexual society produces someone like Jeffrey Dahmer and you see the results of that labor of hate, you are somehow horrified? Should you be, really? You reap what you sow.

As to my question of whether justice was served by the trial of Jeffrey Dahmer... yes, for the horrible crimes committed. But, Judge Gram, if you really believe as you publicly state, that Jeffrey Dahmer did what he did only because of his inability to accept his sexual orientation and do not also publicly acknowledge and address the responsibility of the heterosexual society which produced him, then the answer is **NO!** No real justice for me as a Gay man has been served.

I will believe justice has been served if, as a result of this tragedy, we Gay people are no longer denied our rights, are no longer fired from our jobs, are no longer refused housing, are no longer treated as third class citizens by law enforcement and the legal system, are no longer vilified, bashed and murdered simply because of sexual orientation.

I will believe justice has been served when I have equal rights and protection, not persecution, under the law. I will believe justice has been served if, as a result of this tragedy, the next time a Black woman tells a white officer that a child is a child, she is believed! I will believe justice has finally been served when judges like you, Judge Gram, no longer make homophobic statements like "what we had here was a homosexual who could not accept the fact that he was a homosexual."

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

The past eight months have been replete with setbacks for the Lesbian/Gay community in our struggle for equal rights. The future may not be much better. There is an angry maelstrom swirling the electorate about like so many pieces of gravel in a stream. The American social consensus has long since vanished. The economy is bad and probably will get worse. The chances are that the recession is chronic.

The Soviet Union is gone now. Europe and Asia are on the rise. America is locked in a crisis of identity, floundering in fear and suspicion with a harsh, mean-spirited upswell coloring its justice system and its politics.

There should be no surprise, therefore, at the February decision of the 4th Circuit Court of Appeals which rejected the attempt by state employee Jerri Linn Phillips to have her longtime Lesbian partner share in her insurance benefits. Not in a time when millions long for "Happy Days" and "Leave It To Beaver."

Those were good times then, weren't they? Didn't everybody know what

"family" meant? Wasn't everybody white and Christian and comfortable in their suburban cocoons? And if they weren't rich, well, their children would be. Who knew where the wealth came from? Who cared? "Happy Days" was what "god" intended, wasn't it? Wouldn't "god" take care of his people?

In such a time, in such an atmosphere, there should be no surprise at the emergence of David Duke and Pat Buchanan with their venom-dripped attacks on Jews, Lesbians, women in general, Gay men, Blacks, Hispanics and every other minority. If things aren't right, if "A-mer'ca" isn't as rich as "god" intended, then somebody must be to blame.

Regardless of the outcome of the 1992 elections, either here in Wisconsin or anywhere else, Duke, Buchanan and their slightly more temperate fellow travelers in Milwaukee, Madison and elsewhere are more than just passing phenomenon. They are symptoms of something frightening, very frightening indeed.

There is a swing now that has been going on for at least a decade, and will

continue — a sweep to the fascist right. Buchanan and Duke may fade from the scene, but there will be others just like them.

The Lesbian/Gay community has much to fear. As was shown in the Appeals Court ruling, our families are unrecognized, our young people are neglected. Our people are bashed with impunity. In short, it is acceptable in this society to persecute us. In the new religious cant, our lives are "evil." We have no part in the concept "traditional family" that is being clutched to frightened, heaving bosoms like a teddy bear.

Do not think that in Milwaukee, if Gregory Gracz is elected, our lives will get easier. They will not. That man is a little to the right of J. Edgar Hoover.

Before it is too late, we Gays and Lesbians must join with other minorities who are threatened by this turn to the right. There is a war going on out there. If we're not on the front lines with others, we'll be buried in the trenches while the Cunningham and Cleaver families and their ilk warble "Happy Days Are Here Again" over our graves.

—Terry Boughner

LETTERS

Thanks, CCF!

TO THE EDITOR:

Internal Education is one of the most basic keys toward bettering the Lesbian/Gay and Bisexual Community. By promoting education within our own Community, we can target the oppression we endure by having enlightened representatives communicate our message to the broader society in which we live.

Cream City Foundation (CCF), a Gay philanthropic organization, has a strong commitment toward bettering our Community through this same effort. As the recipient of their scholarship, I publicly thank them for continuing such an effort when the Lesbian/Gay and Bisexual Community is already facing financial strife (i.e. Pride Parade Funding).

This commitment of assisting the Gay youth of our Community sends two messages. The first of which is a communication to the youth that established Gay persons are there to help them in times of need. The second message is that without education, we have no defense against the oppression that we face as a disenfranchised group.

Once again, thank you CCF for your endeavors and continued efforts for promoting the Lesbian/Gay and Bisexual Community, both within it, and at the broader societal level.

—Jason S. Dielenberger
Marquette University '92.

Correction

TO THE EDITOR:

The press release printed in **Wisconsin Light**, February 6-19, 1992 issue is incorrect about Ms. Pam Meyer. She is not the person who produced the Ms. and Mr. Leather Madison Contest.

For one thing, that is the wrong title totally. The correct title is: Mr. & Ms. Madison Leather Contest which is registered by the State of Wisconsin in my name.

The producers of the Mr. & Ms. Madison Leather Contest are Cheri Becker, Joseph Hunter Beaman and Wings Bar, all of Madison, Wisconsin.

—Cheri Becker
Madison

LETTER POLICY

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

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ACT UP Urges All Candidates To Address AIDS Issues In Campaign

[Milwaukee]- ACT UP Milwaukee, the local chapter of the AIDS Coalition To Unleash Power (ACT UP), marked February 29, leap year day, with a demand that candidates for office "take a leap into reality and start addressing AIDS issues publicly."

Noting that Wisconsin's AIDS caseload has grown to more than one thousand — and another 15,000 are infected — the group launched a campaign on February 29 to force candidates to talk about AIDS. Races targeted include Milwaukee's mayoral race, Wisconsin's U.S. Senate race, and the presidential primary, all set for April 7.

ACT UP plans to use its trademark blend of no-nonsense politicking and humorous guerilla theater to win from candidates detailed plans to combat HIV infection. The group will solicit AIDS position papers and public statements on AIDS.

For example, candidates for Milwaukee Mayor will be asked if they are committed to anonymous HIV testing and will be queried about their position on clean needle exchange as a means of reducing transmission among intravenous drug users and their families.

ACT UP Milwaukee's campaign to raise AIDS issues is part of a loosely coordinated effort that began in New Hampshire before the nation's first Presidential primary and will culminate in huge demonstrations at both Democratic and Republican National Conventions. The Milwaukee group will conduct its own initiative in a non-partisan way and says it has no plans to formally endorse any candidate.

National Efforts

On the national scene, ACT UP members are criss-crossing the country, following the Presidential hopefuls. According to an ACT UP press release,

while leaders of other Gay groups visited sunny Southern California the last week in February, ACT UP was working in blustery Sioux Falls, South Dakota. Among the achievements of this "rag-tag" band of activists there are: the formation of ACT UP/SD; five zaps of the candidates and a highly successful condom distribution at a local high school on the day of a crucial vote in the South Dakota legislature on the "Chastity Bill" (which would eliminate safe sex education statewide in the public schools).

ACT UP says that while the other Gay groups were working on their tans, ACT UP was working on getting AIDS issues into the news.

Now, ACT UP is asking for your help. Two of the four activists are on disability. The national Gay groups have refused to provide them funding. The South Dakota trip was financed by a \$1,000 contribution from a 23 year-old Lesbian who wishes to remain anonymous.

ACT UP is asking for contributions toward the on-going effort. ACT UP said that donors can "rest assured" that money will not go toward "fancy hotel rooms or over-inflated salaries." Money will go directly toward getting Gay issues off the lips of the candidates.

Send donations of cash, frequent flier award certificates or in kind services to: ACT UP Presidential Project, P.O. Box 34673, Martin Luther King Station, Washington, D.C. 20043-4673 or call [202] 328-AIDS to find out how you can help.

According to ACT UP, if you don't have any cash, an offering of your living room floor and a peanut butter and jelly sandwich will be greatly appreciated.

For more information on ACT UP Milwaukee, write: ACT UP Milwaukee, P.O. Box 1707, Milwaukee, WI 53201 or phone: (414) 769-8708.

Older Gays Urged To Join 'Prime Timers'

[Milwaukee]- Until August, 1987, little had been done to bring together, in a social situation, older men with Gay interests. An older Gay or bisexual had to find his own entertainment, perhaps resulting in one or two choices — going to the bars (which is uncomfortable for many older men) or sitting home and watching television night after night.

That has changed since the founding of Prime Timers in 1987. Starting in Boston, Woody Baldwin developed the organization and dedicated it to making life just as exciting for middle aged and older Gays as it is for younger ones. There are now eleven chapters in the U.S. and Canada with others soon to be formed.

Privacy and anonymity are studiously protected to the extent the member wishes. Dues are kept as low as possible, usually \$15 to \$20 annually. This money covers postage, printing and other overhead costs. Each event is financially self-supporting.

