

V The Wisconsin Light

ACT UP To **Conduct Protest** Against Dr. Fauci

[Milwaukee]- Members of ACT UP Milwaukee, Illinois and Minnesota have announced that they will conduct a protest of Dr. Anthony Fauci when he arrives at Bruce Hall in MECCA, 500 W. Kilbourn Avenue in Milwaukee to give the keynote address at the graduation ceremony of the Medical College of Wisconsin on Saturday, May 15. The graduation ceremony will begin at 2:00 p.m. ACT UP's "greeting" will begin outside Bruce Hall at 1:00 p.m.

Fauci, Director of the National Institute for Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) has been the head of the government's principal AIDS research effort under the Reagan, Bush and

Clinton presidencies.

An ACT UP press release called the policies of these administrations "genocidal."

'It is not enough to want to do the 'right' thing," an ACT UP spokesperson said. "One must also do it. Actions speak louder than words.'

ACT UP says that Fauci's actions have not been enough. "At one point, Fauci requested 126 additional staff members. He received only 11, and then kept his mouth shut about it," the ACT UP spokesperson said.

ACT UP says that there is a "desperate" need for leadership within the National Institutes of Health (NIH). NIAID is part of NIH. ACT UP cites this as reason for the protest against Fauci at the Medical College's graduation.

ACT UP is demanding that Fauci be removed as head of NIAID and "replaced with someone who is genuinely committed to finding a cure for AIDS."

Miller Brewing **Supports Illinois** Gay Rights Bill Passage

[Milwaukee]- On May 3, 1993, the Miller Brewing Company announced its support of the Illinois Gay Rights Bill (HB 2182). The bill, an amendment to the Illinois Human Rights Act, would protect Gay men and Lesbians from discrimination in employment, housing, credit and public accommodations. The Milwaukee-based brewing company submitted a statement to the Illinois Senate Executive Committee in preparation for their May 5th hearings on

Jim Houlihan, Miller Brewing Company representative, urged the Senate to pass the bill. "Miller Brewing Company has long recognized that a workplace free from discrimination is good for business," he said.

Art Johnston, spokesperson for the Illinois Federation for Human Rights, the group spearheading the bill's passage, praised Miller for supporting the bill.

"By stepping forward and supporting 2182, the Miller Brewing Company has significantly increased the chance this bill will become law," said Johnston.

Joining Miller in support of 2182 were the AFL-CIO, AFSCME, the Chicago Board of Rabbis, the National Coalition of American Nuns, the National Organization for Women and the National Associa-

tion of Social Workers.

Observers in Springfield give the bill a good chance of passage.

Stellar Entertainment Line-Up **Announced For June 12-13 PrideFest**



Shelley Gaylord was sworn in as Madison's first woman and first openly Gay or Lesbian Municipal judge on May 3. Her father, Dr. Sandy Gaylord, from Youngstown, Ohio conducted the swearing in of his daughter. Following the ceremony, fondly remembering her late mother, Gaylord quipped, "I know what my mother would have said today: 'lipstick, pearls and nylons — this is a big dayl' "Shown left to right are David Clarenbach, Rep. Tammy Baldwin, Gaylord, Paul Higginbotham and Margaret McMurray.

Madison's Rep. Baldwin Appointed Chair of Assembly Committee

[Madison]- Wisconsin State Assembly Speaker Walter Kunicki (D-Milwaukee) has announced the appointment of freshman Rep. Tammy Baldwin (D-Madison) as Chair of the Assembly Committee on Elections, Constitutional Law and Corrections. Baldwin, who had been appointed committee vice chair at the beginning of the session, will replace Rep. Greg Huber (D- Wausau), who has accepted a position on the Joint Committee on Finance.

Committee on Elections, Constitutional Law and Corrections has broad responsibilities for a variety of pressing legislative concerns including campaign finance reform and questions regarding the state corrections system.

It is extremely unusual for a freshman legislator to receive an appointment as the Chair of a major committee. However, Speaker Kunicki has expressed great confidence that Baldwin will bring just the right combination of skills and experience

"Throughout her career and her first 100 days in office, Rep. Baldwin has distinguished herself through her work for the people of her district and the state as both an accomplished attorney and a well-respected elected official," Kunicki said. "There's no doubt in my mind whatsoever that Tammy Baldwin is the right person for this important job."

Baldwin has served for seven years as a Dane County Supervisor, including service as the Chair of the county's Human Services Board, which oversees a budget of more than \$100 million. A 1989 graduate of the University of Wisconsin Law School, Baldwin has litigated in the areas of criminal law and civil rights law.

A life-long resident of Madison, Baldwin also has a broad record of experience as a community activist including extensive work in the areas of civil rights, women's rights, and housing rights. For seven years, she has been a leader in the National Network of Openly Lesbian and Gay Officials.

'I appreciate Speaker Kunicki's confidence in appointing me as Chair of this committee at a time when so many important issues under its jurisdiction are coming to the forefront of the legislature's agenda," Baldwin said. "I am very excited by the challenges and the opportunities this appointment pre-

Baldwin's appointment comes at a time when the Elections, Constitutional Law and Corrections Committee is tackling a number of issues that have received recent prominence in the headlines. The Committee will be overseeing important work in the area of campaign finance

Baldwin's committee will also be looking at what to do in the face of rapidly growing prison populations, including options for physical expansion and alternatives to incarceration for offenders, where appropriate.

The budget for the state's Department of Corrections, which stands at almost \$500 million in fiscal year 1992-93, has been growing dramatically with each new budget year.

As a leader on these issues on the Dane County Board, Baldwin was very involved in the debate surrounding the building of a new county jail.

"There's no denying the need to get at problems of over crowding. However, just as I have as a County Supervisor, I want to stimulate the debate over the larger issues involved at the state level,"

Baldwin said. "For example, we need to look at alternatives to incarceration for non-violent crimes. When people enter the prison system, we need to give them the skills and support they need so that when they leave it, they will become productive members of the community. And, most importantly, we need to get at the underlying social problems that have produced this crisis in our state's criminal justice system," Baldwin said.

As the founder and first co-chair of the Dane County Task Force on AIDS, Baldwin sees the need for the Department of Corrections to provide education and AIDS prevention services for both inmates and staff. "Ignoring the problem hasn't got us anywhere; it's time to recognize that attitudes must change," Baldwin said.

"All of these issues - including human services, civil rights, criminal justice, and election reform intricately linked together with other issues. With the opportunities represented by this new position, I hope that I can work with other committee chairs in a spirit of bi-partisan offer cooperation to offer valuable recommendations to the state legislature," Baldwin concluded. "I'm very much looking forward to the exciting and important work that lies ahead.'

