



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

The Wisconsin Light

State Hospitals Awarded Grants to Aid Health Care Workers

[Milwaukee]- State Rep. Tim Carpenter (D-Milwaukee) announced that the Milwaukee County Medical Complex (MCMC) is the recipient of a \$26,000 Department of Health and Social Services award to implement the use of new medical technology designed to prevent the spread of AIDS and hepatitis to health care workers who care for infected patients.

"The nurses, doctors, and attendants of the Milwaukee County Medical Complex need this grant to protect their lives as well as their families' health," said Rep. Carpenter. "The MCMC treats by far the greatest number of AIDS and HIV positive patients of any health care facility in Wisconsin so accidental needlesticks carry a tremendous risk to the health care workers there."

The Health Care Device Safety Grants, passed as 1991 Act 290, and authored by Rep. Carpenter, will be awarded to four other Wisconsin hospitals.

These are: Beloit Memorial Hospital, Beloit, WI, \$10,500; Prairie du Chien Memorial, Prairie du Chien, WI, \$6,000; Vernon County Memorial, Viroqua, WI, \$1,384; Hudson Memorial, Hudson, WI, \$5,516.

"Health care professionals certainly deserve some added safety measures and peace of mind as they continue their efforts in helping AIDS patients fight this terrible fight," said Carpenter. "These new syringes and hypodermics should be available to all health care workers and this program should act as an impetus to health care facilities everywhere to implement their consistent use."

Prairie du Chien Memorial Hospital, the site of Wisconsin's first confirmed case of a health care worker being infected with HIV due to an accidental needlestick while treating an HIV positive patient, is among the hospitals receiving a grant.

The Health Care Device Safety proposal was passed as a two-year \$150,000 program before being vetoed to \$50,000, according to Rep. Carpenter.

Bound for Justice: Joe Steffan Discusses His On-Going Legal Battle

By Owen Keehnen

In 1987, just six weeks short of graduation, Joseph Steffan was called into his commandant's office after a rumor he was gay reached administration officials at Annapolis, the Naval Academy. Abiding by the naval honor code, Steffan refused to deny the rumor and was stripped of his rank and denied his diploma.

Since his discharge, Steffan has been involved in a still on-going legal suit for reinstatement.

In his book, *Honor Bound: A Gay American Fights for the Right to Serve His Country*, Joe recounts his discharge and ensuing legal battle.

Owen Keehnen: What do you hope to achieve in your lawsuit against the Navy?

Joe Steffan: Technically, we're asking for three remedies. First, that I be granted my diploma from the Academy. Secondly, that I be reinstated in the military to continue my career. And finally, that the military policy itself be declared unconstitutional and overturned.

OK: If you were reinstated, wouldn't you be a bit fearful about going back within the walls of Annapolis?

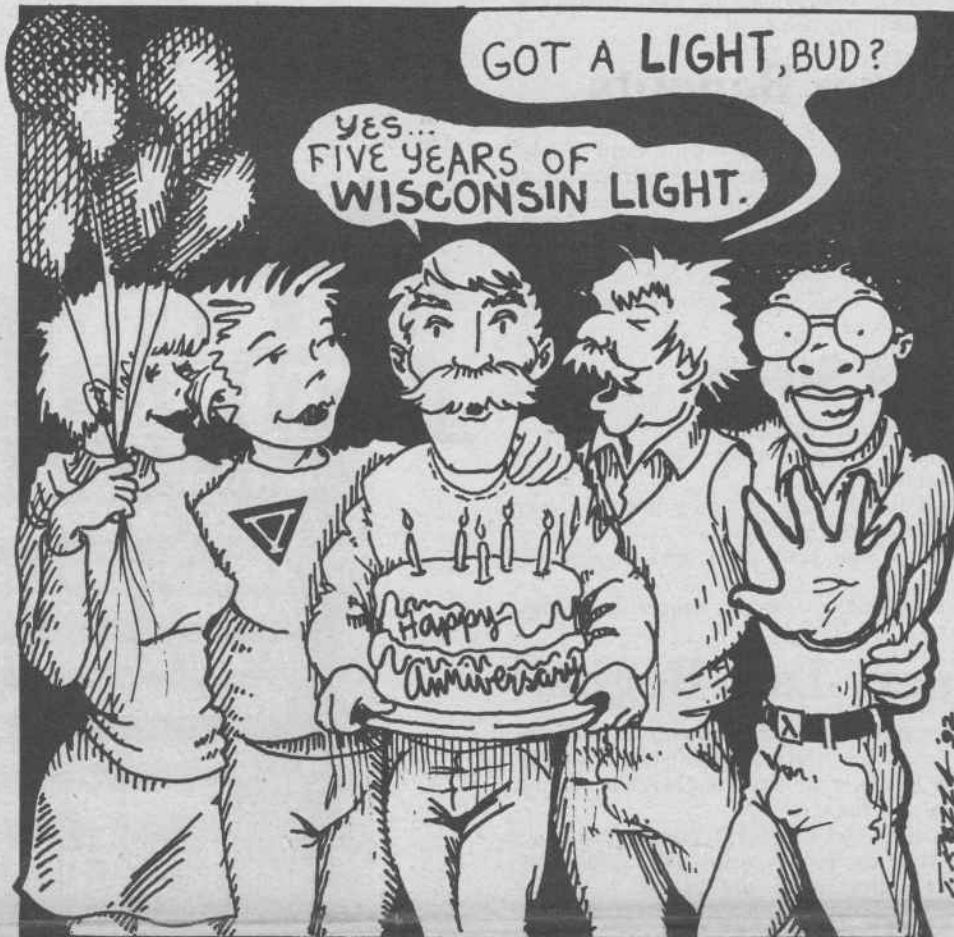
JS: I think I'd be somewhat concerned, but there would be Gay people right and left. And if there's one thing the military knows how to do, it's take orders.

I would expect to take some heat, but I certainly wouldn't think my life was in

I would expect to take some heat, but I certainly wouldn't think my life was in danger.

OK: During your trial, federal judge Oliver J. Gasch called you a "homo" and

Hate Law Passes In Colorado But Fails To Pass In Oregon



There Is Much To Celebrate With Nov. 3 Election Results

Analysis By John Quinlan

[Milwaukee]- Lesbians and Gay men throughout the country had much to celebrate after the November 3rd elections, despite some notable challenges that lie ahead.

"We made some major advances across the country," openly Lesbian State-Rep.-elect Tammy Baldwin told the

Light. "We elected a pro-Gay president — a major victory."

"We elected more pro-Gay senators, such as Russ Feingold here in Wisconsin, who will represent the Gay and Lesbian community very well," Baldwin added. "In Congress overall, we can expect to see the number of co-sponsors of the Gay and Lesbian Civil Rights bill increase by about 15 sponsors."

More Homophobia by the Right

In a victory for Gay and Lesbian rights, Oregon voters turned down an anti-Gay rights initiative by a 55 to 45 margin. "This is very encouraging in that there was an incredible amount of organizing coalitions between the Gay and straight communities," Baldwin said.

However, she lamented the fact that this battle had zapped much of the energy and strength of the entire region's activists. "This is the strategy of the Right and we'll see more of this. We don't want to continue to fight homophobic ballot measures. We'd rather be making progress on a new set of challenges."

Do They Really Hate Us That Much?

Elsewhere in the country, there was a mixed record of success. Voters in Portland, Maine voted to keep their Gay rights law, while Tampa, Florida voters chose to repeal theirs.

The most disappointing defeat came in Colorado, where Gay rights opponents succeeded in passing a referendum that had the effect of overturning Gay rights ordinances in several major Colorado cities. The loss took many activists by surprise, because polls had shown the measure unlikely to pass.

"I feel like I've been kicked in the stomach," Lawrence Pacheco, a 23-year-old Gay man told the *New York Times*. "Do they really hate us that much?"

Gay rights activists in Colorado are expected to challenge the results in court, and there is talk of a Gay and Lesbian business boycott of the state as long as the law stands.

JS: Sometimes it is really frustrating to
TURN TO STEFFAN, PAGE 15

[Denver, CO]- On November 3, 1992, Colorado became the only state in the Union where voters have added to their constitution a provision banning laws protecting Gays.

The measure, known as "Amendment 2" passed by 54 to 46 percent. The measure also repeals anti-discrimination ordinances in Denver, Boulder and Aspen.

Reactions of Gay, Lesbians and their supporters was swift.

On Tuesday night, angry Gays invaded the Democratic Party's gathering celebrating the election of Bill Clinton to the presidency. Protesters asserted that the Party had not done enough for them.

There were other rallies and protest marches as well. On Wednesday night, hundreds of protesters gathered at the state capitol in Denver for a candlelight vigil. A witness told *Light* that loud chants of "No More Hate" echoed through the grounds.

Legal War

On Wednesday, Colorado political leaders launched a plan for a legal war on Amendment 2, while Gay rights activists promised to push for a national boycott of the state until the measure is overturned.

On Wednesday too, Denver Mayor Wellington Webb said that the city would file a lawsuit within 10 days to overturn the measure. Webb said that the amendment violates the state constitution's home-rule provision which gives some cities authority to make their own laws.

Aspen and Boulder will likely join Denver as plaintiffs in the lawsuit said Denver City Attorney Dan Muse. A coalition of private groups, including the American Civil Liberties Union and the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, will bankroll the lawsuit.

Boycott of Colorado

As of press time no Lesbian/Gay organization has called for a national boycott of Colorado. Indeed, some national Lesbian/Gay leaders say that a boycott would be wrong. Speaking for background, one person in Washington told *Light* that now was the time for there to be more Gays and Lesbians in Colorado than ever. Lesbians and Gays need to be visible in the state.

However, The Denver Post reported that by mid-afternoon on Wednesday, the American Association of Physicians for Human Rights, a Gay and Lesbian doctor's group, had canceled plans to hold its August, 1993 convention, with several hundred delegates, in Denver.

At the same time, Fred Kohn, president of the International Gay Travel Association, said he has already begun discouraging clients from visiting the state.

Aspen's annual Gay Ski Week which fills hotels and restaurants with more than 3,000 skiers, may also be in jeopardy. "I do not want to be punitive to the Aspen community, but I think the State of Colorado has to understand that they cannot get away with this kind of discrimination," said Los Angeles travel agent Robin Tyler, who helps publicize the ski weekend.

The Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund has also announced the removal of Denver from consideration as a site for its 1993 conferences. "Our perception of the constitutional amendment is that Gays and Lesbians are no longer welcome in Colorado," wrote William Waybourn, the Victory Fund's Executive Director.

The Opposition

Representatives of Colorado for Family Values (CFV), the group that backed Amendment 2, said a Gay boycott won't hurt Colorado.

"What about all of those who will want to come here because this state is not a bastion of Gay rights?" said CFV founder Tony Marco.

TURN TO ELECTION, PAGE 15

TURN TO HATE LAWS, PAGE 15

NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

Presidential Transition Coalition

[Washington, D.C.]—A broad coalition of Gay and Lesbian organizations has been formed to provide technical assistance and support to Gays and Lesbians who will seek appointments to high level policy positions in the new administration.

Utilizing a network of Lesbian and Gay leaders from across the country, the coalition's organizers hope to prepare individuals for appointment by assisting with resume interviews and information. Senior advisors are David Mixner, Rep. Gerry Studds and Rep. Barney Frank.

For more information contact Rebecca Tillet at (202) 452-9402 or Mike Bento at (202) 452-9481.

N.Y. Students Elect Gay Leader

[Albany, NY]—Student delegates from the State University of New York (SUNY) have elected Glenn D. Magpantay from SUNY at Stony Brook to be President of the state-wide Student Association. Magpantay will serve as the first openly Gay and the first Asian president of the organization.