Prime Timers is looking for a person or persons to start chapters in Milwaukee, Madison and other cities in Wisconsin. A manual has been prepared to ease the start-up process. If you or a friend is interested in starting a chapter, please call (512) 282-2861 or write: Prime Timers International, P.O. Box 436, Manchaca, TX 78652.

CCF Awards Scholarship And Plans Casino Night In May

[Milwaukee]- Milwaukee's Cream City Foundation (CCF) has awarded the third John M. Cowles Memorial Scholarship to a local student, Jason S. Dietenberger. The \$500 scholarship covers the current (1991-1992) academic year and may be used by the recipient for tuition and other academic expenses.

The scholarship was initiated by CCF as a memorial to the late John Cowles, a community leader who died in January, 1990.

The Scholarship awarded to Dietenberger was made possible by the recent expansion of this scholarship program. CCF makes available the only scholarship for Gay and Lesbian persons in the Midwest.

Dietenberger was awarded the Cowles Scholarship due to his excellent academic credentials, outstanding references and proven commitment to and involvement in the causes of the Lesbian and Gay community. Dietenberger is a Senior at Marquette University, majoring in psychology.

Applications for future scholarships may be requested by calling CCF at (414) 265-0880, or by mailing a request to P.O. Box 204, Milwaukee, WI 53201.

The next scholarship cycle will be for the academic year beginning in the Fall of 1992. Applicants must be entering their Junior or Senior year at an accredited college or university in the Metro Milwaukee area, possess a 3.0 GPA, have a demonstrated interest in the Gay/Lesbian community and be a U.S. citizen and Wisconsin resident.

CCF Casino Night Planned

Preparations are underway for CCF's Fifth Annual Casino Night to be held on Sunday, May 31, 1992 at the South Shore Park Pavilion, 2900 S. Shore Drive.

Casino Night features a casino-like setting, actual casino equipment and professional croupiers. There will be three hours of non-stop casino action including craps, roulette and multiple blackjack and other gaming tables.

As in previous years, a buffet and cash bar will be available. Musical entertainment will be provided throughout the evening.

Tickets to the event will be sold in advance at various places, through the mail and at the door. Each ticket gives the

holder one chance at the 1992 CCF Casino Night Raffle. Prizes have not yet been announced.

CCF is Milwaukee's Gay and Lesbian non-profit charitable organization. The community's support of Casino Night as CCF's biggest party/fundraiser makes possible its continuing support of many Lesbian and Gay causes. Community support for CCF made possible its providing over \$50,000 to worthwhile projects and programs in the past few years.

CCF welcomes the participation of area businesses in donating prizes and individuals in volunteering to help with the event. CCF can be reached at (414) 265-0880. Its offices are in the Milwaukee Enterprise Center, 2821 N. 4th St., Suite 217B, Milwaukee, WI 53212.

LAMM Meeting Set For March 19

[Milwaukee]- An update on the activities of several lively committees will be the focus of the March 19 meeting of the Lesbian Alliance of Metro Milwaukee (LAMM). Included will be a report from the Political/Legislative committee on the elections and reports from the Police Relations and Community Education committees. There will also be a discussion of LAMM's new Education Fund.

The program begins at 7:00 p.m., preceded by a 6:00 p.m. potluck. The location is the Milwaukee Enterprise Center, 2821 N. 4th Street.

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

MILMAIDS VII

In the article in the last issue of Wisconsin Light on the MILMAIDS VII Bowling Tournament to be held in Madison April 25, the phone number was incorrect. Anyone wanting more information on the tournament should call Joe Feigley at (608) 271-8889.

The Light apologizes for any inconvenience caused.

Gay Pageant In Minneapolis March 28

[Minneapolis, MN]-Several entertainers from Milwaukee will be featured in the up-coming Miss Gay North Central States U.S.A. Pageant. The pageant is being presented by Illusions Unlimited and Dee Richards and will take place on Saturday, March 28, 1992 beginning at 10:00 p.m. in the Club Casablanca Show Lounge at the Gay 90's Entertainment Complex in Minneapolis.

Featured among those from Milwaukee are Miss Gay Wisconsin, Mary Richards, and Tania Michaels, a former Club 219 Girl and now Miss Gay Minnesota U.S.A. 1992.

Miss Gay North Central States U.S.A. is an official preliminary to the Miss Gay U.S.A. Pageant, and the winner and first runner-up of this preliminary will attend the national pageant held in San Antonio, Texas in May.

Contestants will compete in personal interview, evening gown and talent categories.

Hostesses for the evening will be Dee Richards, Miss Gay Minnesota U.S.A. 1991, with Robyn West and Ronn.

Special entertainment for the evening will be provided by Miss Gay U.S.A., Sable Chanel; Miss Gay Minnesota U.S.A., Tania Michaels, and Miss Gay Wisconsin U.S.A., Mary Richards.

For further information, contest applications or reservations, contact Illusions Unlimited at (612) 724-5575.

Dykes To Watch Out For



The Light LIVELY ARTS



FANTASY GALORE— The top costume contest awards were presented to the winners shown above at the March 1 Mardi Gras Masquerade Ball in Milwaukee. Theatre entrepreneur Dale Gutzman, film star Beau Beaumont, Milwaukee County Supervisor Elizabeth Coggins-Jones and veteran activist Miriam Ben-Shalom served as judges.

Fest City Singers' Norquist Spoof Dazzles Audience At Mardi Gras

[Milwaukee]— "Mayor John Norquist" was a special guest during the Fest City Singers' presentation of "The Sleeping Mayor: A Fairy Tale for Fairies" at the Mardi Gras fundraiser for the Milwaukee Lesbian/Gay Pride Committee (MLGPC) held at the Mitchell Park Domes on Sunday evening, March 1, 1992.

Norquist (A.K.A. Fest City Singer John Vande Walle), came to the Mardi Gras to explain his reason for vetoing funding for the Gay Pride Parade.

In "I Gotta Veto," a satirical adaptation of Cole Porter's "Anything Goes," the Mayor explained that he needed to veto the parade to get the conservative vote.

But he was cleverly taken to task by members of the Gay and Lesbian community (i.e. the Fest City Singers), who reminded him with dialogue and song that "We have a constituency, too, and a

mandate that goes back a lot further than yours, Mr. Mayor, and a lot further into the future." Even without public funding, they explained, "We're doing what people like us, the folks who never quite fit into the American Dream, have always done. We're doing it for ourselves."

The audience responded with cheers and loud applause to the last verse of "It's Not Where You Start, It's Where You Finish," in which the chorus jubilantly reminded the Mayor that "Come this Gay Pride Week, we'll march anyway."

Mardi Gras attendees responded with enthusiasm and open pocketbooks when the chorus sang its finale, a plea for donations in a Ziegfeld-style performance of "Pennies From Heaven."

The skit was written and choreographed by Peter Mortenson, the group's artistic director. Mortenson's recent original production, "History, Herstory, Ourstory," a musical history of the Gay and Lesbian movement since the 1950's, has toured throughout the state.

Under the direction of music director Charles Golden, Fest City Singers (FCS) have gained a reputation for strong ensemble performance. Accompanist Peggy Lozier admirably supported FCS in the difficult ambiance of the Domes and earned a standing ovation for her work.

Fest City Singers is a member of GALA, the national association of Gay and Lesbian choruses. FCS will perform at the GALA convention in Denver, Colorado in June, 1992. For more information on the chorus, call (414) 962-7221.

Barbara Higbie To Perform At Racine's Prairie School March 20

[Racine, WI]— On Friday, March 20, 1992 at 8:00 p.m. singer/songwriter and Windham Hill recording artist Barbara Higbie will perform at the Prairie Performing Arts Center located on the campus of The Prairie School, 4050 Lighthouse Drive in Racine, Wisconsin.

Barbara Higbie may be best known for her many performances on the women's music concert circuit or as the keyboardist in the acclaimed, eclectic band Montreaux.

Although at age 32 she has appeared on over 20 albums, her own and others, Higbie's recent Windham Hill release is her first solo/vocal instrumental effort. The recording, *Signs of Life*, has received glowing reviews from newspapers and trade publications coast to coast.

Higbie's musical style reflects the diversity of her experience. She is recognized as a prime mover in the San Francisco Bay Area jazz, "new acoustic," and women's music scenes. She has worked on recordings by Cris Williamson, Holly Near, Ferron and

'Milk Train Doesn't Stop Here' At Steimke Theatre April 9-12

[Milwaukee]— Well known local theatre producer/director Dale Gutzman will present a seldom performed production of the Tennessee Williams' play *The Milk Train Doesn't Stop Here Anymore* at the Steimke Theater of the Milwaukee Repertory Theater April 9-12. The play was filmed several years ago under the title of *Boom* and starred Elizabeth Taylor, Richard Burton and Noel Coward.