Milwaukee]- The PrideFest 93 Organizing Committee has announced a blockbuster line up of entertainment and activity for this year's festival, June 12th and 13th at Milwaukee's Juneau Park. "This year's entertainment includes something for everyone and truly reflects the diversity of our Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender community," said PrideFest 93 Chairman Bill Meunier.

Musical styles represented on the PrideFest Main Stage will include reggae, jazz, swing, club music, rock, feminist music, show tunes, choral, country western and more. Dancers will be performing modern dance, square dancing, Flemenco dancing, line dancing, and high energy dancing. There will be comedy, "moments in Lesbian and Gay comedy, "moments in Lesb History," speakers and more.

Performers from the Fox Valley, Appleton, Madison, Green Bay, Racine and Chicago will join with those from the Milwaukee area to entertain the expected crowd of over 10,000 people. Three name bands, Loey Nelson and Carnival Strippers, David Robinson and Road Damage, and the John Schnieder Orchestra will be peforming.

The Festival will open at 5:00 on Saturday evening June 12th. In keeping with the spirit of celebration a country western dance featuring line dancing and square dancing will kick off the festivities at 5:30. Opening ceremonies will begin at

From 6:45 to 10:00 p.m. PrideFest 93 will present a special candlelight concert called "Sing Out And Dance With Pride." A special candlelighting ceremony symbolizing community unity will be held at dusk. The PrideFest Committee urges those attending to bring candles to light up the park "for those who can't be with us, and those who have gone before us. Let's light up the Park for

Among the performers scheduled for Saturday evening in order of apprearance

The Fest City Singers - Musical comedy with a Gay and Lesbian style.

Jose Santiago - A high energy club music peformer with her dance troupe. David Figuroa- One of Milwaukee's

best dancers performing a monologue.

Seers and Rowbuck - A new Lesbian duo that won the preliminaries of the Summer Fest music competition. Smart Answer - A satirical folk music

group from Chicago. Jill Clark - An outstanding vocalist from

Womonsong - An excellent chorus from

Garret James - Considered by many to be one of the finest singers in Milwaukee.

The Cream City Chorus - One of Milwaukee's best choral groups. Saturday's concert will also include

"Moments in Wisconsin Lesbian and Gay History." These will consist of short reminders of how different facets of Lesbian and Gay culture began.

On Sunday, June 13th the festivities begin at 10:00 with an Interfaith Service held in the Park. Last year's service was attended by over 300 people and organizers are hoping for an even larger number this year.

At 11:00, The Al Martin Band will take the stage to begin warming up the crowd for the Pride Parade with its club music

The Pre-Parade rally begins at 11:30. Then at Noon, Wisconsin's only Pride Parade will take to the streets. The theme for this year's parade is "Forward In Pride." The Grand Marshals are The Grand Marshals are America's Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender veterans.

The afternoon's entertainment kicks off at 1:00. The acts performing in order of appearance are:

David Robinson and Road Damage - An authentic reggae group formerly known as TURN TO PRIDEFEST, PAGE 11

Inside: Reader's Photos of the **Great March on Washington**

NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

Surprise In Texas Senate Race

[Houston, TX]- Texas state treasurer Kay Bailey Hutchison was, by her own admission, surprised that she was the top vote getting in the May 1 special election for the U.S. Senate seat once held by Lloyd Bentsen. Hutchison out-paced Democrat Bob Krueger by slightly under 500 votes. Ultra- conservative Joe Barton, also a Republican, took 14% of the vote. The run-off between Hutchison and Krueger will be June 5, 1993.

Texas Gay/Lesbian groups will probably be backing Krueger. The election is predicted

Post Office Celebrates History Month

[Hartford, CN]- Saturday, June 19, 1993, the Hartford, Connecticut Post Office will become the first federal agency in the state to officially acknowledge Gay/Lesbian History Month by offering a special postal cancellation. This Gay postmark will be the third in the country - New York City in 1989 commemorated the 20th Anniversary of Stonewall and Ft. Lauderdale in 1992 celebrated Pride South Florida's 10th Anniversary.

June is recognized worldwide as Gay/Lesbian History Month because of the Stonewall riots in 1969 which was the opening salvo in the fight for Gay and Lesbian rights.

Lesbian Archive Buys Building

[New York, NY]- The Lesbian Herstory Archives, the largest and oldest Lesbian archives in the world, has announced the opening of their permanent home at 484 14th Street in Park Slope, Brooklyn, New York. This is the first openly identified Lesbian organization to own a building in New York City.

On June 20, 1993, a ribbon-cutting at 1:00 p.m. at the Archives building will kick-off opening day festivities. A reception and celebration will follow at the Picnic House in Prospect Park (entry at 3rd or 9th Streets). Tours of the Archives will be given from 2:30

to 5:00 p.m. The Archives will open on a regular basis after July 4th.

Pro-Gay Video Sent To Congress

[Washington, D.C.]- Declaring that "the media war is on," a grass roots group of Gay and Lesbian TV industry professionals, backed by actress Cybill Shepherd and a contingent of heterosexual supporters, delivered their first video volley on Capitol Hill in

The video, To Support and Defend, presents "the faces behind the issues" in the current Senate hearings on President Clinton's proposal to lift the military ban on homosexuals, according to Co-Producer Julian Siminski. One thousand of the videos were presented on Capitol Hill, with several members of Congress in attendance.

Mayor Upsets Iowa Town

[Melbourne, IA]- Most people in Melbourne knew Mayor Bill Crews was Gay, even before he decided to come out publicly at the March On Washington. They just never talked about it.

Crews and his partner, Steve, returned from Washington to this farm community of 730

to find that vandals had spray-painted their house with anti-Gay graffiti.

Bill Elliot a citizen of the town, interviewed in the Silver Spur Lounge, said "Everything started when he went national. Nobody even talked about it before. Now, we've got the media coming in here. This town doesn't need any publicity.'

Crew's next-door neighbor, Gladys Funke said she was sorry about the vandalism. "They're good neighbors," she said. "I know there are negative thoughts, but I think the majority of people are on the right side.

Rich Eychaner said that the vandalism should be "condemned by everyone in Iowa."

Lesbian Fired After D.C. March

[Greensboro, NC]- Janet Blevins returned home from the March On Washington to find she no longer had a job. Blevins said her employer, CD Super Store of Greensboro, dismissed her because she is Gay, the Charlotte Observer reported.

Officials at the store said that's not the reason, but declined to say why they asked Blevins to leave her \$13,000-a-year job as buyer for the store.

Colorado Schools Teach Gay Issues?

[Denver, CO]- Public schools in Colorado are grappling with the issue of what to teach about homosexuality, as they come under fire from anti-Gay groups for teaching anything about it at all. Civil Rights opponents say addressing homosexuality in the schools is tantamount to promoting it.

Kevin Tebdeo, co-founder of Colorado for Family Values said that the bottom line was

"Do you want schools teaching your children that homosexuality is legitimate?"
Gay rights advocates said if the schools don't address Gay and Lesbian youth, they will

lose them to the streets or worse.