Magpantay is an immediate past National Co-Chair of the U.S. Student Association's National Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Student Caucused and served on the 1993 National March on Washington's National Steering Committee. Magpantay has been praised as the country's leading Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual student organizer.

Domestic Partners Given Benefits

[Iowa City, IA]—On October 21, 1992, the Board of Regents of the University of Iowa approved a proposal to extend health insurance benefits to the domestic partners of its Lesbian and Gay employees. The plan, which goes into effect for a three year trial period beginning in January, 1993, is the first such benefits package offered by a major university.

To qualify for the plan, the domestic partner must meet several requirements intended to establish that the relationship is a committed one. The plan is self-insured, but is managed by Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Iowa.

Lesbian Cancer Risk Is Steep

[Washington, D.C.]—A substantial number of American Lesbians — perhaps 1 in 3 — may eventually develop breast cancer, according to a report written by Dr. Suzanne Haynes, an epidemiologist for the National Cancer Institute.

Lesbians typically seek gynecologic care less often than heterosexual women do, even though several risk factors for the disease are associated with Lesbians.

These factors include: childlessness, alcoholism, high body mass and homophobic doctors.

"If Lesbians are not going to the physicians who normally do breast cancer screenings, they are not going to be screened," Haynes said.

D.C. Domestic Partners Law Begins

[Washington, D.C.]—Under orders from Washington, D.C. Mayor Sharon Pratt Kelly, District officials began in October to register same-sex couples as domestic partners under a measure approved by the D.C. Council in July even though Congress has voted to deny any funding for implementation of the measure for fiscal 1993.

To comply with the funding ban, the District will require couples to prepare their own declarations of domestic partnership, obtain signatures from notaries public, and mail their declarations to the District government with a request for a return receipt.

CDC Sets New AIDS Definitions

On Wednesday, October 28, AIDS activists welcomed a proposed new definition of AIDS that adds three illnesses they say signal the disease in women and drug users.

The Atlanta Centers for Disease Control (CDC) proposed adding pulmonary tuberculosis, recurrent pneumonia and invasive cervical cancer to the list of diseases that indicate AIDS has developed in people infected with the virus.

Dr. John Ward, acting chief of surveillance in the CDC's AIDS division, said 50,000 new AIDS cases are expected next year under the current definition, and the three new diseases would bring in several thousand more.

More than 1 million Americans are thought to be infected with the virus. More than 230,000 — under the current definition — have developed AIDS, and about 152,000 have died.

AIDS Growing Fastest In South

[Nashville, TN]—A federal health official said AIDS is spreading fastest in the South, a region with the most population and high rates of sexually transmitted diseases.

Dr. James W. Curran of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control said that conditions are: "moderate to large-size cities, poverty, injectable drug used, crack cocaine use."

The South has a population of 85 million people. Curran said the number of reported AIDS cases among Gay men is leveling off in the Northeast while growing quickest in the Old Confederacy. The number of cases has more than doubled between 1988 and 1991 in the South. Curran also said that by 1994, done in every six AIDS cases will be reported in women.

News Briefs are compiled by the Editor from mainstream newspapers and wire services, organizational press releases and Gay and Lesbian papers from across the U.S.

West Side Dykes To Meet Dec. 6

[Milwaukee]—The next meeting of the West Side Dykes will be on Sunday, December 6, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at Mary's house. To find out where Mary lives, please call Julie at (414) 778-1269, or Mimi at (414) 445-4179.

What do West Side Dykes do at their meetings? Anything we want to! (But we usually start out with introductions.) Then we talk about what's happening in the community and activities we'd like to do if there were one or more friends to join us. ("Friend" is a word used lightly by some, but a West Side Dyke is a real friend.)

West Side Dykes exists to encourage more women to move to our neighborhood and to promote networking, sisterhood and social activities among Lesbians. Meetings are on the 1st Sunday of each month and are open to all dykes living west of Lake Michigan and east of Madison. Bring friends!

MCC Presents Holiday Workshop

[Milwaukee]—On Sunday, November 22, 1992, the 4:30 p.m. worship service at New Hope Metropolitan Community Church, Rev. Nancy Smiegowski, Mdiv./MSW will be presenting a 90-minute workshop on "Handling the Holidays as Gay and Lesbian Persons." The workshop will be held in the first floor parlor of Kenwood United Methodist church, 2310 E. Kenwood across from UW-Milwaukee.

Rev. Smiegowski, a Lesbian psychotherapist practicing in Milwaukee and Racine, believes that living out of Holiday "traditions" and "shoulds" can be stressful for Gays and Lesbians.

The workshop will address strategies for individuals and partners to manage the emotional, physical and financial challenges of the holidays — including many unique to Lesbians and Gays.

The workshop is sponsored by New Hope MCC, is open to the public and is free of charge. Participants are welcomed to join New Hope for worship at 4:30 p.m. or come specifically for the workshop which will begin promptly at 5:45 p.m.



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Reflections of a 'Reagan Revolution' Turncoat

Commentary By Darren J. Foster

On November 3, 1992, as America chose to trust Bill Clinton to serve America as its 42nd president and as Wisconsin preferred Russ Feingold over the two-term Senator Bob Kasten, it became evident to me that both a new era was dawning and a (bloodless?) revolution was being repudiated by the American people, who saw a need for change and had the courage to vote accordingly after 12 years in the desert.

On November 3, as for America's economy and position in the world prevailed over the politics of fear, division and "character," I became reflective of my role in the Reagan-Bush "revolution," which I ultimately rejected in the Summer of 1990.

Member of Moral Majority and Eagle Forum

From 1982-1990 I freely admit that I, like much of America, was caught up in the Reagan mystique. I too advocated the "family values" rhetoric as a "good Catholic" and Republican member of the Moral Majority and Eagle Forum. I was an enthusiastic proponent of the theology of supply-side greed.

But, in reality, I was trapped into the Reagan-Bush theft of America's goodness because of my own homophobia, self-hatred and an inability to separate public policy from the warped theology of the "Christian Right."

It was not until 1990, when I identified myself with the successful Paul Wellstone (D-MN) senate campaign, that I began to see that there were other ways of living, loving and viewing life's issues.

In 1990, I began to see that the modern Republican Party was, and is today, being manipulated as a bludgeon of the "Religious Right" to subvert the individual liberties that minorities had so hardly won.

From the Church to Christ

Once I came out to myself and began the coming out process to others; and once I began my exodus from the Roman Catholic institution toward a more humanistic gospel of a secular Christ who

was not only Savior, but also brother and lover, only then did I discover that there was no longer room for me under the "Republican umbrella."

The Reagan-Bush Legacy

Ronald Reagan and George Bush were in 1980 on a platform that called for the dismantling of the Departments of Energy, Education and the Legal Services Corporation; the reversal of Roe v. Wade; the rejection of the proposed Equal Rights Amendment and the scaling back of the exclusionary rule, Miranda rights and the use of habeas corpus.

The Reagan-Bush administrations were intent on reversing the gains of individual liberty and equity obtained in the 1960's and '70's in hard-fought Supreme Court decisions.

During the first decade of AIDS, we saw Reagan-Bush sit idly by while over 144,000 persons died. When San Francisco hosted the Sixth International Conference on AIDS in 1990, Bush attended a fundraiser in North Carolina for Jesse Helms.

This is only a very small part of the Reagan-Bush legacy from the perspective of someone who spent eight good years of my youth working within the GOP and the "Religious Right" as a "Reagan Revolution" footsoldier.

Having repudiated the work I did from 1982-1990 within the GOP and within the "Religious Right," I can say that my experience in the last decade has given me valuable insight into the mindset of "family values" enthusiasts. My experience has also motivated me to work within the civil rights and "rainbow" communities to work towards a day when justice, opportunity and equal protection under the law will be afforded to all Americans without regard to how they were created.

As Ross Perot said on November 3, "We don't have time to dwell on what's done. Let's work together and make America go forward." With Governor Bill Clinton and Senator Al Gore destined for the White House in January, I now believe in a place called Hope.

Lesbian and Gay Americans Hail Election As Major Step Forward

[Washington, D.C.]—One week before election day, the headline in *USA Today* said it all: "Millions of Gays mobilizing for 'vote of our lives.'" Energized by election contests for the House and Senate, by major anti-Gay ballot initiatives, and by the opportunity to elect a president who included them in his vision of America, Lesbian and Gay voters organized throughout the country to win major advances on election day, 1992.

Tim McFeeley, Executive Director of the Human Rights Campaign Fund called it "The election of our lives" and added that it was a "historic watershed" in the history of the of the Gay and Lesbian rights movement.

Among the most prominent anti-Gay candidates sent to defeat were incumbent Rep. Clyde Holloway in Louisiana, GOP Senate candidate Terry Considine in Colorado, and incumbent Rep. Ron Marlenee of Montana. Both Holloway and Marlenee were close allies of Congressman William Dannemeyer, who lost his bid for the U.S. Senate in California and will not be returning to Congress.

Despite the passage of an anti-Gay initiative in Colorado, opponents of the measure such as Rep. Pat Schroeder and Senator-elect Ben Nighthorse Campbell were elected.

McFeeley predicted a record 140 co-sponsors for the Federal Lesbian and Gay Civil Rights Bill when it is introduced in the new Congress, up from 126 at the end of the 102nd Congress.

HRCF's Active Involvement Crucial

HRCF listed several races where its involvement was crucial, according to Eric

Rosenthal, HRCF's Political Director. "The Community made sure that Barbara Boxer in California and Carol Moseley Braun in Illinois had enough volunteers and resources to get out the vote on election day," he said.

These candidates, along with newly elected Democratic Senators Diane Feinstein of California and Russ Feingold of Wisconsin, are pledged to co-sponsor the Lesbian and Gay Civil Rights Bill in the new Congress.

Among the newly elected members of Congress who received HRCF's support were several candidates who won closely watched races.

In Oregon's 1st District, peace activist Elizabeth Furse defeated State Treasurer Tony Meeker, an anti-Gay Christian Coalition candidate.

In Pennsylvania's 13th District, former TV broadcaster Marjorie Margolies Mezvinsky narrowly defeated Montgomery County Commissioner John Fox. Mezvinsky is the Emmy Award winning journalist who received national attention for her stories on the concerns of Lesbian and Gay youth, entitled "This Child is Gay."

In another race where the Christian Coalition fought a supporter of Lesbian and Gay rights, Washington state Rep. Maria Cantwell won an overwhelming victory against Gary Nelson.

"The Lesbian and Gay community played an important role in the Clinton coalition," McFeeley said. "We look forward to working with the new president and new Congress."



Jerry Johnson

CROWNING GLORY—A capacity crowd of over 300 people attended the 21st annual "Pageant" at Milwaukee's Marc Plaza Hotel on November 8, 1992. The winner of the Miss Wisconsin contest was BB Douglas (center) and Mark Hemmerlein (center) won the Mr. Gay Wisconsin contest. First runner-up of each contest were DuWanna Moore (far right) and Scott Logan (far left).

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EDITORIAL

Clinton-Gore Victory Represents Hope for Gay/Lesbian Community

Listen once again to the first words uttered by our new President, Bill Clinton, on the steps of the Old State House in Little Rock late in the evening of November 3:

"On this day, with high hopes and brave hearts, in massive numbers, the American people have voted to make a new beginning."

"This election is a clarion call for our country to face the challenges of the end of the Cold War and the beginning of the next century: to restore growth to our country and opportunity to our people; to empower our own people so that they can take more responsibility for their own lives; to face problems too long ignored, from AIDS to the environment to the conversion of our economy from a defense to a domestic economic giant."

