



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

The Wisconsin Light

\$129,000 Grant To Assess HIV Prevention Needs In Milwaukee

[Milwaukee]- The Milwaukee Indian Health Board, Inc., (MIHB) has been awarded a one-year \$129,000 grant from the U.S. Conference of Mayors to coordinate the first, comprehensive, community-based HIV Prevention Needs Assessment for the Milwaukee community.

The project is designed to identify current services, barriers, gaps and needs for HIV/AIDS prevention activities. MIHB believe that this is an important opportunity for the Milwaukee community to develop a strong collaborative prevention strategy which will lead to a truly successful HIV/AIDS prevention program for the future.

The assessment will give special focus to the prevention needs of four targeted populations: Gay/Bisexual men, substance users, women in high-risk situations and at-risk youth.

To accomplish this end, 500 surveys will be completed by 125 members of each of the targeted groups. Another survey tool will be developed for prevention service providers to assess the current level of services.

A Collaborative Effort

The project will include input from the City of Milwaukee Health Department, the Medical College of Wisconsin, the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin, the State of Wisconsin AIDS/HIV Program, the American Red Cross, the Milwaukee Public Schools, as well as many community-based organizations involved in prevention.

The project will also include the development of an on-going group for HIV/AIDS prevention planning and coordination and a computerized HIV/AIDS Prevention Resource Data Base.

At the conclusion of the project, a public seminar will be held to release the final report and will include an address by a prominent HIV/AIDS educator or epidemiologist.

For further information, call Joan Lawrence at (414) 931-8111.

MATA Accused of Censoring 'Gay Agenda' Propaganda Video

[Milwaukee]- A dispute has erupted between the producers of **The Brand New Queer TV** program and the Milwaukee Access Telecommunications Authority (MATA) of the showing of the videotape **The Gay Agenda**.

The Gay Agenda is a 20 minute tape produced by Antelope Valley Springs of Life Ministries, a Fundamental Christian group in Lancaster, California. The anti-Gay tape features clips of nudity and bawdiness taken from footage from various Gay Pride parades. Over 25,000 copies of the tape have been distributed across the country, including copies to members of Congress and the Joint Chiefs of Staff. The tape has also been featured on Pat Robertson's **700 Club**.

The producers of **Brand New Queer TV**, Dan Fons and Michael Lisowski, planned to show the complete tape on their March 9, 1993 show at 7:00 p.m.

According to Fons, Jonah Mitchell, who offers a program called **Testimonies of Praise** across the hall from where **QTV** was being shown, saw the tape being broadcast and complained to MATA.

Fons said that a woman, watching the show in the lobby, also complained because Christians were being made fun of.

Afterward, Warner Cable asked for a copy of the tape to show to their lawyers. Fons said that there is no written policy on review of tapes to be cablecast.

Warner shunted the tape back to MATA which insisted that if the tape were to be shown again, certain graphic segments such as a simulated masturbation scene must be masked.

Government Leaders Blasted For Insufficient AIDS Funding



THE BEST IN THE U.S.— Wisconsin's entry in the U.S. Snow Sculpting Team brought home a first place trophy at "The 1993 United States National Snow Sculpting Competition," held recently in Anchorage, Alaska. As a result of their victory Wisconsin snow sculptors Arlyn Kampen (Center), Bill Hackbarth and Paul Hess will represent the United States at the "Olympic Arts Festival" to be held in conjunction with the "The 1994 Winter Olympic Games" in Lillehammer, Norway. Their winning sculpture was a geometric representation of identical horses titled, "Equine Spirit". According to Kampen, the piece was designed to reflect the aesthetic majesty of horses using rectangles, squares, circles and other shapes.

Experts at Harvard Medical School Say Homosexuality May Be Genetic

[Cambridge, MA]- There is evidence that homosexuality may be genetic — but only enough to merit further study, researchers told a Harvard Medical School conference on March 6, 1993.

The cause of homosexuality is "an open and unanswered question," said Dean Hamer, Chief of the gene structure

and regulation section at the National Cancer Institute.

Hamer said his research indicates that sexual orientation may be hereditary on the mother's side.

"Maternal transmission was more than expected by chance" in studies, Hamer said.

However, Dr. Richard Pillard, professor of psychiatry and director of the family studies laboratory at the Boston University School of Medicine, said studies also have found that Gay men are five times more likely to have brothers who are Gay as heterosexual men.

"Sexuality must have some biological basis," said Pillard, who called himself the first openly Gay psychiatrist in the United States.

About 90 people attended the Harvard Medical School symposium on the biological nature of homosexuality and the psychological development of homosexual men and women.

"The biological explanation of homosexuality, or genetic, or choice is the question of today," said Dr. Marshall Forstein, a member of the medical school faculty and a psychiatrist.

But at least on participant, Camille Paglia, said she feared the study of homosexuality's basis would become political, not scientific.

"I'm disappointed in the overly Gay representation here," said Paglia, author of **Sexual Personae and Sex, Art and American Culture**. "I don't like the feeling of a clubhouse. That is not science. There's too much political correctness here."

And April Martin, clinical supervisor of the Yeshiva University doctoral program in psychology, warned that debating the scientific origins of homosexuality would distract attention from human rights issues.

"The question of whether homosexuals should have full legal and civil rights and social acceptance have nothing to do with whether we can or can't help or change our inclinations," said Martin, author of **The Lesbian and**

[Milwaukee]- In an unusually sharp critique, Doug Nelson, Executive Director of the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin (ARCW), parent organization of the Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP), strongly criticized federal, state and local political leaders, including Sen. Herb Kohl, Wisconsin Governor Tommy Thompson, Milwaukee Mayor John Norquist and Milwaukee County Executive Tom Ament for failing to address a worsening AIDS epidemic.

"A lot of political lip service is being offered to the AIDS crisis, yet there are very few political leaders who are willing to commit government resources to meet the enormous demands that the epidemic is placing on our communities," Nelson said.

"What's most distressing is that even our most progressive politicians are failing us," Nelson continued.

Nelson, MAP's long-time Director, serves on the Board of Directors of the National AIDS Action Council in Washington, D.C. and chairs its Public Policy Committee. Having attended several meetings to promote the national AIDS agenda, Nelson expressed serious concerns over political prospects in Washington.

"Senator Kohl joined conservative forces in opposition to lifting the immigration ban on individuals with HIV and he is expressing opposition to the President's economic stimulus package which will double federal AIDS funding for Wisconsin," Nelson continued.

Nelson, obviously upset, pointed out that AIDS activists have waited 12 years for a president to take AIDS seriously and that Kohl's opposition to the President's increased funding for AIDS was "unexpected and a serious set-back" in light of his significant political power on the Senate Appropriations Committee.

"The Republican strategy in Congress is to raise the most controversial issues of the Clinton social agenda and pressure moderate Democrats like Kohl to oppose the President," Nelson explained. "Because the Clinton Administration is not yet fully staffed and therefore somewhat disorganized, the Republican strategy is working and the AIDS agenda and the agenda of the Gay/Lesbian community is suffering."

Nelson praised Sen. Russ Feingold (D-WI) for his lone vote among Wisconsin's Congressional delegation to support the President's initiative to lift the immigration ban. He also praised President Clinton for being one of the only sources of "enlightenment" on AIDS issues in the Washington power structure.

Sites State Failure

Nelson said that recent set-backs go beyond the federal government. "I was notified last week by the State Bureau of Public Health that they intended to cut AIDS prevention grants by 50%," Nelson reported.

"I was astounded that the State, in the most cavalier manner, announced the cut-back at the very moment that the HIV epidemic is intensifying in every region of the state."

Nelson said that the annual AIDS prevention grant of \$357,000 was hardly enough to do justice to a state-wide AIDS prevention campaign and that the Bureau's decision to cut \$177,000 would result in staff reductions at Wisconsin's AIDS service agencies and the elimination of some AIDS prevention programs for high-risk individuals.

Nelson said that Wisconsin was experiencing a 30% increase in the AIDS caseload every year. Tens of thousands of Wisconsin citizens are now infected with HIV and hundreds of thousands of people are at "significant risk" for this devastating disease.

"I cannot understand how any public health professional can ignore the threat

NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

Group Opposes Gay Rights Bill

[Albuquerque, NM]- A group gathered on the University of New Mexico campus to voice opposition to a state bill that would protect Gays and Lesbians from discrimination.

Senate bill 91 is pending in the Legislature. It would add Gays to a list of groups protected by state law from discrimination in employment, housing, and financial matters. About 20 people attended the February 21 rally.

Dustin Kemp, who said he'd "found Jesus" said he didn't understand homosexuality. "Their rights are like evil, man," he said. "I've been against it since I was a kid and I always will be."

Neil Isbin, president of the New Mexico Lesbian and Gay Political Alliance, called the group's effort to portray civil rights as special rights "little more than a ploy to legitimize prejudice."

Anchorage Prepares for a Fight

[Anchorage, AK]- On January 19, 1993, the Anchorage Municipal Assembly passed the first Gay rights bill in Alaskan history. As a result, a group calling itself "Citizens to Repeal the Homosexual Ordinance" collected enough signatures to put the issue to a vote in the April 20 election. As in Colorado and Oregon, Anchorage civil rights leaders report a rise in hate crimes.

"We are asking all our friends in the lower 48 for help. Please send donations to: Alaskans for Civil Rights, P.O. Box 201348, Anchorage, AK 99520. The need is urgent."

'Tour of Duty' Bus Begins Trip

[Washington, D.C.]- Ending the unjust and discriminatory ban on Gay and Bisexual people in the military is the focus of a six-week, nationwide bus tour that began March 14 in Minneapolis and will cover 32 cities in 24 states.

The "Tour of Duty" bus trip has been organized by the Campaign for Military Service, a coalition of civil and human rights groups opposed to the ban. The tour will include rallies, news conferences, local media appearances, and visits to district offices of members of Congress.

Among the people on the tour is Miriam Ben-Shalom of the Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Veterans of America.

The tour will not be coming to Wisconsin. The closest stop will be in Chicago on March 20 when there will be a 2:00 p.m. news conference at Ann Sather restaurant and a rally to follow at 3:00 p.m.

Gay Beating Trial Delayed

[Wilmington, NC]- The trial of three Marines charged with beating a Gay man outside a bar has been delayed until April 5 in New Hanover County, NC District Court.

The delay was requested by an attorney for one of the Marines, said a clerk.

Patrick Gardonne, 23; Walter Guy Watkins III, 26; and Colin C. Hunt, 20, of Camp Lejeune were charged with beating Crae Pridgen outside a bar on January 28. Pridgen called on the Governor and federal officials after the beating to protest anti-Gay violence.

Hollywood Shifts Attention

[Los Angeles]- According to the Associated Press, Hollywood apparently has lost interest in boycotting Colorado over Amendment 2 and instead is focusing on the issue of Gays in the military.

"Our focus has shifted," David Smith, director of Gays and Lesbian Against Defamation (GLAAD) in Los Angeles, said. "Attention on Colorado has been sidetracked."

GLAAD L.A. largely engineered the Hollywood boycott of Colorado. It was supported by Barbra Streisand, Whoopi Goldberg, Joan Rivers and Lily Tomlin, among others.

"By the time Tomlin joined the boycott, we had gotten just about as many entertainers as we were going to get," said Smith. "GLAAD never wanted to be the L.A. chapter of Boycott Colorado anyway."

Alleged Killer May Be Gay

[San Diego]- A Navy man accused of killing a shipmate in Japan had engaged in Gay sex himself with other sailors, possibly including the victim, according to news reports.

In a six-page sworn statement, a sailor who served on the USS Belleau Wood said he and the suspect, Airman Apprentice Terry M. Helvey, had had sexual relations twice. The San Diego Union-Tribune reported. The paper also reported that "a senior Naval official" at the Pentagon said Helvey, 20, had also had sex with Seaman Allen Schindler, the shipmate Helvey is accused of murdering.

Marla Steven's of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force expressed skepticism about the reports. "Even if the military is accurate, which they have no history of in these cases," she said, "the military attitudes which foster this self-loathing contributed to the violence."