A U.S. Department of Health and Human Services study published in 1989 says homosexuals make up about a third of youth suicides.

Philadelphia Mayor Gives Support

[Philadelphia, PA]- Mayor Ed Rendell has asked the Philadelphia City Council to consider giving Gay and Lesbian couples legal status as "domes would allow them to qualify for spousal benefits. Unlike legislation in other cities, however, Rendell's proposal would exclude unmarried heterosexual couples from qualifying for such benefits.

The City Administration estimates the plan would add \$125,000 a year to the city's

Congress Hears Gay Testimony

[Washington, D.C.]- Former Army Captain Tanya Domi, Director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force's Military Freedom Initiative, on May 5, 1993, became one of the first openly Gay people to address Congress on the issue of Gays in the military since President Clinton announced in January his intention to repeal the ban. The two-day hearings mark the first time the U.S. House of Representatives has discussed the controversial ban on Gays in the military.

"At the very heart of this heinous policy are the vicious investigative techniques employed by the military criminal services," Domi testified. "The tactics used to determine the sexual orientation of service members are evocative of the McCarthy era... It is the investigators' tactics, not the presence of Lesbians and Gay men, that are detrimental to unit cohesion and prejudicial to good order and discipline.'

Bounty Offered For Outings

[Boston, MA]-William A. Percy, a professor at the University of Massachusetts and a member of the Gay American Legion Alexander Hamilton Post 448 in San Francisco, has offered a \$10,000 reward to the first person who successfully outs a four-star general on active duty in the U.S. armed forces, or a living American Roman Catholic Cardinal, or a U.S. Supreme Court Justice.

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

Madison's United To Hold **Awards Dinner and Dance**

[Madison]- For the Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual communities, this year is an exciting one. Nationally: The March On Washington and public discourses about the military ban; locally: A community celebration for The United's 15th birthday.

In June, The United will celebrate 15 years of offering peer counseling, advocacy, support groups and a community space for the city's Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual populations.

The Board of Directors of The United

has announced that the organization will celebrate the 15 years with a gala awards dinner and dance. Co-hosted by State Assembly member Tammy Baldwin and Dane County Board member Dick Wagner, The United's Queer of the Year celebration will take place on Saturday, June 5, 1993 at The Concourse Hotel from 7:00 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. The evening's events will include a sit-down dinner, an awards ceremony and dancing.

Event organizers encourage individuals to purchase tickets early. They expect the dinner to fill two ballrooms at The Concourse with more than 250 people. Tickets can be purchased by calling The United at (608) 255-8582.

Five very important awards will be given to members of the community. They include: Man of the Year, Woman of the Year, Volunteer of the Year, Ally of the Year (individual or organization), Lesbian/ Gay/Bisexual Organization of the Year. Please contact The United at 14 W. Mifflin Street, Suite 103 or call (608) 255-8582 to learn more about nominating individuals or groups for these categories.

The deadline for receiving nominations is May 25, 1993.

The United, a Madison-based non-profit organization, is one of Wisconsin's leading and oldest organizations providing counseling, advocacy, education and resources to individuals who are Lesbian, Gay or Bisexual or to those who seek to better understand Lesbians, Gay men and

'Queer Quinceanera' To Be Staged

[Milwaukee]- Despedida Hysterica featuring Queer Quinceanera, an original work by Milwaukee artists David Figueroa and Ric Oquita, will be performed on Sunday, May 30, 1993, at 7:30 p.m. at Theatre X, 158 N. Broadway in Milwaukee.

Queer Quinceanera is a coming out fiesta novella that appeared in January's issue of Wisconsin Light for a first

reading.

Figueroa and Oquita, well-known to Milwaukee audiences, will be performing along with "other Bellas Hystericas. For more information, call (414) 278-0555.

looking for a faith community in which to share your gifts and nurture your personal and spiritual growth

Plymouth United Church of Christ is an open and affirming congregation which welcomes all people, including gays, lesbians and bisexuals as an integral part of their faith community. Plymouth is an established church with excellent music, education and social programs as well as a wide range of social justice activities. If you're looking for a spiritual home, come to Ptymouth at 2717 East Hampshire Avenue. Sunday services begin at 9:30 a.m. and are followed by a time of fellowship and collee.

PLYMOUTH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

HIV AND HEALTHY!

PATH, or Positive Approaches To Health, is an early intervention program for people who are HIV positive. PATH can help you delay illness and maintain your good health.

By learning to take care of yourself eating well, managing stress. understanding your mind and bodyyou can live with HIV.

PATH offers services designed to assist you towards a healthy way of life: • Lab Testing & T-Cell Monitoring • Physical Assessments • Health Education · Case Management • Physician Referral (including massage, Reiki, yoga • Cooperative Therapies & acupuncture)

> If you're HIV positive, PATH may be your key to a healthy lifestyle.

For more information on PATH, call (414) 273-1991.

A collaborative program of the Milwaukee AIDS Project and STD Specialities Clinic.



Wisconsin at the March on Washington, April 25, 1993

Milwaukee To Remember, Support Those Who Live With HIV Disease

[Milwaukee]- Together, the People Living with AIDS Coalition, the Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP), the Metropolitan Community Church, Dignity Milwaukee and SET Ministries will provide a service and rally to provide sponsor a service and rally to provide remembrance, support and hope for people affected by HIV disease on Sunday, May 23, 1993. Part of the 10th International AIDS Candlelight Memorial and Mobilization, the service will begin at 7:00 p.m. at the War Memorial Center in downtown Milwaukee, 750 N. Lincoln Memorial Drive.

The event will begin with a memorial service, dedicated to those who have died as a result of HIV and to support those who are living with the virus. A short candlelight march to Fleet Park, located just north of the War Memorial, will be followed by a rally featuring several guest

The rally is designed to increase AIDS/HIV awareness in the community

and address how people can become involved in putting a stop to this deadly epidemic.

Those scheduled to appear include Jerry Smith, Chair of People Living with AIDS Coalition; Chris Fons, ACT UP Milwaukee; State Representative Tim Carpenter; State Representative Barbara Notestein; Lori Weiselberg, Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction; and Doug Nelson, Executive Director, AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin, Inc.
Since 1983, when there were few

recorded deaths, before the cause of AIDS was known, people have participated in the AIDS Candlelight Memorial. Its purpose is to unite local communities worldwide to simultaneously take action in support of people with HIV disease. On May 23, millions of people in 220 cities in 50 countries will remember those who have died and show their support and hope to those who live with this disease.