"And, perhaps most important of all, to bring our people together as never before so that our diversity can be a source of strength in a world that is ever smaller — where everyone counts, and everyone is a member of America's family."

Although it is far too early to know whether President Clinton will achieve these wide-ranging and ambitious goals, the Gay and Lesbian community can take heart in his victory and in his first message to the American people.

Clinton managed to mention AIDS in his very first breath. Contrast that with Reagan, who didn't mention it for almost eight years and Bush, who only mentioned it in the context of Barbara "hugging those AIDS babies." Clinton also repudiated the divisive rhetoric of "family values" with a dignified statement about equality and inclusion. "Everyone counts," he said to wild cheers, "and everyone is a member of America's family."

The very least Gays and Lesbians have gained from the new Democratic administration is a much needed change in tone. We have helped elect a leadership that respects diversity and that is committed to bringing all Americans together. In the next months and years, we need to hold Clinton to his promises about ending the Pentagon ban on Gays, appointing an AIDS czar and reforming the overall health care system. But for the moment we at Wisconsin Light are happy to bask in the victory. After twelve painfully long years, it sure is sweet.

There are still many challenges before us. While voters in Oregon defeated an anti-Gay measure, Coloradoans passed one. While voters in Portland, Maine retained a Gay rights ordinance, Tampa killed one. Leaders of the radical Christian right have vowed to be even more aggressive with their anti-Gay crusades. It is the duty of every Gay man and Lesbian and every person who knows and loves us to continue to speak the truth about our lives, to come out and assert our rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

One sign of hope is that the radical right and its hateful rhetoric has alienated people. Moderate Republicans are blaming the fundamentalist element for Bush's defeat. Labor Secretary Lynn Martin, a GOP stalwart, conceded: "You can't build a party on hate." Bush's defeat could lead to a showdown with the Christian right and years of bloodletting in the Republican Party. We certainly hope so.

In the meantime, we must work to ensure that the progressive social agenda of the Clinton-Gore team is implemented. With the help of Wisconsin's dynamic new Senator, Russ Feingold, and the many new women and men of all colors who will enter the majority Democratic Congress, hope is truly in the air. Yes, we must be vigilant. But we must also celebrate and savor this victory. It's a big one, and we deserve it.

The News from Colorado and Tampa Should Scare You

By Terry Boughner

If the news from Colorado and Tampa scares you, it should. Even the reports from Oregon are not that good. The religious far right has had its victories and is girding up for more.

Do not underestimate these people. They are fanatic's with a true-believer's fervor to institutionalize their hatred in law.

They are not Christians, although they go by that name. They are authoritarians, championing a nation-wide, well-funded, absolutist movement which aims at nothing less than the total subordination of all who they deem inferior. One of those groups is us.

Do not think Wisconsin is safe. It is not. Tens of thousands of dollars went from one donor her to the Colorado hate campaign. Even now, in Madison, a California-based Fundamentalist group is trying to persecute Wiccans.

Please, do not be fooled. Wiccans; Women, Lesbians and straight, Gay men, African Americans, Indians, Hispanics, Jews and others, it makes no difference. All prejudice has only one root.

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

It was great! I was at a Democratic victory party and they were celebrating victories. Clinton/Gore had won, Russ Feingold had won and best of all, from my point of view, Tammy Baldwin had won a seat in the State Assembly. She's one of our own, an open Lesbian, and a person of great talent and ability. I applaud her and wish her well.

The mood at the party, as you might imagine, was euphoric. What made it even better (for me, anyway), was when Mayor John Norquist got up and told the crowd of hundreds that part of the reason for the Republican defeat was their Gay-bashing which he went on to condemn. Then he went before the TV cameras and said the same thing.

Anita Hill

Now, in this time of transition with thoughts and suggestions flooding his desk, I have one recommendation to make to President-elect Clinton. When it comes time to make a nomination to the Supreme Court, name Anita Hill to the post. She's wonderfully talented, a person of great courage and integrity, with all her credentials in place. And wouldn't the irony be sweet?

While I'm at it, I've got another suggestion to make. Let's cool it.

A Clinton victory tasted so good, especially after 12 years of one of the most repressive, mean-spirited administrations in our history. But the millennium is not upon us nor do I think that we have entered the Promised Land.

I believe we can count on President Clinton to fulfill some of his promises, but not right away — and not all of them ever, perhaps. I would be satisfied if he appoints an AIDS czar and begins to take immediate and strong action against the disease where there has been none

That's why I think Tammy Baldwin's election is so important. Her victory is the kind of grass-roots struggle that we've got to fight and we've got to win.

The so-called "Christian" far-Right wing, have been and are busily spreading their virulent hatred and ignorance (I repeat myself) abroad in the land. They have managed to turn Colorado into a slave state where now we "ride in the back of the bus." We must not underestimate their wealth and organization just as I don't think we can rely on Washington to solve all our problems for us.

Against the bigots, we've got one major weapon. Education.

At the Democratic victory party, I happened, at one point, to find myself sitting next to a young couple, a woman and man, people in their 30's as it turned out. We got to talking and they told me that while they could accept me, a Gay man, as a "human being," they couldn't accept my "lifestyle."

I asked how they understood that word. After some hesitation, the woman said it meant "sex."

So we talked. Sure, I said, sex was a part of it, but the most important part, for me, of knowing I am Gay was the emotional and spiritual fulfillment and satisfaction that I could only get from someone of my own sex, not, in my case, from a woman.

We talked too about other things, monogamy, commitment, marriage and building a family (fortunately Jer happened along at that point so I had an illustration).

Did the light dawn? I doubt it. But at least maybe they had some insight that they didn't have before. And maybe when the Fundies start spewing out their hate, the young couple I met will realize there's more to being a Gay person than "God hates you and there oughta be a law."

So, what's the point? Well, I think laws and politicians and shaking our fists in the street are good and necessary, but there's also getting the word out, talking about ourselves. We can do good that way, I think. Maybe more than we know.

NOVEMBER DEADLINE

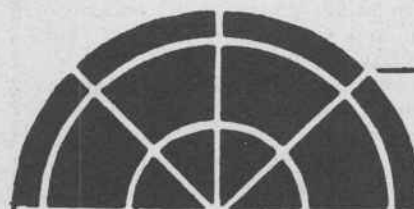
One final thing. Due to Thanksgiving falling on distribution day, Light's deadline for this next issue will be Saturday, November 21. This, because the paper will be printed on Monday, November 23. So **Please make note.**

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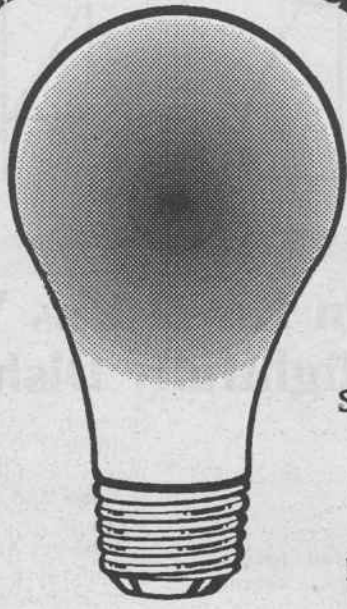
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The Light LIVELY ARTS

Different Drummer Theatre Plans Benefit for Upcoming Season

By Jim Bolton

[Milwaukee]- The Different Drummer Theatre Alliance (DDTA), Milwaukee's only Gay and Lesbian theatre company, was formed in the Summer of 1990 by placing an ad in the *In Step* classifieds asking the question, "Is anybody out there interested in forming a Gay and Lesbian theatre company?"

DDTA's raison d'être is singular and, at the same time, challenging and complex. The Company's aim is to create a fully professional Gay and Lesbian positive performance company that will eventually act as an umbrella-type production organization for a wide variety of Gay and Lesbian performances.

Since Lesbian/Gay themes have not been the concern of Milwaukee's theatre community, DDTA hopes to fill the void with their productions. In telling their tale, DDTA hopes not only to celebrate and examine Gays and Lesbians, but also to share the experiences and perspectives that we all have longed to see portrayed on the stage.

Hopefully, this sharing will underscore the human qualities that we have in common with all people.

Adam and the Experts

In 1991, DDTA brought their vision to reality by staging their first production. It was *Adam and the Experts*. *Adam* was an audience pleaser and a critical success.

All planned performances were a sell-out and the company realized a small, very small, profit, a rare thing for any company's first try. This was due, in part, to the fact that the play was produced on a shoe-string budget supplemented by donations from board members, cast, crew and some very generous friends, family and community businesses.

The success continued with the production of *Eastern Standard* in May of 1992. In this production, DDTA was able to lengthen the production's run by two performances.

It too turned out to be a critical success and left enough money in the bank to call the first season a hit.

Second Season

DDTA's second season begins in 1993. They will open with the production of *Execution of Justice* scheduled for March 4-7 at the PAC's Vogel Hall.

The Company is happy to be the recipient of the PAC's "Tenant Development Program Grant." It is because of this grant that DDTA's *Execution of Justice* will be presented. Auditions are scheduled for the second week in January. Please watch community publications for dates, times and location.

Execution of Justice

Execution of Justice is an examination of the trial of Dan White who assassinated Mayor George Moscone and City Supervisor Harvey Milk of San Francisco in 1978.

At the time, prosecutors assumed the killings were an open and shut case of first-degree murder. However, the defense argued that White's violent behavior was caused by an overdose of junk food. Hence his conduct could be excused. This became famous nation-wide as the "Twinkie" defense.

In addition, the defense argued that since White was a former policeman and fireman, religious and "All-American," he could not have committed the murders with malice. As incredible as it may seem, the defense was successful.

Execution of Justice was written by Emily Mann who was awarded a Guggenheim Memorial Foundation Grant for researching and writing the play. The play is a co-winner of Actor's Theater of Louisville's 1983 Great American Play Contest.

Future Productions

As for future productions, DDTA is considering the following plays: *Breaking the Code* by Hugh Whitmore; *The Sum of Us* by David Stevens; and a possible

original script. The Company is looking for Gay and Lesbian original scripts to produce.

Now, at the beginning of its second season, DDTA continues with its original mission. The board members believe that DDTA is just what the Gay/Lesbian community needs... **A REAL VOICE!** DDTA exists to represent Gay and Lesbian lives and needs. DDTA is a living statement of Pride that gives us yet another visible voice.

What does DDTA need right now? Dedicated people who share their vision. The new season requires more individuals, at least 18 for the next production, to serve as actors, stage crew, light crew, costuming, publicity and all of the other jobs that it takes to make a production a success.

Getting To Know DDTA

Therefore, DDTA is holding a "Get To Know Us" benefit. It takes place on Saturday, November 21 at their rehearsal space from 7:30 to 10:00 p.m.

There will be food, drink and performances by Mrs. Fun, DDTA members and various other Gay and Lesbian performers. Call for directions and information at (414) 347-0673. There is limited capacity and those wishing to attend should R.S.V.P for reservations.

Musical Comedy Whodunit Returns Dec. 1

[Milwaukee]- *Meetings, Meditation and Murder!*, a musical comedy, whodunit, written and produced by members of Milwaukee's 12-Step community, will stage a special encore performance, Saturday, December 5 at the Whitnall High School Auditorium, 5000 S. 116th Street. Curtain time is 8:00 p.m.

The original production is co-sponsored by Greenbriar Hospital and Commitment '92, an annual convention sponsored by Milwaukee and Wisconsin Gay and Lesbian AA and Al-Anon groups. The same groups who last year staged a special performance of *Snow White and the Seven Drunks*

For more information contact: William Attewell at (414) 272-1392 or Candice Waltier, Greenbriar Hospital, D(D414) 425-8000.

