



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

The Wisconsin Light

Baldwin Endorses Molnar for School Superintendent

[Madison, WI]- State Rep. Tammy Baldwin (D-Madison) has announced that she is endorsing University of Milwaukee professor Alex Molnar in his bid to become the next state superintendent of schools. Molnar, who became known nationwide for his role in leading opposition to the Persian Gulf War, faces a crowded field of nine opponents in the February 16th primary.

Baldwin cited her agreement with Molnar's positions on a wide range of issues including equal access to education, school financing reform, school choice, and so-called "controversial curricula" as the reasons for her support. Baldwin also noted Molnar's extreme sensitivity to the special challenges facing children from Lesbian and Gay families and children who are themselves Lesbian or Gay.

Molnar is a professor in the department of Curriculum and Public Instruction at the UW-Milwaukee, where he began his studies as a doctoral student 22 years ago, after several years as a high school teacher. In an interview with the Wisconsin Light, he said he decries the fact that the state superintendent's job usually goes to someone considered to be a bureaucratic "education insider," who in fact "has no idea about the day-to-day challenges facing teachers."

Molnar said that his current post, which primarily involves teaching Wisconsin teachers who have returned for their masters degrees, is "no ivory tower." He says that it's his interaction with teachers from around the state that allows him to see firsthand the challenges facing our schools.

Molnar contacted Rep. Baldwin after an article about her appeared in the Chicago-based progressive news-magazine, "In These Times," where he serves as education editor. Like Baldwin, Molnar believes that equal access to a quality education for all students, regardless of where they live, is essential. "One element of the problem is that much too much of the tax burden is on the residential property taxpayer," he says. "It's unfair and people are really feeling the pinch. The other element is that whatever money is raised should be fairly distributed so that a child's opportunity for a good public education doesn't depend on geography," he adds.

TURN TO SUPERINTENDENT, PAGE 9

Milwaukee Receives \$500,000 Housing Grant

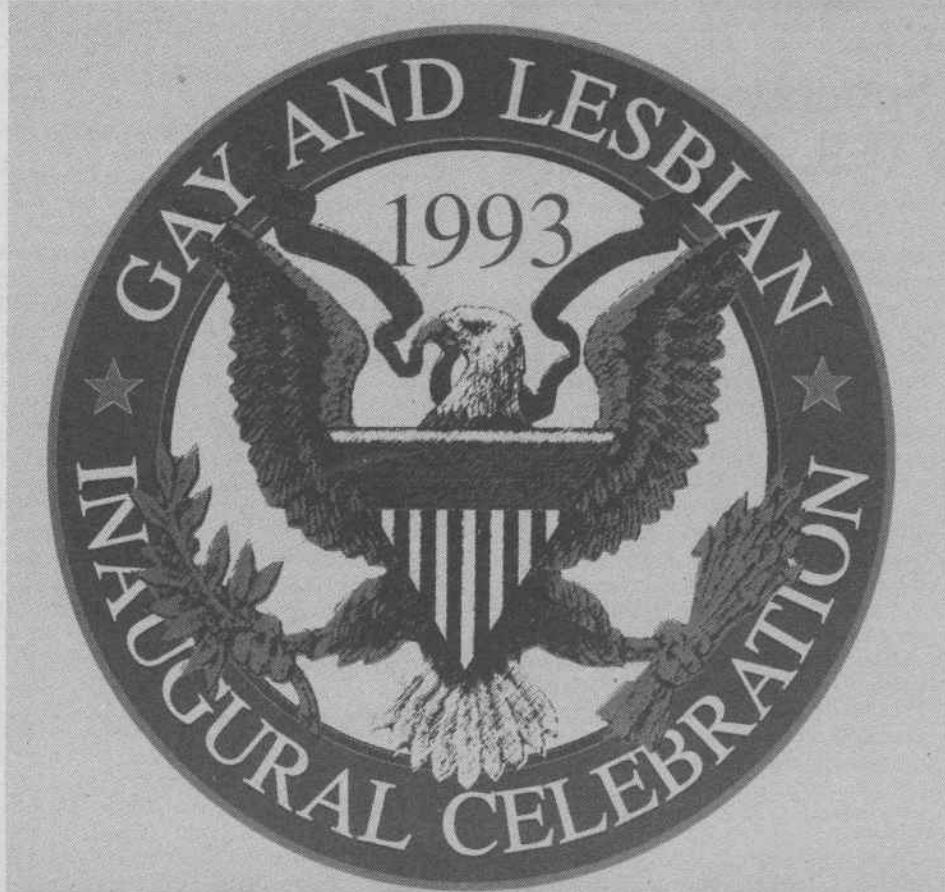
[Milwaukee]- The City of Milwaukee has been awarded \$500,000 by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to improve housing opportunities for people living with AIDS. Kirsten A. Nyrop, Commissioner of the Department of City Development, and Paul Nannis, Commissioner of the Milwaukee Health Department, announced the grant on February 3, 1993.

The three-year grant is one of 10 awarded nationwide by HUD's Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS (HOPWA) program.

Grant funds will be used to develop a transitional living facility with space for 10 to 15 people infected with the AIDS virus. People who live at the facility will receive on-site case management and medical care. The housing will be available to currently homeless people assisted by Health Care for the Homeless who suffer AIDS. Other community agencies also will be able to refer prospective residents. Patients at risk of becoming homeless will receive financial assistance to stay in their homes.

Health Care for the Homeless will work with the City of Milwaukee to identify and lease or buy a suitable building for the facility and undertake necessary rehabilitation of the property.

First Steps Taken To Lift Military Ban Against Gays



A HISTORIC CELEBRATION—Gays and Lesbians come to Washington D.C. from throughout the country for the inaugural celebration of President Clinton. Pictured above is the cachet of the program cover for the Gay and Lesbian inaugural celebration.

Wisconsinites Jubilant, Hopeful As Bill Clinton Becomes U.S. President

By John Quinlan

[Madison, WI]- Back in Wisconsin, Lesbians and Gay men watching on television were often no less moved by the significance of the week's events than those who were in Washington, D.C.

"Several times I found myself crying," said Sunshine Jones, a co-founder of Madison's Lesbian Parents Network. "I wept because it feels like there was so much pain from the past twelve years. There had been so much tension in my body and so many fears. And it was like starting to release some of that and letting hope in, but also being afraid, not wanting to also experience the pain if those hopes are dashed."

"I think that one of the most moving things was Maya Angelou's poem," she added. "That spoke to deep, deep levels of me, really called us to a different way of living as a people."

As a lifelong advocate for children, Jones is especially heartened by the prospect of Hillary Clinton working for our nation's children. "One of the saddest things about the last twelve years is how we've put our children last... I really believe that Hillary Clinton will be an advocate for all children, for their health and well-being, that she will be an advocate for my child's well-being."

Jones says she senses an innate empathy in Mrs. Clinton, who had visited the family resources agency where she works in Madison during the campaign. "I could not imagine being able to have a voice with Barbara Bush or Nancy Reagan. But I find myself in an inner dialogue with Hillary Clinton. I find myself speaking to her and telling her about the challenges facing Lesbian families, the challenges of Gay and Lesbian children in this culture."

"Because of her perspective, I believe that she would be able to take that into her. I am also heartened that Clinton has put good people into his Cabinet like Donna Shalala, who I believe we will have access to. I believe that we can bring these concerns of the heart, and they're not foreign to their world perspective."

Watching from her home, Dana Alder

was especially touched by the inaugural week interfaith service at a Washington African Methodist Episcopal Church. Alder, a community activist who worked hard on Tammy Baldwin's state assembly campaign, felt a connectedness to all civil rights struggles as she watched the service in a church built by former slaves.

As the camera panned past Bill Clinton, Alder noted, a tear ran down his face. "People will always say that moments like that are contrived, but there's something real there, too," she said. "I had such a strong sense that day that with this new leadership, that something had turned, something had changed in this country. We've gone through years of feeling oppression, and there's the realization that we can do more than just fight back. We can be creative now."

For openly Gay Dane County supervisor Mark Pocan, Inauguration Day was a day to celebrate the many layers of our victories in Wisconsin. "From Bill Clinton to Russ Feingold to Tammy Baldwin, Lesbians and Gay men here made a major visible difference," he said.

[Milwaukee]- On Friday, January 29, 1993, President Bill Clinton took the first steps in lifting the ban against Lesbians and Gays in the military. In this, Clinton began the process by which the United States will finally join most of the rest of the industrialized world.

The President's move, as welcome as it was to many, excited a terrible fury on the Fundamentalist Christian Right. Miriam Ben-Shalom, in Washington lobbying in support of lifting the ban, said that "On Capitol Hill, I have to say that for the first time in my life, I understand how my kin in Nazi Germany must have felt."

Ben-Shalom, the national Chair of the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual Veterans of American (GLBVA), said she had heard much of the Right's rhetoric on the Hill. "The language of many of these individuals from the far Right," she said, "resembled nothing so much as the early propaganda that the Nazis put out concerning the Jews. These people are serious in their hatred of us and in their desire to see us eliminated, not only from the military, but from America at large," she said.

According to the Human Rights Campaign Fund (HRCF) calls against lifting the ban were flooding into Congressional offices at the rate of 30 to 1 disapproval rate.

Clinton Solid Behind Lifting the Ban

Yet for many, the President's announcement came as a welcome relief.

Ben-Shalom said that she was "gratified" and added, "He is the first President who has broken the silence and spoken our name."

Steven Schwadron, press aide to Rep. Gerry Studds (D-MA), told Light that Studd's support for what the President had done was "unequivocal." Schwadron said Studds saw the President's move as "a giant step. Substantive progress has been made. The era of the witch hunts is over," he said.

Schwadron went on to say that that "The President is the trump card here and he stands solid." Schwadron said that 40 minutes after the inaugural, Clinton had raised the subject of lifting the ban with Studds. "We're going to make good on this," Schwadron quoted the new President as saying to the Congressman.

Asked if Studds was pleased with Clinton's compromise, Schwadron answered that Studds "shared with Clinton a certain disappointment on the necessity of compromise," but that Studds, "like the President" understood the "tactical reasons" that made the compromise necessary.

It's Not Over Yet

Rep. Barney Frank (D-MA) told Light that he too was "very pleased" with the

TURN TO MILITARY, PAGE 11

Madison Feb. 12 Rally To Support Repeal of Anti-Gay Military Ban

[Madison]- On Friday, February 12, 1993, at noon, there will be a rally in Madison at the State Capitol sponsored by Madison Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual groups and their supporters and allies. The purpose of the rally is to show support for Gay, Bisexual and Lesbian civil rights and for a final repeal of the military ban against them.

As of press time, speakers at the rally will be State Rep Tammy Baldwin (D-Madison), Joe Elder from Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (P-FLAG) and Maria Hanson of The

United. In addition to speakers, those attending will be given the opportunity to sign up for a phone tree action coalition that, it is projected, will eventually be state-wide in scope.