Soldier Of year Comes Out At The March; Thrown Out of Army

SUNDAY - JUNE 13

[Washington, D.C.]- A stunning and dramatic "coming out" story unfolded on the eve of the March On Washington when the Sixth U.S. Army's Soldier of the Year for 1992 and Operation Desert Storm hero announced at a Congressional reception that he is Gay. Sgt. Jose Zuniga, a highly decorated junior officer in the military, came out in full uniform on Saturday, April 24, at a reception sponsored by the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF).

Zuniga, 23, was named Sixth Army's Soldier of the Year in March, 1993. In April, he received the Forces Command Military Print Journalist of the Year

Zuniga's military accomplishments are exemplary and include: Recipient of the Combat Medical Badge (the highest award a combat medic can receive) for service in Operation Desert Storm; the Meritorious Service Medal; five Army

Commendations Medals (three of them awarded in combat); the Kuwaiti Liberation Medal (awarded by the government of Saudi Arabia); and the U.S. Army candidate for the 1993 Jaycees Ten Outstanding Young Americans title.

Uncle Sam Doesn't Want You

On Monday, May 10, 1993, the Army recommended that Zuniga be discharged because he is openly Gay.

Under an interim policy imposed by President Clinton, people who are subject to discharge because they are openly Gay must be put on the standby reserve.

However, Zuniga said that he would rather accept an honorable discharge, saving that it puts him in a better position to fight the Pentagon's anti-Gay ban. He said being in the standby reserve would have limited what he could have said or done to fight the ban.

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

The Wisconsin



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Institutional Member



EDITORIAL

Support For Madison's Scheel **House Needed One More Time**

Proponents of the Rodney Scheel House, which will provide affordable housing for people with HIV and AIDS, need your support one last time. Citing misinformation about how the virus is spread, a handful of potential neighbors have appealed the April 19 decision of Madison's Plan Commission which set the stage for a September ground-breaking for the house. Although a 2/3 vote of the Common Council would be necessary to overturn the decision, and this is unlikely, it's important that our voices be

Come to the May 19 Common Council meeting at 7:30 p.m. in Room 201 of the City-County Building or call (608) 266-4071 to reach your alderperson to indicate your

LETTERS

Thanks To Miller

TO THE EDITOR:

Milwaukee's water crisis was a health threat and a hardship for everyone in the community. For people with severely compromised immune systems such as advanced HIV disease, Milwaukee's Cryptosporidia contaminated water caused severe and life threatening

We would like to publicly thank the Miller Brewing Company for its compassionate and quick action to supply the Milwaukee AIDS Project food pantry with thousands of bottles of Project food pantry with thousands of bottles of clean water. Immediately after the water advisory was announced, Miller Brewing Company called the Milwaukee AIDS Project and offered its help to dispense clean water to our 700 clients who are men, women and children living with HIV disease and AIDS. Miller Brewing Company's understanding of the serious threat of contaminated water to people with HIV and AIDS and its immediate response helped to prevent severe illness and untimely deaths for many of our clients.

The continuing support of Miller Brewing

The continuing support of Miller Brewing Company, especially during times of crisis, lifts our spirits as we confront the difficult and relentless challenges that lie ahead with the HIV epidemic.

— Doug Nelson Executive Director, Milwaukee AIDS Project

Steve Gunderson

TO THE EDITOR:

I had a dream — no, really it was more of a wistful thought. In the months and days leading up to the March On Washington, I imagined how wonderful it would be if Representative Steve Gunderson marched with the Wisconsin contingent the Wisconsin contingent — just one more politician from the dairy state.

That over a decade after the passage of a Gay

rights law that he would finally test its provisions for his own life. That he, a moderate Republican from the Midwest, would wrest the

Republican from the Midwest, would wrest the Gay agenda away from the Liberal Democrats from southeastern Massachusetts (as valuable as they have been). Never happen, I told myself — but a girl can dream, can't she?

Steve Gunderson did not march with the Wisconsin contingent. He marched with the contingent from the District of Columbia. He said so, himself, after proudly pointing out his sunburn, to the members at the HRCF (Human Rights Campaign Fund) Leadership Rights Campaign Fund) Leadership Conference breakfast on the morning after the

In between bites of bagel, members of Congress were scheduled to stop by to give us pointers on lobbying and inspire us for the office visits we were expected to make later that day. The politicians who deigned to drop in were largely a familiar crowd — those who owed HRCF a favor or those very few for whom Gay rights was an issue of personal importance. Then, a new face stood on the podium — Gunderson's. I had to pinch myself to believe what I was seeing — the inconceivable had just become the inevitable.

I wish I could remember every word he said that morning, but try as I might to hold on to every word, I was in a state of shock and some just got away. He began his talk after noting his sunburn by explaining that he marched under the D.C. banner because that was where his friends marched. The possibility of regional reporters from local papers in Wisconsin was another explanation — one he did not make.

He went on to state that he had been asked why he did not switch parties, become a Democrat, and that he was firm in his intention to remain a Republican.

He brought up the topic of his personal life why he did not switch

— rather the topic of his not talking about his personal life. He said that all his friends on the Hill knew, and that thanks to Michael Petrelis, all his constituents knew, and as far as he was concerned, that was the end of the matter.

He had done a lot of talking to his fellow Republicans, he said. He found himself again and again bringing up Abraham Lincoln and the Old Testament, the latter of which he boiled down to two principles: Love thy neighbor and:

Such passion from a third-generation Norwegian! I've never seen him so worked up over something other than dairy price

Supports.

He had been speaking to anyone who would talk to him, he related to us, over his stance on Gays in the military. Even more than letting Gays serve, he felt that the witch hunts should be stopped.

He recounted on such story - the details of which escape me. He recently sat down with a Fundamentalist and told us how he disagreed with him when he (the Fundamentalist) tried to convince him of the wrongness of lifting the

He (Gunderson) had also spoken to a colleague — who in turn, had told him of having worked late one evening and having taken a

phone call (being the only one still in the office) from a Gay man over the military issue. They had a long chat. This colleague told Gunderson that this was the first time he had spoken to someone Gay for an extended period any time

Gunderson then told his colleague that one of his (the colleague's) senior staffers was Gay.

He concluded his talk by telling us to tell any politician we speak to to speak to him about the issue of Gays in the military.

The politicians who give these breakfast appearances usually give a brief pep talk, then run out, but due to the extraordinary circumstances, a Q and A session followed. Indeed, Gunderson's presence caused a palpable excitement among the genteel, will desceed ground. To the mostly rich white

well-dressed crowd. To the mostly rich white men behind HRCF, here indeed, was one of

One of the first to speak up was Rob Eichberg, co-founder of National Coming Out Day, who questioned how Gunderson could ask us to bring our personal lives to achieve social justice, but was unwilling to do so himself.

Another in the room asked him if the Fundamentalist minister knew all about his personal life. A third questioned him why he would "out" his colleague's staffer.