Religious Right Fighting Clinton

[Washington, D.C.]- Religious right groups are sending a fresh wave of fundraising letters into America's mailboxes, taking aim at President Clinton's attempts to lift the anti-Gay ban in the military. The fundraising effort involves Jerry Falwell, Pat Robertson, Oliver North, and a host of other luminaries of the religious right.

In one letter, Falwell told people that if they pray and "send me money" they would be doing their part "in the battle for the Lord." The letter concludes, "Jerry Falwell is back and ready to do battle!"

For the religious right, this effort is their first test of strength since the Democrats took power.

United Way Drops Scout Funding

[Portland, ME]- Terry (her full legal name) wanted her son, Nicholas, to join the Cub Scouts. So, she signed herself up as a den mother. She was rejected because she is a Lesbian.

A Gay advocacy group from Boston took up her case and forced United Way to cut off funding to the Boy Scouts, making Portland's United Way the second in the nation after San Francisco to battle the Boy Scouts over its national policy of excluding "known homosexuals."

The Associated Press reports that United Way affiliates from across the country are watching Portland — considered a more mainstream city than San Francisco — to see if there's an impact on fundraising.

The Girl Scouts' national policy prohibits discrimination based on sexual orientation.

Nicholas, now 10, said he doesn't understand why the Scouts would care if his mother is a Lesbian. "I don't know," he said. "They're just kind of what my mom would say — bigots."

100 Women Attend Lesbian Aging Issues Forum in Madison

By Cordy Miller

[Milwaukee]- More than 100 "older" Lesbians — primarily women in their 40s, 50s, 60s, and 70s — from throughout Wisconsin, as well as from several neighboring states, met on March 6, 1993, in Madison for an all-day Lesbian Aging Issues Forum. The Forum was an historical first: the opportunity for so many older Lesbians to identify together anticipated needs and preferences for social and healthcare services as we age and to develop an agenda for educating policy makers and providers of such services.

"We are the avant-garde for all women, including straight women," suggested keynote speaker, Marcia Freedman. "Our lives are more like those of young women's future aging than our straight age peers."

Freedman is a 62-year-old "out Lesbian," director of development and public relations for the American Society on Aging, and a former member of the Israeli Knesset.

Older Lesbians: Largely Invisible

Discussing the virtual lack of research on older Lesbians, Freedman reminded her listeners that "what we learned in the women's movement was that our greatest problem was having been made invisible to ourselves." Older Lesbians are largely invisible, in the straight world as Lesbians and in the Lesbian community as aging women.

She suggested that the most important step is becoming visible to ourselves through "the deeply political process" of consciousness raising around issues of our own internalized ageism and homophobia.

We also need to understand, Freedman said, that homophobia and ageism have different meanings for Lesbians and Gay men.

Ageism in American society is related to fear of death, which tends to be more of a male than a female issue.

Homophobia, on the other hand, tends to be fueled by fear of what would happen if society was no longer driven by the reproductive urge.

Becoming Visible

Freedman offered a long list of needs for action, including insisting that (the existence of) older Lesbians and Gays be recognized by aging services; demanding establishment of "Gay-friendly" services; including Lesbians and Gays as a minority group in aging legislation; and working for passage of a federal domestic partnership law.

Research is needed. What, she asked, do we know about the real economic situation of older Lesbians, elder abuse among Lesbians or health issues of aging Lesbians?

Other Needs

Following Freedman's talk, the remainder of the day focused on identifying needs and preferences related to housing, healthcare, legal and financial services, and social and spiritual systems in later life. Results of these discussions will be edited and used by forum organizers in future education with service providers and policy makers in Wisconsin.

Self-help and Lesbian community efforts were also recognized as essential elements in successful aging. A luncheon panel featured three older Lesbians sharing their own experiences.

One was instrumental in establishing "an alternative family and living under one roof together." Another has been part of creating a Lesbian Cancer Survivors Group, and the third, as an attorney, assisted clients in preparing the eight different documents which can provide Lesbian and Gay couples with the legal protections straight couples derive from their marriage certificate.

The Forum, which was organized by a group of older Madison-area and Milwaukee Lesbians and staff of New Ventures, Inc., and Dane County Older Adult Services, was partially funded by grants from the New Harvest Foundation and the Madison United Way.

For further information about the on-going work of the Lesbian Aging Issues Project, write P.O. Box 843, Madison, WI 53701.

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Momentum Building For March On Washington As April 25 Event Nears

By Terry Boughner

[Milwaukee]-Though it may only be subjective, the feeling among people here and in Madison is that momentum for the March on Washington is building. The last couple of times that I've been in the bars, whenever I've asked the question, "Are you going to the March?", the answer most often has been "Yes."

Some people are going with the Lesbian Alliance of Metro Milwaukee's (LAMB) bus, others in the three vans sponsored by the Lambda Rights Network (LRN). ACT UP Milwaukee also has a van. But more (how many is impossible to tell) are traveling in small informal groups.

A lot are driving. I met one person who said that the Interstates between here and D.C. will become "the queen's highway."

It is just as difficult to tell how many actually will be at the March. Last issue we printed what we'd been told; that March organizers were expecting 1.5 million people.

Since then, I've talked to the March organizers in D.C. and they say they are expecting a million people from the east coast alone. That too, is a subjective assessment. What they're telling the press is that they expect "thousands and thousands."

Counting the Crowd

March on Washington organizers have come up with a novel idea that they hope will ensure that there will be an accurate count of the crowd. March organizers have begun selling multicolor commemorative wristbands that are numbered sequentially.

To order a wristband ahead of time, send \$6 (\$5 for the band, \$1 for shipping) to: March on Washington, P.O. Box 34607, Washington, D.C. 20043. The wristbands will also be on sale at the march.

Fighting the Right

No one is sure just what kind of presence anti-Gay demonstrators will make at the March, but two events during that weekend will help participants counter initiatives by the religious right. The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force hosts, on April 24, a "Fight the Right Town Meeting." The program will feature people who are out in the field organizing against the Far Right.

Earlier that day, a local chapter of Presbyterians for Lesbian and Gay Concerns will conduct a "Biblical Self-defense Workshop."

Interest Growing For Statewide Coalition

[Madison]- State Representative Tammy Baldwin (D-Madison), who announced her plan for building a statewide Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual rights coalition in the Light last month, reports that her idea has met with an enthusiastic response.

"Our office and the Wisconsin Light have both received numerous calls from interested people from around the state," Rep. Baldwin said. "And I've had the opportunity to set up a couple of preliminary meetings with interested people in both Milwaukee and Madison."

"Our hope is to have a planning meeting in the late spring with any eye to putting together a much larger conference in the late summer or early fall in order to kick off a statewide coalition at that time," she added.

In the meantime, Rep. Baldwin encourages supporters of Gay and Lesbian rights to write or call their representatives in Congress voicing their support of the lifting of the ban on Gays and Lesbians in the military. Both the House and the Senate will soon begin hearings on the matter.

"They must hear from us now," Baldwin said.

Sen. Herbert Kohl and a majority of those in Wisconsin's Congressional delegation are still undecided on this issue. Sen. Russ Feingold and other supporters of lifting the ban must also hear from us. They can be reached through their local district offices or through the Congressional switchboard at (202) 224-3121.

People interested in working with Rep. Baldwin in building a statewide coalition can contact her at (608) 266-8570, or, better yet, write to her c/o the Wisconsin State Assembly, P.O. Box 8952, Madison, WI 53708. Baldwin is especially interested in hearing from people with contacts in the areas outside of Madison and Milwaukee.

The annual Lesbian Physicians Conference will convene in Alexandria, VA, April 25-28.

Putting its D.C.-area location to best advantage, this year's conference will discuss Lesbian and women's health issues in the larger context of public health and the health of the nation. Presentations will address coronary artery disease, osteoporosis, cancer prevention, breast health and Lesbian health as reviewed in the medical literature.

These are only two of the events to be held that weekend. Next issue we will list them all as they are available.

Bring A Quilt Panel to Washington

The Names Project, sponsor of the AIDS Memorial Quilt, has called for all who are going to the March to bring new three-by-six-foot panels commemorating those who have died of AIDS for inclusion in a unique display of the AIDS Memorial Quilt.

Names Project co-founder Mike Smith, who is organizing the display, says he anticipates receiving over 2,000 new panels.

The Quilt will cover the Mall between 13th and 14th streets in front of the National Museum of American History. The display will repeat the size and shape of the Quilt's inaugural display during the 1987 March, when it included 1,920 panels.

This display, however, breaks from tradition in more ways than one. Forming

'Stoking Fires Of Our Love' Couples Workshop Set

[Madison]- A weekend workshop for Gay and Lesbian couples, "Stoking the Fires of Our Love," will be held from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at Apple Island in Madison. Sponsored by Lives Unlimited School of Healing Arts and funded in part by a grant from the New Harvest Foundation, this will be the first workshop of its kind held in Madison.

The workshop is for couples currently in committed relationships (which includes over half of the estimated 22 million Gay and Lesbian people living in this country), who want to celebrate, nourish, strengthen and deepen their relationship.

Workshop activities will create support and validation for the relationship, and will help reduce isolation and invisibility.

the foundation of the display will be 240 twelve-by-twelve-foot "Signature Squares," fabric blocks on which visitors to previous Quilt displays have inscribed their names, written notes to departed loved one and captured their feelings and thoughts on fabric.

The Signature Squares will be unfolded on the morning of Saturday, April 24.

To include panels for display, panel-makers must present them in person. Panel makers who can't attend may send their panels for display with friends. Because the display will contain only new panels, the Names Project cannot accept requests that other panels be included.

The cost of the week-end workshop is \$100 per couple. For more information and to register, call (608) 256-3733.

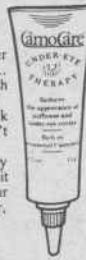
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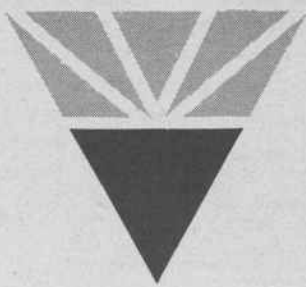
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EDITORIAL

Murder of Dr. Gunn Is Outrageous Action By 'Right to Lifers'

We heartily applaud President Clinton's condemnation of the assassination of Dr. David Gunn. Equally hearty is our support for Milwaukee Mayor John Norquist's call to the new Attorney General, Janet Reno, to launch a federal investigation into anti-abortion activity centered in Milwaukee.

The word 'assassination' is the only one that can be properly used to describe what happened. It was not simply a murder or even an execution. It was a savage act of religious revenge, motivated by a dark, merciless outpouring of inflammatory rhetoric from anti-abortionists and other right-wing Christian Fundamentalists; the same people whose literature advocates that Lesbians and Gay men should be put into camps.

By this act and their approval of it, the anti-abortionists have shown themselves to be blatant hypocrites, "whited sepulchers" to us a familiar phrase. By their words, they claim to care about life. This, they say, is their chief and only concern. But their actions, including this assassination, say they have no concern for human life at all.

These people want contraceptive information denied to students. Because of this, how many young people will lose their "right to life" to AIDS?

Information about homosexuality, they say, must not be taught in the schools. The result is that countless teens commit suicide while other Gay people are beaten and killed in the streets. Don't they, us, have a "right to life" too?

The answer is obviously, "Not unless you conform. Not unless you agree with us. That's the only right to life you have. The right we give you as we play God." This mentality, a Nazi mentality, resulted in Dr. Gunn's death.

We condemn equally the religious leaders of whatever faith, denomination or tradition who have said nothing in outrage over this crime. What else can their silence be than a judgement against them?

If our words are strong, they are meant to be exactly that. The Fundamentalist Christians have taken on Lesbians and Gays and our rights as another point in their program. Who among us will follow Dr. Gunn in death, killed because we have no "right to life."

Make History: Elect Gaylord As Madison Municipal Judge

Voters throughout the city of Madison can make history by electing Shelley Gaylord to the newly-created post of Madison Municipal Judge on April 6. If elected, Gaylord will be Wisconsin's first openly Lesbian or Gay judge.

In 13 years of service to the Madison community as an attorney and activist, Gaylord has proven herself uniquely qualified for the job. She has received the endorsements of numerous community leaders and the almost unprecedented endorsement of seven Dane County judges. Her qualifications, her record of service to the Gay and Lesbian community, and her solid campaign organization led to her endorsement by the Washington-based Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund.