There will also be a petition available to sign in support of lifting the ban. The signed petition will be sent to Sen. Herb Kohl (D-WI) and to Congressman Scott Klug (R-WI).

For more information, contact Maria Hanson at The United at (608) 255-4297.



AS A MILLION CHEER— State Rep. Tammy Baldwin took time from the inaugural celebrations to have her photo taken with the U.S. capital in the background.

Nearly One Million Spectators Watch Bill Clinton Become U.S. President

By John Quinlan

[Washington, D.C.]— At the moment when Bill Clinton became president of the United States, a ground-shaking roar of jubilation rang out from the throng of nearly one million people that stretched from the Capitol to the Washington Monument. Just behind where Rep. Tammy Baldwin and I were standing, a large flock of gulls, startled by the joyful noise, flew out of the capitol reflecting pool and into the sky high above.

The symbolism was striking. For, as Lesbian and Gay people, this had been a year a year when our issues and our leaders took center stage, when dreams long denied took flight on the way to becoming real.

Clinton's first words as president seemed to resonate with a message for many of us gathered there that day whose voices had long gone unheard in our government: "This is our time. Let us embrace it."

While the days since the inauguration have shown that the fight for our rights is going to be a long and a rough ride, Inaugural Week was a heady time to be a politically active Lesbian or Gay man in Washington. Thousands of us, celebrating at two major celebrity-studded inaugural events, raised hundreds of thousands of dollars for Gay and Lesbian political groups. Our leaders and supporters had been a prominent presence in the transition team. And time and time again during Inaugural Week, we heard this simple message: the Lesbian and Gay community made the difference in this election.

According to election day polls by **Overlooked Opinions**, Bill Clinton received about 15 million Lesbian and Gay votes, a figure several times more than his margin of victory. Nine out of ten of us voted for Clinton — less than one in 50 voted for Bush. It's a political reality that can't be ignored.

As Lesbian comedienne Kate Clinton told the crowd at the Inaugural night Triangle Ball to thunderous applause: "We're here, we're queer, and we're not about to leave." The political scene will simply never be the same again.

Eight months before, Clinton had made

Gays and Lesbians Celebrate At Celebrity-Studded Inaugural Events

By John Quinlan

[Washington, D.C.]— After months and months of serious politicking, Lesbians and Gay men hadn't forgotten how to party in style at two celebrity-studded Inaugural Week events.

David Mixner Tribute

Los Angeles Gay activist and long-time "Friend of Bill" David Mixner was honored at an elaborate Inaugural Eve celebration in a posh Capital Hilton ballroom. "David has placed Gay and Lesbian issues in the forefront of the political agenda," the Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund's William Waybourn told the crowd following the showing of a documentary on the veteran activist's life. Featured speakers included Sen. Ted Kennedy (D-Massachusetts) who told the crowd in no uncertain terms that "more than the margin of victory was won by the Gay and Lesbian vote. You won this election." Kennedy related how not so long before, it was common political advice to downplay Gay and Lesbian support. "But I stand before you today to say that I am the proud sponsor of the Gay and Lesbian Civil Rights bill in the

Senate."

The idealism and hope of an earlier time filled the room as the crowd joined Peter and Mary (of Peter, Paul and Mary) in a medley of ballads full of the promise of a new beginning. Mary Travers told the crowd that "We now have someone in the White House who recognizes the American Family — and we are all a part of that family."

Roberta Achtenberg, who has since become the first openly Lesbian appointee in the new Administration, joked that after 12 years of open hostility, she wasn't sure if the Gay and Lesbian community would know how to treat a friend in the White House. We'll be "critical and impatient" at times, she noted. However, she implored the crowd to remember "that Bill Clinton and Al Gore have demonstrated the kind of goodwill that I have not seen in my lifetime."

Triangle Ball

On Inaugural night, the National Press Club was the setting for the elegant Triangle Ball. In salons adorned by autographed pictures of the hundreds of

heads of state who visited there, Gay men and Lesbians were decked out in their finest for an evening of dance, music, and comedy. Former Navy officer Joseph Steffan, barred from the military for the time being, opened the event by singing the national anthem, flanked by a colorguard that included Lt. Col. Margarethe Cammermeyer and other Gay men and Lesbians who had been dismissed from the service. Lesbian comedienne Kate Clinton, hosting the affair, couldn't resist taking a few closing shots at the party that was leaving the White House. "Wow, what a victory! Can you imagine what he'd think if Ronald Reagan were alive today?"

She lamented the fact that she was about to lose some of her best material, then thought the better of it. "Poor Chelsea," she quipped, "kind of reminds you of



GALA MUSIC— Lesbians and Gays came to Washington from throughout the country to celebrate the inaugural of President Bill Clinton and our music was evident as shown by the group above.

Clinton advocated an end to the policy banning Gays and Lesbians in the military and an end to discrimination in federal employment based on sexual orientation. He consistently articulated a deeply-held, personal commitment to eradicate AIDS. His positions on health care, a woman's right to choose and basic civil rights also galvanized the Gay and Lesbian community.

At Clinton's direction, our issues became an integral part of the Democratic national convention in July, and he "spoke our name" during his acceptance speech. Two people with AIDS, Bob Hattoy and Elizabeth Glaser, made the compelling argument that business as usual on AIDS in another Bush administration would have deadly consequences.

If some Gays and Lesbians had not been galvanized by that time, the Republican convention in August convinced them otherwise. As the Far Right's message of hatred dominated the GOP stage, it seemed that Gay men and Lesbians had become the new threat to the American way of life. In that time and place, it was a message that backfired on the GOP.

And despite a rollercoaster ride in the polls in the closing weeks of the campaign, there was cause for celebration on Election Day. As the Inaugural dawned, for the first time in twelve years, we were no longer confronted with a leader who wanted to deny our existence, but a leader who saw us as an integral part of his vision of America.

Two weeks earlier, newly hired as an aide to state Rep. Tammy Baldwin back in Madison, Verveer had phoned his parents back in Washington with his new phone number at Baldwin's Capitol Square offices. On the day after the Inaugural, his mother returned the favor when she gave him the number at her new job — as Hillary Clinton's Deputy Chief of Staff in the West Wing of the White House.

Verveer's parents had first met Bill Clinton when they'd been students at Georgetown University 25 years before. (His father had served as junior class president while Clinton was freshman class president.) The Clintons and the Verveers have remained close friends over the years, and both Verveers played prominent roles in the presidential transition. Currently a well-known communications lawyer, Philip Verveer consulted closely with Clinton as he chose his new FCC chief. Melanne Verveer (a past executive director of the progressive political lobbying group People for the American Way) worked closely with then Dept. of Health and Human Service Secretary-designee Donna Shalala to fill sub-cabinet level posts.

Which, ironically, leads to another connection, this one also rooted in student government. Back in 1990, as a student government leader and Gay rights activist at the University of Wisconsin, Mike Verveer had helped to organize a week-long sit-in protesting ROTC's continued presence on campus — at the offices of then UW Chancellor Donna Shalala.

When Verveer and several of his buddies from ROTC-protest days showed up at a Tuesday night inaugural week party for Shalala, Verveer wasn't completely sure how well he and his band of one time antagonists would be welcomed. However, when she caught sight of her former students, Shalala was delighted, waving them ahead in the celebrity-studded reception line and spending almost fifteen minutes visiting with them.

"She asked me about my work on the campaign. (Verveer had worked as a

your greatest nightmare — can you imagine having to go through puberty in front of the entire country?"

"The best thing that I ever did was come out," k.d. lang told the crowd. "Here's wishing you all a fabulous future." Shortly thereafter, pop star Melissa Etheridge surprised everyone by stating publicly for the first time that "I have always been a Lesbian."

Upon hearing the news, an enthusiastic lang flew back on stage and dipped Etheridge in an affectionate embrace and full mouth kiss, to the delight of everyone.

Bob Hattoy, an openly Gay man who served as Clinton's chief environmental campaign advisor, gave a rousing speech to the crowd before heading off to the dance floor to dance the night away. Soon the speeches were over, but the partying had just begun.

Former Madison Activist, Mike Verveer Celebrates at Inaugural

By John Quinlan

[Madison, WI]— For one Madison activist, Inaugural 1993 meant a week celebrating in style — and there was a lot to celebrate.

For Mike Verveer, it was a week complete with front row seats to Sunday night's star-studded gala at the Lincoln Memorial, and much-coveted tickets for both the MTV and Arkansas balls. It meant inaugural parade seats in front of the White House and a private audience with a soon-to-be Cabinet secretary.

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"She asked me about my work on the campaign. (Verveer had worked as a

Clinton/Gore field coordinator in Oshkosh.) She congratulated me on my position with Rep. Baldwin. And even though we'd once disagreed on the tactics necessary to bring it about, she expressed great satisfaction that the ROTC and Gays in the military issue would soon be decided," Verveer said.

Though Verveer saw his share of political and movie stars on parade that week, his fondest memory of the week came during the Lincoln Memorial concert. As the finale played, he looked back at the thousands of people who stretched as far as the eye could see as they all joined arm in arm. "That to me," Verveer said, "was what the whole week was about."

1200 Wisconsinites Celebrate Victory

[Washington, D.C.]— When Wisconsin lawmakers threw open a large hearing room on Capitol Hill for a celebration for visiting Wisconsinites, they expected about 400 people to show up. That night, over 1200 showed up and the crowd extended well up and down the corridors of power.

Among the revelers were Milwaukee Mayor John Norquist and Madison Mayor Paul Soglin, and numerous legislators and local officials. Sen. Herb Kohl and Congressman Dave Obey warmly welcomed their new colleagues Sen. Russ Feingold and Congressman Tom Barrett. Gov. Tommy Thompson even stopped in to wish the Democrats gathered there well.

While the crowds were large and the views not always great, everyone agreed that there was a special quality to being in Washington that week.

Madison-based political consultant Hannah Rosenthal, who co-chaired the Wisconsin Clinton-Gore campaign, and her spouse, Dane County Executive Rick Phelps, wouldn't have wanted to be anywhere else. Their most powerful moment came watching the Inaugural Parade on Presidential Row at the point when the Clintons and the Gores had left their cars to greet the public on the street.

"It hit us at that moment that here in the midst of these thousands of people was just one person about to walk down the street," Rosenthal told the **Light**. "And it hit us, that whatever the power of the presidency, he can't do any of it without us."

"It took so much hard work electing him, but the harder work will be in making him effective," she added. "It's up to us."



Jerry Johnson

MUSCLE ACADEMY— A Tom of Finland model contest was held at the Wreck Room Bar in Milwaukee on Jan. 30, 1993. The winners were: First Place- John Wood of Milwaukee (center); Second- Tim of Chicago (left) and Third- Paul Scalcini of Milwaukee. Eleven contestants entered the contest after a near-capacity crowd had watched the film, "Daddy's Muscle Academy" earlier that evening at the UWM Union Cinema.