Steve Gunderson made a repeat appearance that evening at a post-lobbying reception. I went up to shake his hand — what a strong handshake he gave me — to gush how thrilled I was to have seen him and to express hope that

was to have seen in and to express hope that it was the start of something.

A postscript — I called Michael Petrelis that evening. He, at first, preoccupied with the upcoming Shindler court-martial, was only interested in what Gunderson had to say about

Petrelis must have thought otherwise later, because he called Marvin Liebman, who was as excited as I was for basically the same reasons. He called Chris Bull. He then called Tim Campbell, who called ...

Marianne Seggerman Stamford, CN

March Count

TO THE EDITOR:

Within all things there is a science. It is with a knowledge of science, specifically mathematics, that one tackles the question of how many people attended the 1993 March On Washington. For those of you who enjoy math, I will now translate the variables of the March so you can, if you wish, work the problem yourself.

The people began marching at 12:00 Noon. Their march started in a street that was 80 feet wide. They marched through a crowd of cheers, a few bible-haters. The marchers

clung in a tight group.
Yet, a liberal dimension of 3 feet between each person can be assumed. The March, at its longest, was 1 and 1/2 miles long. The last marchers entered the Mall at approximately

Now you can begin to calculate the problem. First, convert the distance into feet so you can work with the 80 feet street size and the 3 feet of space between each person. A mile and a half equals 7920 feet.

To find the number of people across the road, divide 80 by 3. The answer is 26.66. This tells you that if we had marched in formation, we would have created 26 plus rows. To find out how many people were in each row, divide 7920

by 3. The answer is 2640. From the figures of 2640 and 26.66, you can find out how many people were on the route at one time by multiplying them together. The answer is 70,382.4 and is then multiplied by

the number of turnovers in the route.

This figure is attained by dividing the total number of hours in the March by how long it took to walk the course. Or 6 and 1/2 by 1. Now multiply 6 and 1/2 by 70,382.4 to find out how many people actually marched. This number is 457,485.6.

That isn't a million, but we can't forget those who choose to cheer, flirt or stay at the Mall. The Washington Post, quoting the Park Service, reported that 110,000 people marched. This means that 190,000 people were hanging

Without the use of a calculator, figure out what percentage the number 110,000 is of 457,485.6. This tells you that the Park Service's margin of error is 400%. They missed 3 of every 4 people. If you assume they made the same error with the ones not in the March, that means that 760,000 people

I personally feel that people were there to march. But, because we've been belittled again by the government, I sense it's justified to add half that number again to the 190,000. This means that there were a total of 270,000 bystanders.

To get the total number at the March add together 457,485 and 270,000. The answer is 727,485.

Give it up Park Service. You've been ousted.

- C.P. Lowe

Park Service

TO THE EDITOR:

The National Park Service has issued an estimate for the March On Washington of just 300,000 people. As the Washington, D.C. Mayor's Office, the D.C. Police, and anyone who was there can tell you, there were over one million of us there. We must not allow the Park Service estimate to stand.

The Park Service has, in the past, revised its estimates, but only when it is pressured to do so by Congress and the people. Each of us must write to our elected officials and to the Park Service, demanding that the Park Service acknowledge our existence by increasing their

The National Park Service may be reached at: P.O. Box 32127, Room 3424, Washington, D.C. 20013-7127. Mark the envelope attention: Public Affairs Office.

Write those letters today. Make them revise the count. To echo a March theme: "It's a simple matter of justice."

- John Cain Madison

Power of One

TO THE EDITOR:

The March On Washington wasn't about whether the Park Service's number of 300,000, or the city's estimate of one million was correct. There was an endless sea of Gays and Lesbians marching for their rights, marching to show who we are.

The March showed that we are doctors, lawyers, mothers, fathers, Catholics, Jews, service men and women, young and old. We saw a couple with silver hair, arm in arm, wearing shirts which said, "Celebrating our 35th year as a couple."

We re-affirmed what we as a community already know. We are normal, loving, caring people. What the March did, was show it to

Now that I have returned home, I realize that we must not only show ourselves to America once every five years, but the time has come for us to do it daily. We must show our families, our friends, our neighbors and our co-workers that, yes, we are normal people, and yes, we are Gays and Lesbians.

The March On Washington will not have

much of an impact on the general public because we were a sea of unknown faces to them. They could still sit in their easy chairs and say, "Sure, there are a lot of them there, but I don't know any." So their stereotypes are allowed to live on.

By coming out, and showing ourselves to everyone, people realize that they do know someone in that sea of faces. They know that you as an individual are "OK", so maybe

Gays and Lesbians aren't so strange after all.

The greatest power we have in our community rests within each of us. It is the power of showing ourselves to the world for who we are, and what we are. Only by each of us having the courage to unleash that power, will we ever have our rights as Americans,

- Judi Trampf

Valerie Taylor

[Tucson, AR]- Valerie Taylor is one of our oldest living national treasures. Whether you bought Whisper Their Love from a drugstore rack in 1957 or Prism in a women's bookstore in 1981, or have just heard her name, the fact is, she has made a difference in all of our lives.

Taylor, now 79, was creating Lesbian literature before most of us came out. She writes with humor, hope and triumph about the struggle of old Lesbians, poor Lesbians, disabled Lesbians and all Gay people. Even in the early 1960's, her Erica Fromm series dared happy endings.

Today, Taylor needs us to return some of the support and love she has given. She lives with a variety of medical problems. Immediate care is needed.

Although Medicare and basic donated health insurance cover a portion of her needs, she has only a social security check to pay for the rest. Arizona has no Medicaid and, low-income as Taylor is, she doesn't qualify for the state program. With your help, we can insure that a

pioneering Lesbian writer gets the care she needs.

Please mail contributions to: Valerie Taylor Fund, c/o Antigone Books, 600 N. 4th Ave., Tucson, AR 85705. Make checks payable to Valerie Taylor.

If you can't afford to donate money, let her know what her books have meant to



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Madison at the March on Washington, April 25, 1993

Madison Groups To Perform At Milwaukee PrideFest June 12-13

[Milwaukee]- The Pride of Mad Town will be in evidence during PrideFest 93.

Two Madison area choral groups will be performing at this year's Pride Celebration.

Womonsong and Mixolydian will bring some excellent music to the PrideFest stage on June 12th and 13th. Womonsong will be performing during the PrideFest 93 "Sing Out And Dance With Pride" concert the evening of June 12th and Mixolydian will sing on the PrideFest Main Stage at 2:30 on Sunday, June 13th.

Womonsong first started performing in 1981. Currently boasting 40 members, the group is considered one of the best female chorus in the Midwest.

Spokesperson Angela Prestil said that Womonsong concentrates on feminist, political and humourous music. "We want our audiences to walk away having experienced a full range of emotions."

The group wowed the audience at its last Milwaukee appearance in March when it sang in concert with Artemis and the Mukwonago Singers and Eaters.