Following in the proud traditions of Wisconsin's openly Lesbian and Gay politicians, Gaylord exemplifies the high calibre of candidates that our community has to offer. It is with great pride that we urge you to do everything possible to make history by electing Shelley Gaylord as Municipal Judge on April 6.

CARSTENSEN AND WILLIAMS FOR MADISON SCHOOL BOARD

Carol Carstensen and Peter Williams deserve your support in achieving re-election to the Madison school board. Three years ago, Carstensen and Williams stood with our community in denouncing the campaign of hatred and homophobia that was being waged by candidates supported by the archconservative CARE committee.

What happens in the schools helps set the climate in which we live. The schools must be a place where children are taught the value of the diversity of cultures and family forms that are found in our community, including the value of Gay and Lesbian families and individuals. Carstensen and Williams have been leaders in advocating for this approach.

Three years ago, a CARE spokesperson told us that we were "weeds who must be removed from this community." While their tactics backfired that year, CARE candidates have won elections in each of the two years since. This year, this well-organized group could win a majority on the board, if we are not equally well-organized. We urge you to do everything in your power to re-elect Carol Carstensen and Peter Williams to the Madison School Board on April 6.

RECOMMENDATIONS

First Congressional District, Democratic Primary: Peter Barca or Jeffrey Neubauer
Special Senate Races: David Cullen (Milwaukee area, 5th Dist.) Joseph Wineke (Madison area, 27th Dist.) Jerome Dachel (Chippewa Falls area, 23rd Dist.)
State Superintendent of Schools: John Benson
Madison Municipal Judge: Shelley Gaylord
Madison School Board: Carol Carstensen and Peter Williams

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Washington DC APRIL 25, 1993



DON'T MISS THIS ONE!

LETTERS

TO THE EDITOR:

Like it or not, we/you/me, here in California and you guys in Wisconsin, are in the middle of a battle. It is a fight as basic as right vs. wrong, good against evil. It is nothing less than that.

If you choose to poo-poo the situation facing our community, you are on the wrong side of the fight. Like it or not, we are front page news. The President of the United States is on our side. How about you?

The battle fronts are many, some drawing more ink and air than others.

The Colorado question — to boycott or not.

The real question should be: how did the ballot question get asked in the first place? How was the Amendment proposal even validated? If the Amendment dealt with a racial or religious issue, the howls would have been deafening. But instead, the question was put on referendum, and, we/you/me lost.

New ballot battle fronts are being drawn. Petition papers have been taken out in California. Likewise in Florida, Idaho, Maine, Missouri, Minnesota, Washington State and Oregon — again!

How much will it cost to fight this hatred? One thing for certain — it will cost a lot more not to.

The sooner we stop it, the less that cost will be.

The battle is bigger than gaining acceptance in the military. It's bigger than the right to legal domestic partnership. It is so big that most of us will never benefit from the fruits of our labors, not even those of us who live to a ripe old age.

Our work is for the future generations of Lesbians and Gays struggling to accept themselves in a world where being "queer" is taught to be wicked and vile.

While it is all so overwhelming, everywhere we turn, (watercooler chatter about "those" people, televised bashing by the elite of the U.S. Senate, the hissy fits of the pompous pimps of the pulpits) the answer is not to bury your head in the sand. Clicking your heels together won't deliver you from it either. For better or worse, this is home.

And we can make it better. We/you/me have to.

Perhaps most important, we must try, try to get to Washington D.C. for the April 25 rally. It will be our opportunity to show the world our numbers and our diversity. Go! By bus, plane, train or thumb, it will be the singular greatest event you will ever experience.

If there is simply no way your body can be there, make certain your spirit and support is. Make out a check for \$5, \$10 or whatever amount you can and send it to the National March On Washington Office, P.O. Box 34607, Washington, D.C. 20043. This national effort is not government subsidized. We/you/me must pick up the tab.

— David Reid
West Hollywood, CA

Blatant Bigot

TO THE EDITOR:

I am appalled that the University of Wisconsin would pay \$5,000 to a blatant bigot like Phyllis Schlafly.

The fact that she was able to elicit applause from her conservative supporters for statements that were literally smoke screens for legalized bigotry, should be a burden on the conscience of every person who helped bring her to campus.

Last night, Phyllis Schlafly recited her usual dodge-tactic on the issue of Gay rights. She said she believed in equal pay for equal work, but also that Gays don't deserve what she calls "special rights" as a protected minority.

What her logic fails to address is the issue of equal rights. Gay people do not have the legal right to get married, and in almost half the states, do not even have the legal right to have sex. This proves beyond any shadow of a doubt that Gays are systematically discriminated against on a continual basis by a prejudiced heterosexual majority. Thus, Gays do need protection against discrimination.

But I also believe that the "special rights" ploy of the conservatives is a good sign since it reveals that they are afraid of being tagged, once again, as opponents of equal rights for all.

However, when Gays finally receive equal rights, history will remember the religious right-wing for the bigots that they are!

— Nick Kokoshis, Jr.
Aurora, IL

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Violence Against Gays Reaches All-Time Record High Report Shows

[Washington, D.C.]—In April, 1992, a 14-year-old boy was beaten by family members and thrown out of his house after talking to Gay activists outside of his family's church in Sacramento, California.

On September 26, 1992, Hattie Mae Cohen, an African American Lesbian, and Brian Mock, a white Gay man with a disability, were fire-bombed to death when skinheads tossed a molotov cocktail into their house after earlier beating Mock while shouting anti-Gay epithets. The skinheads called Cohen a "nigger dyke" when she came to Mock's defense during a previous attack.

These and other such incidents are examples of Anti-Lesbian/Gay violence published in a new report issued March 11, 1993 by the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) Policy Institute. The report concludes that such violence has reached "an all-time record high."

The findings in the eighth annual NGLTF report, **Anti-Gay/Lesbian Violence, Victimization and Defamation in 1992**, exposes disturbing pervasiveness of attacks on Gay people in five major urban areas and other locations around the nation.

In addition, the report cites the documented surge in violence against Gays in Colorado and Oregon in the wake of anti-Gay referenda in those states, and victimization of Gays in the military following the controversy over the U.S. Armed Forces ban on Gays.

172 Percent Increase

A total of 1,898 anti-Gay incidents — including harassment, threats, physical assaults, vandalism, arson, police abuse and murder — were reported to agencies in New York, Boston, Chicago, Minneapolis/St. Paul and San Francisco. The incidents represent a 4% increase over 1991's total of 1,822. Taken together, such episodes of violence represent a 172% increase over the 697 bias incidents reported five years ago by the same agencies.

Among the most serious incidents to increase were homicides, which climbed 50% from 8 in 1991 to 12 in 1992. Physical assaults, or "Gay bashings," rose from 775 to 817, an increase of 5%.

In Milwaukee, at a meeting on Sunday, March 7, 1993, a young Gay man comments sadly on his ever-present fear of being bashed every time he goes out. No one in the group thinks that he is exaggerating.

Homophobic victimization exploded in the wake of highly publicized anti-Gay referenda campaigns in Oregon and Colorado last year.

In 1992, the Portland, Oregon victim assistance agency documented 968 incidents, more than any other location in the country. And in Colorado, homophobic incidents tripled during November and December following passage of that state's anti-Gay Amendment 2.

In Milwaukee

The NGLTF report focuses on trends in five key U.S. urban areas with professionally staffed Gay victim assistance agencies. The agencies employ data collection systems supported by the FBI and the Department of Justice. The geographic and cultural diversity of the areas, combined with prevalence studies and reports from additional locations, indicate that anti-Gay violence is a pervasive problem nationwide.

Scott Gunkel, President of the Lambda Rights Network said that incidents of anti-Gay violence seemed to be down in 1992, at least one half of what it had been in 1991. He added that there were probably cases that had never been reported.

Talk Radio and the Atmosphere of Violence

Martin Kazu Hiraga, author of NGLTF's report, noted that the reported incidents represent only a fraction of the actual attacks since many victims fear coming forward to report crimes because of the potential for anti-Gay discrimination.

NGLTF activists assert that anti-Gay violence in 1992 occurred in the context of a right-wing backlash against Gay organizing.

"Government officials, political candidates — especially at the Republican National Convention — ...and top military officials created an atmosphere of utter contempt for Gay people by repeating destructive myths in the press, in Congress and in the Pentagon," said Hiraga.

Other Gay activists include among Hiraga's list the hate-rhetoric of right-wing religious leaders like Pat Robertson

of the "700 Club." Also noted is the inflammatory rhetoric of radio talkshow hosts.

Attacks on People With AIDS

The New York City area recorded the highest number of reported episodes (662), followed by San Francisco (435), Minneapolis/St. Paul (311), Chicago (252), and Boston (238).

The reported incidents were directed at a total of 2,534 individuals, of whom 1,745 were male; 678 were female; 111 were "unknown."

AIDS bias continues to be a factor in many of the anti-Gay attacks. Among the incidents reported, 168 involved AIDS-related epithets or were directed against people with AIDS or perceived to have AIDS.

Of all the crimes reported to NGLTF, only 322 were reported to local police.

In its first report on hate-crimes, the FBI listed only 422 of its 4,558 hate-crimes as anti-Gay.

Colorado, Oregon and the Military

In the wake of anti-Gay campaigns in Colorado and Oregon, anti-Gay violence exploded. In 1992, the Portland, Oregon victim assistance agency documented 968 bias incidents, more than any other Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual agency in the U.S.

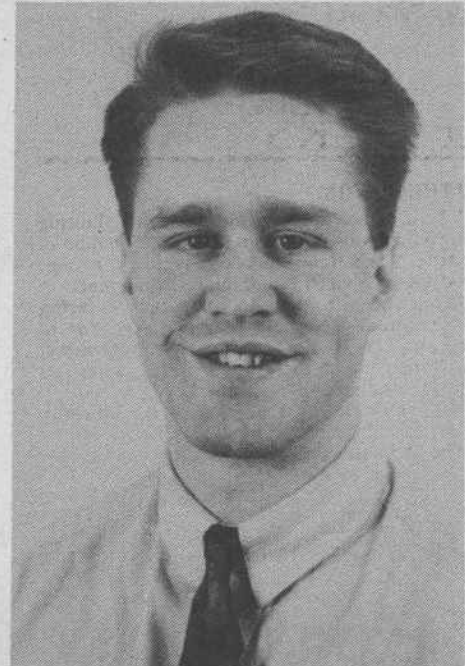
For example, on June 6, 1992, the offices of the Portland, Oregon, campaign fighting an anti-Gay referendum were ransacked. Organizational donor and member lists were stolen and individuals whose names appeared on the lists later received death threats.

Denver victim advocates reported 204 homophobic incidents, with 40% recorded in November and December, after Amendment 2 passed. This is over 100% increase over 1991.

NGLTF continues to receive anecdotal reports of violence by military service members against Gay civilians and military personnel.

Dane County Board Candidate Janssen Supports Gay Rights

[Madison]—Progressives will be one vote closer to regaining a progressive majority on the Dane County Board if candidate Andy Janssen wins an April 6 special election. Janssen is running in District 5, which includes the UW's Eagle Heights apartments and an area south of the western half of the UW campus. (This is the same district served by city council Ald. Joe Szwaja.)



ANDY JANSSEN

"Andy would be a great addition to the board," says Dane County supervisor Mark Pocan. "He's a solid progressive, and he's been very supportive of Gay and Lesbian issues as well as being an advocate for people with disabilities. He comes with an understanding and compassion for the issues that affect people."

Janssen serves as an aide to Rep. Tom Springer (D-Mosinee). For two years until recently, he worked in Alaska for an agency that advocates for people with disabilities. If elected, he would make adequate funding for programs for people with AIDS, and other human services programs, a high priority.

UW-Stevens Point To Host Gay Pride Week 'Fresh Air...' Events

[Stevens Point, WI]—The Ten Percent Society at UW-Stevens Point will sponsor a Gay Pride Week entitled "Fresh Air in the Closet," March 29-April 2. Programs and activities will be held each day of that week in UW-Stevens Point's University Center. All the programs are free of charge and everyone is welcome.