**Candidates
Answer AIDS
Related Questions**

[Milwaukee]- ACT UP Milwaukee found some promising responses to its AIDS and public education survey, sent to people running for the Milwaukee Public School Board in the up-coming election on Tuesday, February 16.

Nine candidates from Districts 4, 5, 6, and 7 were contacted with five responding. The five were District 5 (East and near South Side), candidates Mary Bills (incumbent) Terry Longo, Edith Brengel Radtke and Clyde Taylor; and District 6 (West Side), candidate David DeBruin. All five expressed willingness to meet with the AIDS community, though their varying responses to the rest of the seven-question survey makes important distinctions to AIDS-conscious voters.

District 5: Mary Bills

The most highly contested race is in Milwaukee's District 5. Mary Bills, the incumbent, said that she supports condom availability and family planning counseling. Bills emphasized that such an initiative would be more viable if it came from students.

ACT UP spokespeople said that they were pleased when Bills pointed to the "positive example" set by Students for Sexual Responsibility at Shorewood High School. The group has petitioned its school board to implement condom programs and other measures. ACT UP is working closely with the co-chair of the student group, Milo Miller, to achieve mutual goals, and is launching a student-organizing drive to make such programs available in Milwaukee.

District 5: Longo, Taylor and Radtke

Another District 5 candidate, Terry Longo, was more vague about condom availability. However, Clyde Taylor, a District 5 respondent, stated outright opposition to condoms and contraceptive counseling. Taylor said that, "...the consequences themselves (of youth sex) are vital contributors to the abatement of these problems."

Taylor also opposed some efforts aimed at increasing healthy self-respect among students by providing diversity lessons. "Schools are not an appropriate forum for debates about lifestyle," he said.

TURN TO SCHOOL BOARD, PAGE 9



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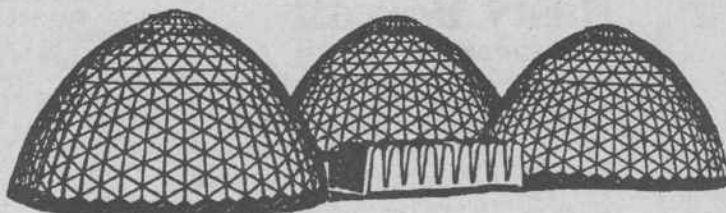
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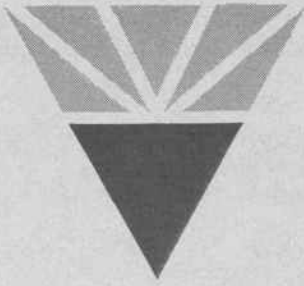
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C.S.P., INCORPORATED

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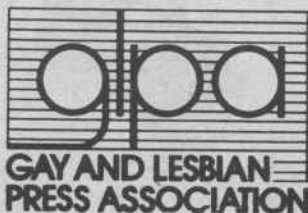
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GAY AND LESBIAN
PRESS ASSOCIATION

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Our Young President Saluted For Standing Up to Bigotry and Hate

By Terry Boughner

In all this brouhaha about lifting the ban against Gays and Lesbians in the military, a couple of things, I think, stand out. One, certainly, is the tremendous sense of pride I have in seeing a young President standing up for what's right. I said last issue that I had some qualms about him, down in my gut where those things are. But those are gone now, buried in hope for the future, a future that African Americans glimpsed when another young President told a Georgia governor, "You're not going to stand in the school house door."

Another thing I feel is a distasteful sense of deja vu. Remember Strom Thurmond and the Dixicrats in 1948? Truman had ordered desegregation in the military. Hubert Humphrey was fighting for equal rights for all, including Blacks. Strom wasn't having any of that. So, up he got from the Democratic Convention and out he walked, his skirts awash in prejudice.

Strom hasn't changed much. All he's done is replace one minority with another. Otherwise, the rhetoric is the same.

But Strom isn't the only one who hasn't changed. There's the military chiefs, saying all the same things about Gays and Lesbians that their predecessors said about Blacks. I remember one General in 1948 saying that you couldn't have "white boys" sleep next to Blacks and no white man would ever take orders from a Black officer, ad infinitum, ad nauseam.

Something else in all this amuses me. Here are all these "macho" straight men (I assume they're straight) yelling and screaming and all upset over Gay men "looking" at them, when that's what they've been doing to women for uncounted years! Good for 'em. Maybe, just maybe, if they're that bent out of shape, they'll change their behavior and treat women as equal human beings. Pardon me for being cynical, but I doubt it.

The fight is far from over. Make no mistake about that. What appalls me is just how politically disorganized we as a community are nation-wide. We have got to get our act together. We have got to become politically mature — and we are

not. I think there are some of us who expected President Clinton to wave his magic wand and we'd have it all. That hasn't happened and it won't. If there's going to be a final victory (and I believe there is), it's up to us to achieve it.

We have got to come together and fight our own battles and not leave the President hanging in the wind. What can we do? Two things I can think of right off.

One is to call and/or write our representatives in Congress. That has GOT to be done.

Secondly, all those who can, should go to Washington in April for the March. We can show our strength by doing that, and we have to do it. I believe that if we can win this fight for our equality, all the rest of the barriers we face will start to tumble like sand castles at high tide.

Despite this week of frustrations and anger, I am, in calmer hours, optimistic. This is largely due to my belief that we Lesbians and Gays are on the cutting edge of change. Our drive for equality is what that change is all about; not just equality for ourselves alone, but for all people. I believe that we have picked up the banner from people like Martin Luther King, Jr. Though now, we aren't holding it as firmly as I think we should, we are beginning to raise it as high as he did once, not many years ago.

The Fundamentalist fascists (I use that word precisely) cannot win. They just don't see Dr. King's vision, the one President Clinton talks about, the dream of all people from all time; the dream of equality. That dream, that splendid ideal, is America's rose window and it is we, Lesbians, Gays and Bisexuals, who will win precisely because it is we who see it; we who are the champions of what America offers, not they.

I believe that in our demand for our equal rights, we carry the burden of history on our shoulders; the burden of hope, the burden of human aspiration, that someday all will be free, all will be equal before just laws.

Strom Thurmond, Sam Nunn, Pat Robertson and all you hate-filled "Christians," get out of the way. The God of history is glacial, but She's on Her way now and heading right over you.

LETTERS

Hasty Boycott

TO THE EDITOR:

I have become convinced that the Boycott Colorado movement is a hasty and self-defeating response to a very real threat.

As everyone must know by now, three of the communities most affected by this boycott — Denver, Boulder and Aspen — have Gay rights ordinances. "They'll just have to sacrifice" is the usual response of boycott supporters, often with the implied accusation that members of these cities (which voted overwhelmingly against Amendment 2) are at fault for not having done even more to stop it.

This is great hindsight, but lousy politics. The fact is, we're hurting our supporters in hopes that a little of the economic pain will trickle down to our opponents. Sound familiar? Trickle-down punishment even goofier than trickle-down economics.

Amendment 2 came about, in large part, as a backlash against the Gay rights ordinances of these three cities. A blanket boycott of Colorado sends out a dangerous message: Your support of Lesbian and Gay rights is now going to cost you.

In a perfect world, voters might flock to vote their conscience, and to hell with their wallet. In the real world, we invite disaster if we start rewarding our supporters with an economic boycott. A targeted boycott, aimed at businesses and cities that supported Amendment 2, would be a far smarter approach.

The boycott movement has quickly taken on the aura of political orthodoxy. On this (as on so many other issues), debate should be encouraged, not squelched. Perhaps the time will come when a blanket boycott of Colorado seems like our only option. But it should be a last resort, not a knee-jerk first response.

—Sasha Alyson
Boston, MA

Editor's Note: The writer is founder/owner of Alyson Publications, Inc., a Gay publishing house.

Out of the Closet

TO THE EDITOR:

Thank you for your insightful editorial, "Forcing People Out of the Closet..." in the January 7-20 issue of the Light.

I am an ordained Gay clergy person. After going through the struggle of my own sexual orientation, and coming to grips with myself, I found it to be a very freeing experience. I have been able to serve in a pastoral role in many situations, including counseling for lovers' difficulties.

Association who told me over the phone, "You deserve everything you get! It's your fault for letting this thing pass!"

The truth as to what happened here is important. The majority of this state is NOT in support of this amendment. From recent surveys taken to find out why all the polls taken prior to the vote show clearly that the amendment would fail, we know that there was confusion by about 20 to 25 percent of the voters about the wording, and therefore what they were voting for or against.

I know first hand. I almost voted "Yes." Only after a quick moment when all the "pounding" by the local Gay media came through, did I know that it was "No, no no no 2!"

I dare say, there were many people who were as I was. People thought they were voting for "equal" rights and not for "special rights." These right wingers managed not only to confuse the voters, but their biggest prize now is to watch the Gay community boycott their own businesses. This boycott is doing what the amendment could not!

So, today I'm asking you, our friends, not to have your travel agents steer you away from Colorado. Rather, they should steer them to the Gay businesses. Help make our Gay community stronger, not weaker.

Please tell your friends we're here and that we need your support.

The snow is great, and we miss you.

—Adam Rudziewicz
Breckenridge, CO

Editor's Note: The writer is the owner of The Bunk House lodge in Breckenridge.

Correction

TO THE EDITOR:

There was a mistake in the January 7 obituary for Steff Neuman.

Steff was wives with Michal Brody, not Michael Brady, as was written. The difference here is significant since the spelling changes who Steff did her life with (was domestic partners with) from a Jewish Lesbian to a christian male. The most painful piece of this is that three area heteropatriarchy papers refused to print at all the fact that Steff's Lesbian wife, Michal, survives her. The erasure of our Lesbian lives continues on into our deaths.

—Sc Rising
Madison

Editor's Note: We apologize for the error, but when something is submitted hand written and that, quite difficult to read, mistakes will happen.

Seronegative

TO THE EDITOR:

I'm writing in response to an article from the December 9th edition, titled "Some Gay Men Once Infected With HIV Virus Now Seronegative."

In the last several weeks, Wisconsin Public Radio has done some coverage on the AIDS epidemic, centered around World AIDS Day. One of the interviews was with some major health authority specializing in AIDS research. Unfortunately, I can't remember the doctor's name, but I do remember specific points of the interview, and one of them relates directly to this article.

The doctor said that quite a few patients in their studies who had previously tested positive for the HIV virus had also begun testing seronegative, like the ones cited in your article. His explanation was that, like all viruses that enter human hosts, HIV does produce (and has begun producing) antibodies that, over the course of several infections, become effective in fighting the disease.

He compared the process to that of human immunosystem reaction to the influenza pandemic of 1918, when thousands of people who were initially struck by the virulent flu strain died, but later infectees survived through a build-up of antibodies that gradually strengthened.