Womonsong is not organized along the traditional lines that one might expect of a fine chorus. Rather than sticking with one conductor, the chorus has several conductors within its ranks.

It forgoes auditions in favor of

accepting any woman who wishes to join.

"We are so excited to be partcipating in the first ever "Sing Out and Dance with Pride" concert. This is the first time anyone has tried to do an outdoor evening concert. "We know it will be a big success," said Prestil. "Womonsong is

Helms Trying To Stop Nomination Of Achtenberg

[Washington, D.C.]- In a move reminiscent of the 1950's witch hunts conducted by Wisconsin's Senator Joe McCarthy, Sen. Jesse Helms (R-NC) on May 6, 1993, called San Francisco Supervisor Roberta Achtenberg "a damned Lesbian" and, the Senator added, "if that makes me a bigot, so be it." Achtenberg is President Clinton's nominee as an Assistant Secretary in the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

On May 5, a Senate committee recommended that Supervisor Achtenberg be confirmed as Assistant Secretary, but Helms obstructed the nomination process by asking for a full debate. Helms argued that the debate was necessary for "Americans to have a chance to decide whether they want to get in the business of having an avowed Lesbian in a high government position who has insulted in the meanest way the Boy Scouts of America."

Despite Helms' maneuvering, Achtenberg's confirmation by the full Senate is expected. Once confirmed, she will become the highest ranking openly Lesbian or Gay official in the Executive

Correction

In the April 1, 1993 Light, we reported that the Lesbian Alliance of Metro Milwaukee had proposed the establishment of a Lesbian Community Center in Milwaukee. The ad hoc committee working to set up the center is made up of women who happen to be members of LAMM, but LAMM as a group is not initiating the effort. We are sorry for the error.

happy to help express the Pride of the Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual community."

Mixolydian was started 1991. It has fourteen members. The name Mixolydian is reclaimed from traditional music history. During the second century The Catholic Church changed the name of the

scale attributed to Sappho from Lesbian to Mixolydian.

"We sing music from a wide variety of styles and cultural traditions, emphasizing specifically Lesbian and women positive lyrics," said Mixolydian's Cathy Younger. Along with Casper Funn, Younger directs and conducts the group.

"We are so excited to be performing in Milwaukee for the first time. The Pride celebration is always special to all of us, but with this being our first appearance in Milwaukee, it is even more exciting for us." said Younger.

The PrideFest Committee is equally excited to present these two fine groups. "Mixolydian and Womonsong allow us to present an exciting added dimension to our entertainment," said Co-Chair Roberta Niggimeier. "Along with our other performers they allow us to present a complete picture of Lesbian and Gay culture and music."

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5:00 Country Western Dance

6:30 Opening Ceremonies

6:45 Sing Out & Dance With Pride Candlelight Concert (Light up the Park with Pride. Bring a Candle)

Sunday, June 13th

10:00 InterFaith Service

11:20 Pre Parade Rally
Noon THE PRIDE PARADE

1:00 Post Parade Rally

1:15 Continuous Entertainment to 8:00

Milwaukee's Juneau Park

Major Sponsors of PrideFest include: The Cream City Foundation, Gay People's Union, In Step, Miller Brands & The Wisconsin Light



Frontiers, a Madison men's organization celebrating its 12th anniversary year, honored four community activists at its annual dinner on May 8th 1993 at the White Horse Inn. Accepting community service awards were (1 to r) Jerry Johnson (publisher of the Wisconsin Light), George Mosse (former UW Madison professor of history), Terry Boughner (editor of the Wisconsin Light) and Jim Green (Integrity/Dignity of Madison).

Lawsuit Against Eliason Proceeding 'In Full Force'

[New York, NY]- The latest issue of The Lambda Update, the newsletter of the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund reports that discovery in the \$12 million suit brought by Julie Brienza against United Press International (UPI) and Milwaukee religious right-winger, Vic Eliason, is proceeding "in full force" under a new judge. The previous judge took himself off the case because of what he cited as "acrimony" between the parties.

Brienza, a former Supreme Court reporter for UPI is suing the news organization and Eliason for unlawful job termination based on her sexual

Lambda reports that discovery has

revealed that after Eliason learned that Brienza is a Lesbian who was writing a free-lance article for The Washington Blade, he contacted other anti-Gay notables and enlisted their help and that of his radio and TV listeners in organizing a campaign to have Brienza terminated.

UPI fired Brienza, supposedly for minor professional infractions.

Eliason owns a TV station in Milwaukee, WVCY-TV and a radio station WVCY-FM. He broadcasts over them

Lynne Bernabei and Debra Katz, partners in the D.C. law firm Bernabei & Katz, are lead counsel on the case, with assistance from Paula Ettelbrick.

NGLTF Continues To Back **Boycott Against Colorado**

[Washington, D.C.]- Contrary to the Journal, May 2, 1993, the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) continues to support the boycott of tourism and travel to Colorado, according to Torio Osborn NGLTE Executive to Torie Osborn, NGLTF Executive Director. Osborn said that NGLTF "supports the boycott as one strategy among many to repeal Amendment 2 and pre-empt attempts in other states to pass similar anti-Gay amendments.'

Based on information acquired in her May 6-9, 1993 trip to the Mountain State, Osborn said that the "boycott has proven

to be an effective strategy.

Colorado has lost at least \$50 million in revenues due to the boycott, showing that discrimination is costly. In addition, the boycott has gained media attention for Amendment 2 after post-election coverage has long ago died down.

And "very importantly," Osborn said, the boycott has sent a signal to other states where Colorado-style initiatives are being advanced. Osborn cited Idaho,

which is facing an anti-Gay initiative in 1994. There, business leaders have viewed the Colorado boycott as an example of what might happen if the anti-Gay referenda win.

According to reports in the Idaho press, the business community now believes it is in their best interests to work against the discriminatory measure.

Osborn emphasized that NGLTF had endorsed the Colorado boycott in a highly publicized press conference in December and has not shifted from that strategy since. "We continue to take our lead from Colorado activists and other organizations on the issue of the boycott," she said.

Osborn added that NGLTF believes effective organizing entails constantly assessing individual tactics and implementing additional strategies to end discrimination. "NGLTF will continue to discuss and evaluate with Colorado activists and others all strategies and tactics to reach our ultimate goals: repeal of Amendment 2 and the defeat of future

\$25,000 Stonewall Awards To Be **Presented To Five Activists**

[Chicago]- Just days before leaving for the March On Washington, five community activists for AIDS education, Gay and Lesbian rights and women's interests received notification that they had won the no-strings Stonewall Awards of \$25,000 "for achievement for Gay and Lesbian America."