Monday, March 29: An informational booth on Bisexual/Lesbian/Gay Pride will appear in the University Concourse, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Tuesday, March 30: Reverend Dusty Pruitt, a U.S. Army Captain discharged for being a Lesbian, will present "Gays in the Military: A Firsthand Account." This will be at 8:00 p.m. in the Wisconsin Room of the University Center.

Wednesday, March 31: A

Rave/Not-A-Rave dance titled, "Land of the Free, Home of the Rave," will be held in the University's Freemont Terrace, from 8:30 to 11:00 p.m.

Thursday, April 1: The Ten Percent Society will hold a Homophobia workshop in the Garland Room, from 9:00 to 10:30 p.m.

Friday, April 2: The movie, **The Times of Harvey Milk** will be shown in the University Center Green Room, at 7:30 p.m.

The Ten Percent Society is proud to offer this, its most extensive Pride Week schedule ever. The group has been often successful in the past, having been voted UW-Stevens Point's Organization of the Year for 1991-92.

Congressional Candidates Neubauer and Barca Seek Gay Support

By John Quinlan

[Madison]—In a tangible sign of the Lesbian and Gay community's growing political importance, two of the frontrunners in the race to succeed Les Aspin in Congress are actively seeking our community's support.

Nearly a dozen candidates have lined up in the primary for the First Congressional District seat that was vacated when Aspin became President Clinton's Defense Secretary. The district stretches along Wisconsin's southern border and includes Racine, Kenosha, Beloit and Janesville.

On the Democratic side, the frontrunners are believed to be State Rep. Peter Barca of Kenosha and former State Rep. Jeffrey Neubauer of Racine, who recently resigned as chair of the state party. (Janesville's Rep. Wayne Wood, an outspoken opponent of both abortion rights and Gay rights, is considered to be a longshot possibility.)

Both Barca and Neubauer can point to large numbers of supporters in the Gay and Lesbian community. The **Light** has learned that both candidates have asked for the support of the Washington-based Human Rights Campaign Fund (HRCF), a political action committee that funds candidates who are supportive of Gay and Lesbian rights.

As of press time, HRCF officials were deciding whether to choose one of these two candidates in the April 6 primary, or to hold off on their support until after the Democratic nominee has been chosen. The support would come in the form of a

\$5,000 contribution.

Both Barca and Neubauer had exemplary voting records on Gay and Lesbian rights issues during their tenure in the state legislature. Both candidates have also pledged their support of the lifting of the ban on Gays and Lesbians in the military, and would support a federal Gay and Lesbian civil rights bill.

On the Republican side, multi-millionaire Mark Neumann is considered the favorite to make it through the primary. His main opponent is Rep. Charles Coleman of Whitewater. Neumann had spent nearly a million dollars of his own money last Fall in an unsuccessful attempt to unseat Aspin. He is considered to be a formidable opponent for any Democrat who, unlike Aspin, will be running without the advantages of the incumbency.

Aspin had held the seat for more than 20 years, and the Democratic party considers it crucial to keep it in the general election this May. While both of Wisconsin's U.S. senators are now Democrats, only three of Wisconsin's nine seats in the House of Representatives are currently held by Democrats: David Obey, Gerald Kleczka, and Tom Barrett.

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STATISTICAL REPORT

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	MAP	SEWAP	NOWAP	ARCW
NUMBER OF CLIENTS	634	72	22	728
CLIENT DEMOGRAPHICS				
MALE	528	56	19	603
FEMALE	91	14	3	108
CHILDREN	15	2	0	17
ETHNICITY				
CAUCASIAN	342	52	22	416
AFRICAN AMERICAN	211	13	0	224
LATINO/HISPANIC	79	6	0	85
AMERICAN INDIAN	1	0	0	1
ASIAN	1	1	0	2
CLIENT DIAGNOSIS				
AIDS DIAGNOSIS	189	16	6	211
HIV SYMPTOMATIC	237	29	10	276
HIV ASYMPTOMATIC	208	27	6	241
EXPOSURE CATEGORY				
HOMOSEXUAL/BI MALE	393	43	15	451
INJECTION DRUG USER	88	10	0	98
HETEROSEXUAL	99	7	5	111
MOTHER WITH/AT RISK	13	2	0	15
TRANSFUSION	7	2	1	10
HOMOSEXUAL MALE & IDU	2	7	0	9
HEMOPHILIA	3	0	0	3
UNDETERMINED	29	1	1	31
SUPPORT SERVICES				
FOOD PANTRY	671	18	0	689
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE	53	0	1	54
LEGAL SERVICES	312	53	14	379
SPIRITUAL CARE	13	0	0	13
HOUSING ASSISTANCE	48	0	0	48
EMOTIONAL SUPPORT	58	6	7	71
PRACTICAL SUPPORT	37	5	2	44
SUPPORT GROUPS	184	48	16	248
TRANSPORTATION	33	0	1	34
COUNTY CENSUS				
MAP		SEWAP		
MILWAUKEE	605	RACINE	24	
WAUKESHA	24	KENOSHA	45	
WASHINGTON	2	WALWORTH	3	
OZAUKEE	3			

Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP)
Southeast Wisconsin AIDS Project (SEWAP)
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The Light LIVELY ARTS



CELEBRITY-LOOK-A-LIKES—America's leading nightclub puppeteer, Jerry Halliday (Above with puppet Lola) will appear at Milwaukee's M&M Club on Sunday, March 28 at 9 P.M. Halliday, who designs and builds his own puppets, does the voice and characters of Bette Davis, Carol Channing, Katherine Hepburn, Mae West, Marilyn Monroe, Tammy Fae Bakker among others. The M&M is located at 124 N. Water St. and there will be no cover charge.

Two Prominent Gay History Scholars To Speak March 26 at UW-Milwaukee

[Milwaukee]—Two leading scholars in the field of Gay and Lesbian history will speak at UW-Milwaukee later this month.

George Chauncey, Assistant Professor of History at the University of Chicago, will deliver a lecture entitled "Rethinking the History of the Closet" on March 26 at 3:30 p.m. in Room 118, Curtin Hall.

Chauncey coedited (with Martin Duberman and Martha Vicinus) the anthology, *Hidden from History: Recovering the Gay and Lesbian Past* (New York, 1989), and is currently completing *Gay New York: Gender, Urban Culture, and the Making of the Gay Male World, 1880-1970*, to be published by Basic Books next year. Chauncey's visit is being sponsored by the Center for Twentieth Century Studies.

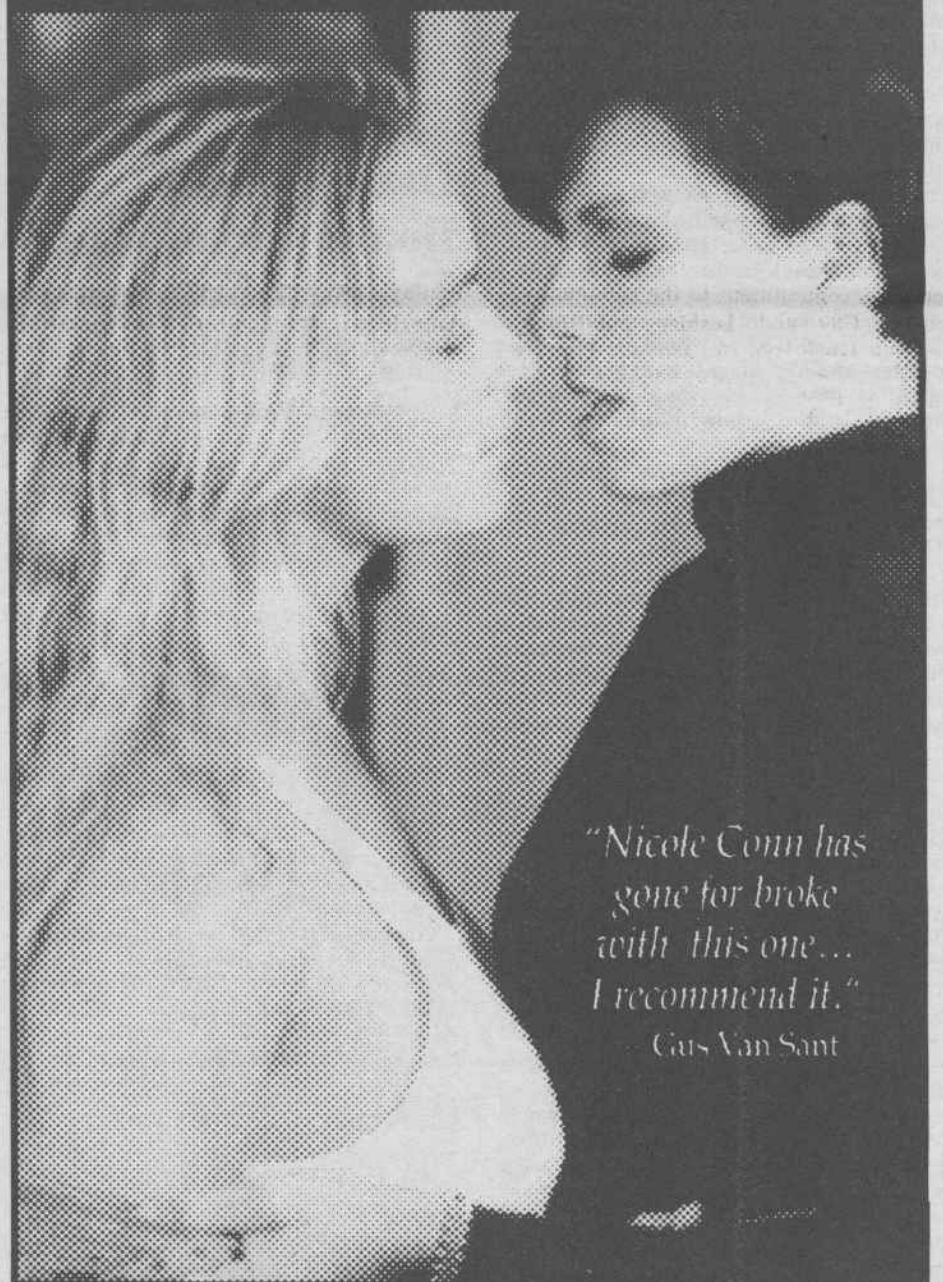
Lillian Faderman

Lillian Faderman, Professor of English at California State University-Fresno, will deliver a lecture entitled "Naked Amazons and Queer Demoiselles: A History of Lesbians in the Military" on March 30 at 3:30 p.m. in the Wisconsin Room West in the UW-Milwaukee Union.

Faderman has published *Surpassing the Love of Men: Romantic Friendship and Love Between Women from the Renaissance to the Present* (New York, 1971), among other works.

Faderman's appearance is being cosponsored by the Departments of English and History, the Center for Women's Studies, the Honors Program, and the UW-Milwaukee Student Union.

"A landmark film...unprecedented frankness."
Michael McCambridge, Austin American Statesman



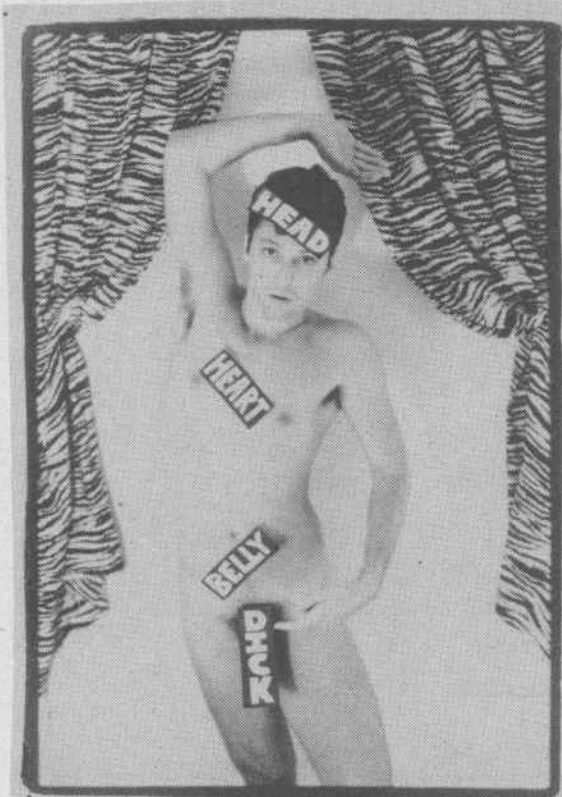
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'Queer Television' Cable Program To Bring Down the Curtain

[Milwaukee]- Producers Mark Behar and Bryce Clark have announced that the end has come for Queer Television (QTV).