The story concerns a wealthy and oft wed woman secluded high atop a mountain in Italy to write her memoirs. Cissy Goforth will not admit she is dying. When a young hustler climbs up the mountain to spend Cissy's last days with her, she can't or won't trust him. Is he the comfort she needs...or is he "The Angel of Death" who makes his living by giving himself to dying women and helping himself to their fortunes?

The cast of *The Milk Train Doesn't Stop Here Anymore* includes Dena Wegehaupt, James Strange, Herbert Frank, Laura Neuser, David Flores and Lynette Dewitt, all seasoned actors and Gutzman regulars.

Gutzman is currently searching for a young male actor to play the small but important role of Goforth's Italian servant. The actor must be in good physical shape and willing to show it off in a brief nude scene. Those interested



NO MORE MILK— Tennessee Williams' "The Milk Train Doesn't Stop Here Anymore" will be performed in Milwaukee April 9-12.

should call Gutzman at (414) 355-7548.

The Milk Train Doesn't Stop Here Anymore will be presented Thursday through Sunday, April 9, 10, 11 and 12 at the Steimke Theater of the Milwaukee Repertory Theater. For tickets and more information, call (414) 224-9490.

KGP Hosts Jennifer Berezan At Apple Island March 28

By Leslie Wilmut

[Madison]— Madison's Kissing Girls Productions (KGP) will present Jennifer Berezan in her premiere Madison performance on Saturday, March 28, at 8:00 p.m. at Apple Island, 849 E. Washington Avenue. The location is wheelchair accessible and the concert will be interpreted for the hearing-impaired.

Berezan, a singer/songwriter, is rapidly emerging as one of the most highly acclaimed new voices on the progressive folk music scene. Her voice is rich, warm, and lusty. Her music has been described as contemporary folk dynamically blended with elements of rock, country, reggae and blues.

While adjectives are difficult to attach to her eclectic range of musical material,

Berezan herself is an intense and socially conscious performer. She examines such diverse subjects as personal relationships, woman abuse, homophobia, homelessness, ecological abuse and spirituality.

Berezan is a native of Calgary in Alberta but now lives in Oakland, California. There she teamed with sister musician, Robin Flower, in the production of her 1988 debut solo album *In The Eye Of The Storm*. Currently, Berezan is back in the recording studio working on a follow-up album of entirely original material. She will be presenting much of her new work, along with a few Berezan classics, at her upcoming Madison concert.

Tickets are \$6-\$8-\$10 on a sliding scale and go on sale Saturday, March 7 at A Room of One's Own, Whole Earth and Green Earth in Madison. Tickets will be sold at the door only if they are still available.

Out of town mail order tickets are available by sending a check for the number of tickets desired and a self-addressed stamped envelope to: KGP, P.O. Box 6091, Madison, Wisconsin 53716. Everyone is welcome!

Gay Pride Art Festival Seeks Exhibitors

[Milwaukee]— The Milwaukee Lesbian/Gay Pride Committee will hold a juried Fine Arts Festival as part of the annual Pride celebration on June 14, 1992 and is currently seeking entrants. The Art Festival is open to Lesbian and Gay artists as well as artists supportive of the Gay and Lesbian community.

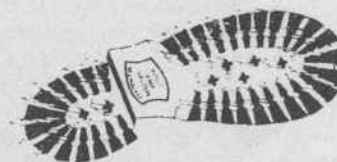
Exhibit categories at the Art Festival will consist of Sculpture, Jewelry, Pottery, Painting, Printmaking, Fiber Arts, Photography and Drawing.

Best of category prizes will include ribbons for First, Second and Third Place. First Place winners from each category will also be judged for Best of Show, with prizes including a Third Place \$75 prize, a Second Place \$125 prize and a First Place \$200 prize. Prizes will be awarded based on number of entries.

Entrants must submit 10 slides showing the pieces they will be submitting for judging. A \$25 non-refundable processing fee must also accompany the slides and application. **Application deadline is April 30, 1992.** To receive an application through the mail, call (414) 933-0761.

The slides will be reviewed by a screening committee and selected exhibitors will be notified by May 11, 1992. Entrants must attend and exhibit at the Art Festival in order to be eligible for prizes. Each exhibitor will receive a 10' x 6' space at the Pride rally site.

Last year, the Pride Committee sponsored a small art show at the rally site for the first time. Organizers hope to expand this year's art exhibit and make it a regular feature of the Pride celebration. For any further information, call (414) 933-0761.



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414-643-6900

Gay/Lesbian Film Fest At UWM Offers Diverse, Provocative Fare

By Carl M. Sztarmy and Jamakaya

The following are reviews of just some of the movies being shown at the Gay and Lesbian Film Festival sponsored by Great Lakes Film & Video at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee March 6-12. The offerings are diverse, ranging from short experimental videos to full length feature films.

Friday, March 6
Union Cinema

Crocodiles in Amsterdam, a feature length film from the Netherlands by Lesbian director Annette Apon, is a lighthearted female buddy film. Nina, a revolutionary who dreams of bombing industrial plants meets Gino, a young woman of apparent wealth and privilege whose eyes brighten at the prospect of Nina's "dangerous" work. This comically mismatched duo joins forces in a series of serendipitous adventures.

The butch-femme dynamic of Nina and Gino's relationship will be obvious to Gay and straight audiences alike, but this is not an overtly Lesbian film. **Crocodiles** also ends abruptly, with little insight into the motivation and purpose behind all that has gone before. **Thelma & Louise** it isn't.

Crocodiles will be preceded by the hilarious 5 minute romp **We're Talking Vulva**, a celebration of female genitalia which has become a cult classic. The program starts at 7:30 p.m.

At 9:30 p.m. in the Union Cinema, the 7 minute short with the intriguing title **In Wisconsin the Blind Can Hunt** will precede the feature length **Massillon**, in which director William Jones explores his childhood and sexuality on a trip to his hometown.

Saturday, March 7
Union Cinema

At 7:30 p.m. the short film **Nice Girls Don't Do It** by Kathy Daymond promises to present a history of female ejaculation along with "how-to tips." It will be followed by German director Monika Treut's **My Father is Coming**, about a Lesbian newcomer's assimilation into New York's bohemian East Village which is made all the more harried by an impending visit from her father, who thinks she is a successful, married woman.

At 9:30 Saturday night, **No Skin Off My Ass** shows with two shorts, **Ecce Homo** and **Gus Van Sant's Diary**.

Bruce LaBruce's gritty, explicit **No Skin Off My Ass** is sure to set off lively debate. In the film, a Gay punk hairdresser becomes captivated with a baby-faced skinhead he invites to his apartment for a hot bath.

While the hairdresser plots his seduction, the skinhead flees before morning and seeks his Lesbian sister, who is far more interested in the completion of her film, "Girls of the SLA." Several sexual fantasies later, the hairdresser finds himself no more closer to his goal.

It remains for the skinhead's dyke sister to sort things out philosophically:

Schwartz To Host Author Of Cukor Bio

[Milwaukee]- Milwaukee resident Patrick McGilligan's newest film biography, **George Cukor: A Double Life**, has captured the fascination of critics from coast to coast. The essence of the book is a heightened awareness of the injustice done to the phenomenally gifted film director simply because he was Gay.

Cukor directed two of the 1930's finest films, **Dinner at Eight** and **Holiday**, as well as Greta Garbo's triumphant **Camille**. Cukor later had an unjustly truncated and uncredited involvement in the direction of **Gone With The Wind**, **The Philadelphia Story** and **My Fair Lady** are among Cukor's most beloved movies.

In **George Cukor: A Double Life**, McGilligan makes use of extensive interviews with members of Cukor's inner circle of Gay friends, showing how the Gay community enriched Cukor's life with their intellectual and artistic sensibilities.

McGilligan will discuss his book at the Harry W. Schwartz Bookshop downtown in the Historic Iron Block Building at Water Street and Wisconsin Avenue on Thursday, March 12 at 5:30 p.m. Refreshments will be served. This event is free and open to the public. For more information, call (414) 274-6400.

"If you're a skinhead, you're stupid; and if you're queer, you're smart. It's a simple rule for kids to remember. Why is being the big sister such a bummer?"

Despite the central Lesbian character, the sexually explicit nature of **No Skin Off My Ass** limits its appeal to Lesbians. Too often, the film becomes caught up in its own excesses, blurring the distinction between narrative realism and pornography.

Yet, in spite of its low budget and erratic production values, **No Skin Off My Ass** never falls victim to predictability and is often refreshing and offbeat in its view of Gay life.

Sunday, March 8
Union Cinema

Sunday evening's program features two of the best and most enjoyable films of the entire festival, **Dry Kisses Only** and **Homo Promo**. Both survey images of Gay and Lesbian characters found in Hollywood films. Film buffs will have a blast!

Dry Kisses Only at 6 p.m. is a witty documentary that analyzes the Lesbian content and subtexts of classic Hollywood movies. It hilariously juxtaposes old movie clips with arch commentary by Theory Woman and "Lesbian on the Street" interviews.