He also likened this process to that of the immunity some insects build up to pesticides, which renders them chemically immune. This process apparently takes place in a fairly short period of time, since viruses are rather rapid mutators. Although ten-eleven years seems a long time to us, it is apparently a very short time in the progress of disease evolution.

The fact of this rapid mutation would account for the fact that at least one separate strain of the original HIV I virus has been positively identified by health researchers (HIV II), and also for the big revelation at this year's AIDS Conference of the appearance of several other AIDS-like disorders.

This ability of a disease to act ultimately as its own defense system within the human body explains why, along with vaccinations, we have been able to virtually eliminate tuberculosis, polio, and many other contagious diseases. It also explains why more virulent and drug-resistant strains of these diseases have emerged in recent years.

The happy prognosis that the speaker left us with is that he believes the HIV virus will ultimately become a disease that we, as humans, will be able to battle successfully in the future, although he didn't give an estimate as to when that would be. He said it would be a slow process for those of us who were affected by its devastation, even though, in disease time, it would be pretty quick.

I just thought I would share these thoughts with readers who may have missed this particular program. Any ray of hope in these sometimes dark days is, I think, appreciated, and worth talking about.

Hoping for Brighter Days.

—Mary Shafer
Park Falls, WI

I have ministered pastorally to several persons with AIDS, and participated in the funerals of three such persons, all of which were held in Christian Churches. The mothers of two of the men requested that I do the sermon or homily, because I knew their sons better than any other pastor, including churches to which they belonged. I believe part of the trust factor was because I am also Gay, and I am out in the Gay community.

However, I am not out publicly or to the officials of the denomination to which I belong, because this would be the end of my clergy status. There are few activists in the Milwaukee area who have criticized me for this, saying I lack courage. But I have to question which is better for me...and the people I serve.

I have received "high marks" in the pastoral ministry from the people I serve. I have been able to minister effectively in the Gay community. Should I throw all this away because of a "public outing?" I'm not convinced that this is the way to go.

—Name, City and Denomination
withheld on request

Don't Boycott Gays

TO THE EDITOR:

A friend of mine sent me a copy of Wisconsin Light from Madison, so please consider this more of a personal letter than I sent to other Gay publications. We here are very pleased with the efforts of the Boycott and the national response to the amendment.

However, recently, we've been waking up to the reality that the Colorado Boycott, mostly by the Gay community, is hurting us more than the amendment ever could. For example, I own a small "Gay Only" lodge. This past holiday season ordinarily we should have been sold out, but due to the cancellations, we only had 4 guests from Denver. Usually, 75% of our guests are from outside Colorado. This obviously shows that out-of-state visitors are staying away.

We will not survive this kind of boycott. What is now needed is a "smart" boycott to continue the pressure and awareness of what has happened here and to selectively support the Gay institutions so they will be here when we beat this thing.

At this time, we're not hurting the people who sponsored the amendment. Will Perkins, the sponsor of the amendment and owner of Perkins' Automotive in Colorado Springs, probably hasn't lost one car sale. (Anita lost her job.)

In talking with some of our guests, I'm surprised at how many people have no idea that we're hurting. So, when I saw Wisconsin Light, I decided to write. I'm also writing the Vice President of the International Gay Travel

SISTERNEWS AND VIEWS

Taking Center Stage In The Gay Nineties

By Jamakaya

Lesbians and Gay men have been in a tizzy the last few weeks as we've found ourselves the center of national attention and controversy unparalleled in the history of the Gay rights movement.

As the drama unfolded in Washington, as the right wing orchestrated its backlash and the media fanned the flames of hysteria, many of us were wishing it would all just go away. The suddenness and intensity of it all left many of us dazed.

But this is no time to be intimidated into silence. We're on the threshold of winning one of the changes we've sought for decades. The least each of us must do is write those letters! (See list of political and military leaders in this issue.) A Congressional aide told me that one thoughtful letter to his boss will negate 50 of the hysterical phone calls from the homophobes. Get cracking out there!

Kudos to Our Man Bill: Muchas gracias to President Clinton for doing his damndest to follow through on his campaign pledge. Hindsight says he should have just issued his order and demanded Pentagon compliance to avoid protracted debate. But Clinton champions consensus-building, and with a recalcitrant Congress and Joint Chiefs, he made a tough call. The "compromise" is awful, and the talk about segregated facilities is apt to make our friend Thurgood Marshall rise from the dead in protest!

To me, Clinton's greatest failure was in not articulating his position more clearly. Why didn't he have Margarethe Cammermeyer and Joe Steffan at his side to tout their exemplary records and dramatize the human toll exacted by the ban? Why didn't he talk about the waste of millions in tax dollars for underhanded witchhunts? Why didn't he mention the reports which have concluded that Gay personnel are equal to and in some regards superior to straight soldiers? My letter to Bill contained this message: Please, educate as you lead, Mr. President.

He Didn't Know What Hit Him: One evening on MacNeil-Lehrer one of the hosts asked a Gay spokesman: 'Do you think the President failed to calculate the extent of the backlash on this issue?' Great response: 'I don't think anyone who is not Gay or Lesbian and who is not subject to the daily threats and bashings we face has any idea of the hatred leveled against us.' No shit.

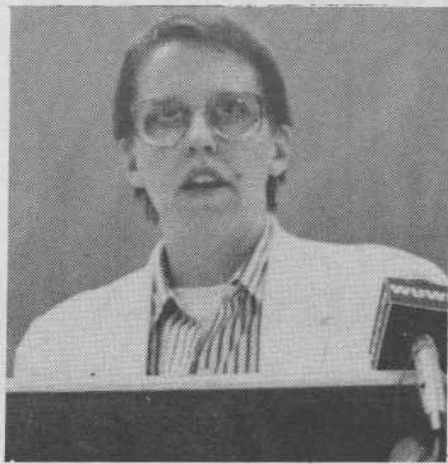
Something About the Women...: A CBS/New York Times poll revealed that Americans as a whole are evenly divided on Gays in the military. But there was a big split along gender lines. While 59% of the men polled opposed Gays in the military, only 38% of the women did. The highest percentage of support for our cause comes from younger women, a fact that fills me with pride and hope for our future.

Our Guys in Congress: Our two openly Gay Congressmen certainly came in handy during the debate. Gerry Studds and Barney Frank were eloquent and effective spokesmen on many of the news shows, albeit with widely contrasting styles: Studds, formal and reserved, intensely logical; Frank, outgoing and expansive, his lacerating wit deflating the arguments of our opponents.

Frank apparently coined the phrase "shower-phobia." In response to that bogus issue, he pointed out that Gays and Lesbians have showered next to straights in schools, gyms, and health clubs for years. "Do you think we've been sending ourselves out to be drycleaned?" he quipped. In the months ahead, we shouldn't forget that humor can be a potent weapon in disarming our opponents. (Did you notice that not one female voice was lifted expressing concern about being ogled by Lesbians in the showers? God, these boys are pathetic!)

Lesbian Invisibility — As Usual: I was really pissed off at the absence of Lesbian input in any of the media discussions. From Today to MacNeil-Lehrer to Nightline to Donahue, I did not see one Lesbian panelist (veteran or activist) on any of them. You'd never guess that Lesbians are eight times more likely to be discharged from the service than Gay men! Urrgh!

A more subtle invisibility marked NBC's Jan. 26 special, "The Gay Nineties," hosted by Maria Shriver. The profiles of Gay men and Lesbians on the



JAMAKAYA

show were evenly balanced, but the reductive history lesson about our movement was appalling.

After mentioning Stonewall, Shriver said that "In the seventies, Gays and Lesbians defined themselves and their movement with an in-your-face sexuality" that intimidated straight society. Over disco music and the image of Gay men partying, Shriver cited the "infamous bath houses" where "flamboyant Gays and Lesbians engaged in promiscuous sex."

She then fast-forwarded to the eighties and AIDS and, without making any distinction between men and women, intoned: "Hundreds of thousands became infected. Tens of thousands died...In the end, it was AIDS that forced them to save themselves."

Ah, excuse me, Mrs. Schwarzenegger, but AIDS didn't "save" me or millions of other Lesbians. Feminism did. We were organized and active long before AIDS hit the scene. While others disced, our brains and selfless energies built institutions and fueled the greatest social revolution of our generation. Any history, no matter how cursory, that fails to place feminism at the core of the movement for Gay and Lesbian rights is hopelessly flawed.

Shriver ended the segment with: "In the nineties, they're rich, they're influential and...they see a future different from their past." Who's rich? I would like to meet a rich Lesbian. If you're out there, please call.

The Truth About the "Gay Nineties": While I'm challenging deceptive language and images, how about this sobering thought? To introduce her report, Shriver referred to the original "Gay '90s" — the 1890s — as a time of "comfort and prosperity." Again, for whom?

In the 1890s, economic depression wiped out thousands of American farmers. It was a decade of rampant xenophobia, racism and imperialism. Segregation was institutionalized through the Plessy v. Ferguson decision, and the worse excesses of child labor and industrial exploitation occurred. Our urban centers were squalid and crime-ridden, and disease, especially deadly TB, was epidemic. Gays who openly expressed their sexuality were thrown in prison or mental wards. Religious zealots and millenarians crusaded for moral purity and prepared for the Second Coming and the end of the world.

I know the "Gay Nineties" has become a great slogan for us today, suggesting our newfound power and pride. But the forces of reaction that dominated American life a century ago are again present, and, in the vacuum created by the end of the Communist "menace," Gays and Lesbians are clearly going to bear the brunt of their onslaught.

More than ever we need to become politically involved, to write our letters, march on Washington, support our local and national groups. And in ever greater numbers, we have to come out. Once people know us on a one to one basis, they discard the vile stereotypes and support our struggle for equality.

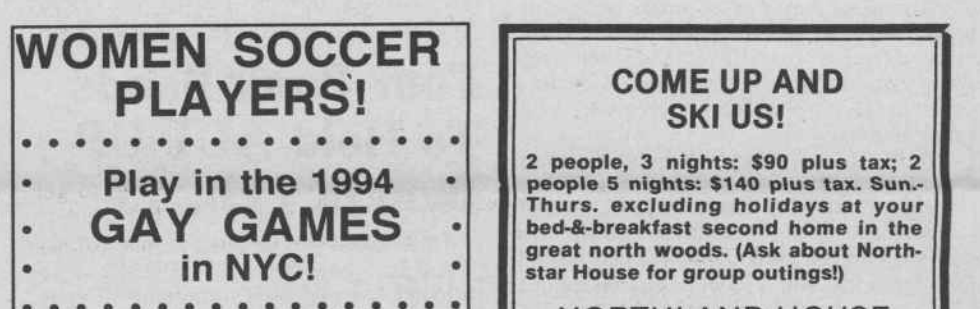
Whatever the result of the Pentagon battle or the fight in Colorado (there will undoubtedly be setbacks), our greatest long term strategy is in urging all our sisters and brothers to come out. The power to shape the new "Gay Nineties" is in our hands.