The long-running cable program dedicated to the interests of the Lesbian and Gay community has, over its span of years, received many awards for those who dedicated themselves to its production. These include the Hometown USA Video Festival Award in 1989, the first public access producers in Milwaukee to achieve such recognition.

Hometown is one of the largest video competitions in the world.

Behar and Clark also won an Outstanding Achievement Award TV Special Projects in 1991 by the Gay and Lesbian Press Association as well as numerous local Philo awards by MATA.

In addition to QTV, Clark and Behar produced Tri-Cable Tonight and The New Tri-Cable Tonight along with six episodes of the comedy program, "Yellow On Thursday" and an assortment of other programs on Gay/Lesbian topics.

"It's only a mental health vacation for resting and getting recharged," said Behar about the end of QTV.

Clark added, "We both have new jobs and need to get settled, but we'll be back eventually."

QTV's absence does not leave Milwaukee without television for the

Lesbian/Gay community. The Brand New Queer Show continues as a live and lively program produced by Dan Fons and Michael Lisowski.

Lisowski served for many years as a host for QTV and several of its predecessor programs.

The Brady East STD Clinic also has a weekly program on the subject of Gay/Lesbian health, HIV/AIDS and related issues.

ACT UP Milwaukee has a program, and there are plans for a new program to be devoted to issues of Lesbian interest.

The Final Curtain

Queer Television at the end of March and early April, 1993, will air their final program. The program will promote the upcoming March on Washington. Host Michael Lisowski speaks with Ron Geiman, Julie Kleppin and Bill Meunier about the March on Washington and what it is going to be like. Cablecast dates for the program are: March 25 and 28 and April 1, 4, 8 and 11.

All programs are produced by the Milwaukee Gay/Lesbian Cable Network and are cablecast on Milwaukee Warner Cable's public access Channel 14 (MATA), Thursday and Sunday evenings, 10:30 to 11:00 p.m.

Clinton Appoints Gays To Top Government Posts

[Washington, D.C.]- President Clinton has been fulfilling his promises to the nation by appointing people who represent the diversity of our country to top government and White House posts according to Coalition '93, the Gay and Lesbian community's Presidential Transition Project working with the Clinton Administration to consider qualified Gay men and Lesbians for top appointments.

Coalition '93 is a broad based coalition of national and regional Gay and Lesbian organizations including: the Human Rights Campaign Fund, The Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund, the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force and the Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Veterans of America, among others.

"This is an historic time for our country and for our community. It is exciting to see qualified men and women, who are openly Gay and Lesbian, being able to serve our country and not be hiding behind closet doors," said Andrew Barrer, Coalition '93 Director. Barrer served as an advisor to President Clinton on health care financing during the transition period following the November 3, 1992 election.

Recent Appointments

The most recent appointments include:

Peter Pappas, a former New York attorney, to the position of Special Counsel to the President at The White House;

Keith Boykin, a graduate of Harvard Law School, as Special Assistant to the President and director of news analysis in the Office of Communications at The White House;

Bob Hattoy, a long-time Clinton campaign aide on environment issues and guest speaker at the 1992 Democratic Convention who spoke about being a Gay man with AIDS, has been appointed Associate Director, Office of Presidential Personnel at The White House;

Romulo "Romy" Diaz, Jr., a long-time staff person and attorney at the Department of Energy, has been appointed Deputy Chief of Staff and Counselor to the Secretary, at the Department of Energy.

As previously announced, San Francisco Supervisor Roberta Achtenberg has been appointed as Assistant Secretary for Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity at the Department of Housing and Urban Development. She is presently awaiting her confirmation hearing with the Senate Banking Committee.

Fifth Annual Lambda Literary Awards Finalists Named

[Washington, D.C.]- What is a Lesbian or Gay book? The answer to that question played a key role in the decisions that went into selecting the finalists for this year's Lambda Literary Awards.

The finalists committee stresses books that explore directly the conditions of Lesbian and Gay life. This focus on Lesbian and Gay content was the primary reason for the most noticeable omission: Dorothy Allison's National Book Award finalist *Bastard Out of Carolina*.

"It was a close call that we discussed extensively," said Jane Troxell, editor of the *Lambda Book Report*, which sponsors the awards. "There was no question about the book's literary merit, nor of Dorothy's commitment to the community, and to Gay and Lesbian publishing. Allison's *Trash* won two Lambda Literary Awards at the first Awards banquet.

In the end, the committee went with books whose main characters were Lesbians consciously concerned with exploring their identity — all books of high merit and distinctive literary styles.

The finalists were: *Running Fiercely Toward a High Thin Sound* by Judith Katz; *Empathy* by Sarah Schulman; *Aquamarine* by Carol Anshaw; *Terrible Girls* by Rebecca Brown, and *On Ships at Sea* by Madelyn Arnold.

Indeed, this year's list of Lesbian Fiction finalists appeared to be following the same trend as Gay Men's Fiction, as the list in both cases was dominated by mainstream publishers. All of the Gay Men's books were from corporate publishers, while three of the Lesbian Fiction were from mainstream houses.

The Gay Men's finalists were: *Winter Eyes* by Lev Raphael; *Almost History* by Christopher Bram; *Latin Moon in Manhattan* by Jaime Manrique; *Let the Dead Bury the Dead* by Randall Kenan, and *The Dream Life* by Bo Huston.

This year, Penguin USA led with eight

titles, followed closely by St. Martin's Press with seven. Alyson Publications, a Gay owned and operated press, followed with six titles. Lesbian publishers Naiad and Firebrand each had three titles.

If the continuing intersection of Gay and mainstream publishing (and the blurring of the distinction between Gay and Lesbian and mainstream books) was one trend, the other was the proliferation of small presses, particularly presses supporting the Lesbian market. Nearly 15 presses directed primarily or in significant part at Lesbian readers had finalists.

Award recipients will be announced at a gala banquet in Miami, Florida, on Friday, May 28, 1993 during the American Booksellers Association Convention. The banquet will be held at the Hotel Intercontinental.

Support Group for Young Women Meets Weekly

[Milwaukee]- Insight, a support/discussion group for 17-21 year-old women exploring their sexual identity or are in the process of coming out, meets weekly at The Counseling Center of Milwaukee.

Insight provides a supportive place to discuss family and school life, coming out, sexuality, relationships and self-esteem. Group meetings are geared to the particular needs and concerns of the members. Participants are assured of confidentiality and an understanding environment in which to discuss their feelings.

Anyone interested in Insight can call Cheryl Orgas, coordinator of the Women's Support Group Program at (414) 271-2565.

AIDS Scientist, Fauci, To Receive Medical College Honorary Degree

[Milwaukee]- Anthony S. Fauci, M.D., Director of both the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), and the National Institutes of Health's (NIH) Office of AIDS Research, will receive an Honorary Degree at the Medical College of Wisconsin's (MCW) 80th commencement exercises. He will speak at the graduation ceremonies on Saturday, May 15, at 2:00 p.m., at the MECCA Auditorium in Milwaukee.

Fauci is an internationally renowned scientist and a pioneer in the field of human immunoregulation. He is widely recognized for defining the precise

mechanisms through which the AIDS virus destroys the body's immune defense system, and has been instrumental in developing strategies to rebuild this system in patients suffering from this disease.

Fauci, a native of Brooklyn, New York, graduated from Cornell University Medical College in 1966, and complete an internship and residency at Cornell Medical College in 1966, and completed an internship and residency at Cornell Immunoregulation, a position he still holds today.

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Women Write Themselves Into History

By Jamakaya

I couldn't let Women's History Month roll by without some comment...

In 1984 the State Historical Society of Wisconsin published a 290-page volume by Robert W. Ozanne called *The Labor Movement in Wisconsin*.

Purportedly the most comprehensive history of the state's labor movement, the book contained just six pages on "Women and Wisconsin Labor" in a subsection of a chapter titled "Education and Social Issues." White women should no doubt be grateful for that little crumb tossed our way. After all, African-Americans were relegated to just four pages — yes, four! — of the 290-page tome.

That such a myopic book was published by our state's largest and most prestigious historical archive years after Women's Studies and Black Studies had institutionalized themselves on college campuses illustrates that the white boys who still dominate the historical profession (to paraphrase Bob Packwood's infamous words) "just don't get it."

Miffed, in part, by Ozanne's erasure, and motivated by the desire to have the voices of Wisconsin's working women preserved, union women themselves initiated the Women of Wisconsin Labor Oral History Project.

It's been my pleasure for the last few years to conduct in depth interviews with 25 women who have played and are currently playing important roles fighting for workers' rights. They are old and young, black and white, white collar and blue collar. Many of them battled against great odds to make their own way in the working world and to see that their sisters got a fair shake too. Sometimes they had to fight the male union bosses almost as much as management to secure equal opportunities. All of their stories have been instructive and inspiring.

Some pioneers, like Evelyn Donner Day and Alice Holz, were pegged as "agitators" and "Reds" when they helped organize unions as far back as the 1920's and the Depression years.

Donner Day first labored and organized among the ever exploited garment workers and later became a leader in the United Auto Workers. Holz, the daughter of Milwaukee Socialists, coordinated a nationwide network of office workers which was formalized in 1945 as the Office and Professional Employees International Union.

I was able to interview the legendary Catherine Conroy shortly before her death. Conroy was a leading figure in Wisconsin's labor movement and women's movement for four decades. An official of the Communications Workers of America, she was a founder of NOW, the Coalition of Labor Union Women and the Wisconsin Women's Network. Conroy was in that famous hotel room with Betty Friedan and other NOW founders back in 1966 and, true to her reputation for pragmatism, told the assembled women to "Put your money where your mouth is!" and passed the hat to establish a treasury.

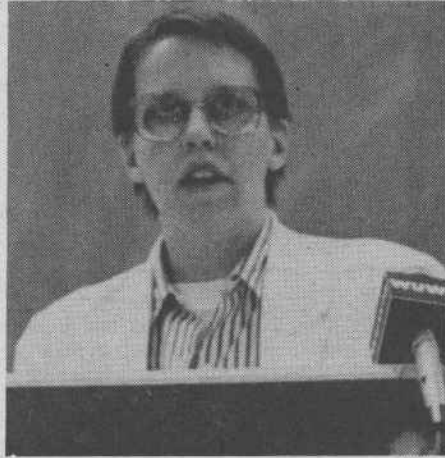
Conroy was a mentor to dozens of union members and feminist activists, and her primary legacy is the coalition she forged between organized labor and women. Among my favorite Conroy-isms: "Justice cannot be achieved without wielding a club of some kind."

A self-described "thorn in the side of management," Nellie Wilson became a leader in the Smith Steelworkers Local 19806. But it was a hard climb.

An excellent student in high school, Wilson was devastated when told that no school or hospital in the 1930s would train black women as nurses. She was relegated to menial, slave-wage domestic work (one live-in housekeeping job paid just \$3.25 per week) until the war years, when pressure by black leaders forced defense industries to hire blacks.

The work at A.O. Smith was hard and dirty, but Wilson, a single mom, was thrilled to be earning a decent paycheck. She credits the union with helping women and blacks stay on at the plant after the war. For another 24 years Wilson continually battled for equal pay and access to jobs for women workers.

I ask each interviewee a standard question: "Do you consider yourself a feminist?" and Wilson's response was my favorite. She looked at me incredulously and said: "I'm one of the



JAMAKAYA

women who started the goddam thing!" Doris Thom achieved important "firsts" for women at Janesville's General Motors plant where the jobs were rigidly sex-segregated in the 1950's. After being denied a transfer from the all-woman cushion line to the all-male trim department (which paid a lot more), her successful grievance opened all of the plant's jobs to women. She became a leader in her union and later served on the Governor's Commission on the Status of Women.