One Lesbian on the street is asked: "Have you seen any good Lesbian films lately?" "Lesbian films?" she responds incredulously, "I didn't think they made any. We always had to make it up as we went along." "What did you make up?" she's asked. "Well, my whole life..."

Throughout the video, Theory Woman offers deeply intellectual commentaries about Lesbian characters and subtexts in films like **The Children's Hour**, **All About Eve**, **The Hunger**, **The Killing of Sister George**, **Personal Best**, and many others. But the political theory is blended with campy and outrageous humor. And it's not just for Lesbians — Gay men will love the humor.

One of the funniest segments has a present-day actress delivering Eve Harrington's long monolog about her troubled life juxtaposed with reaction shots of Bette Davis and others from the original **All About Eve**. In this revised version, Eve is a bartender at a dyke bar in San Francisco whose life is shattered when a telegram from the War Department arrives informing her that Edie, her Lesbian lover, has died defending America from fascism. Cut to Bette Davis and Thelma Ritter sobbing. This is funny stuff!

In its most outrageous segment, Dykella and Dykeena, the Siskel and Ebert of Lesbian vampires, really sink their teeth into **The Hunger** and ask the immortal question: "Why can't a blood-sucking Lesbian live happily ever after?"

For the answers to this and other compelling questions, don't miss **Dry Kisses Only**.

Homo Promo follows **Dry Kisses Only** at 7:30, with a ticket for both \$7 and well worth it. **Homo Promo** is a compilation of "coming attractions" Hollywood has used to promote Gay-themed films, from **Tea and Sympathy** in 1956 to the present. Appealing equally to both Gay men and Lesbians, **Homo Promo** offers a unique and brilliant example of the fine line Hollywood seeks to tread with each new Gay-themed film.

Hollywood has long sought to appeal to the widest possible audience and the dearth of honest Gay characterizations in its films is glaring. As illustrated in Vito Russo's **The Celluloid Closet**, when Gay and Lesbian characters found their way into a film, only occasionally did the portrayal rise above the stereotype of "sissy" or "tomboy." When faced with a story about Gay life, Hollywood usually sought the easy way out.

In early trailers like **Tea and Sympathy** and **Victim**, homosexuality is treated as a dirty little secret. The late 1960s and previews for **Staircase** and **Boys in the Band** seemed to usher in a period of camp, with the express goal of titillation of mainstream audiences. Not until the mid-1980s and such films as **Lianna**, **Desert Hearts** and **Longtime Companion** have Hollywood's "coming attractions" acknowledged Gay and Lesbian moviegoers.

Ranging from the offensive to outrageous to sincere, these clips are sure to entertain. In some cases, the "coming attractions" are more enjoyable than one remembers the full length films to have been!

Homo Promo and **Dry Kisses Only** is a great double bill!

Tuesday, March 10
Fine Arts Theatre

Voices of Life at 7:30 is a video that ostensibly presents three people living with AIDS. They talk to the camera in accepted documentary style, but about halfway through we are informed that the three individuals are actually actors who have assumed the roles of PWAs.

Writer/director Patrick Wright intends to make the point that the media frequently manipulates information about AIDS. But in manipulating his audience by using actors with made-up histories he delivers a very mixed message and doesn't correct misinformation presented in the interviews. **Voices of Life** is further marred by gratuitous scenes of masturbation and fellatio. The director comments in voice-over: "I am not interested in compromising how I represent my sexual experiences and the politics of HIV and AIDS to make them more accessible to unpoliticized or straight audiences." Fair enough.

But the video ends by noting that because the dominant media has portrayed Gays and people with AIDS as deathbed victims wasting away, we have to wage a "war of representation" to assert our own images. Whether this admittedly 'inaccessible' and somewhat self-indulgent video contributes to that noble battle is questionable.

Voices of Life shares the bill with a lengthier feature film about AIDS activism in Britain, **Over Our Dead Bodies**, directed by Stuart Marshall.

Wednesday, March 11
Fine Arts Theatre

L is for the Way You Look, a video by Jean Carlomusto, is a delightful documentary exploring the need among Lesbians to identify with role models — whether historical figures, writers, sports stars or pop singers. In interviews, Lesbians discuss their youthful and continuing attachments to strong women like Patti Smith, Eartha Kitt, Simone de Beauvoir and Lesbian "icon" Martina Navratilova.

An extended and rather endearing segment shows how a group of Lesbian friends each react after spotting writer Fran Leibowitz and Dolly Parton at a performance by Lesbian comic Reno. How this hot news item quickly travels through the Lesbian community will be immediately familiar to most dykes.

The video makes a strong political point about the cooptation of Lesbian imagery (specifically, by Madonna) and ends with rousing footage of Lesbians participating in an ACT UP protest and a Gay Pride parade in New York City.

L is for the Way You Look will be screened with **Anthem** and **Affirmations**, two shorts about black Gay life by Marlon Riggs (**Tongues Untied**). Also on the bill is **Billy Turner's Secret**, about a closeted man with a homophobic roommate, and two shorts by Aarin Burch, **Dreams of Passion** and **Spin Cycle**. It all begins at 7:30.

Thursday, March 12
Fine Arts Theatre

Three diverse videos of approximately 25 minutes each will conclude the festival. **Sex and the Sandinistas** documents the political, religious and sexual politics among Gay and Lesbian revolutionaries in Nicaragua. **Khush** is an Urdu word for "ecstatic pleasure" and "happy and gay." The video, shot in Britain and India, mixes slices of real life with dream-like sequences.

Drag in for Votes portrays the Presidential bid of drag queen Joan Jett Blakk, affectionately known in her hometown as the "Mayor of Queer Chicago." Joan promises to redecorate the White House in lavender and to convert the F.B.I. into the "Fashion Bureau" of Investigation! Showtime for these three videos is 7:30 p.m.

A festival pass for all screenings in the Gay/Lesbian Film Festival is \$30. Tickets for individual shows are \$5, \$3 for students (except in the case of March 8's show). For further information, call Great Lakes Film & Video at (414) 229-6971.

Editor's Note: Not all films were available for the reviewers to preview.)

Cass Magnuski Art Exhibit At The M&M

[Milwaukee]- Milwaukee artist, D.H. (Cass) Magnuski, will hold an exhibition of her work at the M&M Club, 124 N. Water Street in Milwaukee. The exhibition is entitled "Night Work," a collection of acrylic on canvas portraits that are representative and inspired by musicians of Milwaukee.

The exhibition will open with a reception in honor of Magnuski at the M&M Club on Saturday, March 7, 1992 from 4:00-7:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome.

Judy Grahn In Milwaukee March 28

[Milwaukee]- Award-winning writer Judy Grahn, whose books of poetry, fiction and non-fiction chronicle the development of Gay culture and the joys and struggles of Lesbian life, will appear at the Woodland Pattern Book Center on March 28, 1992.

Of national and international reputation, Grahn's work has been translated into five languages, published worldwide and performed as music and drama. Her groundbreaking Gay and Lesbian cultural history, **Another Mother Tongue: Gay Words, Gay Worlds**, is currently being translated into German and is widely used as a textbook in Gay and Lesbian Studies courses.



JUDY GRAHN

A London press has just published a British edition of Grahn's **The Work of a Common Woman**, and **The Queen of Wands**, adapted as a play in 1986, has toured Scotland, London and Amsterdam.

Grahn is a great believer in the physical effects of poetry, aiming poems at different parts of the body, "to connect head, heart and sexual vision." She is currently composing soundpoems for tape media, available on a cassette entitled **March to the Mother Sea: Healing Poems of Baby Girls Raped at Home**, performed at the 1990 Michigan Womyn's Music Festival and at LACE in Los Angeles.

Grahn has published three collections, totaling eight books, of poetry: **The Work of a Common Woman**, **The Queen of Wands**, and **The Queen of Swords**. Watershed tapes recently released a cassette of her best known long poem, **A Woman is Talking to Death**.

Grahn's work has won numerous awards, including the Lambda Book Award in 1989. She was named one of the ten most influential people in Gay and Lesbian Literature during the 1980's by the **Lambda Book Report**. She is currently working on a non-fiction book for Beacon Press.

Grahn will be appearing at Woodland Pattern along with Martha Bergland, author of **A Farm Under A Lake**.

The authors are part of The National Literary Network Tour being sponsored by the Lila Wallace-Reader's Digest Fund. The readings will be on Saturday, March 28 at the Woodland Pattern Book Center, 720 E. Locust Street beginning at 8:00 p.m. Admission is \$5 general and \$4 for members. Reservations are suggested. For more information, call Woodland Pattern at (414) 263-5001.

Sweet Sunday Raises \$17,000 For MASN

[Madison]- The Madison AIDS Support Network (MASN) held its fifth annual Sweet Sunday Afternoon at the Wilson Street Grill on February 9. Nearly 300 guests and community leaders attended the sweets sampling and socializing event, resulting in a record \$17,000 in donations.