The winners, announced on May 5, 1993, by The Anderson Prize Foundation of Chicago, are:

Earnest Hite, Chicago, co-founder and president of Image Plus, a support organization targeting African American Gay and Lesbian youth, and the HOPE Project, an AIDS education program;

Pat Norman, San Francisco, Executive Director of the California AIDS Intervention Training Center;

Suzanne Pharr, Little Rock, a community-action strategist who has spent most of last year working against the Religious Right's anti-Gay legislation in Oregon; and,

Sharing a prize, Edward Sedarbaum, Queens, New York, founder of Queens Gays and Lesbians United, who leads programs to sensitize police about the Gay and Lesbian community; and his companion, Howard Cruse, pioneering Gay and underground cartoonist.

The Stonewall Awards are given by The

Anderson Prize Foundation, set up and funded by the late Paul A. Anderson. A bequest of \$1.25 million from Anderson's estate to endow the Foundation is one of the largest grants ever in the Gay rights movement.

Stonewall Award winners are selected for their work on behalf of the Gay and Lesbian community. Anonymous nominators generate a list of potential recipients. An award committee of Foundation directors and previous winners select the honorees.

Support Group For Young Men To Begin

[Milwaukee]- The Counseling Center of Milwaukee, Inc., is beginning a support group for young men ages 17-21 who are exploring their sexual orientation and want to meet with peers to talk. The group will be forming in early summer and will meet weekly. The group will discuss issues such as how to meet other men, relationships, tensions with parents and family, and coming out questions. Call Bill Hanel at the Counseling Center at (414) 271-2565 for more information.

Cream City Chorus To Sing At May 23 Candlelight Service

[Milwaukee]- In commemoration of friends and loved ones no longer with us, the Wisconsin Cream City Chorus, Ltd., will be joining other local groups as part of the 10th International AIDS Candlelight Memorial on Sunday, May 23, at the War Memorial Center, 750 N. Lincoln Memorial Drive, in downtown Milwaukee. The service will begin at 7:00 p.m.

The Chorus will be performing Kirby Shaw's Brothers and Sisters, a song of affirmation, unity and "working together

to make things right.'

The Chorus will also be performing at the Milwaukee Pride Weekend festivities in June and, one week later, at their annual Spring concert We, the People.

Chorus Welcomes New Officers

In recent elections the Cream City Chorus elected four of its members to positions on the executive board.

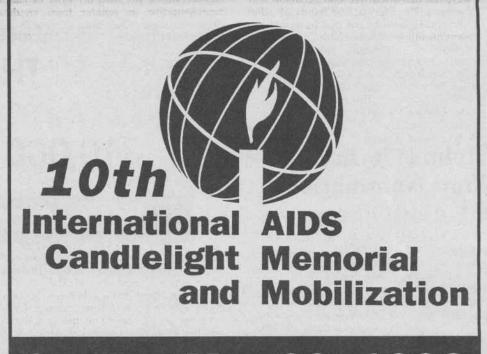
Bob Fiebelkorn, one of the Chorus's founding members, was chosen as Vice

President. Ken Weske, long-standing Chorus member, was re-elected as Treasurer. Ron Thate was reconfirmed in the Board position of founding father. Ebbie Duggins continues to serve her term on the Board as Chorus Secretary.

In a special vote necessitated by the resignation of Bill Schumacher, Scott Sowlles was elected Chorus President. Sowlles has served as Treasurer of the Chorus.

The Chorus and its new Executive Board applauds Bill Schumacher for his devotion to the role of President, and wishes him the best of luck as he pursues a musical career in the United Kingdom.





Sunday, May 23, 1993

7:00 P.M. WAR MEMORIAL CENTER **Memorial Hall** 750 N. Lincoln Memorial Drive Milwaukee

Sponsored by: **Dignity Milwaukee Metropolitan Community Church** Milwaukee AIDS Project People Living With AIDS Coalition of Wisconsin **SET Ministries**

Hearings On Lifting Military Ban Continue in Senate, To Start in House Business Group Is Formed

News Analysis by Nina Sossen

The hearings on lifting the ban on open Gays and Lesbians serving in the military heated up this week as the Senate hearings continued and the House prepared to start theirs next week.

The event receiving the most media attention on Monday was Senate Armed Services Committee Chair Sam Nunn's (D-Georgia) press tour of a submarine at the Newport News Navy Yard. In front of their superior officers, and with the video cameras rolling, a group of young male soldiers were asked whether they wanted to lift the ban. Almost all of them responded strongly "no!" (accompanied in some cases by adolescent giggles and macho posturing.) "Neither do I!" stated Nunn smugly. Like all military base tours this one didn't omit the obligatory shower tour in which everyone commented on the lack of privacy and, hence, (in an unexplained leap in logic) the unsuitability of men of various sexual orientations serving together in a submarine. This video tour was shown throughout the day on CNN and on all three major networks' evening news. The New York Times deserves credit the next day for reporting on the sailors that the news footage missed who said they didn't mind serving with Gay men. ABC's World News Now late night, also showed Nunn interviewing three sailors aboard the submarine who stated that it didn't make any difference to them and one who said Gays were already serving aboard submarines.

On Tuesday, energized by his successful media show, Nunn entertained a series of guest panels at the hearings. The proceedings started with retired General Norman Schwarzkopf (of Persian Gulf War fame) who was greeted as a hero before proudly proclaiming that Gays and Lesbians absolutely would not be tolerated in the military. Sam Nunn, never content to be an impartial observer, triumphantly agreed.

Schwarzkopf was followed by an Army officer, fresh from Somalia, who stated

that he had a Gay son (who had, it was later learned, come out to his father just five days prior) and that he would not want his own son to serve in the military were the ban lifted. He said he would fear for his son's safety at the hands of other soldiers. He also added that he would not want his other straight children to join the military were the ban lifted. Not one senator on the panel asked him to justify this, but several used it as justification for leaving the ban in place on the grounds that parents would not allow their children to volunteer for the military, and the military would be greatly understaffed.

Finally, at the end of the day, the committee had the leaving opportunity to hear from some of those about whom all others had been speculating: openly Gay and Lesbian soldiers. The panel included four present or past soldiers: Discharged Army Colonel Margarthe Cammermeyer, Discharged Air Force Staff Sergeant Tom Paniccia, Marine Sergeant Justin Elzie who is awaiting disciplinary action for saying he is Gay, and Navy Chief Petty Officer Stevens Amidan, a straight man who has commanded navy submarines.

Each one of these individuals made a compelling and articulate case for lifting the ban. In the case of Cammermeyer, Paniccia and Elzie, their very presence and bearing said much to show that their sexual orientation has had no effect on their ability to serve their country. Sgt. Paniccia was particularly moving in his testimony when he described visiting the grave of his deceased mother shortly after coming out to his commanding officers and praying that she would be proud of him. His voice choked as he added that his father, who is still living, has refused to speak to him since he came out.