Thom told me she was "definitely a feminist. I've had to fight for nearly everything I've ever wanted. If you hadn't pushed back, you would have accepted what you were offered, and I wasn't willing to do that."

I've also interviewed the younger generation of women labor leaders including Martha Love, a nursing assistant who has risen to the leadership of AFSCME District Council 48 and who was just named a vice-president of the National Democratic Committee by Bill Clinton.

It's been a real pleasure talking with all these strong and dynamic women and it's been rewarding to be part of a valuable project that's helping to reconstruct the missing half of our history. We hope to publish a book to share the compelling stories of these women. All of the recordings have been deposited as a special collection in the State Historical Society. Future historians therefore cannot use the lame excuse that somehow there are no records of working women's lives from which to draw historical accounts.

Unfortunately, some officials at the Historical Society still seem oblivious to their sexism.

In February, the Society sponsored a conference on "World War II On the Battlefield and the Home Front." It was roundly criticized by the state's women veterans for overlooking their contributions. The only event focusing on women was a token showing and discussion of *Rosie the Riveter*.

"They're pushing the idea that 'Rosie the Riveter' was the only thing women did," complained Navy veteran Wilma All. "I know how hard the women in the service worked, and under some very difficult conditions. That's why we're disturbed that we got no recognition of our effort by the State Historical Society," said another woman vet.

Michael Stevens of the Historical Society had a classic response to the women vets, saying they "misunderstood" the nature of the conference. "It's a scholarly conference..." he told the *Milwaukee Journal*, as if that patronizing and elitist excuse explained everything.

Dear Mr. Stevens: The women vets didn't misunderstand anything. They understood quite clearly their exclusion and marginalization by your group, after all, they've been experiencing it for decades. Shame on you and on the Historical Society. You obviously "just don't get it."

But three cheers for Wisconsin's World War II women veterans who, like their union sisters, women of color and growing numbers of women everywhere, are loudly and proudly declaring: "We will no longer be ignored!"

Dance to Be Held In Madison

[Madison]- Madison's Ten Percent Society will be holding its Spring Dance for Lesbians, Gay men and friends on Friday, March 26 beginning at 8:00 p.m. The dance will be held in the Great Hall of the Memorial Union. There will be a \$3 cover, a deejay and a cash bar.

For more information call (608) 262-7365.

Dykes To Watch Out For



Hiking, Horseback Riding, Jogging, Biking, Camping Planned by Gamma

[Milwaukee]- GAMMA, Milwaukee's Gay and Lesbian organization featuring Sports, Outdoor, Athletic and Recreational events (SOAR) recently announced its 1993 schedule.

Headlining the schedule is one of GAMMA's most popular events, the annual biking/camping tour scheduled for Governor Dodge State Park on the weekend of July 24, 1993. This will be the eleventh Summer that GAMMA bikers have spent a weekend of biking and socializing in one of Wisconsin's state parks. Bike routes are designed for both the casual and the committed biker.

A new activity, a climb up Mt. Rainier, is scheduled for the weekend of August 6-9. GAMMA will be doing the four-day Emmons Glacier Summit Climb on the northeastern slope. At press time, this trip was full, but a stand-by list is being created.

More, More, More

Other major SOAR activities include GAMMA's third annual canoe trip on the Wisconsin River during Memorial Day Weekend and a whitewater rafting trip some weekend in May.

One-day trips will include Spring and Fall hikes, horseback riding, and regular local bike trips, jogging events and rollerblading.

GAMMA's SOAR events will also

include canoe trips on the weekends of July 10 (on the Flambeau River) and October 2nd (on the Kick-A-Poo).

In the planning stage are a road rally, a trip to Sagatuck, and a Summer weekend in a cottage near Hurley.

Another major new activity will be sponsorship of the "Sports Area" during Milwaukee's Pridefest on June 13.

All Gay and Lesbian people in the Greater Milwaukee Area are welcome to join GAMMA and participate in these events.

Milwaukee GAMMA, founded in 1978, now has 180 members who participate in events ranging from volleyball to Sheepshead. For example, GAMMA has 26 events scheduled during March alone! These include Dining Out, a tour of the Milwaukee Museum, theatre, concert, going to the Milwaukee Wave and kite flying.

All GAMMA events are social in nature — but the major social activity is a monthly party, the GAMMA Circle. The April Circle, to be held April 2, will feature a discussion of the forthcoming Hiking season. For information about the biking weekend, the Mt. Rainier trip or other GAMMA activities, call (414) 963-9833 (day or evenings).

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Voting Crucial In April 6 Election For Gay and Lesbian Rights

By John Quinlan

[Madison]- Though it comes without the drama and media attention that surrounded last November's elections, the April 6 election will have a wide range of implications for Wisconsin's Gay and Lesbian community. In what's traditionally a low turnout election, every vote will count.

"It's absolutely critical that Gays and Lesbians get out and vote — and encourage their family and friends to get out and vote," State Rep. Tammy Baldwin (D-Madison) to the Light.

Statewide, Democratic control of the State Senate is at stake in three special elections, and the State Superintendent of Schools race presents a clear choice between a moderate candidate and a candidate of the Religious Right. (See accompanying stories.)

In Madison, progress on important Gay and Lesbian rights measures is on the line in the School Board and Common Council races. And Madison voters have the chance to make history by electing the state's first openly Lesbian judge.

Madison Gun Control Measure Brings Out the Conservatives

In Madison, progressive political leaders fear that the presence of a highly controversial gun control referendum will bring out a lot of people who don't usually vote, skewing the results of many other important races.

"We may find an unusually high turnout of conservative voters who do not share our interest as far as candidates are concerned," Rep. Baldwin explained. "It's going to be extremely important for the Gay and Lesbian community to make a large showing at the polls."

Mayor Paul Soglin's advisory referendum, which proposes banning the private ownership of virtually all firearms in the city of Madison, has met with substantial opposition. So many speakers lined up to oppose the ban at a recent Common Council meeting that adjournment did not come until past 3 am. While not all of the opponents of the gun ban proposal are conservatives, it is believed that a disproportionate number of conservative voters will come out as a result of its presence on the ballot.

Rep. Baldwin and other community leaders are encouraging get-out-the-vote efforts in the progressive community to counter the potentially higher conservative vote.

Crucial Time for our Rights in Madison Common Council

Virtually all of Madison's 20 aldermanic districts feature hotly-contested races. (See accompanying article on Progressive Dane's council endorsements.) The election comes at a crucial time in the fight for Gay and Lesbian rights.

"The Madison Common Council is on the verge of considering a resolution on extending the domestic partner benefits within the city of Madison," Rep. Baldwin said. "We will need a strong and supportive city council to follow up on that. If we can make that happen, we could end up extending family health insurance benefits to Gay and Lesbian city employees."

"Also, the city is in transition as we hire a new police chief," she added. "Under David Couper, relations between the police and the Gay and Lesbian community have been very good. It will be very important to have a strong Council in seeing that those relations remain just as strong and supportive."

Education Issues Important for all Gays and Lesbians

At a time when homophobic violence and harassment are increasing in the public schools, it is extremely important for progressives to retain control of the school board. Incumbents Carol Carstensen and Peter Williams are facing serious challenges from candidates sponsored by the archconservative Citizens Advocating Responsible Education (CARE) committee. CARE candidates have been openly homophobic in their rhetoric in the past.

Carstensen and Williams have been advocates for curricula and programs that teach an appreciation for the different cultures and family forms found in the schools — including an appreciation for Gay and Lesbian families and individuals. They have been endorsed by Rep. Baldwin, Gay and Lesbian educators and the Lesbian Parents Network.

"I think that some Gays and Lesbians, especially those of us without children, tend to think that school board races don't touch us as closely as some of the other races," Rep. Baldwin said. "But we have to think about the impact that school

policy has on both children from Gay and Lesbian families and on children who are beginning to come out themselves."

"Reactionary policies that promote homophobia among the straight students in our schools really do great damage to our youth, and to our community," she added. "We need to make sure we're electing school board members who will promote tolerance and respect of Gays and Lesbians in school curriculum if we are ever going to diminish the violence caused by homophobia in our society in the long run."

Ujima Celebrates Lives of Blacks

[Milwaukee]- The lives and times of renowned Black Lesbians as facilitated through poetry, short stories and other forms of literature will be the featured discussion topic of "Ujima," Friday, March 26, at 6:30 p.m.

Ujima, a support and social group dedicated to addressing the educational, social, and political needs of African-American Gay men and Lesbians, will be holding its March monthly meeting in honor of African-American Lesbians and their contributions to our community.

For further information about meeting times and places, please call Eric at (414) 277-7671.

FUNDING Continued from Page 1

that this epidemic poses to our state. It is an example of serious government neglect," Nelson said, getting more angry as he spoke.

Other examples of State neglect cited by Nelson include: the failure of the State Department of Corrections to implement much needed reform of HIV policies in the prisons; the failure of Governor Thompson's budget proposal to fund HIV early intervention programs and increase HIV case management funding consistent with the increased pace of the AIDS epidemic.

"The Governor's budget is a 'business as usual' budget at a time when the epidemic rages on," Nelson said angrily. "It completely fails to meet the heavy demands of what has become the worst epidemic in state history. Thousands of lives are at stake, lives that state government appears ready to write off."

Nelson's frustration intensified when he recently learned that Governor Thompson has invited health care leaders from throughout the state to assist him in developing a health care reform package for Wisconsin. No leadership or advocates from the AIDS community were invited to participate.

"It's a clear example of the state's failure to prioritize AIDS on the health care agenda," Nelson said.

Local Government Is No Better

Nelson was equally frustrated with inaction and cut-backs on AIDS funding by local government.

"The City and County of Milwaukee rank among the most inactive and uncommitted local governments in the country on AIDS funding," Nelson said.

"In Milwaukee, we live at the epicenter of the state's AIDS epidemic. The political leadership of our community has committed few resources to MAP and other community agencies which are battling AIDS every day."

Nelson cited the fact the City attempted to cut its funding of community-based AIDS services entirely in 1993. After Nelson lodged a strong complaint, the City ultimately choose to maintain its current level of funding (\$69,000) which has not increased in five years.

At the same time, the County recently cut its funding of community-based AIDS services by two thirds; from \$60,000 to \$15,000.

"Local government must begin to assume responsibility for the AIDS epidemic which is ravaging our community," Nelson said. "There's a lot of 'buck-passing' from one level of government to another. I am profoundly disappointed that progressive leaders such as Mayor Norquist and County Executive Tom Ament have done so little in the face of this public health disaster," Nelson said.

Nelson said that with President Clinton's election, he had been optimistic that the political tide had turned to give long-awaited support to the AIDS community.

"Initially, I had hoped that President

Clinton would set a new political standard on AIDS policy and funding," Nelson said. "But these set-backs by Congress, the State and here in Milwaukee dishearten me and underscore the bleak reality that we must put enormous pressure on our political leaders and be willing to fight every battle if we are to achieve any amount of progress in the struggle against AIDS."

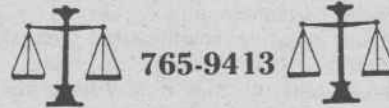
Nelson said that he will be working with AIDS activists around the country and from around Wisconsin to rally the forces

that are necessary for success.

"We've worked too hard and lost too many lives to let politicians neglect AIDS because it is a 'controversial social issue'," Nelson said. AIDS is likely to be the greatest health crisis in human history and after 12 years, we are still in the early stages of the epidemic. We must demand and get from the political system a commitment of resources commensurate with the magnitude of human suffering that we now, and in the future, will confront."

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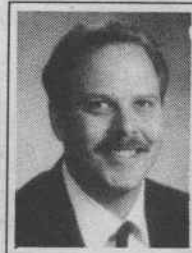
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Milwaukee's Levi/Leather Bars To Co-sponsor Daddy/Boy Weekend

[Milwaukee]- Wisconsin's levi/leather clubs and bars are co-hosting the 2nd Annual Daddy And Daddy's Boy weekend in Milwaukee, May 7, 8 and 9, 1993.

The highlight of the 3 days will be the contest to choose a new "The Wisconsin L/L Daddy" and a "Daddy's Boy" for 1993-'94. Current Daddy, Mark L. of Madison, will be on hand to crown the winners. Although the clubs, bars and other groups will be seeking contestants to enter, no sponsor is necessary.