'How To Write A Play' Seminar Begins Nov. 6

[Milwaukee]- Playwright Michael Neville will be conducting a seven-week seminar in "How to Write a Ten-Minute Play" beginning November 16, 1992. Participation will be limited to six students.

Neville is Artistic Director of Playwrights Studio Theatre (PST). PST's 1992 *Festival of Ten-Minute Plays* at the Stiemke Theater of the Milwaukee Repertory Theater was critically hailed and sold out for the run. Scott Sandoe's *A Couple of Gay Guys Named Dan* won the Critic's Choice Award.

PST also produces monthly public readings of new plays.

Original plays of Neville's have been produced by the Manhattan Theater Club, ACT Seattle, the Actor's Theater of Louisville, Boston's NightStage, and numerous other off-Broadway and regional theaters.

Actor E.G. Marshall starred at Town Hall on Broadway in a series of adaptations Neville did for the musical stage.

Neville is a recipient of a National Endowment for the Arts in Playwriting, a New York Fellowship in Playwriting and a Shubert Fellowship in Playwriting.

For further information, call (414) 476-8984.

New Maupin Novel Has Wit, Humor, Delightfully Dishy Dialogue

MAYBE THE MOON

By Armistead Maupin
Harper Collins Publishers, 1992, \$22 hardcover.

By Geno

When reviewing Armistead Maupin's *Sure of You* three years ago, I regretted his announcement that this, his sixth novel, would be the last of his *Tales of the City*. For years he had kept his faithful readers waiting eagerly for the next book telling of the lives and loves of a diverse cast of characters, really a working extended family living in San Francisco.

Happily, in his recently published *Maybe the Moon*, Maupin shifts his scene to Hollywood telling the first-person story of Cadence Roth ("Cady") who is 31 inches short and who appeared in the second highest grossing film of all time confined in a computerized rubber suit.

When Maupin met and became friends with Tamara De Treux who was E.T., the extra-terrestrial, he must have recognized immediately that here was a new subject for his unique story-telling powers.

Cady Gives The Lowdown

In her diary, Cady gives all the lowdown on life in Hollywood, and her story is concerned with the aftermath of her one, big role, a far cry from the universal recognition she craves. Hidden in the rubberized suit and hidden from the public according to the movie director's orders, she now appears briefly in horror films and works as a clown with a troupe called Porta Party performing for children's birthday parties and bar mitzvahs.

She resents the stereotyping and limitations placed upon her because of her size and wants to be recognized as an actress in her own right and to have "A Life I can live on my own terms."

As in his other always fascinating inventive plots, Maupin blends humor with serious themes, treating his readers to unusual characters and incidents and mixing real life Hollywood gossip, its misfits and famous start in with his fictional story line.

One sub-plot, for instance, concerns Jeff and Callum, the latter a former child star who is firmly closeted and who fears being outed as he makes his film comeback.

Jeff, on the other hand, is a member of GLAAD. See the possibilities?

The denouement of the novel focuses upon a big Hollywood bash where the famous movie director is to be given an award by Cady, still in "that damned suit." But wicked Cady has other ideas and decides to discard the suit at the last moment and make the presentation in her own persona — the epitome of a splashy coming out!

Cady Is The Chief Attraction

The chief attraction of the novel always remains Cady herself, her salty dialogue, her hilarious asides and cryptic comments on the life and people around her. At one point she muses, "Love wouldn't be blind if the braille weren't so damned much fun." And since they are at her eye level, she has an almost obsessive interest in people's crotches.

To quiet Callum's fears of being recognized as Gay, she says, "I'm the biggest fag hag this side of Susan Sarandon." This sophisticated, child-like (and sometimes childish) woman is alive

in every way and the sense of being "different" constantly imposed on her makes her identify with and sympathetic to Gays and Lesbians, and minorities of all kinds.

Who but Armistead Maupin could write a tender love scene between a woman who is a 31-inch dwarf and Neil, a handsome Black piano player over six feet tall? Through Cady, Maupin describes it honestly, sensuously and believably.

This is just one of the any achievements of *Maybe the Moon*. All of the ingredients anticipated in a novel by this master teller of tales are here, the wit, the Gay good humor and the delightful dishy dialogue. Armistead Maupin's warmth, gentleness and intelligence are rich as they were in his other six novels.

Looking forward to number eight!

Maupin To Read Nov. 16 In Milwaukee

[Milwaukee]- Just a reminder that the nationally renowned Gay writer, Armistead Maupin, will be appearing at Schwartz's Bookshop, 209 E. Wisconsin Avenue (Iron Block building) on Monday, November 16 at 5:30 p.m.

Maupin, author of the *Tales of the City* series, will be reading and signing copies of his newest novel *Maybe the Moon*. Admission is free.

Fest City Singers Plan Christmas Show

[Milwaukee]- "A Christmas Wish: I Wish You A World" is the title of the Fest City Singers' Christmas review to be presented at 7:00 p.m. on Sunday evening, December 13, 1992, at the South Shore Pavilion in Bayview.

With its theme of unity, "A Christmas Wish" is set in a shopping mall just before Christmas. The review will feature guest appearances by Chicago singer/songwriter Kristin Lems and the Different Drummer Theatre Alliance.

The Fest City Singers are under the musical and artistic direction of Charles Golden, who has been musical director of the group for the past two years. Golden has also written the script for "A Christmas Wish."

Tickets for the Fest City Singers' Christmas show are \$10 and can be reserved by calling the Festline at (414) 263-SING.