A major factor in the event's success was MASN's first raffle, which included prizes donated by Studio Jewelers, Gulliver's Travels and Midwest Express.

Nearly 40 area restaurants and bakers donated sweets ranging from chocolate, cookies, cheesecake, tortes and other cakes. Guests also enjoyed an MASN slide show presentation, which featured MASN staff, volunteers and friends working at MASN offices and at outreach activities.

Chicken Farmer Cites Anti-Gay Bias In His Firing From Job

By David Southgate

[Arcadia, WI]- Charges of betrayal, slander, and child abuse are the background to a recent anti-Gay discrimination complaint filed by a former Arcadia chicken farmer who alleges that his previous employers fired him because he is Gay.

The Wisconsin Equal Rights Division is investigating a complaint filed December 30, 1991 by Denny Putz, former A-G Cooperative Arcadia Fryers property manager.

Putz alleges that his former friends and subcontracted workers, Duane and Marie Hund, prompted A-G Cooperative to fire him by accusing him of being Gay.

A dismissal letter from the cooperative dated July 15, 1991 informed Putz that he would be terminated one month later. The letter stated that A-G Cooperative decided to change property managers. No other explanation was given for Putz's firing.

David Jenkins, the cooperative's general manager, would not comment about the discrimination charges, the Hunds, or about Putz's eight years of employment with the cooperative.

According to Putz, the discrimination and slander started when the Hunds told the company that Putz was Gay, after he reported the Hunds to Buffalo County authorities in September, 1989 for

allegedly abusing their children.

Marie Hund said she and her husband met with people at the cooperative about purchasing the land that Putz was managing. She denied ever referring to Putz's sexuality in those meetings.

When Putz came out to the Hunds in 1988, it didn't affect their friendship, according to Hund.

"We had personal differences," said Hund. "We wanted him out... and we wanted to ask if we could buy the chicken coops and get him out of our lives."

Regarding the child abuse allegations, Hund said that county investigators interviewed her children and found no evidence of abuse. The Hund's three children still live with their parents in Fountain City, Wisconsin.

Hund said Putz betrayed their friendship by going to officials with allegations of child abuse. "If a friend has a problem with the way another person is raising a child, they should speak to him face-to-face," she said. "You don't have to stab him in the back."

About Gay men Hund said: "There are a lot of good ones out there. But some of them out there are not worth the powder to blow them up."

ACHOICE Leader Condemns Excess And Corruption Of United Way

[Milwaukee]- ACHOICE, a non-profit workplace giving federation, set up as an alternative to the United Way, has expressed outrage at the conspicuous consumption and irresponsible use of contributions by the United Way of America which was recently exposed in media accounts and by the resignation of United Way's chairman.

"William Aramony's lavish lifestyle and exorbitant salary is an affront to the local United Ways, alternative federations, and, of course, the non-profit agencies who are supported by our hard work," said Bill Hart, Executive Director of ACHOICE.

"More importantly, it is an insult to donors who contribute hard earned money from their paychecks each week to support what they believe to be responsible charities," Hart said.

ACHOICE represents 19 social justice

agencies that routinely advocate systemic change by calling on institutions and government to be more responsive to disenfranchised populations. Among the 19 agencies represented by ACHOICE is Milwaukee's Cream City Foundation which funds Gay/Lesbian projects and services, the American Civil Liberties Union, Jobs With Peace, the 9to5 Working Women's Education Fund and many others.

Hart said, "We applaud Dean Treptow of the United Way of Greater Milwaukee for questioning Aramony's conduct. However, it is clear that the United Way of Greater Milwaukee must re-evaluate their entire system, a system that breeds this type of corruption, and quickly restore the faith and confidence of its donors."

ACHOICE can be reached at (414) 672-1920.

United Way Boycott Endorsed By The Human Rights Campaign Fund

[Washington, D.C.]- On February 21, the Board of Directors of the Human Rights Campaign Fund (HRCF) endorsed a national boycott of the United Way because of the organization's financial support for the Boy Scouts of America. The Boy Scouts expel Gay teens and adult volunteers from their programs and are engaged in controversy over their discriminatory policies.

"United Way funding is an endorsement of the Boy Scout's policy of discrimination, a policy that represents a clear and present danger to Gay teens involved in Scouting programs," said Tim McFeeley, HRCF's Executive Director.

McFeeley noted that the Girl Scouts of

America, the Boys and Girls Clubs of America and other national organizations serving our country's youth do not discriminate against participants because of their sexual identity.

"The Boy Scouts alone believe that their membership should exclude people simply because of their sexual orientation. This is bigotry, pure and simple," McFeeley said.

HRCF's goal for the boycott is to insure that United Way enforces its stated non-discrimination policy for all charitable recipients.

For more information, contact HRCF at 1012 14th Street, N.W., Suite 607, Washington, D.C. 20005; phone: (202) 628-4160.

Cracker Barrel Drops Lawsuit Against Gays

[New York, NY]- On February 12, Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund announced that Cracker Barrel Old Country Stores has dropped its lawsuit against Lesbian and Gay activists whom the company had restrained from protesting at one of its restaurants in Tennessee. The restaurant chain used the lawsuit to illegally prevent Gay and Lesbian activists who own stock in the company from attending its annual shareholders' meeting last November in Tennessee.

The company's voluntary dismissal of the case came just weeks before a court hearing at which the company would have been forced to defend its actions against the shareholders and activists, whom Lambda Legal Defense is representing in the action.

Cracker Barrel has filed other actions against Gay and Lesbian activists in Michigan, Georgia and Indiana, but only the suit in Tennessee has been dropped thus far.



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JERRI LINN PHILLIPS AND LORRI TOMMERUP

FAMILIES

Continued from Page 1

Their fight began in 1986 when Phillips filed an application with her employer, the Wisconsin Department of Health and Human Services, asking to change her health insurance from individual to family coverage for the purpose of adding Tommerup.

The couple thoroughly documented the fact that they had been in a "wholesome and fulfilling Lesbian family and spousal relationship since 1983...based upon love and a lifetime commitment, which they would consummate by marriage, if that option were available to persons of the same sex."

They also documented their history of financial interdependence and argued that Tommerup, who was being supported by Phillips upon her return to graduate school, was, in fact, a legal dependent of Phillips. Despite this, Phillips's request was turned down on the grounds that she had no "eligible dependents."

In September of 1987, Phillips filed a charge of discrimination with the Wisconsin State Personnel Commission under the Wisconsin Fair Employment Act. The Personnel Commission dismissed her claim.

The Appeals Process

Working with Madison attorney Shelley Gaylord and the San Francisco-based National Gay Rights Advocates, Phillips appealed the decision. In November of 1990, Dane County Circuit Court Judge Angela Bartell upheld the decision of the Personnel Commission. Bartell's decision, in turn, was upheld in mid-February of this year by Wisconsin's Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals.

The couple is currently deciding whether to appeal the case to the Wisconsin Supreme Court.

Phillips's attorneys had argued that denying the same employee benefits to unmarried Lesbian and Gay couples as those offered to married couples was inherently discriminatory because such couples do not have the right to marry. They asked the court to consider that the refusal to provide health insurance constituted illegal discrimination based on "marital status," "sexual orientation," and "sex," which are all protected classes under Wisconsin law.

However, the court chose to consider each protected class separately, rather than accepting the argument that considering all three together meant that denying insurance to the unmarried partners of Lesbians or Gay men constituted employment discrimination.

The concept of legislative intent has been an issue throughout the process. Judge Bartell wrote that the underlying basis for her decision was that "the legislature did not intend...to grant legal dependent status for family health insurance purposes to unrelated adults in unmarried relationships."

"Traditional" Families Rule

Judge Bartell went further in stating that "legislative policy continues to recognize heterosexual marriage and the traditional family with a husband, wife, and children as the foundation of our society. The Commission acted rationally

when it concluded that it possessed delegated authority only to preserve those traditional institutions at the risk of providing less favorable employment benefits to other types of family units."

"One of the things that disturbed me most about the decisions is not that they failed to find discrimination — which is so readily apparent here," said Tommerup. "They're stating 'Of course, discrimination occurred,' but that the state has a right and an interest in perpetuating that discrimination on behalf of so-called traditional families. That was the part that really blew me away."

"I don't understand that part of it," she exclaimed. "How do you threaten these other families by recognizing my family's rights?"

Dane County Supervisor Tammy Baldwin, an openly Lesbian candidate for the state assembly, agrees. "If you take a look at the variety and the range of family situations in this state, you'll find that, increasingly, state law is out of touch with reality," she said. "We will only become stronger as a state if we provide strength and legitimacy to families of all forms."

"Individual rights are very important, but the law has yet to recognize our relationships — which are of vital importance in our lives," said Baldwin, a Madison attorney who has litigated numerous sexual orientation discrimination cases. "The relationship that Jerri Linn and Lorri have is absolutely as legitimate and worthy of recognition and respect as any marriage."