Other events include brunches, buffets and after-hour parties. Leather goods and other prizes will be raffled at the wind-down party. Admission for most events is \$5.00.

All indications predict that this annual event will continue to be the largest gathering of the Gay Levi/Leather community in Wisconsin.

According to Producer, Papa Joe, last year's event pulled in hot and randy men from all over Wisconsin as well as Michigan, Illinois and Minnesota. It was so successful that it had to be expanded to a weekend affair.

This year's host bars include The Boot Camp, The Wreck Room and The 1100 Club. The Wisconsin L/L Clubs are hosting/co-hosting most events at these locations.

Look for details as they become available at participating bars and through the L/L Clubs, or by writing to:

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Persons/businesses wishing to participate, contestants-sponsors matchups, etc., may also contact North Woods Productions at the above address.

GENETICS Continued from Page 1

Gay Parenting Handbook.

"Nature did not create the dichotomy of homosexual and heterosexual," she said. "People did. In the process of slapping people into one or the other category, we distort our own data. Our clumsy categories of Gay, Bisexual and straight are political divisions much more than descriptive categories."

Still, Simon LeVay, chair of the steering committee of the Institute of Gay and Lesbian Studies, said finding a scientific basis for homosexuality would help "persuade the world that Gays and Lesbians are normal human beings."

LeVay, who is on leave from the Salk Institute, said there were also drawbacks to the research.

"The negative is that the idea that identifying a biological base of homosexuality is that it makes it like a disease, and this could lead people to try to change homosexuals medically."

"The positive is that knowledge can be used for good and to overcome prejudices against Gay people, which are based on moral and religious beliefs."

Pillard cautioned there is much that is unknown.

"No one has a clear answer to why some people are Gay and others are straight," he said.

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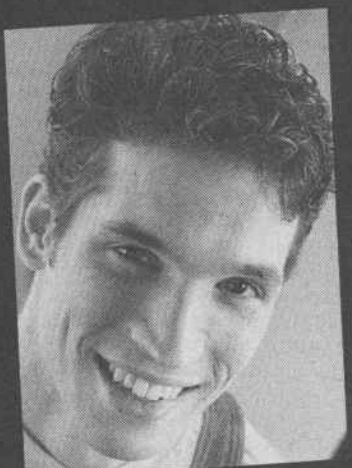
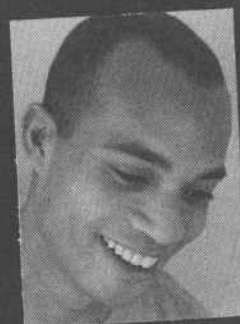
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Gaylord Strongly Endorsed In Madison Municipal Judge Race

By John Quinlan

[Madison]- When Shelley Gaylord decided to send out a flyer promoting a fundraiser hosted by her supporters in the Gay and Lesbian community, she sought to convey two realities. "Glad to be Gay," read the folded brochure that opened out to a three panel display to say "Glad to be Supporting Gaylord for Municipal Judge."

If elected on April 6, Shelley Gaylord will be Wisconsin's first judge who is openly Lesbian or Gay. "I'm a woman, I'm a Lesbian, I'm a Jew, I'm a lawyer, I'm one of eight kids. I'm all these things," she said. "All of these experiences add up to make me qualified."

"And, of course, I think that the starting point for any job like this, and it's a job, is 'do you have the basic skills?' I mean, 'have you been a good lawyer?' 'Do you know how to communicate with people well?'"

For a large and diverse group of supporters, the answer has been a resounding "yes." Gaylord has received the endorsements of the mayor, the district attorney, city council members, county board supervisors, state legislators, and union officials and the list goes on and on.

Most impressive is the fact that seven Dane County judges have offered their endorsement, something that's almost unprecedented. "Maybe they're tired of having me appear in front of them," she offers with a typical dose of self-deprecating humor.

"Shelley has practiced law in Madison for 13 years and a significant proportion of her practice has been dedicated to meeting the legal needs of Lesbians and Gays," says State Rep. Tammy Baldwin, who has been campaigning hard on Gaylord's behalf. "She has handled landmark cases in this state and should be recognized as a real pioneer in terms of issues in the Gay and Lesbian legal arena."

It's not hard to find people who can verify the fact that Gaylord's record of accomplishment makes her uniquely qualified to be Madison's first elected Municipal Judge. As we reported in *Light* last week, Gaylord's distinguished history as an activist and attorney, and a solid campaign plan, earned her the endorsement of the national Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund.

However, in an interview at her near east side Madison home, I asked her to speak more personally about her life and how it relates to the challenges she's likely to be taking on.

Four years ago, Gaylord and I were doing the radio talk show circuit talking about what being Lesbian and Gay means, in the days before Madison's first major March for Lesbian and Gay Rights and Pride. One of the things that had left an impression on me at the time was her relating the commonalities that exist between being Jewish and being Gay or Lesbian.

"I draw some similarities because I think that there is such a thing as Jewish culture and there is such a thing as Gay and Lesbian culture, but there is not one Jewish culture and there is not one Gay and Lesbian culture," she said.

"It's also, at least for me, being Jewish for me is just how I am. It's intrinsic to me," she added. "But it is something that is perceived by others as something that you can choose to change. You can choose to be a different religion, I think people have that idea, but I couldn't. I couldn't choose to be any other religion and I couldn't choose to have some other sexual orientation."

"I am a Lesbian. I can't erase that any more than I can erase being left-handed. I could try to use my right hand, but it wouldn't work very well."

I asked her if there were parallels in terms of the so-called option of invisibility. "I think that Judaism is something that you can choose to announce or not announce, same as being a Lesbian. You can, in some sense, choose not to bring it up. On the other hand, there are ways that I may look stereotypically Jewish and there are ways that I may look stereotypically Lesbian, whatever that means. So some people will perceive me as either of those even when I think of choosing not to bring it up."

"And that is a choice, in a very logical sense of the word 'choice'... I don't feel that as a moral person, I have a choice about lying. Would I lie to save my life? I don't know. Fortunately, I've never been faced with that. But living a lie is not something that I think is worth doing."

I asked her about her decision to run an

openly Lesbian candidacy. "I certainly did some soul-searching on that," she responded. "It's not like I didn't think about it at all, because it's worthy of thought. For me personally — anybody else's choice is up to them — it's not worth it to me to have a job if it comes at the cost of hiding."

"Other people feel that as long as they're there, whether they're 'out' or not, they can still have an impact. And for me, that's not the only reason for me to be there. I want to be there not only as someone who can influence by way of decision making, but also by being there as an open Lesbian. Just by being there as someone who can be identified as Lesbian, I think that has a broader effect."

If elected, Gaylord will be the first person to be elected to a four year term as Madison Municipal Court Judge. All of the cases she would see involve "forfeitures", or "fines," in layman's terms. About two-thirds of the cases are traffic related (including drunk driving cases), with a small amount of building code violations, pet-related violations, and other problems for which the city issues fines.

The cases where she feels she can make the most difference, however, involve truancy, juveniles who for various reasons have been skipping school. Gaylord has a wide variety of experience in Family Court and as a court-appointed guardian for children's interests to bring to the job. However, she believes that for a significant percentage of the kids she'll see, her experiences as a Lesbian will also be valuable.

"I'm told by people who have studied this that there are a disproportionate number of Gay and Lesbian teen-agers who commit suicide, are depressed, and who abuse alcohol and drugs. Given that, one would expect that truancy and underage drinking would have a disproportionate number as well," she observed.

"There's no way to measure that, but that's what the expectation would be. But let's not get into the numbers game. If you see two Gay and Lesbian people a year and you've made a difference, then that's important."

Skipping school can indicate a variety of underlying problems, Gaylord observed. "Truancy is a way to have this big warning flagged at people so that you can actually try to do something about the underlying causes before it becomes delinquency; things that would be criminal acts if they were committed by an adult."

As things stand now, truancy cases only come before the Municipal Court for minors who are 15 1/2 or older. Gaylord would like to see that age lowered significantly, "so that you can get at problems while there's still a chance to make a difference."

Gaylord also hopes to be given more options in terms of the consequences for juveniles who might appear in her court. Right now, one of the only options is driver's license suspension, "which affects some kids, but not a lot of others." She hopes to see the expansion of a small pilot program that gives judges the right to impose a community service option.

"I think that there should not only be suspension and community service options, but that there should be some money penalty. You need a lot of tricks in your bag in order to get at this. You have to individualize what's going on."

"You have to be able to make referrals and have, say, 'students, I want you to go to this resource, and if you don't, I will do this to you.' It has to be something meaningful. If you only have one trick in your bag, and that's driver's license suspensions, that's not a very good trick to play. It just doesn't matter to enough people."

In the next issue of the *Light*... Gaylord talks about her experience in litigating for the rights of Lesbian and Gay families. And she talks about where she sees the battle for our legal rights heading in the years ahead.



John Quinlan

RISING STARS— Dane County Supervisor Mark Pocan and Attorney Shelly Gaylord who is a candidate for Madison Municipal Judge posed with State Representative Tammy Baldwin at a recent Madison Social event.

MASN Wellness Series to Give HIV, AIDS Patients Health Tools

[Madison]- Everybody tells you to do it: "Don't worry — it'll only make things worse!", "Keep a positive mindset!", "Don't get negative!" As if we all know just how to do that.

"How to do it" isn't a mystic secret. It's a set of fairly simple skills that take a bit of practice. The only problem is **no one teaches us the skills.**

That's why the Madison AIDS Support Network (MASN) will offer a seven week wellness series entitled "Maintaining a Healthy Outlook: A How-To Course in Wellness." The course, which will meet each Tuesday from March 30 to May 11th at 6:30 p.m., is designed to teach HIV-positive people the skills to take

charge of their physical and mental health.

The first two sessions teach the fundamental skills of relaxing the mind and body. After fully grasping those skills, the participants will learn about dealing with "negative" emotions like anger, fear, and grief; how to use imagery and visualization to support their health; how to tolerate and lessen pain. In the last session, participants will bring together all the skills into a workable whole.

Interested individuals can register for this FREE course by contacting MASN at (608) 238-6276 or 1-800-486-6276. Early registration is encouraged because of limited space.

Theologians Agree That Homosexuality Is Not A Sin

[Washington, D.C.]- God approves of homosexuality as well as Gay and Lesbian marriages and parenting. This is the prevailing belief of 19 distinguished theologians and religious leaders of 10 different faiths surveyed nationwide.

Their answers, published in a booklet, **Is Homosexuality a Sin?**, were given in response to a survey conducted by the Federation of Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (P-FLAG) in conjunction with the Metropolitan Washington Chapter of P-FLAG.

The three questions asked were: In your opinion, does God regard homosexuality as a sin? In your opinion,

do the Scriptures object to homosexuality?; In your opinion, does God approve of two Gay or Lesbian individuals pledging their love to each other in a religious ceremony and raising children who may be born to them or adopted by them?

Answers come from both Christian and Jewish theologians, respected nationwide.

Is Homosexuality a Sin? can be purchased from P-FLAG, P.O. Box 27605, Washington, D.C. 20038-7605 for 75 cents each.

General Services

Penis Enlargement— Vacuum pumps & prof. instruction. Dr. Joel Kaplan (415) 739-5847. 1

Organizations

Volunteers & Ideas Needed Hurricane Productions Womyn's Music & Culture, P.O. Box 71268, Milwaukee, WI 53211.

National Gay Pilot's Assoc. 703-660-3852.

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

Personals-Men

Out-of-state businessman, mature, but not fat, repellent or gross, quiet-natured, seeks narrow-waisted, pleasant college/grad school-age companion for up-scale dining, shopping, whatever — for weekend of April 2. If mutually agreeable more extensive travel in U.S. discussible later. Please tell about yourself, likes and dislikes, etc. Write to: Wisconsin Light, Box 148, 1843 N. Palmer, Milwaukee, WI 53212.

Real Estate

I understand your special needs. Please see my display ad in the "Directory of Professionals" in this issue. David Chester, Federated Realty (414) 964-3900. z

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Housing/Rent

West Allis. Lovely upper flat, two bedrooms, livingroom, dining room, appliances, laundry hook-up, on-street parking, near bus lines. \$450 per month plus utilities. Call (414) 543-8448 between 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. No pets please.