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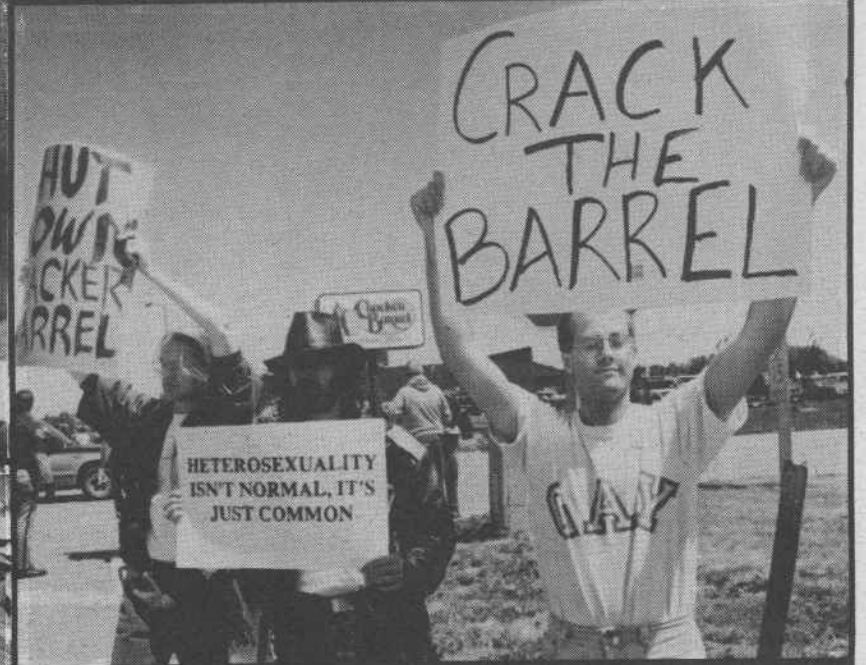
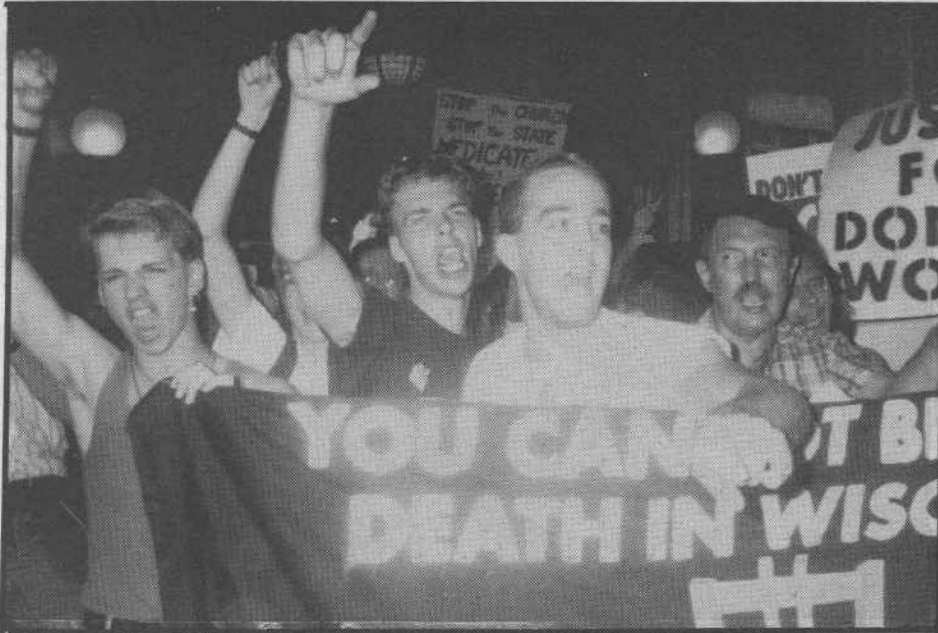
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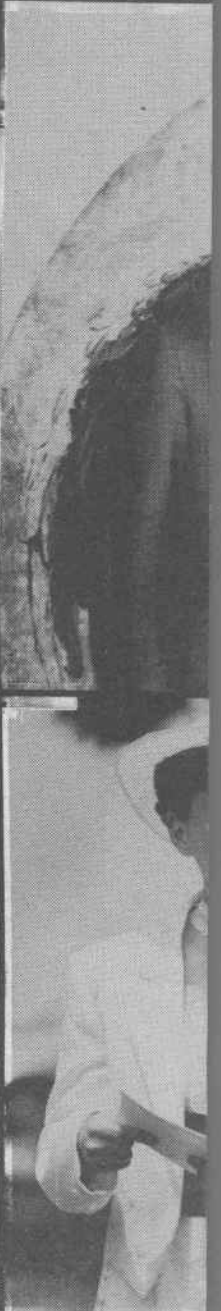
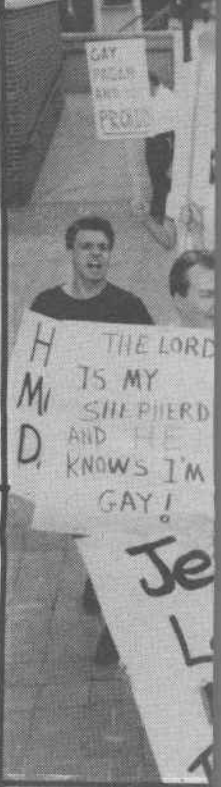
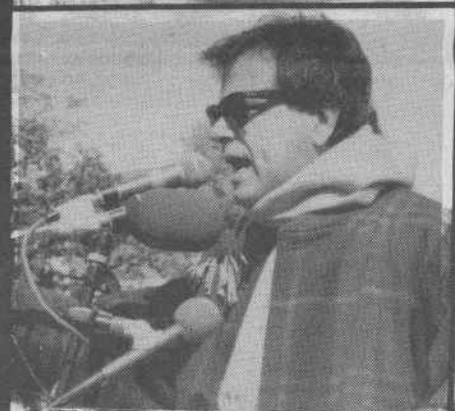
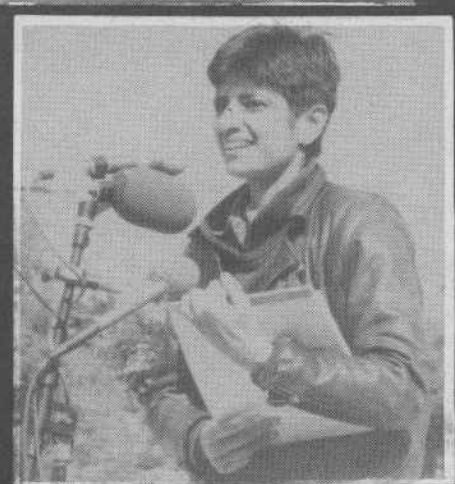
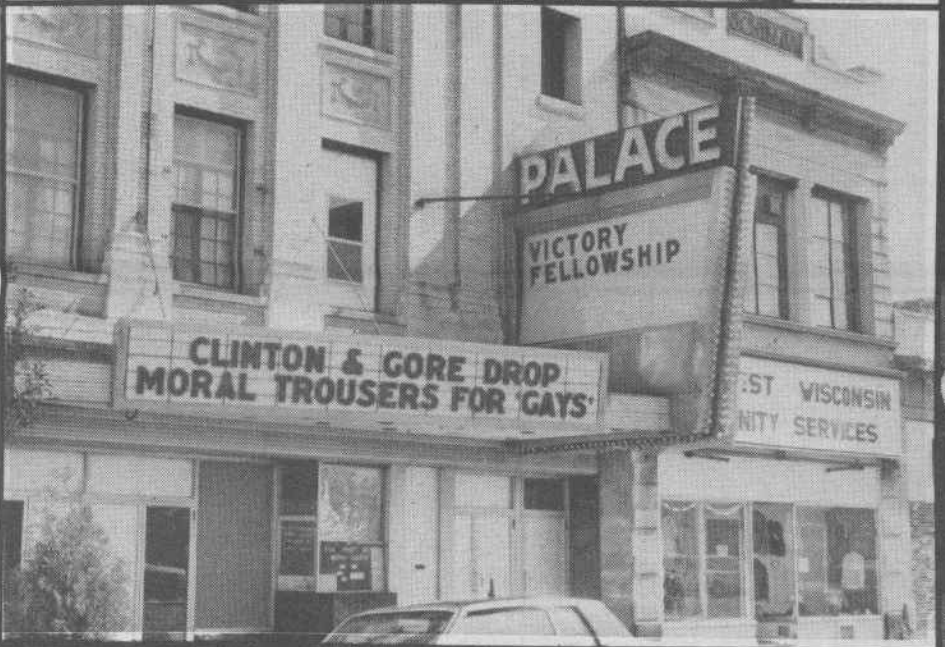
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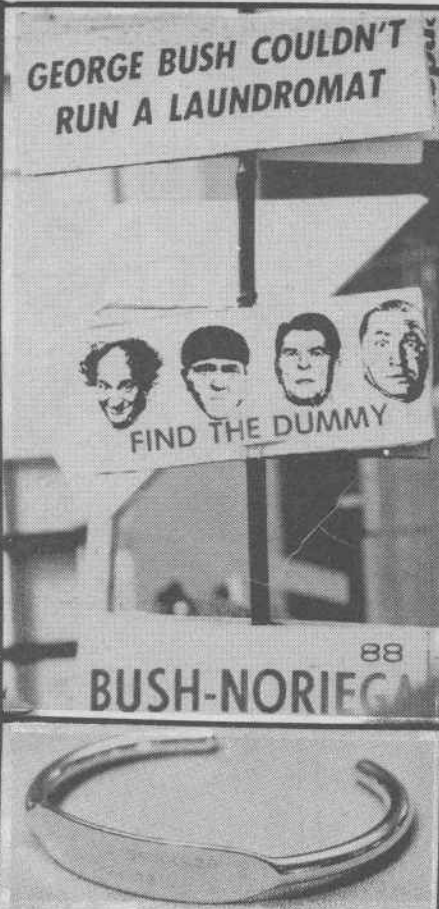
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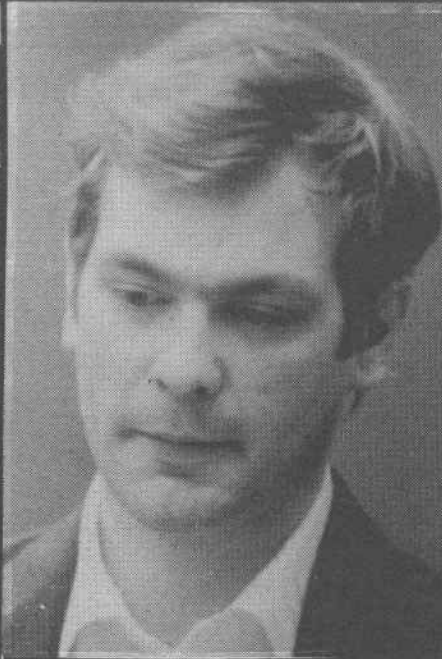
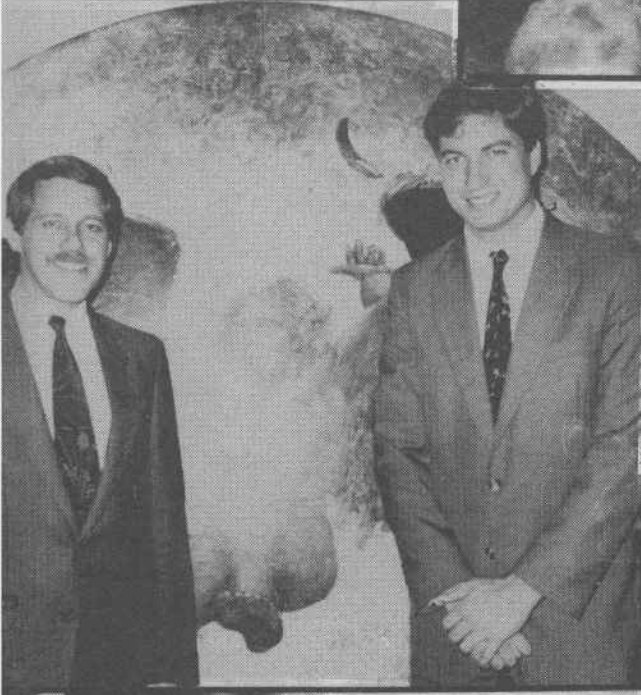
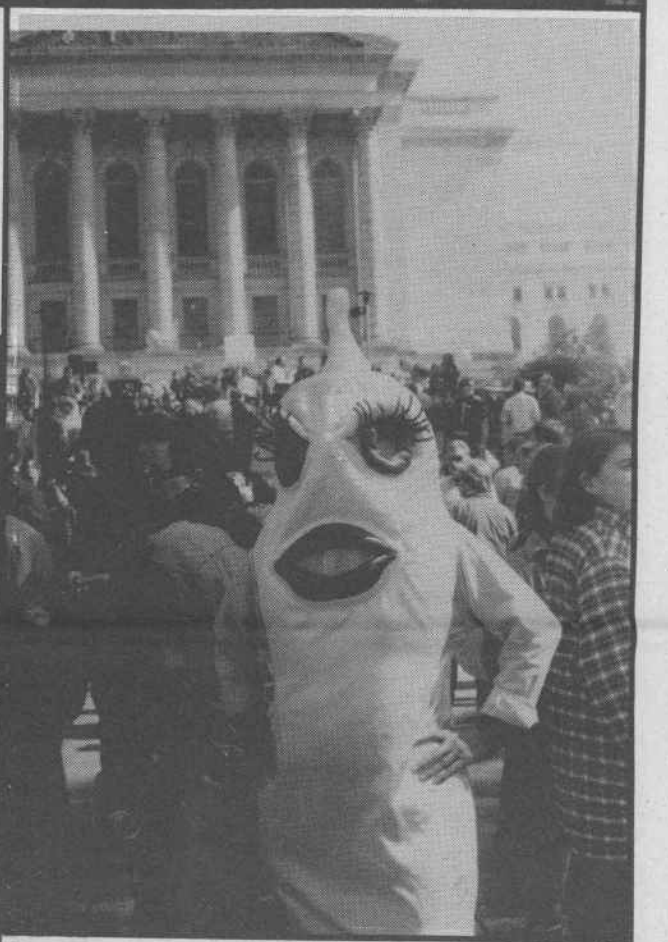
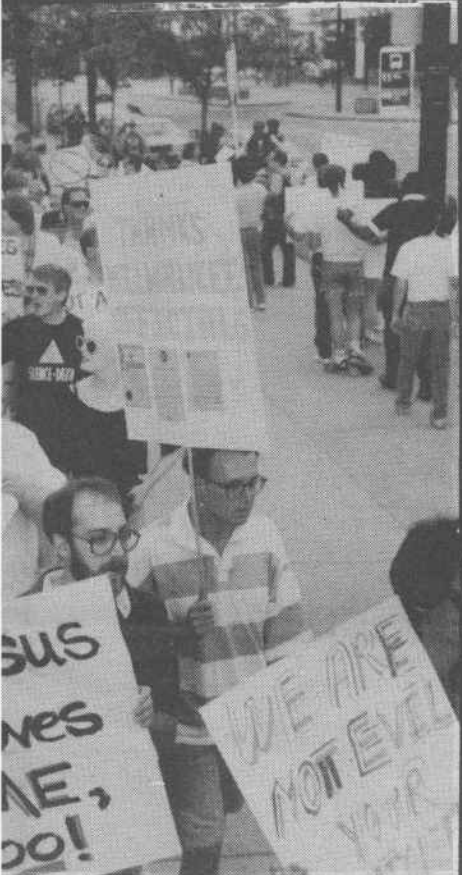
Looking Back at 5 Years of The Wisconsin Light

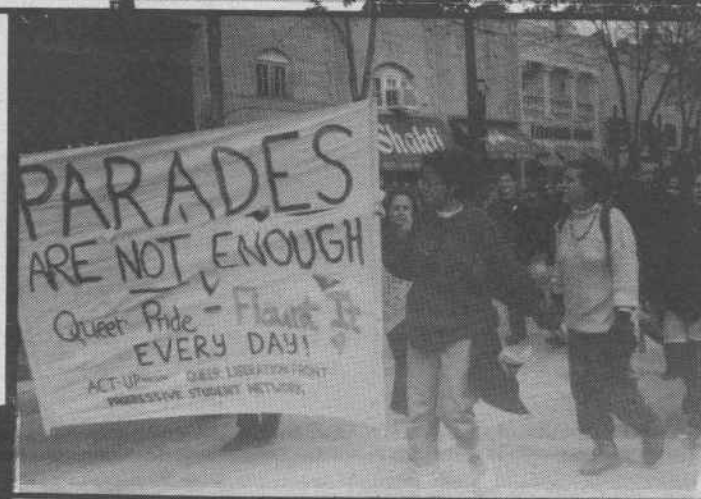
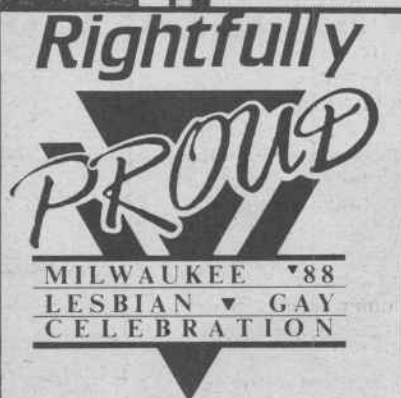
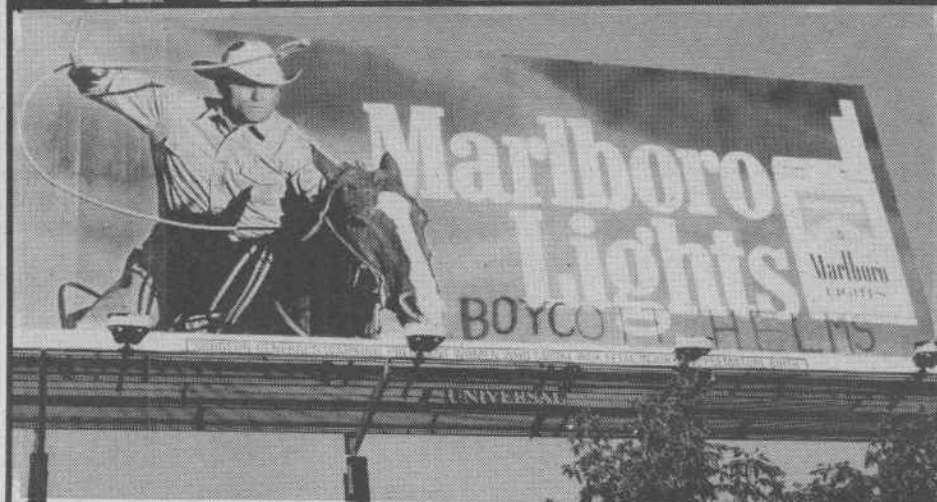