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The Light LIVELY ARTS



A FILM ACHIEVEMENT— In the film, "Brother's Keeper", Lyman Ward is shown on the Ward farm, contemplating his brother Delbert's predicament. Delbert is accused of murdering their other brother, Bill. The police claim that Lyman implicated Delbert in the alleged mercy killing.

'Brother's Keeper' is Scary, Funny, Heartwarming Film Achievement

Brother's Keeper by Woodrow Thalberg

The new documentary **Brother's Keeper** is the story of four simple, illiterate, New York, bachelor farmers, the Ward brothers. They quickly bring to mind the bald, banjo-playing boy from **Deliverance**. Any one of them look as if they could be his father and uncle. Their tiny universe consists of their 99 acre dairy farm filled with abandoned vehicles, ancient farm machinery, livestock and their unheated shack.

With faces like Old Testament prophets, and beards to match, the Ward brothers have walked right out of America's past. Unwillingly, they are pulled into the 20th Century when one of the brothers, Bill, dies in bed. His brother Delbert, who has shared his bed his entire life is accused of a mercy killing.

What it means to be disenfranchised in America is the core issue of the film. As poor, elderly, illiterates, the Ward brothers are an open target for an arrogant criminal justice system that wants to convict somebody of something. The vulnerability of the disenfranchised, so well documented in the film, is terrifying.

More terrifying still is Delbert's lack of awareness of just how much trouble he is in.

Brother's Keeper is one of the scariest, funniest and most heartwarming films one will ever see. It provides a rare look into America's rural past that will soon be gone forever. Do not be scared away by the inappropriate trailer featuring

Fest City Singers Needs New Talent For Cabaret Show

[Milwaukee]— The Fest City Singers (FCS) invites anyone who enjoys singing and performing to consider joining the chorus in time to rehearse for its Spring cabaret show. FCS needs men and women in all vocal ranges. Technical production people are also needed.

The Fest City Singers presents two fully-staged productions each year. Productions include the Spring cabaret and a Christmas show. FCS meets each Wednesday evening at 7:00 p.m. on the 4th floor of the War Memorial. Potential members are invited to attend a rehearsal and meet the group.

During the past two years, the Fest City Singers' cabarets have included Peter Mortensen's "History, Herstory, Ourstory," a musical review of the Gay/Lesbian movement from the 1950's to the present, and Mortensen's "Movin' On," a musical review that took its audience from one coast to another, to all the places people go when they're moving on.

Anyone wishing more information about the Fest City Singers may call the Festline at (414) 263-SING.

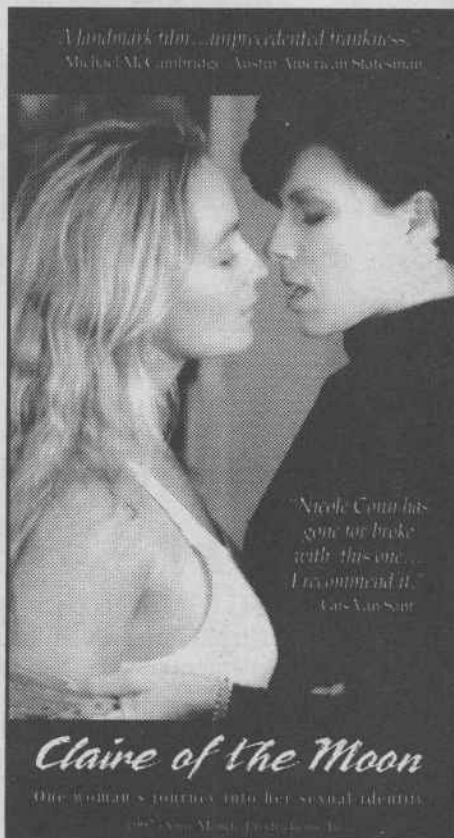
monologist Spaulding Gray or the only imagined smell of the outhouses. Made with less money than it takes to produce 20 seconds of a Hollywood blockbuster, this film is truly an achievement.

Brother's Keeper will open at Milwaukee's Downer Theatre on Friday, February 5 for a one week engagement.

Four Punk Bands To Hold ACT UP Benefit Feb. 13

[Milwaukee]— Four punk bands will host an all ages benefit for ACT UP Milwaukee at Madison's Atwood Community Center, 2425 Atwood Avenue (Madison's East Side) on Saturday, February 13 at 8:00 p.m.

The bands are Chicago's "8 Bark;" and Wisconsin's own "Damitol," "Rehash," and "One Day Away." Car pooling and other information is available by calling (414) 769-8708. The \$4 donation at the door will be used to support the community organizing of the AIDS activist group.



Claire of the Moon

The woman's journey into her sexual identity

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Cream City Foundation is Chief Financial Sponsor of Film Festival

[Milwaukee]— In its on-going service to Milwaukee's Gay/Lesbian community, the Cream City Foundation (CCF) is again the chief financial sponsor of the Great Lakes Film Festival.

Last year, CCF gave \$2,500 to enable the Festival to happen. This year, the grant was raised to \$3,000.

Other Festival sponsors include: **In Step** magazine, the Wreck Room and Cafe Melange.

According to Mary Yelanjian, Managing Director of Great Lakes Film and Video, the Festival is going very well. She estimated that audiences were bigger than last year and was pleased at their enthusiasm. She estimated also that **Daddy and the Muscle Academy** had the greatest attendance so far. The Wreck Room sponsored a reception and Tom of Finland Image contest following the film.

Cafe Melange will sponsor a reception for Barbara Hammer after **Nitrate Kisses** on February 4.

Great Lakes and the NEA

The support of the Cream City Foundation and the other sponsor is even more appreciated this year because Great Lakes Film and Video was restricted in its funding by the National Endowment for the Arts.

According to Yelanjian, Great Lakes had requested general operating support funds from the National Alliance of Media Arts Center (NAMAC) for its many programs. NAMAC is funded by the NEA.

NAMAC's panel reviewed Great Lakes' request and those of three other Gay/Lesbian film festivals and recommended that they all be funded. However, the NEA rejected the recommendation.

The three Gay/Lesbian film festivals were turned down flat, while Great Lakes' was restricted. Great Lakes is appealing the decision.

The Great Lakes Gay/Lesbian Film Festival is financed by grants such as that from CCF, the Wreck Room, **In Step** and Cafe Melange as well as from ticket sales.

Northern Lights Womyn's Festival Seeks Performers

[Duluth, MN]— The 4th Annual Northern Lights Womyn's Festival will be held on September 11, 1993. The Festival committee is now accepting demo tapes from performers; searching for volunteers and accepting reservations from crafters and women-centered organizations. If you are interested, the time to act is now.

Performers, please send a short audition tape, a short biography and your fee requirements by March 25, 1993. The address is: Northern Lights Womyn's Festival, c/o Aurora, 8 N. 2nd Ave. East, Suite 210, Duluth, MN 55802. For more information, phone (218) 722-4903.

“★★★★★!”

AS MEAN AS 'MEAN STREETS', AS BITTERLY FUNNY AS 'GOODFELLAS'!

— Jami Bernard, NEW YORK POST

“IMPASSIONED-VISIONARY. A HARVEY KEITEL TOUR DE FORCE HIGHLIGHTS ABEL FERRARA'S IMPASSIONED WALK ON THE WILD SIDE.”

— Peter Travers, ROLLING STONE

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— Lawrence Frascella, US MAGAZINE

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Lesbian in 'Basic Instinct' Poorly Presented for Straight Males

By Maytee Aspuro
End of 3 Part Series

Basic Instinct is not a film about a Lesbian. It isn't a film about a Bisexual woman either. It is an example of slick Hollywood story telling where Lesbianism is used as an erotic/taboo device driving the plot and manipulating the audience through the psychological and dramatic complexities of the narrative. The Bisexuality provides a threat to the standard narrative. The hero/police detective has no guarantee that the prime suspect will fall in love with him. She never does. He is just a fuck.

Lesbianism is also an erotic element, all too apparent in heterosexual male fantasy/pornography. Lesbianism is established as a reason for embarrassment and secrecy as the female psychologist is left in a void of deceit because she believes she cannot admit to what is defined as a past indiscretion, having had sex with the prime suspect, a woman, during her college years.

The encounter was not left to its own merits and was further veiled in the realm of the psychologically demented by resulting in obsessive behavior by one of the two women, which one, being the key to the story line.

A Movie for Het Thrill Seekers

The prime suspect is not our traditional woman, let alone Bisexual. She inherited \$110 million, writes novels and spends a great deal of time with multiple murderers. She utilizes her academic degree in psychology to torment the detective as she plays out one manipulation after another.

There is nothing familiar in **Basic Instinct**. This film was created to be marketed to male heterosexual thrill seekers. It perpetuates all the damaging assumptions of woman's hatred for men and woman's underlying wish to psychologically and/or physically castrate men, rendering them powerless and thus revealing their intellectual/moral inferiority.

The Infancy of Lesbian Films

Relatively speaking, when compared to the Lesbians in literature, the portrayal of Lesbians in film/video is in its infancy. If it is argued that film/video is but an extension of literature, film/video should then address similar issues of Lesbian representation. Theoretically, this would be expected were it not for the economic differences between the world of publishing and the world of filmmaking.

The Lesbian community has proven itself capable of supporting the publishing of its books, but to this day it has not been able to provide sufficient

financial motivation for filmmakers and their corporate bankers.

The initial investment is substantially higher and distribution is much more difficult. Lesbians, like any other group other than white male heterosexuals, cannot even claim marginal acceptance in the film/video industry.

Without economic resources, Lesbian representation will suffer from the bastardization of outside agents that believe they understand what Lesbians are even though as a community Lesbians continue to struggle with their own identities.

What is to be done is for all Lesbians to lend a critical eye to film/video. Lesbians must define Lesbian films when seen and disown all betrayals.

As a community, Lesbians must guard against the ever-dangerous temptation to censor. "Politically Correct" criteria misdirects the community against itself. What is an honest and fair representation of ourselves is a decision individually made.

We must speak out when our images are celebrated as well as abused. We must articulate our thoughts clearly, weaving emotion and logic into a solid argument. This requires argument with ourselves, others in the Gay community and most importantly, those outside our community.

Any representation, positive or negative, can and should be used as a platform to discuss who we are.

'Life Is a Dream' Next Boulevard Production

[Milwaukee]- Spain's Shakespeare will find a home with The Boulevard Ensemble in February and March. The Ensemble, one of Milwaukee's smallest and most innovative theatre groups, will present its adaptation of **Life Is A Dream** by Pedro Calderon.

Life Is A Dream is Calderon's masterpiece and the greatest work of Spanish drama. The play deals with the interplay between illusion and reality and the struggle between free will and fate. The production is directed by Patricia Acerra.