Attitudes Changing

Both Phillips and Tommerup believe that regardless of the outcome of this particular case, many people have been educated as a result of press coverage and their public speaking.

On a more personal level, many of their straight friends and co-workers and friends have also learned a lot, they say. "I don't officially walk around saying I'm queer to everybody," Tommerup said. "We just go through life being who we are and if people notice, they notice. When your name appears in the paper, though, there is going to be some note taken by someone."

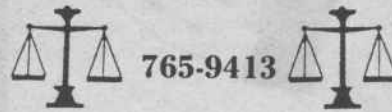
"And so my boss, who is pretty religious, invited me in for a chat at a point when we really didn't know each other too well yet. And he said, 'I just wanted to let you know that there wouldn't be any problems or anything like that. I knew that was your lifestyle when we took you on. We don't care anything about that.' This person has grown in a lot of ways from his experience with alternative people."

The case has also been a reminder to the couple's supportive straight friends that many of the rights they take for granted are still denied Phillips and Tommerup.

"Just the other day, I was talking to a very politically aware straight male friend about the political risk Paul Tsongas was taking in supporting the kinds of basic rights for Gays and Lesbians that Jerri Linn and I have been fighting for," said Tommerup. "And, he seemed surprised that in this day and age that it was even

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an issue."

"Because our straight political friends have become so enlightened, and of course they're going to do the right things, they've totally forgotten that there are people in power who are not going to do the right things," she added.

Challenging the System

Phillips encourages other Lesbians and Gays who are in a position to do so to challenge the system when discrimination occurs. "Unfortunately, it's always incumbent upon the people whose rights are supposed to be protected that we have to go out and make sure that they are. Not everybody can do that, not everybody should have to do that. The law should be the law."

"But as long as people don't file when discrimination occurs, it perpetuates the idea that discrimination doesn't happen

to Gays and Lesbians."

"Not all battles need to be fought in court," Phillips asserted. "For example, Gays and Lesbians and their supporters who run small businesses can set an example by offering coverage to alternative families."

When asked if they'd have pursued their case if they had known what a long road lay ahead, both women answered with a decisive, "Yes." "There have been no negatives about it at all," added Tommerup.

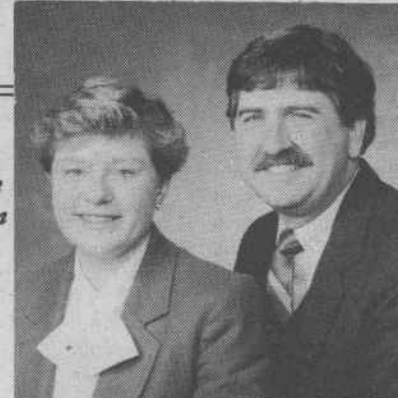
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In the next *Light*, Part Two: Lesbian and Gay families talk about the financial and emotional costs to their family of their non-recognition under the law. And Lesbian and Gay activists talk about the full range of political solutions available to Lesbian and Gay families.

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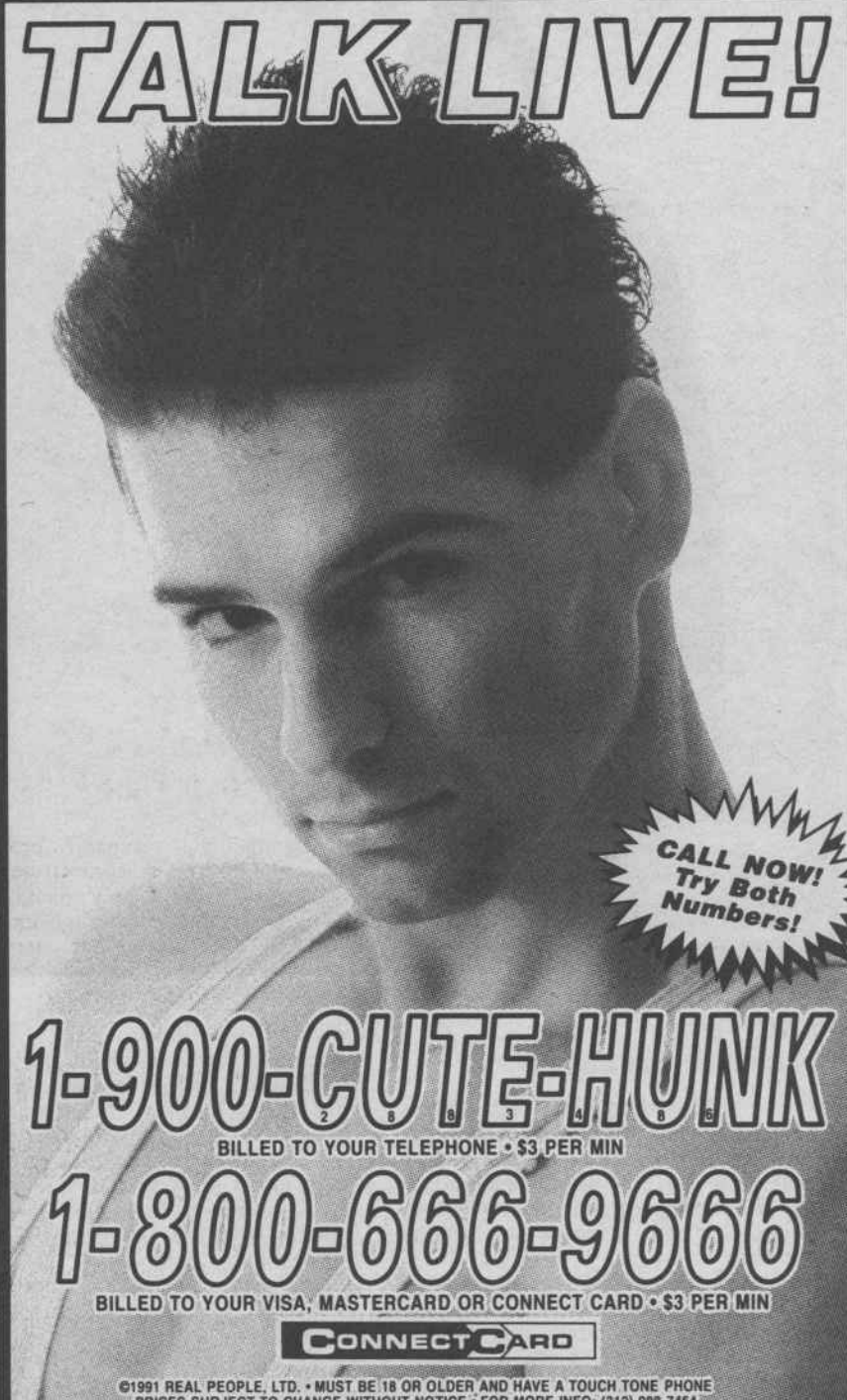