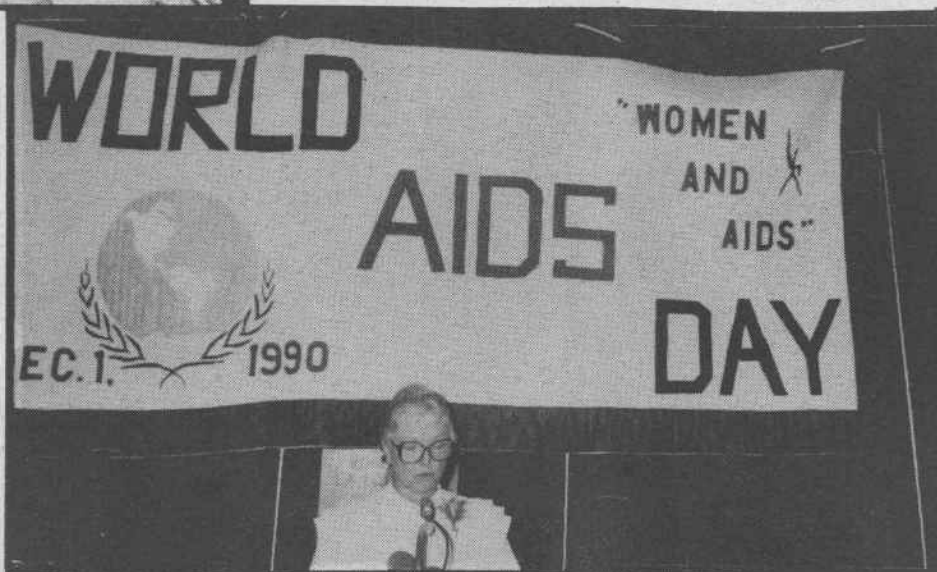


Memories of the First 5 Years of The Wisconsin Light





Pictorial Highlights— 5 Years of The Wisconsin Light



POLITICALLY SPEAKING

Lines Were Clearly Drawn— Election May Be Watershed Event

By Bill Meunier

The election of 1992 may go down in Lesbian and Gay history as a watershed event. The lines of battle on issues of concern to Gays and Lesbians were as sharply drawn as they could have been.

Tens of thousands of Lesbians and Gays responded by registering, voting and became involved in campaigns.

As election results rolled in the evening of November 3rd it soon became clear that America had largely rejected hatred and bigotry. It was equally clear that America's Gays and Lesbians had played an important role in that rejection.

For them the contrast between the two major Presidential nominees could not have been more clearly defined. Starting in June of 1991, when he told **Wisconsin Light** that he would end the ban on Gays and Lesbians in the military, revamp the fight against AIDS and support a National Gay and Lesbian Rights bill, Governor Bill Clinton made it clear that he had a low tolerance level for homophobes.

Clinton became the first major Presidential nominee to condemn discrimination against Gays and Lesbians in his acceptance speech and his party openly endorsed a large part of their agenda.

President Bush and his Republicans continued to roundly condemn the Gay and Lesbian movement. At their convention in Houston, the Republicans adopted a platform that called condemned Lesbian and Gay rights laws calling them "special treatment." They cheered when Pat Buchanan called for "holy war" against Gays and Lesbians.

The result was a massive outpouring of Gay and Lesbian voters and campaign volunteers. One national survey predicted a 90% turnout of Lesbians and Gays with 95% of their vote going for Clinton.

On election night as the television networks projected state after state for Clinton, Gays and Lesbians around the country joined in the celebration and shared the spotlight.

At Clinton's Milwaukee victory party a large contingent of Gay and Lesbian volunteers cheered as Mayor John Norquist speaking from the podium thanked them for their role in the campaign. Earlier the Milwaukee Mayor had told the media "the worst mistake the Republicans made was bashing Gays and Lesbians."

The Gay and Lesbian presence was so pervasive in this campaign that even conservative political pundits were grudgingly acknowledging it in their newspaper columns and in discussions on all the networks. A number of them said that Clinton "owes" the Gay and Lesbian community.

While Clinton was racking up a big win, other smaller wins brought America closer than ever to passing a national Gay and Lesbian civil rights act. Important victories by women and minority candidates for Congress and the United States Senate made it clear that Jesse Helms will have a much harder time getting his way in the capitol. Not one Senate supporter the Gay and Lesbian Rights bill, lost his bid for re-election. The new Senate will include at least five new sympathetic Senators.

Four of these new votes will be cast by women. Diane Feinstein and Barbara Boxer from California, Patty Murray from Washington, and Carol Moseley Braun from Illinois all faced and beat conservative Republican opponents.

The fifth new vote will come from Wisconsin. Middleton State Senator Russ Feingold defeated Senator Bob Kasten's bid for re-election. Feingold withstood what some called the "sleaziest" series of attacks in Wisconsin political history. He won despite being heavily outspent. More than a few Lesbian and Gay activists found Feingold's win over Kasten to be almost as satisfying as Clinton's win over Bush.

The only Senate race disappointments came in New York and North Carolina. In New York, a very bitter race resulted in conservative Alphonse D'Amato winning re-election over liberal Robert Abrahms. In North Carolina, Democrat Terry Sanford lost to Jesse Helms clone, Lauch Faircloth. Sanford was neither a strong supporter or opponent of Lesbian and Gay rights.

Dramatic gains were also seen in races for the House of Representatives as women and minority candidates increased their numbers drastically.

Never had more than six new women been elected to the House in any one election. In 1992 24 women won their first terms. They will join 23 returning women congresswomen.

While Wisconsin did not join in the year of the woman on a Congressional level, one woman Peggy Lautenschlager came close to unseating entrenched incumbent Tom Petri. Petri outspent Lautenschlager by a margin of 3 to 1 and still won by only 12,000 votes out of nearly 300,000 cast.

Redistricting and a strong minority turnout helped to increase the number of minorities in Congress. Over 60 persons of color won seats in the House of Representatives.

Gay and Lesbian lobbyists have been quick to point out that women and minorities have overwhelmingly supported Lesbian and Gay rights in the past. They expect that trend to continue.

Some lobbyists are saying that given the its new members, a Gay Lesbian civil rights law may be only a few dozen votes short of passage in the House. Some activists think that with strong support from President Clinton, a federal Gay Lesbian rights law may be a real possibility.

The only major disappointments of the election came with the passage of two referendums that overturned local Lesbian Gay rights laws. In Colorado, voters approved a constitutional amendment that barred local governments from prohibiting discrimination against Gays and Lesbians. In Tampa, Florida voters overturned a city wide ban on homophobic discrimination.

Oregon voters rejected a constitutional amendment that would have labeled Lesbians and Gays "abnormal, unnatural and perverse" and that would have prohibited them from working in jobs where they might come into contact with children. In Portland, Maine voters kept a local anti-discrimination ordinance.

As the cheering died down and the sobering task for confronting the country's problems loomed, Lesbian and

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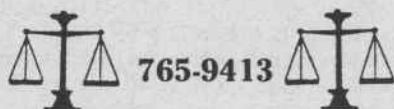
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Gay activists were pointing out that electing sympathetic candidates is only part of the process. They warn Gays and Lesbians not to expect too much too soon and to keep up the pressure. Its important, they say, not to let the newly elected forget who helped put them in office on November 3, 1992.

Veterans To Hold Meeting December 6

[MILWAUKEE]- The Milwaukee chapter of the Gay Lesbian Bisexual Veterans of America has scheduled its next meeting for Sunday December 6th at Cafe Melange, 720 N. Old World Third St. The meeting will begin at 6:00 p.m.

Everyone (even non-Vets) is welcome and encouraged to attend.

The agenda for the evening includes:
An update on what is happening with

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regard to Presidents Elect Clinton's promise to end the ban on Lesbians Gays and Bisexuals from serving in the military; Displaced and homeless vets; HIV Vets; and The Veterans' Day Parade 1993.

Anyone needing more information should contact Chris Lubus at 384-3911.

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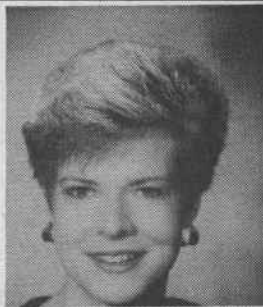
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SISTERNEWS AND VIEWS

It's Happening In Madison November 20-22!

By Jamakaya

Madison is the place to be the weekend of November 20-22 as the capital of the Gay Rights state hosts two extraordinary events of interest to women: a major conference on the women's movement and the 7th annual "I Got This Way From Kissing Girls" extravaganza.

Be there, or be deprived! "Bridges That Carry Us Over: Midwestern Leaders of the Modern Women's Movement" is the exciting conference planned by the University of Wisconsin Women's Studies Program/Research Center for November 20 and 21. It costs only \$5, and you can get registered by calling Women's Studies at (608) 263-2053. It will take place at the State Historical Society and the UW Memorial Union just across the street.

Over the past two years, Professor Gerda Lerner and her grad students at UW have conducted interviews with midwestern women who played a significant role in the feminist movement. Those interviews are to be placed in a special collection at the State Historical Society and many of the women whose lives were recorded will be present at the conference.

It's mighty distinguished company: Kay Clarenbach, Gene Boyer, Ruth Clusen, Mary Jean Collins, Clara Day, Martha Griffiths, Judy Goldsmith, Sisters Joel Read and Austin Doherty, Addie Wyatt, Nan Wood, Midge Miller, Mary Lou Munts, Mildred Jeffrey, Nellie Wilson, Helen Hensler, Sarah Harder, Virginia Hart and many others.

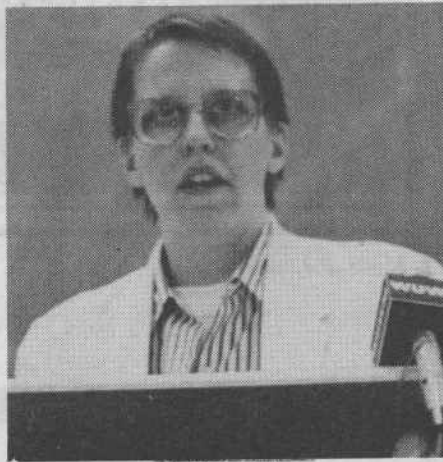
Among these women are suffragists, founders of NOW, the National Women's Political Caucus and Commissions on the Status of Women, labor leaders, educators and former Congresswomen and state legislators — all of whom played a central role in birthing and nurturing the modern wave of feminism.