Life Is A Dream will be performed Thursdays to Sundays, February 19 to March 14, at the Boulevard Theatre, 2250 S. Kinnickinnic Ave. For ticket information and reservations, call (414) 672-6019.

Plan Now To Attend April 25 March on Washington, D.C.

[Milwaukee]- Preparation for the 1993 March on Washington for Lesbian, Gay and Bi Equal Rights and Liberation has been under way for some time now. Although many people know that there was similar March in 1987 (which was held on October 11 and which gave birth to "National Coming Out Day"), what most people don't remember — or don't know — is that there was also a March on Washington in 1979.

In 1979, over 100,000 people marched. In 1987, march officials estimated 650,000 participants. And on April 25, 1993, an expected one million people will march. Planners are calling the 1993 March, "The single largest human rights demonstration in the history of the world."

The 1993 March represents the culmination of months of planning by hundreds of people. Early in 1991, a National Steering Committee (NSC) was formed. The NSC developed a platform and divided the country into 17 regions. Each region is to be represented by four delegates who must meet racial and gender parity.

Wisconsin: Region 12

Region 12 comprises Wisconsin, Minnesota, North and South Dakota. The NSC has asked each region to commit \$1,000 initially to the March's treasury, and, after that, one-third of all other donations received.

Although many of the 17 regions have been meeting for well over a year now — and have been raising funds for almost that long — Region 12 had a late start getting organized.

The first Region 12 steering committee meeting was not held until mid-September, 1992. At that time, the Region 12 Delegation changed its name to

"Upper Midwest Delegation" (UMD).

The UMD's three-fold purpose is to promote the March throughout the four-state region; to solicit contributions; and to facilitate travel arrangements and hotel accommodations for those attending the March.

In Milwaukee

According to Scott Gunkel, president of the Lambda Rights Network (LRN), arrangements are in progress for four vans for the March. Gunkel said that the Cream City Foundation has given LRN a \$650 grant to help with this. But, he added, the total required is \$2,500.

The plan is now to take 60 people at \$20 per person to Washington for the March. Gunkel stressed that the number of people is "tentative" and depends on LRN's reaching its budget goal. Any help would be gratefully appreciated.

The \$20 would cover transportation only. Food and accommodations are the responsibility of the individual.

LRN is also looking for four drivers who have credit cards to rent and drive the vans to D.C. If you can help with driving or with money, call Scott Gunkel at (414) 871-4839.

Do not call for reservations. Gunkel said that reservation information would be appearing in the Gay media at a date closer to the March.

UMD Hopes For Cohesion

Even though the March is now less than three months away, the UMD steering committee is working to organize specifics so that groups and individuals can come together in April as a unified Upper Midwest Delegation.

In one attempt to create cohesion, the Gay and Lesbian Community Action Council (GLCAC) of the Twin Cities will be sponsoring a UMD Hospitality Suite at

Lesbian Culture and Creativity Grants Offered by Kissing Girls

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

KGP has decided to award 1993 grants to individuals, groups and private non-profit Lesbian community groups.

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

Criteria For Awards

KGP will judge grant requests on the basis of the quality of the proposal, the diversity of applicants, the impact within the Lesbian community, and the applicant's ability to successfully complete the project.

Acceptance of a grant award by an applicant will carry with it the expectation that the recipient will participate in the 1993 Lesbian Variety Show, Art Show or

Poetry Reading...if they are an appropriate forum.

Applications are due April 15, 1993. Applications must be postmarked by April 14, 1993. Award announcements including the name and city of the recipient will be made in Mary and/or June, 1993 issues of local Lesbian, Gay and Feminist publications.

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Women's Choruses Present Joint Concerts

[Milwaukee]- Three Midwest women's choruses will be presenting a concert on Saturday, March 6, 1993 at 7:00 p.m. at the First Unitarian Church, 1342 N. Astor Ave. in Milwaukee. The event will be titled "A Womyn's Herstory Month Choral Extravaganza." Participating choruses will be: Chicago's Artemis Singers, Madison's Womansong and The Mukwonago Feminist Singers and Eaters. Tickets are on a sliding scale of \$0 to \$10.

the Holiday Inn-Crown Plaza in Washington from April 22-25. At this suite, information regarding march functions — as well as general information on Washington — will be available.

The suite will also be available as a general meeting place for groups from the Upper Midwest Delegation. If you or your group is interested in having a display at the UMD Hospitality Suite, you may contact the GLCAC at the numbers listed below.

For general information on the March or how you can get involved, contact GLCAC at (800) 800-0350 (daytime) or (800) 800-0907 (nighttime). For travel arrangements, contact All Airlines Travel in Forest Lake at (800) 832-0304.

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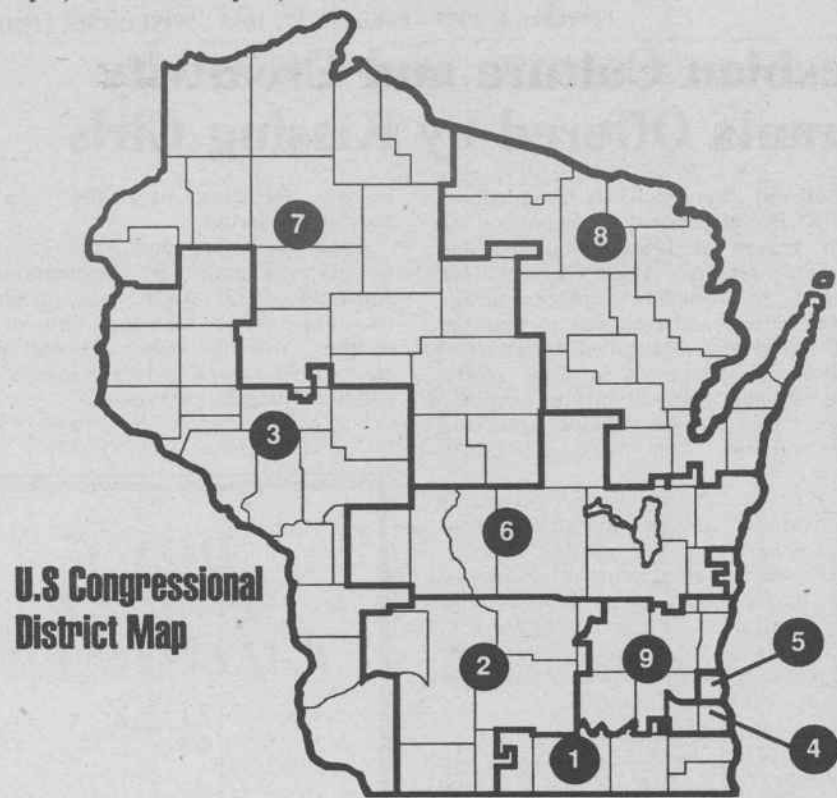
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Stop the Military Ban — Write To Your Senators and Congressmen

TO THE EDITOR:
 This is an urgent plea for action. We are writing to urge you to call your senators to ask them to support the President of the United States in lifting the ban on Lesbians and Gays in the military. There is not any time to spare. President Clinton's decision to end the ban has unleashed a firestorm of controversy. If the issue were decided today, we might very well lose. Sen. Jesse Helms and his crony, Sen. Dan Coats, plan to demand a vote next week (second week in February) to stop President Clinton from ending the ban. The religious right has generated 30 calls to Capitol Hill against us for every one from our side. **WE NEED YOU TO CALL YOUR SENATORS RIGHT AWAY TO TELL THEM YOU WANT THEM TO END THE BAN.** Your call is critical — not just to register your support, but to counter the campaign of homophobia being

waged against us. **You can reach your senators at [202] 224-3121.** The operator can tell you who they are and connect you to their offices. After you call, have your family and friends do the same. Then follow up with letters to your senators at: U.S. Capitol, Washington, D.C. 20510. There is not a moment to spare. This issue will not end quickly or easily. If we win, it could be the first of many victories under President Clinton. Otherwise, it could set us back many years. **THERE NEVER HAS BEEN A MORE IMPORTANT TIME FOR ACTION. WE CANNOT AFFORD TO LOSE.**
 —Tim McFeeley
 Human Rights Campaign Fund
 Washington, D.C.
 —William Wayborn
 Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund
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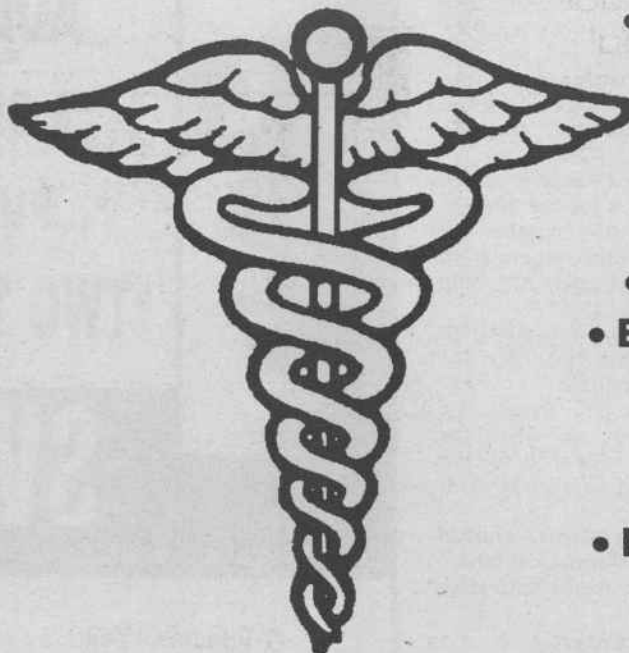
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SUPERINTENDENT
Continued from Page 1

"Right now we have very unequal educational opportunities because the way we fund education means failing to deliver on that promise." Molnar said that he advocates a more balanced approach to school funding that relies less on residential property taxes and more on state income and special corporate taxes.

Molnar is highly critical of Gov. Tommy Thompson's approach to public education. "I think that the governor has been riding hobby horses that may sound popular, at first blush, but what we really need is a horse with legs," Molnar said. "I don't think local spending caps, privatization of our schools or busting open mediation-arbitration are the solutions to this problem. We have a systemic problem of fundamental unfairness in our tax system and that's what needs to be addressed."

Molnar believes that so-called "controversial curricula," such as sex education and AIDS prevention education have an important place in Wisconsin schools. "We need to provide kids with some framework so that they can understand what's going on in their own bodies and in their own relationships. To not do so is really to abdicate a social responsibility."

"Their parents and their caregivers, of course, carry a special responsibility," he adds. "But I believe, fundamentally, that all of our children are all of our responsibilities."

Within this framework, as the father of a grown son who is Gay, Molnar sees that the schools have a special responsibility to Gay and Lesbian children. "I would want and expect that my son would feel comfortable in any school in which he attended. That he wouldn't have to hear taunts, that he wouldn't have to be afraid."