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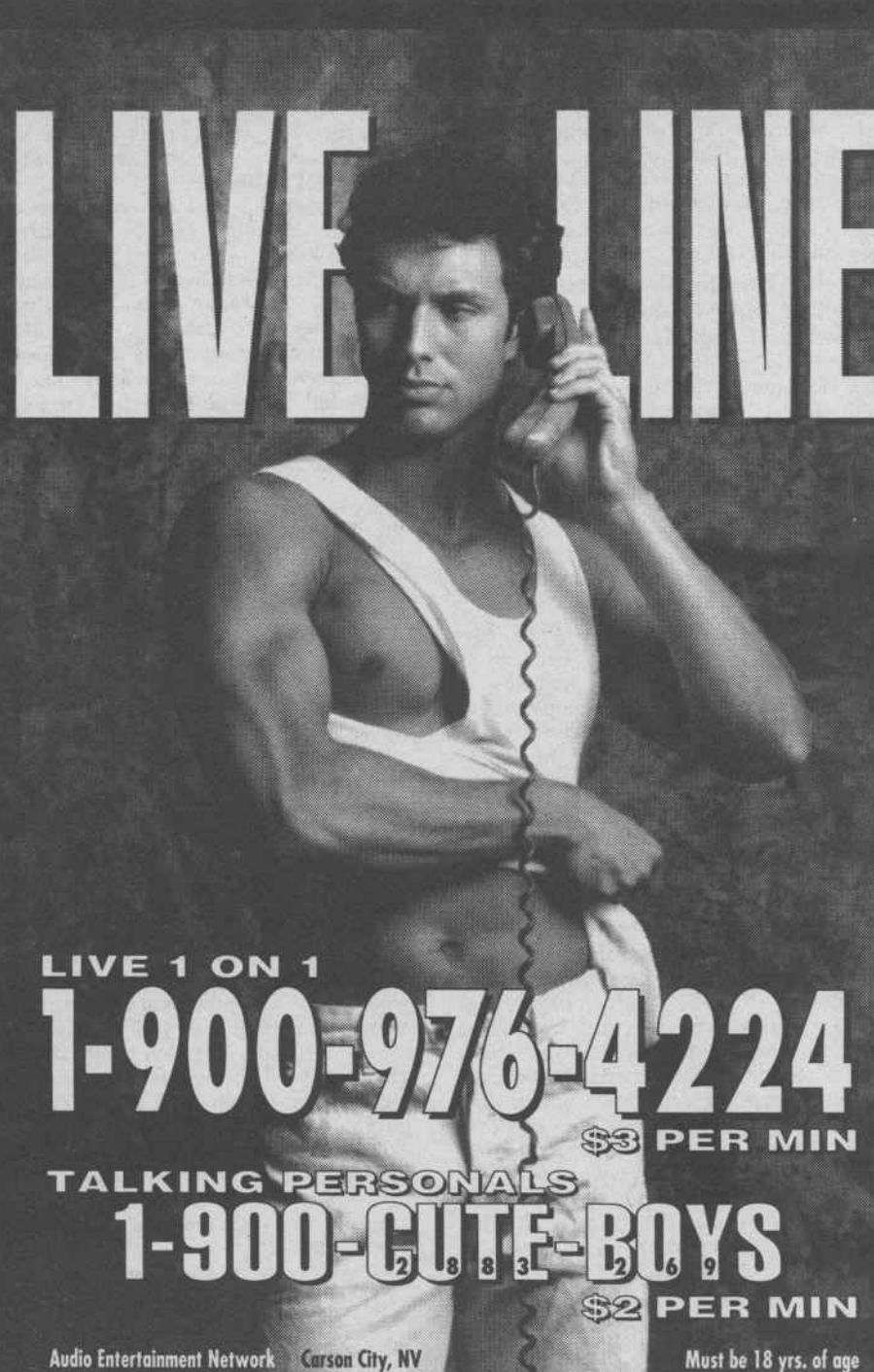
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Gays Face Death Squads, Prison In Columbia, Russia, Lithuania

Columbian Death Squads

[Bogota, Colombia]- According to the International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission (IGLHRC), hundreds of Gay men in Colombia have been murdered in recent years by a wave of anti-Gay violence. Several paramilitary groups in urban centers known as "Social Clean-up Death Squads," have targeted Gay men with suspected police and military complicity.

The Amnesty International 1990 Report states that the Colombian government has "failed to disband paramilitary organizations" and local activists claim the killings have been carried out by or with the acquiescence of the Colombian armed forces. A now-defunct Gay organization in Medellin, Grupo de Ambiente, identified 328 accounts of murdered Gays between 1986 and 1990. Many of the victims were found with signs of torture and mutilation.

Repression in Russia

[Moscow, Russia]- The IGLHRC reports that under Article 115 of the Russian Penal Code, people who are infected with HIV disease can be sentenced up to eight years in prison for infecting or exposing to the risk of infection another person.

Andrei Plotnikov was quarantined and imprisoned on September 26, 1991 for allegedly infecting his lover, and now faces not only the eight year sentence, but also prosecution under Article 121 which criminalizes male homosexuality. An additional five years imprisonment under that statute is possible.

Plotnikov's lover was aware of the risk and provided a letter stating that he does not wish to press charges.

According to IGLHRC, the case highlights the absurdity of the Russian government's approach to the AIDS epidemic, offering no government policy addressing prevention, but simply attempting to quarantine the disease at the expense of human lives.

Lithuanian "Justice"

[Vilnius, Lithuania]- According to the Gay and Lesbian Information Bureau, the Republic of Lithuania is still convicting Gay men under Stalinist-era laws. Since March, 1990, when the Republic established its independence, seven men, including one minor, have been sentenced to from three to eight years imprisonment for male-male relations.

The minor is Marius Sadauskas, who was 17 years-old when he was sentenced to three years imprisonment on January 16, 1991. He is interned in the Kaunas

HOUSE

Continued from Page 1

Madison and the countless numbers of people who volunteered their time and efforts to raise money for "Rodney's Dream." "Madison should be proud," she said. "They should have a huge amount of pride." Geisler also thanked Sen. Kohl for his "dedication" to helping make the dream a reality.

MASN will administer the grant. Maura Kirkham, President of the MASN Board of Directors stated, "This home is greatly needed in Madison. MASN is proud to be a part of this project and looks forward to working with the community and the Rodney Scheel House to provide continuing support to persons with AIDS."

Kirkham told *Light* that the HUD money will be used for the construction of a new facility. While the location must be approved by HUD, the hope is that it will be built on the isthmus. Kirkham said that an initial meeting with the HUD people will take place within 30 days and that "if all goes well, the Rodney Scheel House will be completed within 18 months."

Geisler said there was still much work to be done. Included in this is the selection of the site which she too hoped would be on the isthmus, convenient to transportation, entertainment and other amenities.

"Rodney's life was the joy of striving," said Geisler. "He was a mentor to so many people." Now his vision, which, she said, was "so cruelly ended by his death," will go on. "It's fitting," she said. "It's just perfect."

Corrective Labor Colony for Minors.

Arunas Dainauskas, coordinator of the Lithuanian Gay and Lesbian Information Bureau, said in a press release that the state prosecutor commonly grants immunity to one participant of the sexual liaison in exchange for testimony against the other participant.

For purposes of comparison, no one in Lithuania was sentenced for rape in the same time period. The other Baltic republics of Latvia and Estonia have not tried anyone under their sodomy laws since 1982. Ukraine, as a Soviet Republic, abolished its sodomy law in 1991.

Lithuania is the country that was rehabilitating Nazi war criminals and other perpetrators of genocide until recently, when international condemnation forced the country to stop.

For more information, contact the Lithuanian Gay and Lesbian Information Bureau at P.O. Box 2471, 2051 Vilnius-51, Lithuania.

VICTORY FUND

Continued from Page 1

throughout the U.S.

The promotional campaign proclaims the Victory Fund's commitment of financially supporting only openly Gay and Lesbian candidates through its donor network. "We encourage our community to give financial clout to candidates we can count on," said Waybourn of the Victory Fund.

Waybourn said recommended candidates in the first series of ads include: Wisconsin's Tammy Baldwin; Tom Nolan, running for Congress from California's 12th District; Gail Shibley, running for the Oregon House of Representatives; Glen Maxey, running for a seat in the Texas House of Representatives; and Jerry Keene, competing for a seat in the Oregon House of Representatives.

Waybourn said the strategy behind the 900 service is to test the appeal of supporting openly Gay and Lesbian candidates across the country. "We will want to take a look at the early returns and evaluate our community's reaction to a streamlined approach to supporting our candidates. This project has the potential to have a dramatic impact on fundraising, not only for openly Gay and Lesbian candidates, but for all races," Waybourn said.

For more information, contact The Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund at 1012 14th St. N.W., 7th Floor, Washington, D.C. 20005 or call (202) 842-8679.

HATE CRIMES

Continued from Page 1

status. Second, it clarifies that the law applies to the criminal's "belief or perception" about the victim's status, whether or not that belief was correct.

At presstime, Wednesday, March 4, the Governor had not yet signed the bill.

In a February 28th interview on Wisconsin Public Television, Rep. David Clarenbach (D-Madison), principal author of the hate crimes measure, defended both the original bill and the 1992 strengthened version.

"It has become very clear in our state — in all parts of our state — that hate crimes have become almost epidemic," said Clarenbach. "We need to send a very clear message that we consider hate crimes motivated by bigotry to not only be morally wrong in Wisconsin, but illegal as well."

Sen. Lynn Adelman (D-New Berlin), who opposes the bill, observed that in the Mitchell case "the enhanced penalty, the extra two years the defendant is in jail, is not for any changed conduct, it's for his bigotry, for his thought. It's for his motive. That's a radical departure from traditional criminal law. Under criminal law you punish conduct...You don't look at why the person committed the act. The reason you don't look at it is it's protected by the First Amendment."

"Unfortunately, I think that Sen. Adelman is wrong, because I think that intent is very much a part of the criminal code," Clarenbach responded.

"If someone is convicted of assault to

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Announcements

3rd Annual Indoor Gay Naturalist Beach Party in Madison March 21. RSVP Earl 312-588-2111.

\$5 FOR PP Dirt poor queer activists need your cold hard cash. See related news stories in newspapers across America. Age, race, size, HIV status unimportant. Fats, fems, barflies welcome, 'straight acting' need not apply. Respond ACT UP Presidential Primary Project, P.O. Box 34673, Washington, D.C. 20043-4673 or call 202-328-AIDS.

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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.

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☐ March 19; ☐ April 2; ☐ April 16; ☐ April 30; ☐ May 14; ☐ May 28

commit murder, someone has to determine what their intent was. Did they intend to commit murder? How do you establish that? By their words and their deeds," said Clarenbach. "I think it is not inappropriate or inconsistent with our criminal code to have laws of this sort."