Gerda Lerner is scheduled to give a "Historical Perspective" on the women's movement, and Professor Ruth Rosen will deliver a keynote speech called "A Missing Thread: Toward a Fuller Understanding of Modern Feminism." Hopefully, the bigwig academics won't get too arcane and theoretical. They aren't the "stars" of this show anyway — the veteran organizers are!

Jennifer Frost and Marie Laberge will present "In Their Own Words: A Slide-Tape Introduction of Women Leaders." And the leaders themselves will be on hand to participate in panels and discussion groups. It will be a privilege to meet many of these women and hear what they have to say about their own efforts and the course of the women's movement generally. I can't wait.

No Colorado Boycott Yet

While rumors of a national boycott of Colorado abound, Lesbian and Gay national organizations have, as of yet, taken no stand. However, some national Lesbian/Gay activists think that a boycott would be unwise. What is needed now, they say, is higher visibility for Lesbians and Gays in Colorado, not less.



Doreen Riley

JAMAKAYA

(I've been conducting interviews for an oral history project on women in the Wisconsin labor movement for several years. This month, about 55 hours of recordings with 16 different women will be submitted to the Historical Society. It's just the first installment of an ongoing project which may prove to be one of the largest tape collections on working women in the country. I'm very proud of the project and will discuss it more in some future column.)

Yours truly — yes, moi — is scheduled to present her slideshow on Women Labor Leaders and Agitators at the conference Friday night. I'll have to muster all my professionalism and self-restraint that night knowing full well that just blocks away at Apple Island, Kissing Girls' Cabaret Night is featuring "Love and Lust Songs: Torch by Local Lesbians." Then again, maybe I'll just whip through those slides and windride to Apple Island to catch the second show of love and lust songs!

The cabaret night of torch songs at Apple Island, 849 E. Washington, opens Kissing Girls' annual weekend of events. The shows are at 7pm and 9:30pm and require a separate ticket from that which covers the Art and Variety shows and the

Poetry Showcase on Saturday and Sunday.

The Lesbian Art Show will be exhibited once again at the Madison Senior Center, 330 W. Mifflin Street, on Saturday from Noon to 4pm. A reception will be held there Sunday from 11am to 1pm, and the annual Poetry Showcase will follow from 1-3pm.

The 7th Annual "I Got This Way From Kissing Girls" Variety Show begins at 7pm Saturday night at the Barrymore Theatre, 2090 Atwood Avenue. The show is an absolute delight. There are always poignant moments mixed with the musical selections and the uproarious comedy, and even the clunker acts and technical glitches are greeted with good cheer and support from the politically correct Lezzie crowd. I can't wait.

Kudos to the hard working women at UW Women's Studies and Kissing Girls Productions for producing these two major events. The weekend should supply a surfeit of intellectual, cultural and (knowing those Kissing Girls) erotic stimulation to prepare us for the long winter months ahead. See you in Madison!

LAMM Focuses On Health At Nov. 19 Meeting

[Milwaukee]- Lesbian health care issues are the focus of the next meeting of the Lesbian Alliance of Metro Milwaukee (LAMM) on Thursday, November 19, 1992.

A highly professional group of health care providers will give a panel presentation and answer questions. Included will be blood pressure checks (live), information about Lesbians and

AIDS, and information about mammograms.

Panel members — who were also on the QTV show on health issues in October — include nurses and nurse practitioners; Sharon Devitt of DAMES; and Margaret Snow, M.D.

There is a potluck at 6:00 p.m. and the program begins at 7:00 p.m., at the Milwaukee Enterprise Center, 2821 N. 4th Street. Secure, lit parking is available.

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

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THAGS FOR CUBBIG OVER, LOIS. I WAS AFRAID IF I DOZED OFF I'D LOSE A LIMB.

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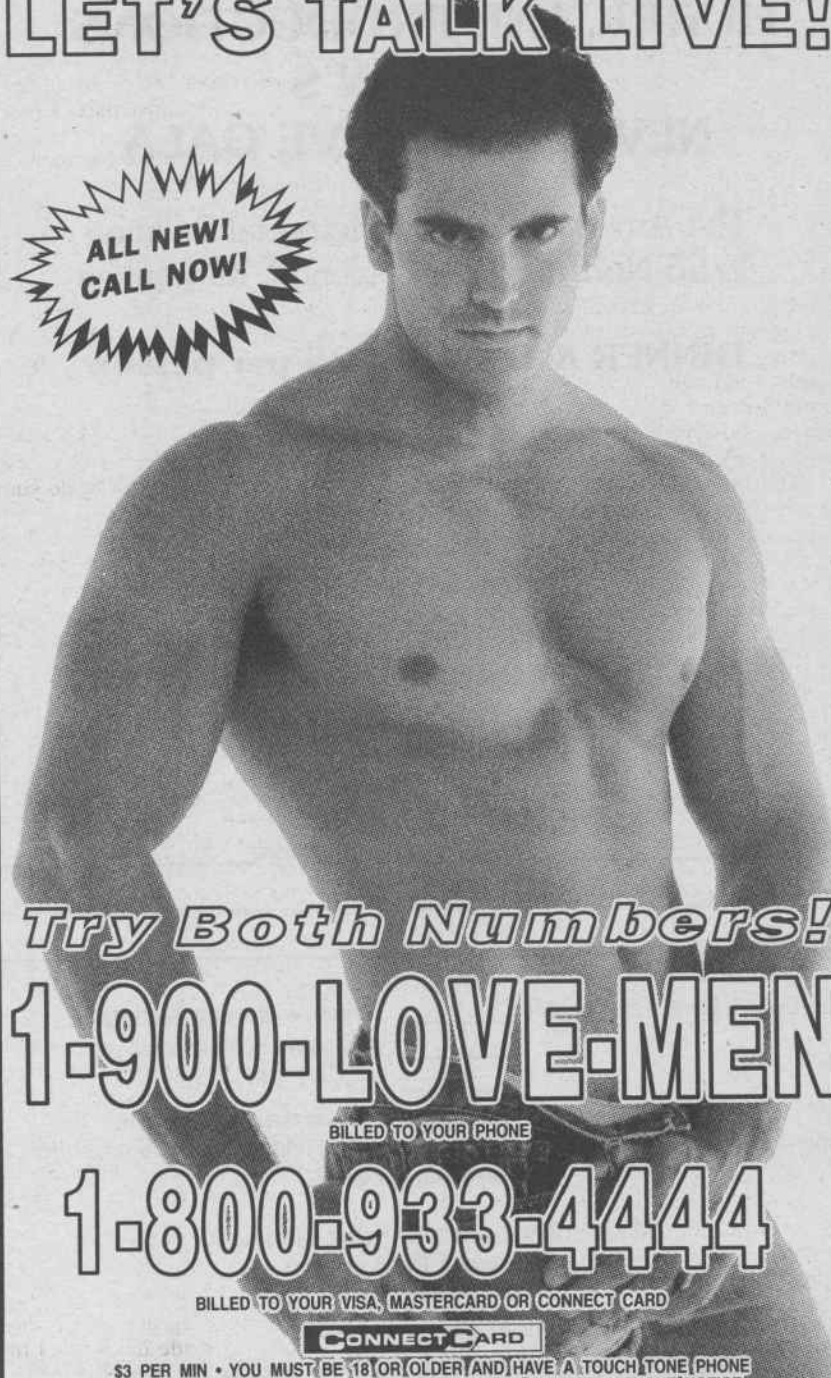
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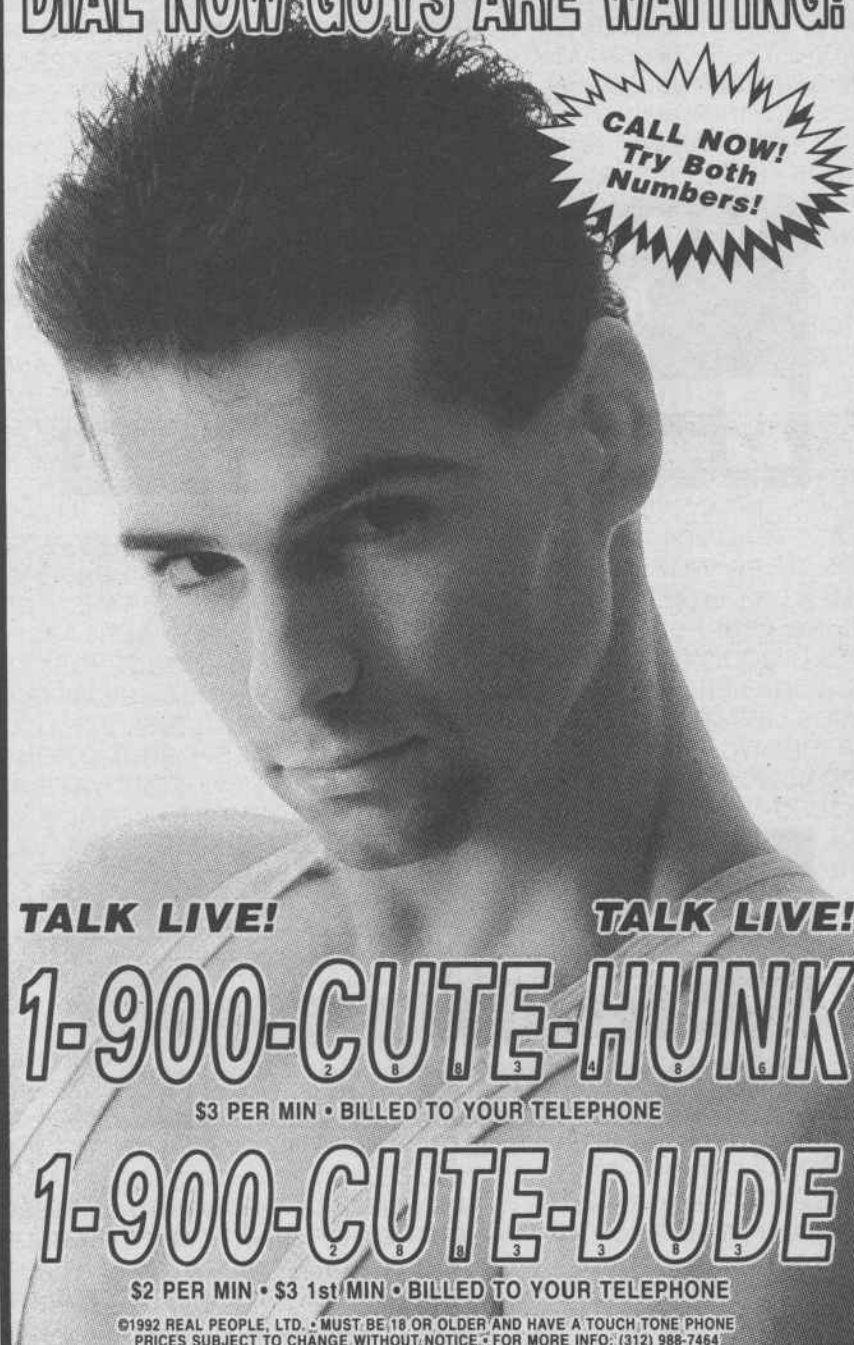
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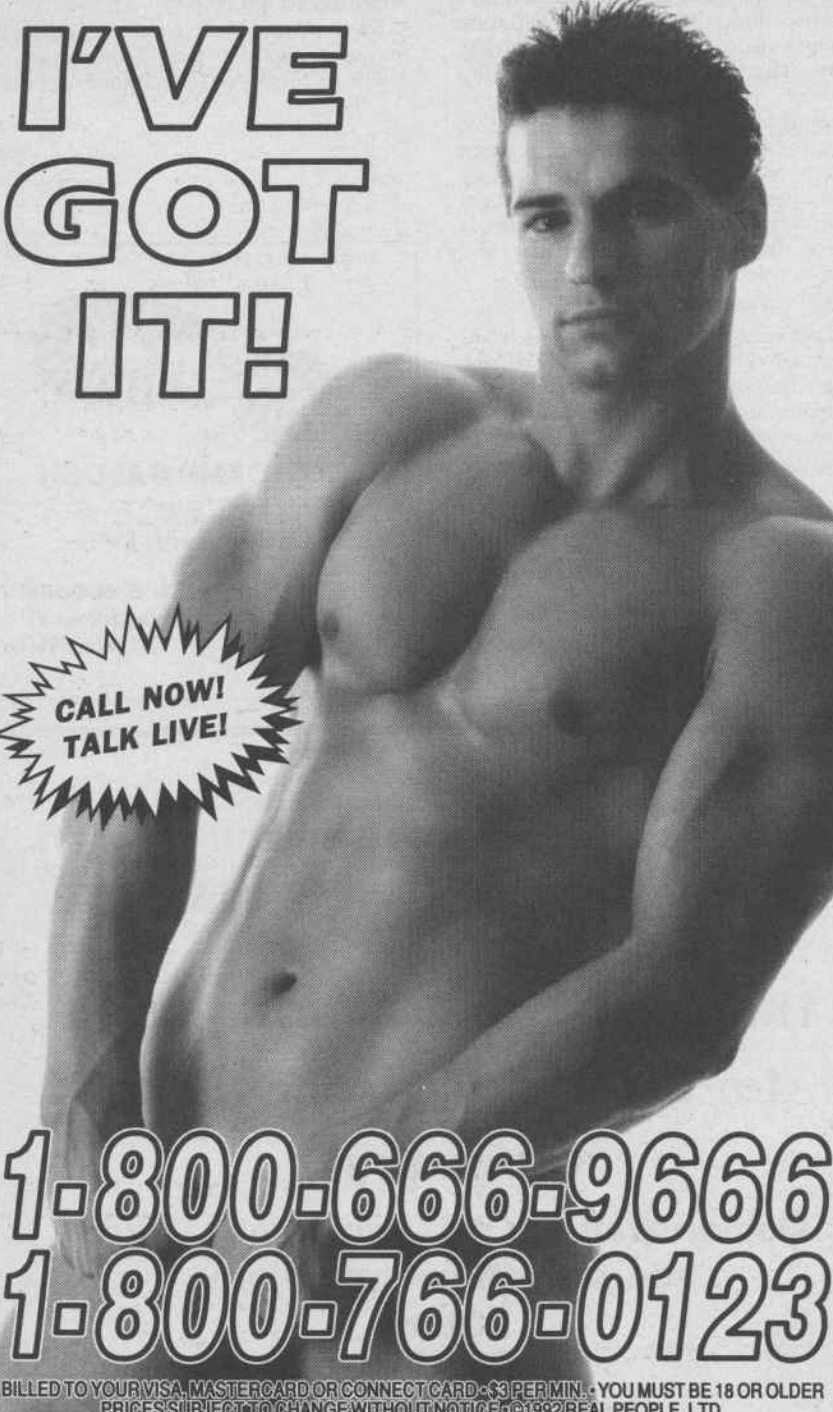
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Queer Cable Program Set For Tuesdays