Molnar cites his use of the essay "Peering Into the Well of Loneliness" in his classes at the UW as a tool in illuminating for teachers the special challenges facing Gay and Lesbian youth in the schools. He said that he believes that "we are all truly one family," and that he would take a major role in speaking out about education that teaches an appreciation for families from all cultural backgrounds and all family forms.

Molnar has been endorsed by the Wisconsin Federation of Teachers, the state AFL-CIO, AFSCME, and a number of local unions and community leaders. He has also been endorsed by six out of nine of the members of the Milwaukee board of school directors.

SCHOOL BOARD
Continued from Page 3

Another District 5 respondent, Edith Bregel Radtke, did not tackle the condom issue head on. Instead, she cited her position on the Steering Committee of the Wisconsin AIDS Fund and her volunteer work for Planned Parenthood as important credentials.

Mario Avila did not respond.

District 6

The West Side's District 6 also provides choices to voters who fear AIDS' impact on young students. In District 6, the incumbent is not seeking re-election. Two candidates — David DeBruin and Michael Wanta — are running to fill the seat.

Wanta did not return ACT UP's survey. DeBruin did, revealing his support for condom availability and family planning counseling for interested students. DeBruin emphasized that responsibility must be taught as part of such counseling, and stated also that students "should be made aware of such diversity of culture and lifestyle."

Districts 4 and 7

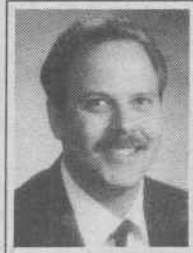
Jared Johnson (incumbent) did not respond to the questionnaire. Johnson is running unopposed.

District 7's (Southwest Side) Lawrence O'Neil (incumbent) did not respond. O'Neil faces write-in candidate and school building plan proponent Pamela Verley. O'Neil is known to many Milwaukee voters for his apparent ignorance of Gay-friendly policies during School Board debate, and for his sudden conversion to opposition of the high-profile school building referendum.

ACT UP said that it had conducted the survey in hopes of informing voters and of uncovering "stealth candidates" run by the religious right to impose their will on others.

City of Milwaukee voters can determine their district board seat by calling the board at (414) 475-8393.

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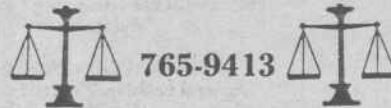
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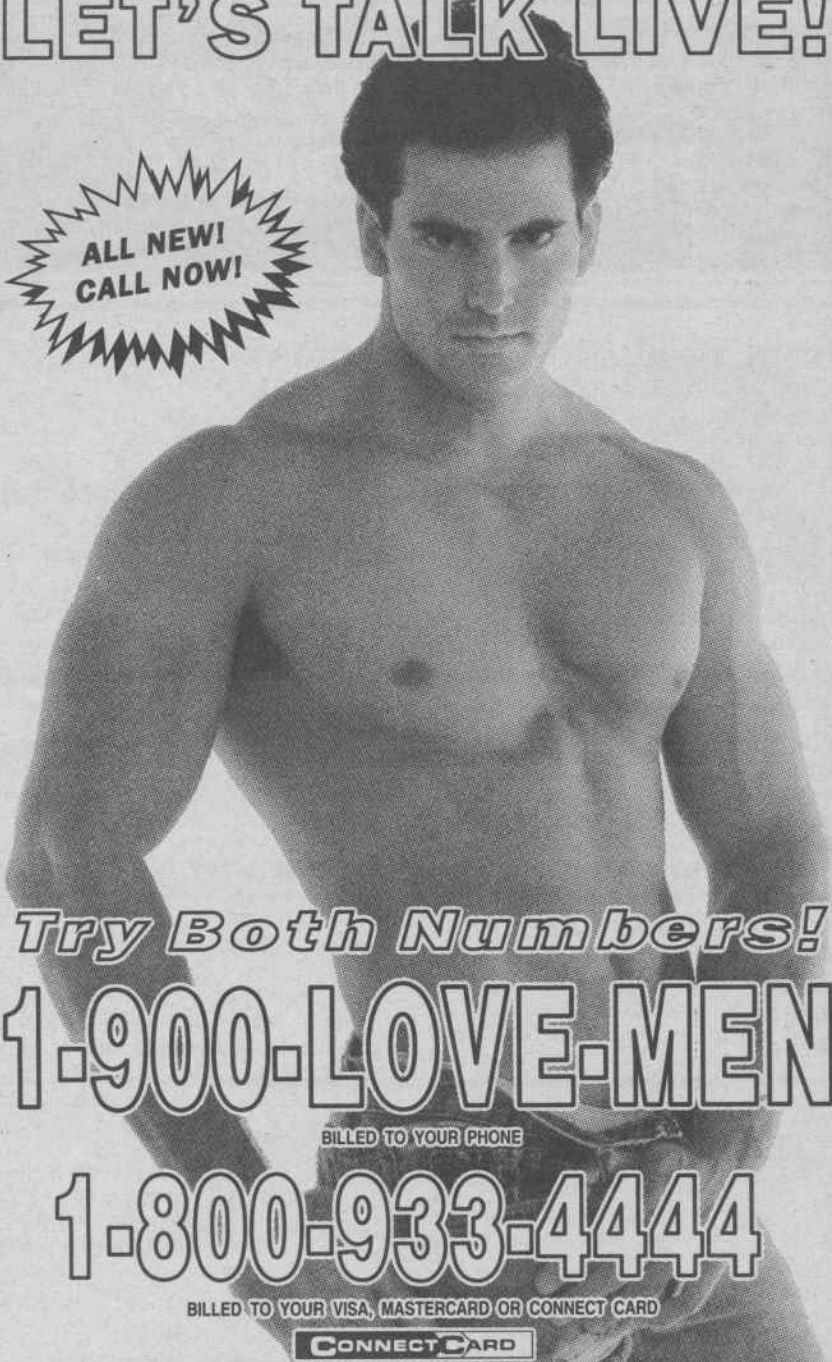
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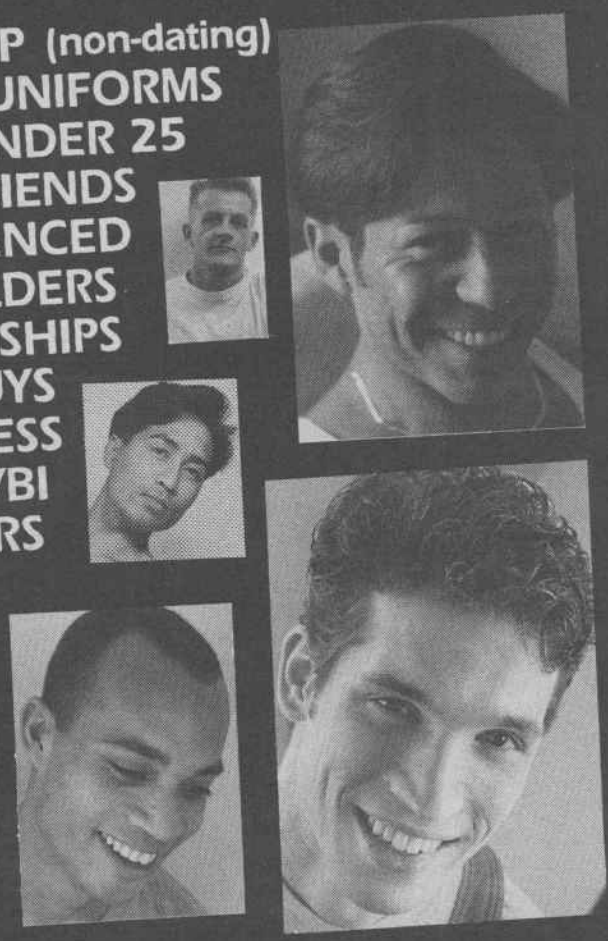
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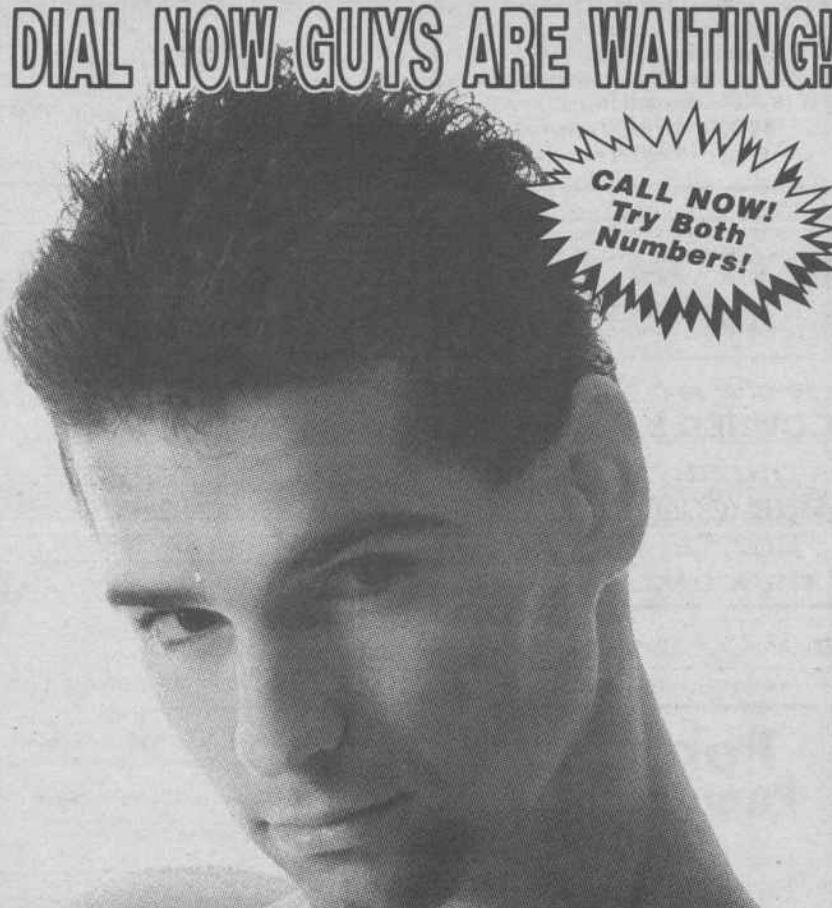