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

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State Superintendent of Schools Race Presents A Clear Choice

By John Quinlan

After Alex Molnar and other candidates with a strong progressive record failed to make it through the primary in the race for State Superintendent of Schools, progressives began taking a second look at Marshall School Superintendent John Benson. Benson, who achieved a definitive first place finish in the February primary, defines his politics as middle of the road.

Many Gay and Lesbian-supportive education professionals have had significant reservations about Benson, including concerns about incidents that happened under his supervision while he was a top manager at the Department of Public Instruction. However, virtually everyone agrees that Benson is very much preferable to his extremely conservative Republican opponent, Hortonville teacher Linda Cross.

The contrasts between the two are striking. While Benson is being supported by a variety of state teacher's organizations and unions, Cross is ardently anti-union, having gotten her Hortonville job in the early 1970's by crossing the picket lines in the most emotionally charged teacher's strike in state history.

While Benson says he tries to steer clear of partisan politics, Cross recently held the position of Republican Party chair in Waupaca County, one of the state's most conservative counties. Benson advocates choice within public school systems, but thinks that public dollars should go to improve public schools. Cross, however, advocates so-called choice programs which would subsidize parochial and other private schools at the expense of the public schools.

What is most disturbing about Cross's candidacy is her seeming willingness to erase the lines separating church and state. She is a self-described "fundamentalist." Her public statements about bringing God back into the classroom indicate an intolerance for beliefs that depart from her own. Among

other measures, she supports the holding of referenda in order to allow school administrators to impose compulsory school-mandated prayer. Cross doesn't seem to have any notion of the unconstitutionality of such measures, nor does she seem to care.

Benson, a former top manager at the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) under outgoing State Supt. Bert Grover, is a known quantity and will likely continue Grover's policies. Cross, on the other hand, has a distinctly different, and potentially repressive, fundamentalist social agenda in mind. At a time when concerns about the challenges facing Gay and Lesbian youth — and the children of Gay and Lesbian families — are beginning to be addressed, Cross would be openly hostile to our community.

For many people in the Gay and Lesbian community, Benson is not their first choice. **The Light** has heard from numerous past and present DPI employees who point to troubling incidents there involving harassment and extreme insensitivity to people on account of their race, sex, or sexual orientation. (Some of these incidents were recently noted in a front page story in the *Milwaukee Sentinel*.) While most of the allegations are against people serving under Benson and not Benson himself, his critics charge that when the incidents occurred, Benson looked the other way.

Unlike several of the candidates who ran in February's primary, Benson has not shown a particular sensitivity toward the needs of Gay and Lesbian families, youth, or educators. Despite this, even his harshest critics concede that Benson is by far the lesser of the two evils in this race. Those who are more optimistic feel that Benson must be given a chance to respond to our community's concerns and may surprise us. One thing is clear: while Linda Cross's door would be firmly closed to us, Benson's may be open a crack.

The bottom line seems to be that, given the alternative, support of Benson's candidacy is extremely important on April 6.

Newly Formed 'Progressive Dane' Coalition Embraces Gay Rights

[Madison]- In the tradition of the Rainbow Coalition and the Labor-Farm Party, Gays and Lesbians and people from a great diversity of backgrounds have joined to form a new group called Progressive Dane. "A new coalition of groups and individuals on the left have come together to speak with one voice," Madison 6th District Ald. Bert Zipperer said in an interview from his home on Madison's near east side.

The newly-formed group has endorsed eight candidates who they hope will form an ever-growing solidly progressive core on the Madison Common Council. Zipperer is one of them.

In his district, where the percentage of Gay men and Lesbians is higher than anywhere else in the city, interest in Gay and Lesbian civil rights issues is also high. In fact, the United is sponsoring a special debate on Gay and Lesbian issues between Zipperer and his opponent, Becky Steinhoff. (It will be on Wednesday, March 24 at 7 pm at Lowell School, at the corner of Atwood and Fair Oaks Avenues.)

Since being elected in 1988, Zipperer has been a major proponent of the so-called "alternative families" ordinance and other measures in support of Lesbian and Gay rights. While political compromises have watered down the evolving ordinance much more than he would like, an important breakthrough may be in the works.

Zipperer hopes to see an important resolution pass the Common Council in the months following the April 6 election. Sponsored by outgoing Ald. Andy Heidt, it would guarantee the same health insurance benefits to the Gay and Lesbian partners of city employees as those offered to heterosexual spouses. The resolution, while contingent on convincing the city's health insurance carriers to provide such coverage, represents an important breakthrough.

It's the sort of effective political solution that unapologetic radicals like Zipperer, Heidt, Dist. 5 Ald. Joe Szwaja, and Dist. 8 Ald. Christine Larson aren't supposed to be able to affect. Critics charge that the kind of folks supported by Progressive Dane "just don't understand the political processes of consensus-building and compromise that produce solid legislation."

And more often than not, Zipperer and his colleagues do find themselves voting

in the minority. But he sees the need to vote his conscience, to be true to himself and the people of his district. And, now, over the long haul, he feels that this strategy is paying off in the form of a strengthened ordinance that could make significant inroads for Gay and Lesbian families.

Zipperer, a counselor at Marquette Elementary School, sees the need for society's support and acceptance of alternative families every day. Recently, he overheard a group of girls talking in derogatory terms about someone they'd labeled as a Lesbian. And one of the little girls cried out that her mother was a Lesbian. He brought them into his office and they all talked it through.

It's the sort of discussion that's been happening on the Common Council as well. At a recent Board of Estimates meeting, council moderates joined with council "radicals" to discuss equivalent benefits for Gay and Lesbian partners as "a simple matter of equity."

District 8 Ald. Christine Larson, who represents the same campus area district that Tammy Baldwin represents on the county board, is equally excited by the formation of Progressive Dane. "First and foremost, I see them as the defenders of a lot of issues that I see as important, including Gay and Lesbian rights, tenant rights, women's safety issues and the environment," she said.

"I really feel that Progressive Dane is the type of political force that can be used to head off the unrelenting conservative tide that's sweeping this country," she noted with enthusiasm.

Other Common Council candidates endorsed by Progressive Dane include Ald. Joe Szwaja (Dist. 5), a veteran Central American and civil rights activist; Candidate Tim Kehl (Dist. 7), a peace and civil rights activist who is the pastor of a Gay-affirming congregation; Ald. Ken Golden (Dist. 10), a housing and civil rights activist; candidate Jean McCubbin (Dist. 11), a community activist; Ald. Napoleon Smith (Dist. 13), an activist in the areas of economic development, job training, and housing; and candidate Lynn Michaelis (Dist. 15), a labor organizer.

For more information on Progressive Dane, contact Eric at 257-5718. For information on your aldermanic district and where to vote, contact the city of Madison clerk at 266-4601.

Control of State Senate at Stake In Special April 6 Elections

For a voter living in one of the three state senate districts where there are special elections, the importance of their April 6 vote goes far beyond determining who that voter's individual senator is. "If the Democrats don't win two of the three seats, the Republicans will have control of the Senate, and they are primed to elect a leadership that is extremely hostile to the Gay and Lesbian community's interest," Rep. Tammy Baldwin (D-Madison) said.

Baldwin urges Gays and Lesbians who might be inclined to vote for a "moderate" Republican candidate to consider that "the implication is that we'll have some mighty conservative leadership in the State Senate if we don't win those seats."

Milwaukee Area Senate Race

In the 5th District — which includes parts of the west side of Milwaukee, West Allis and Wauwatosa — Democratic State Rep. David Cullen is running against Republican State Rep. Peggy Rosenzweig. (The seat had previously been held by newly-elected U.S. Rep. Tom Barrett.)

Critics of Rosenzweig say that she is flip-flopping on the issues in an attempt to appear more moderate than her ten year record in the state legislature would indicate. For example, she recently changed longstanding positions on gambling and health insurance, and, after years of voting otherwise, says that she is now pro-choice.

Cullen, who served for seven years as a Milwaukee school board member and former board president, has been a leader in the area of educational policy since being elected in a special election in 1990. Cullen also points to a record of leadership in the areas of crime prevention and welfare reform. His campaign slogan is "David Cullen tells you what he believes and you can count on that."

Madison Area Senate Race

The 27th District — newly-elected U.S. Senator Russ Feingold's old territory — includes areas of Green, Rock and Dane Counties. The district forms an arc that surrounds Madison on the south, west, and north — including Evansville, Fitchburg, Verona, Middleton and Waunakee, and adjoining portions of the city of Madison.

Democratic State Rep. Joe Wineke faces former Dane County Executive Jonathan Barry. (Mid-way through his term as county exec in the mid-1980's, Barry switched from the Democratic to the Republican parties.) As in the Milwaukee area race, Republican Barry is trying to paint himself as a political moderate, although he has closely aligned himself with the conservative policies of Gov. Tommy Thompson.

Wineke, an 11 year veteran of the state assembly, has a long history of working for tax reform. The Verona native advocates changing the way the state funds education, proposing a plan he believes would provide more equity in property taxes paid by people in poorer, rural districts.

The local press has portrayed Wineke and Barry as being similar on this and other issues. However, unlike Barry, Wineke has not been afraid to part company with the governor on many significant issues. He has received the enthusiastic endorsement of U.S. Sen. Feingold.

Chippewa Falls Area Senate Race

In northern Wisconsin's 23rd District, Democratic State Rep. Jerome Dachel faces Republican State Rep. David Zien. This large, sparsely populated district stretches across several counties in an arc to the north and east of Eau Claire, including Chippewa Falls and a small part of Eau Claire. (The district had been represented by Democrat Marlin Schneider, who recently took a post in the Thompson administration.)

Dachel is a conservative Democrat who

is being opposed by the rabidly reactionary Zien. It's a campaign that has seen Zien do more than his share of mudslinging, and that may be taking its toll on Dachel. Of the three races, Democratic party insiders tell **The Light** that this is the district that is most likely to fall to the Republicans. This, they say, makes it all the more crucial for the Democrats to win the two races in the southern part of the state.

Dane County Executive Phelps Honored At Fundraiser

About two dozen Lesbian and Gay activists gathered Feb. 24 at the home of openly Gay Dane County Supervisor Mark Pocan for a fundraiser for Dane County Executive Rick Phelps.

"When I look around this room, I see people who are leaders and organizers around the issues that are of importance to our community," Phelps told the group. "It's been my great pleasure to work with all of you."

Phelps won an overwhelming majority of the vote in February's four-way primary. He faces conservative businessman Bill Howard in the April 6 general election.

"Under Rick Phelps's leadership as county executive, the county has made significant contributions around the issue of AIDS," Pocan said. "Recently, he put \$50,000 in the budget for prevention and early intervention so that we can try to find people who are HIV positive early and try to improve the quality of their life before they're extremely ill. It's a program that he's very committed to."

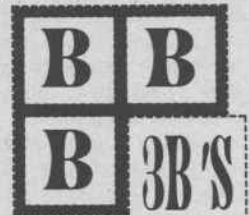
With Phelps's assistance, Pocan says, matching grants for the program are being obtained from the Madison Community Foundation and, potentially, the California-based Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Pocan says that Phelps has also been an outspoken supporter of Gay and Lesbian rights, whether it be speaking out in reaction to the vandalism of the Orton Park statues, or in support for the lifting of the ban on Gays and Lesbians in the military.

Volunteers Sought For Midwest Hospitality Suite at March

[Minneapolis, MN]- The Upper Midwest Delegation Hospitality Suite for the March on Washington needs volunteers to work all shifts during the weekend of the March.

The Hospitality Suite will be in the Tokyo Room at the Holiday Inn Crowne Plaza, 775 12th St., N.W., at Metro Center in Washington.

For further information about volunteering and to sign up for shifts, contact Mary Jean Mulherin in Minneapolis. The numbers are: (612) 822-0127 or 1-800-800-0350.



SUNDAY, APRIL 4 — 9 PM

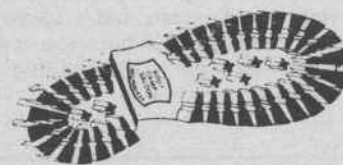
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