[Milwaukee]- The **Brand New Queer Program**, which was announced in the last issue of **Light**, has found its permanent home every Tuesday night on Warner Cable public access Channel 47 at 7:00 p.m. The live hour-long call-in show is Milwaukee's Queer community's first chance to sound off and be heard every week on local TV.

The show's producers, Dan Fons and Michael Lisowski, strongly urge everyone's participation. You can call the show or appear on the show itself with a Queer-related topic. You can send a letter to the show or submit a video piece on a regular VHS tape. Your talents will be showcased even if you choose to remain anonymous.

If you missed the first Queer Program, you can recover from the loss by watching on November 17th. The show will feature a variety of topics including Queer news and a videotaped walking tour of UW-Milwaukee's most sex-active bathrooms. Don't miss it!

You can send your ideas, questions and program materials to: Queer Program, P.O. Box 93951, Milwaukee, WI 53203 or call (414) 964-8423 to talk about your ideas. Get involved and tune in every week.

ACT UP Show

In another and somewhat related topic, ACT UP Milwaukee will be holding a live call-in TV show. **The date is November 18, 1992 on Channel 47 at 7:30 p.m.** The subject will be the death of Dennis Hill.

HATE LAWS

Continued from Page 1

Some legal experts said the amendment violates the 14th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, which gives citizens equal protection under the law.

On November 5, the day after the rally at the capitol, Colorado Governor Roy Romer called a morning meeting. Romer told the gathering of more than 600 people that the amendment passed because of "a gross, gross misunderstanding that needs to be corrected."

U.S. Rep. Pat Schroeder of Denver said, "Some of you have asked: 'Where am I going to move to?' Don't move! Fight! Stay here and fight!" Schroeder is currently urging President-elect Clinton to strongly support the federal Gay Rights Bill.

Oregon

In Oregon, a similar amendment was on the ballot sponsored by the Oregon Citizens Alliance (OCA), a far-right, Christian group. The amendment, known as Measure 9, declared "homosexuality" to be "abnormal, perverse and immoral."

The proposal provoked substantial

violence against Lesbians and Gay men.

Since the campaign began, the offices of the coalition against the initiative were ransacked, and hate crimes against Lesbians and Gay men rose by 300 percent, including the fire-bombing by neo-Nazis that killed an African American Lesbian and a white Gay man.

Unlike Colorado's Amendment 2, Measure 9 was defeated by the voters 57 to 43 percent.

While some in Oregon told **Light** that they were pleased and happy with the result, others were more cautious about the results.

Donna Redwing, Executive Director of the Lesbian Community Project of Portland, Oregon and one of the leaders in the fight against Measure 9 said that the fight would continue.

Redwing told **Light** that the OCA had vowed to renew their efforts, beginning in January, 1993.

OCA's announced strategy, Redwing said, would now be to go county to county. This is ominous because of Oregon's 36 counties, Measure 9 passed in 21 of them.

Redwing went on to warn that the Christian Right had "tested the waters" in Colorado and Oregon. They had found out that the milder amendment worked. Now, she said, they will carry the lessons learned in Colorado to the other 21 states that have provisions for changing their constitutions by referendum.

Attorney at Law, Deb Procknow cited the Wisconsin Constitution, Article XII, Sec. 1. This provides that an amendment must be introduced in one of the two houses of the legislature, approved by both and then submitted for popular vote. Procknow was cautiously optimistic about the far Right's chances of getting an Colorado-like amendment through in Wisconsin.

Redwing was also cautious in her optimism that Lesbians and Gays would eventually prevail. She said that "What we need to do is to start a movement, not a campaign. There has to be a Queer face put on the Gay/Lesbian movement," she said.

Asked if she was an optimist, she replied, "I try to be."

City Initiatives

In Portland, Maine, an initiative to repeal city-wide protections against Lesbians and Gays was defeated. The vote was 57 to 43 percent.

However, in Tampa, Florida, a similar initiative passed by 58 to 42 percent.

ELECTION

Continued from Page 1

In Wisconsin

In Wisconsin, State Senator Russ Feingold once again confounded the conventional wisdom by winning with a decisive six point margin of victory over incumbent Republican Bob Kasten in the U.S. Senate race, despite recent polls that showed Kasten pulling ahead of him.

Feingold has pledged to make civil rights initiatives, including his support of a federal Gay rights bill, a top priority.

However, Madison activists mourned the loss of Democrat Ada Deer to Republican incumbent U.S. Rep. Scott Klug. Klug won handily over Deer, a university professor and community activist with strong ties to the Lesbian and Gay community, with 62 percent of the vote.

Klug, who had supported the Bush administration with a majority of his votes in his first term in office, succeeded in selling himself as a moderate through his progressive stands on abortion, health insurance, and family leave legislation.

Despite his own victory as a Republican candidate, however, Klug noted that voters had clearly rejected the signals that were sent out during the last Summer's Republican convention. "The main signal was intolerance and exclusion," he told the **Milwaukee Journal**. "I don't have a lot in common with Pat Buchanan and not a lot of Americans do. That's one reason we got drilled (in the presidential race)."

Another disappointment in efforts to change the face of the Congress was the loss, by a relatively small margin, of State Rep. Peg Lautenschlager (D-Fond du Lac) to incumbent Republican Congressman Tom Petri. Despite gains made by women nation-wide, Wisconsin has yet to elect a woman to its congressional delegation.

Gay Elected Officials Increase

Nation-wide, the total number of openly Gay or Lesbian elected officials rose from 64 to 75. (As recently as 1985, this number stood at just 12.) "Before, we were across the street. Now, we're inside the room, sitting at the table," William Weybourn, Executive Director of the Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund, told **USA Today**.

The Victory Fund gave over \$250,000 this year to openly Lesbian or Gay candidates. For the first time ever, the group is organizing a special transition team to help Gays and Lesbians seeking positions in the new administration.

In the wake of these victories, Tammy Baldwin is looking forward to attending the Eighth Annual Conference of the National Network of Openly Lesbian and Gay Officials (NNOLGO) in Chapel Hill, North Carolina on November 20th. Baldwin's election, along with that of Liz Stefanics in the New Mexico legislature, boosts the total of openly Lesbian and Gay state legislators to 11.

Continued Danger from Far Right

Despite recent gains, state Rep.-elect Baldwin believes that the Far Right will continue to pursue homophobic initiatives throughout the country as long as Gays and Lesbians are denied their rightful place on the political stage.

"We have to remember the importance of electing openly Gay and Lesbian officials," she said, "because those individuals will be able to do more to fend off oppressive ballot initiatives by virtue of their presence as positive, articulate role models."

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Nov. 26; Dec. 10; Jan. 7; Jan. 21; Feb. 4

STEFFAN

Continued from Page 1

deal with the homophobic attitudes that come across with some of the radio call-in shows, but for the most part, I find great support.

OK: What is the most common concern of that broader audience?

JS: The classic sort of "Men showering together and won't Gay people cause a disruption" things. Within the Gay media, we all know the answer to that. But within broader society peopled always seem to be obsessed with this idea of Gay people showering, as though we become these wild, crazed beasts in the presence of men and water.

OK: Of the 16 NATO nations, only the U.S. and Britain currently exclude homosexuals from duty. Why do you think that is?

JS: Essentially because I think Americans are overly puritanical in regards to issues of sex in any context.

OK: Your case is currently in appellate court. Do you plan on taking it to the Supreme Court?

JS: We'll continue to litigate as long as the issues remain relevant and hopefully they'll be made moot by Clinton's executive order.

OK: Your press kit refers to you as a "Gay American." Which of those words gets top billing with you?

JS: There was some debate over what the subtitle of the book should be. Some people thought just "An American," but I'm glad we decided on "Gay American" because ultimately, our greatest strength is visibility.

OK: Are you involved in a relationship?

JS: One of the ironic aspects of my lawsuit is that because the military has tried to use evidence of sexual conduct to dismiss the case, I'm not at liberty to discuss whether or not I'm in a relationship. It's funny that I'm so out, but can't discuss the intimate details of my life.

OK: If you had it to do all over again, would you answer the same way (that you were Gay)?

JS: I have no regrets about anything that happened. I made decisions I thought were appropriate.

OK: How has this changed your view of the world?

JS: I think my idealism has matured. I realized the freedom we often take for granted in this country is not something everyone has. It's something we need to fight for and work for everyday. We're all vulnerable as long as these freedoms are not extended to everyone.

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