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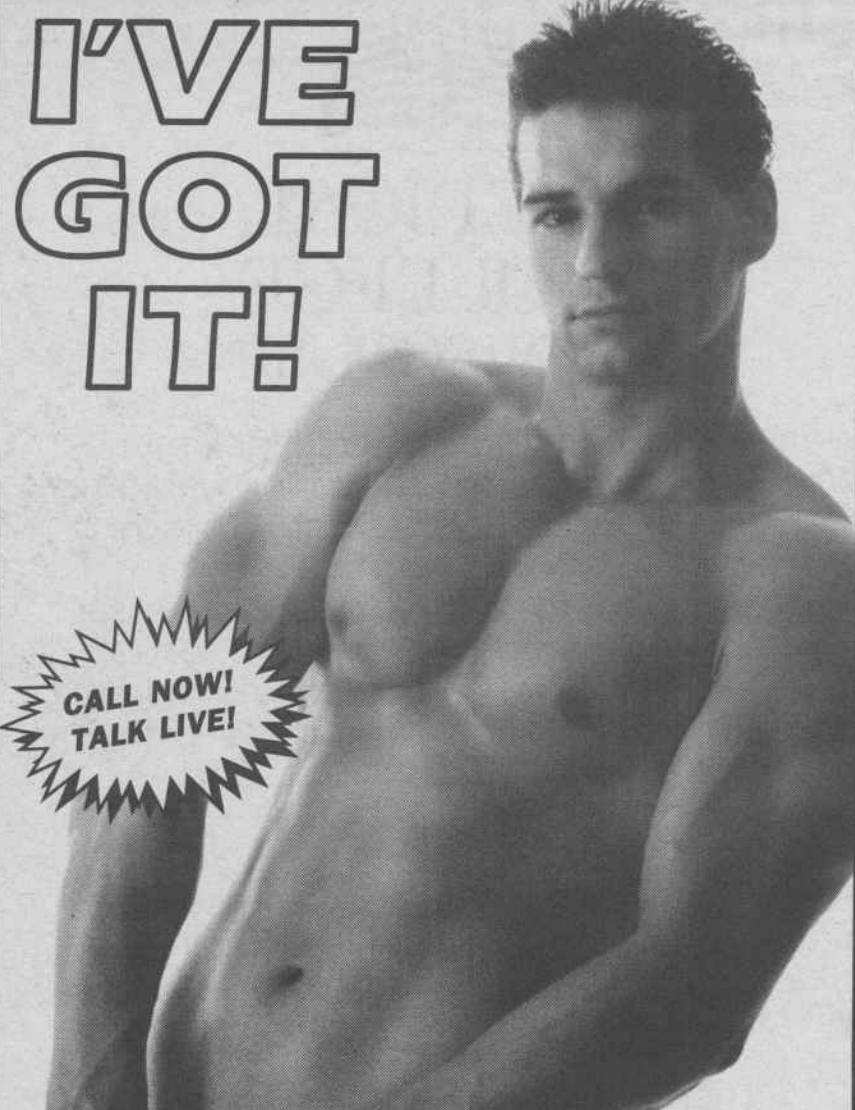
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BestD Clinic Board Elects Three New Members

[Milwaukee]- The Board of Directors of Brady East STD Clinic met Monday night, January 25, 1993, to install three newly elected board members and to vote for officers for the coming year. Three open board seats were filled in a December election.

The new board members are: Bob Schmidt, owner of the M&M Club, for his second term; Karen Hogan, first term; and Jeff Buckles, also first term.

At the meeting, the board also elected the following officers: Ross Walker, President, to his second term; Jeff Buckles, Vice President, Outreach, his first term; Jose Avila, Secretary, second term; and Erv Uecker, Treasurer, his fourth term.

Outgoing directors Deborah Reed and Henrik Christensen received the board's thanks for their previous efforts. Chris Rupprecht, Director of the Alternative

Women's Clinic who was previously a Vice President, did not choose to run for office this term.

On-going Renovation

Other business at the meeting included a lengthy discussion pertaining to the on-going renovation of the facilities which are located in the historic Brady Street area.

Original plans for exterior renovation had to be shelved due to the plans not having been in keeping with the ambience of the area and the City's Historic Preservation guidelines.

MILITARY

Continued from Page 1

President's action. "He (Clinton) has really shown great moral leadership. He has done his very best," said Frank. The Congressman went on to chide supporters

of lifting the ban for "not being organized."

Frank warned that the final outcome in July would "depend on lobbying." Frank urged people to call and/or write their representatives in Congress. "We'll know in six months," he said ominously.

Frank was referring to the fact that the President has given Secretary of Defense Les Aspin until July 15, six months from January 29, to draft an executive order ending the ban.

During that time, televised Congressional hearings will be held and a monumental lobbying effort by the far Right is expected. Schwadron warned that the six months will be "extremely uncomfortable. They will not be pretty," he said.

Spokespeople for the Human Rights Campaign Fund (HRCF), the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) and the Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund, likewise applauded the President's announcement. However, NGLTF did voice its opposition to the portion of the agreement between Clinton and Congressional leaders that allows for the transfer of some openly Gay and Lesbian service personnel who are facing discharge to the standby reserve. All three Lesbian/Gay organizations warned of the necessity for the community nation-wide, to begin to react strongly; to "end the lethargy" as it was put in one press release.

Nunn On a Power Trip

By most accounts, Congressional opposition to lifting the ban by executive order centered on Sen. Sam Nunn (D-GA), powerful Chair of the Senate Armed Services Committee. Last year, Nunn had been accused of firing two members of his staff because they were Gay. Nunn has denied this, saying that they were dismissed because their being Gay made them unable to get security clearance. Nevertheless, accusations continue that the Georgia Senator is homophobic.

Asked by *Light* if this were so, both Schwadron and Frank said they could not speculate on Nunn's motives for opposing the President. However, one closely placed Washington source speaking "for background" told *Light* that "Nunn was just showing his muscle to the new Chief Executive. He is upset over further cuts in the military budget and wanted to show the President that he was going to be very difficult to handle in the future. Gays in the military were a chance to do that," the source said.

With the President's announcement came statements by conservative Republicans led by Senators. Jesse Helms (R-NC), Senate Minority Leader Bob Dole (R-KS), Strom Thurmond (R-SC), and Dan Coats (R-IN) threatened to try and preserve the ban by adding an amendment to the Family Leave Bill. The move was expected to come on Wednesday, February 3, 1993. It did not happen.

HRCF's Marci Wassermann told *Light* that moderate Republicans had taken a wait-and-see position on the up-coming

hearings. This position had prevailed in the Republican caucus. She said also that Coats was a sponsor of the Leave Bill and he didn't want its passage threatened.

Right Wing Opposition

In an attempt to stop the ban from being lifted, Fundamentalist Christians and their fellow travelers, have picketed federal buildings across the country, and have flooded congressional offices with letters and phone calls.

In Washington, Ben-Shalom said that "the hatred from the far Right hung over the city like a miasma."

Tanya Domi, a GLBVA legislative officer, also expressed her concern about the growing power of the Right. Both Ben-Shalom's and Domi's fears seemed well founded. An NGLTF report said that calls to Congress against lifting the ban were running at 30 to 1.

"We now have six months," Ben-Shalom said. "If we don't end this ban now, I tell you frankly that we will lose more than just the military. The far Right has tasted blood and if the military issue is lost, the Right will go after any other state law or local laws with abandon."

In Wisconsin

On Friday, January 29, 1993, the commanding officer of the Wisconsin National Guard, Major General Jerald D. Slack, issued an order making the force more open for Gays.

Captain Scott Meske told *Light* that Slack issued his order because "it was the right thing to do." When asked what the reaction was to the order, Meske said, "We do what we are told and march on."

Meske went on to say that there never had been a question involving sexual orientation on the Wisconsin form that enlistees fill out. It was only on the federal forms and that now, had been lined out. "They (enlistees) will have no opportunity to answer it even if they want to," Meske said.

In addition, should any current Guard member say that they are Lesbian or Gay, they will not be processed for discharge.

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Jerry Johnson

FAREWELL SALUTE TO CLARENBACH— "Old soldiers never die. They just fade away." Quoting General Douglas MacArthur, former State Rep. David Clarenbach began his remarks to some 250 well-wishers gathered in Madison on January 27, to celebrate his 20 years of public service to Wisconsin and the nation. Among those present were two former governors, Martin Scheiber and Tony Earl (pictured above left and right), Senate President Fred Risser, State Reps. Walter Kunicki, Tammy Baldwin and Tim Carpenter and Madison Mayor Paul Soglin. Clarenbach was praised as a man of high integrity and "great creative legislative ability." Reminded later of MacArthur's other and equally famous quote, "I shall return," Clarenbach only smiled and winked. Clarenbach, a regular contributor to *Wisconsin Light* in the past, will begin to write a regular column for the paper.

Leadership Development Fund Started

[Milwaukee]— The Cream City Foundation (CCF) is announcing the establishment of its Leadership Development Fund. This fund will provide assistance to individual members of Lesbian and Gay organizations to attend national meetings and conferences.

In creating this fund, CCF's intent is to broaden our community's base of knowledge and leadership skills, working to make a better future for our Gay and Lesbian community.

To request information on the Leadership Development Fund or a grant application, please call the Foundation's office at (414) 265-0880.

Those wishing to join CCF in investing in Milwaukee's Gay and Lesbian future, may send a tax-deductible contribution to: CCF, P.O. Box 204, Milwaukee, WI 53201.

Discrimination at UWM to Be Documented

[Milwaukee]— In the Fall semester of 1992, an organization was formed on UW-Milwaukee's campus called the Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Faculty/Staff Caucus.

Among the purposes of the group is to document past and present discrimination at UWM based on sexual orientation; to serve as a resource when administration, faculty, staff and students handle cases or discuss problems involving Gay and Lesbian issues; and investigate the coverage of Gay and Lesbian issues in the curriculum and encourage the introduction of an interdisciplinary course on Gay and Lesbian studies.

This semester, the organization members have settled down to work on a variety of educational issues. Further information will be forthcoming in *Wisconsin Light*.

ACLU Overwhelmingly Endorses Economic Boycott of Colorado

[Denver, CO]— Attorneys for the State of Colorado and Gov. Roy Romer have filed notice of appeal with the State Supreme Court concerning Amendment 2. They have also submitted a motion for expedited proceedings.

In his recent ruling, Judge Jeffery Bayless said that there is a good chance that the amendment will be found unconstitutional and on January 14, enjoined it from going into effect.

An appeal by the state means the trial on the merits of the case will be delayed until the State Supreme Court hears arguments for and against the appeal. The court could agree to hear the appeal. It could refuse to hear the appeal, or the Justices could send the matter to the Court of Appeals.


In the meantime the 83-member national Board of the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) has overwhelmingly endorsed the economic

boycott of Colorado to protest Amendment 2. "Prejudice must be repudiated in a free, democratic society," said Nadine Strossen, ACLU President


Nine major cities — Los Angeles, New York, Philadelphia, Atlanta, San Francisco, Chicago, Boston, Seattle and Austin — have either restricted travel to the state or banned the purchase of Colorado products and services.

According to Boycott Colorado, the national boycott of the state is escalating. Laurel Entertainment's refusal to use Colorado as a site for the filming of a TV miniseries has alone cost the state \$6 million in revenues.

Several Colorado based companies that prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation — including U.S. West and Adolph Coors Co. — have reminded their employees that the passage of Amendment 2 does not change their corporate policies of nondiscrimination.



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