Noting that Todd Mitchell is black, Adelman asserted that the Mitchell case showed how the law hurt rather than helped minorities who, he said, "thrive on a broad, expansive reading of the First Amendment."

Clarenbach countered that the vast majority of people benefiting from the law have been minorities victimized by racists, anti-Semites and Gay bashers.

Both Adelman and Clarenbach expect the governor, who signed the original bill into law, to sign the new piece of legislation. Adelman, however, said he expected the bill would ultimately be overturned by the U.S. Supreme Court.

Supreme Court Case

The U.S. Supreme Court heard arguments in December in the appeal of a teenager charged with burning a cross on the lawn of a black family's home in violation of the St. Paul hate crimes ordinance.

The Minnesota Supreme Court upheld the ordinance but lawyers appealed to the high court, claiming the measure was too broad and infringed on the teen's freedom of speech and expression.

The St. Paul ordinance is, in fact, broader than similar laws in other states and localities. It defines as a crime the display of any symbol or label — like a burning cross — that may arouse "anger, alarm or resentment in others" because of their race, religion or sex.

Housing Share

Seeking A Mature Responsible Person to share home w/same. Located N/W Side of Milwaukee. Call Colleen for details 444-8884. g

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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

Real Estate

Charming 2/3 bedroom home on Milwaukee's Grant Boulevard in friendly, diverse Sherman Park community. Sunroom, hardwood floors, fully remodeled kitchen, mid 80's. Call 873-1303.

Justice Antonin Scalia was most aggressive in challenging the ordinance. He dismissed as "a political judgment" the claim that racially motivated bias crimes had a more serious impact on society. He also noted that since some minorities, such as the mentally ill, were not included in the law, the bias crimes law was itself guilty of the "rankest kind" of discrimination.

The attorney arguing against the St. Paul ordinance warned that the law could stifle "political discourse and debate" and constituted "an hour of danger for the First Amendment."

The U.S. Supreme Court's decision is expected to be rendered in June of this year. While it will specifically focus on the St. Paul ordinance, the high court's ruling will have a major impact on similar measures in 46 of the states, including Wisconsin.

UW Debates Hate Speech

Meanwhile on March 2, after intense debate, the University of Wisconsin Faculty Senate voted 89-70 for a revised "hate speech" rule intended to prevent racist, sexist and other demeaning comments toward women and minorities on campus. The earlier rule was struck down in October by a federal appeals court which said it infringed on freedom of speech.

The UW Board of Regents, whose approval is required for the rule to take effect, was expected to review the measure March 5. Early indications were that the Regents would block the rule. Even Erroll B. Davis, Jr., the only black regent and a supporter of the measure, has suggested that some "alternative" be found.

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MAKE A PROMISE—Folk/blues musician Pat McCurdy (left) and former Milwaukeean, comedienne Jo Ann Dearing (right), will entertain at the March 21 "Make A Promise" dinner at Milwaukee's Pfister Hotel. Milwaukee native, singer Loey Nelson is also on the program.



animator Winsor McCay.

'Nervousness' Topic Of Play At Theatre X

[Milwaukee]—Milwaukee's Theatre X will present *American Nervousness* by the Drawing Legion of Iowa City, Iowa at the Steimke Theatre from March 12 to March 29. This visually breathtaking piece by one of America's most extraordinary performance groups is a richly humorous historical exploration of the fractured aspirations of the American artist.

Originally inspired by a 19th century medical text which described a stress syndrome caused by modern American life, *American Nervousness* uses live and taped texts, music, tableaux and painted images to humorously explore the stories of three Midwestern artists who found success and frustration in early 20th century New York: vaudeville performer Effie Cherry, regionalist painter Thomas Hart Benton and cartoonist-turned-

Gays At UWM Host Potluck

[Milwaukee]—On Saturday, March 14, the Gay and Lesbian Community (GLC) at UW-Milwaukee will sponsor a potluck dinner to help raise funds for future GLC events. The menu will include foods for vegans, vegetarians and meat-lovers alike.

The dinner will begin at 6:00 p.m. at 2705 N. Shepard Avenue. Admission is \$4.50, however there is a \$3.00 discount if you bring a dish to share.

The GLC at UW-M offers peer support, educational materials, social events and also provides a network for Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual activists. Friends and relatives of the Community are also welcome.

For more information, contact Cheryl Salcedo at (414) 229-6555 (w) or 962-7743 or Stacey L. Collver at 229-4366.

The Drawing Legion is a nationally known company of actors, artists, poets and performance artists based in Iowa City whose own brand of regionalism has been called hip and irreverent, amusing and elegant, brilliant and daring.

American Nervousness will open Thursday, March 12 and will run through March 29. All performances will be held at the Steimke Theatre in the Milwaukee Center.

The performance schedule is: Thursday, March 12, 6:30 p.m. champagne reception (\$20), 7:30 curtain; Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m. \$12; Thursdays, 7:30 p.m. \$12; Fridays, 8:00 p.m. \$14; Saturdays, 8:00 p.m. \$14; Sundays, 2:00 p.m. \$12.

For more information, call (414) 278-0555.



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Tuesday March 17
St. Pat's Party

March 28 Saturday
Country Ho-Down

672-5580

1753 S. Kinnickinnic Milwaukee, WI 53207

Miller Brewing To Be Honored At 'Make A Promise' Dinner March 21

[Milwaukee]—In acknowledgment of its outstanding leadership and meritorious service to the community in response to the AIDS epidemic, the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin (ARCW) will present its first Sterling Rose Award to the Miller Brewing Company at the 6th Annual Make A Promise dinner on March 21 at Milwaukee's Pfister Hotel.

Miller Brewing Company, in association with its parent company, Philip Morris, has demonstrated a long-standing commitment to assisting the purpose, programs and services of ARCW. According to ARCW Executive Director, Doug Nelson, Miller has been selected as the initial recipient of the recently established Sterling Rose Award for many reasons. These include:

Its generous contribution to the Wisconsin AIDS Walk, as well as other ARCW fundraising events (Since 1990, Miller Brewing Company and Philip Morris have donated more than \$61,000 to ARCW);

Its leadership role in gaining participation from other corporations in assisting the efforts of ARCW;

And, Miller Brewing Company's dedicated and active employee participation with the Volunteer Resource program of ARCW through their

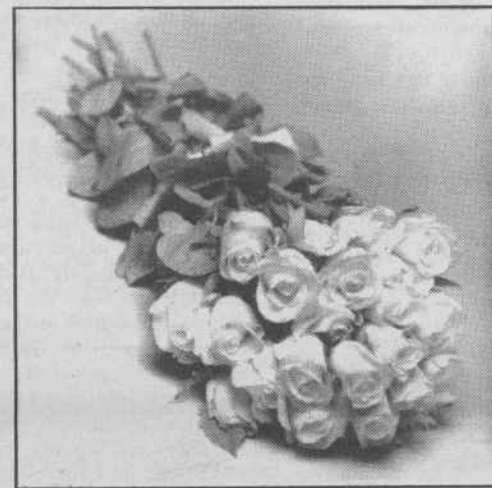
involvement on various committees, projects and programs.

Numerous community leaders and individuals representing many organizations and businesses supporting ARCW will attend the Make A Promise dinner as honorary hosts. Included will be Michael T. Sturdivant of the Milwaukee Performing Arts Center, State Representative Tim Carpentier, Milwaukee Commissioner of Health Paul Nannis, and Lesley Keegan of Time Insurance Company.

The 1992 Make A Promise dinner will be held Saturday evening, March 21 in the Pfister Hotel Grand Ballroom, 424 E. Wisconsin Avenue. Among the performers will be singer/songwriter Loey Nelson, folk/blues musician Pat McCurdy and comedienne Jo Ann Dearing.

Tickets are available at a cost of \$75 for preferred seating and \$45 for general seating. For more information, call ARCW's Special Events Department at (414) 273-1991.

Proceeds from the fundraising event will benefit the comprehensive AIDS care and education services provided by the Milwaukee AIDS Project and Southeast Wisconsin AIDS Project of ARCW.



Make A Promise

SATURDAY - MARCH 21, 1992 - 5:30 P.M.

SIXTH ANNUAL DINNER, SHOW AND AUCTION TO BENEFIT THE MILWAUKEE AIDS PROJECT & SOUTHEAST WISCONSIN AIDS PROJECT

PFISTER HOTEL GRAND BALLROOM
424 E. WISCONSIN AVE., MILWAUKEE, WI

\$45 GENERAL SEATING
\$75 PREFERRED SEATING

FEATURING LOEY NELSON
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() Filet Mignon with Mushroom Sauce () Filet of Salmon with Hollandaise Sauce () Vegetarian Medley

Name _____ Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Telephone (day) _____

Please make checks payable to ARCW or charge on MasterCard or Visa (circle one).

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Please respond by March 13, 1992 to ARCW, P.O. Box 92505, Milwaukee, WI 53202