Col. Cammermeyer was also very convincing in explaining to Sen. Nunn why the "no ask, no tell" compromise (in which military personnel will not be asked their sexual orientation, and will be permitted to divulge it only in the case of heterosexuality) will not work. "As long as there is that threat,"she explained,"it can be used against us." As long as persons can still lose their jobs if they are found to be, or admit to be, Gay or Lesbian, a commanding officer can still manipulate any subordinate, by threatening to reveal their sexual orientation. Perhaps the most compelling testimony was form Chief Petty Officer Amida, describing his experience commanding subs, including one in which a gay sailor served. He was unequivocal in his statements that sexual orientation plays no role in a sailor's ability to do his or her job and 'complete the mission' (a

phrase used by all four panel members to describe their duties.) He testified that in his experience, sailors will obey their commanding officers and if intolerance and bigotry of any kind is not tolerated by the officers, the sailors will obey.

Unfortunately, this dramatic testimony from all four fell seemingly on deaf ears. With the exception of Sen. Carl Levin (D-Mich.), all the Senators who were still in the hearing room used their testimony as just another weapon to argue against lifting the ban. Many of the senators commented that these soldiers' testimony of their actual experiences contradicted what other soldiers had predicted would be the scenario if the ban were lifted and concluded that this testimony of actual experiences must be either the one rare exception or simply wrong. That the senators would trust the speculation of soldiers that admit never even knowing an openly Gay or Lesbian person to the actual experiences of soldiers, Gay, Lesbian and straight, shows the extent to which the Armed Services Committee is opposed to lifting the ban.

One of the most demoralizing moments came during the questions from Sen. Strom Thurmond (R-S.C.). He simply refused to conduct any sort of dialogue until the panel members would agree with him that homosexuality is not normal and needs to be medically treated. None of them would, so he just rephrased his question: "So, since you all must agree that homosexuality is not normal...

Despite this dreary scenario, there is still hope. There is still one thing that can persuade members of Congress to life the ban. That thing is letters. Lots of letters. As Rep. Barney Frank (D-Mass.) has stated, the most important thing that can be done to lift the ban is to write to members of Congress. At this point, Senators and Representatives have received far more calls and letters in support of keeping the ban in place than

If you support lifting the ban on Lesbians and Gay men in the military, call or write your representative or senator today. If you've already written once, write again to let him or her know you still support lifting the ban, or, write or call a representative or senator from another district or state. The phone number for all members of Congress is [202] 224- 3121.

United To Receive Community Service Award

[Milwaukee]- The Milwaukee Lesbian Gay Pride Committee proudly announces that it has selected The United of Madison as the recipient of this year's Community Service Award. This marks the first time the prestigous award has been given to anyone outside of Milwaukee.

'The Community Service Award is our way of recognizing an organization or individual who has shown dedicated service to the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual community," said MLGPC Vice President Tony Terry. "We are honored to be able to present it to a group whose long history of service to the community has had a positive impact on thousands of

The agency has seen a 1200% growth rate in clients served between 1986 (the first year statistics were kept) and 1993. Among the services provided by the United are: peer counseling over the phone and on a walk in basis, advocacy services to individuals and groups who experience discrimination, a speakers bureau, support groups and a Library. In 1992 The United had over 9,000 client contacts. Given its current monthly client statistics, the group anticipates over 14,000 client contacts this year.

'The record of The United has been so outstanding that it is unmatched by any Lesbian Gay Bisexual organization anywhere in Wisconsin." said PrideFest Chair Bill Meunier. "The United helps hundreds of people every month. As it enters its sixteenth year, The United stands on an outstanding record of solid accomplishment."

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National Gay and Lesbian

[Philadelphia, PA]- Twenty Gay and Lesbian professional, business and social organizations from around the nation met in April in New Orleans to officially establish and fund GLOBAL (Gay and Lesbian Organizations Bridging Across the Land). These groups represent over 10,000 individual members. To date, more than 40 other groups have asked for information on membership in GLOBAL.

GLOBAL is a non-profit association of

Wisconsin **March T-Shirts** Still Available

[Madison]- A few of the Wisconsin March on Washington T-Shirts are still available. The shirts are 100% white cotton with a rainbow design and the words "Wisconsin the first Lesbian and Gay rights State celebrates the March on Washington, April 25, 1993." Shirts are available in large or extra large and are \$15 each, with 20% of all profits going directly to Wisconsin NOW. Free pick-up is available in Madison, or shirts can be mailed anywhere in the country for an additional \$2.50. Please send orders, including your name, address, phone number, shirt size and payment, to: N. Sossen, 33 University Square, Box 234, Madison, WI 53715. For more information, please call (608) 256-3779.



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Gay and Lesbian organizations which is inclusive of a broad range of social and professional groups. Its mission is to facilitate communication among its member organizations, support their growth and success and encourage the sharing of ideas and opportunities for professional development and social interaction.

This sharing of management experiences and programs will enrich each member organization and expedite the creations of new groups by their being able to call upon the national association for guidance. Individuals on their business and social travels will be able to participate in the functions of the GLOBAL member organization in the city they are visiting. A quarterly newsletter will be provided.

For more information, write: GLOBAL, P.O. Box 42406, Philadelphia, PA 19101-2406.



SAT., MAY 15 Noon — ?? **Old Time Reunion Party**

SAT., MAY 22 — 7:30 P.M.

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> AIDS RESOURCE CENTER of Wisconsin, Inc. P.O. Box 92505 Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202

The March on Washington April 25, 1993

Photos From LIGHT Readers



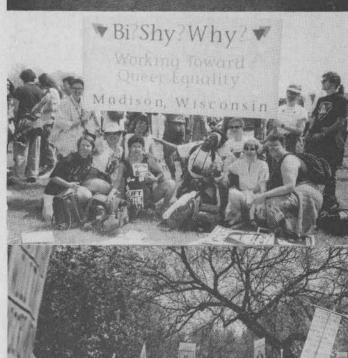
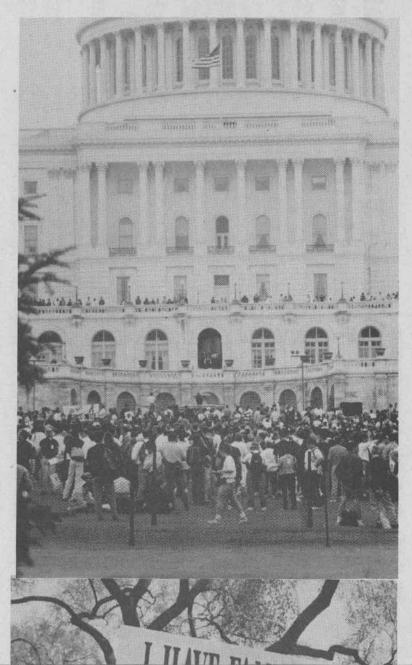


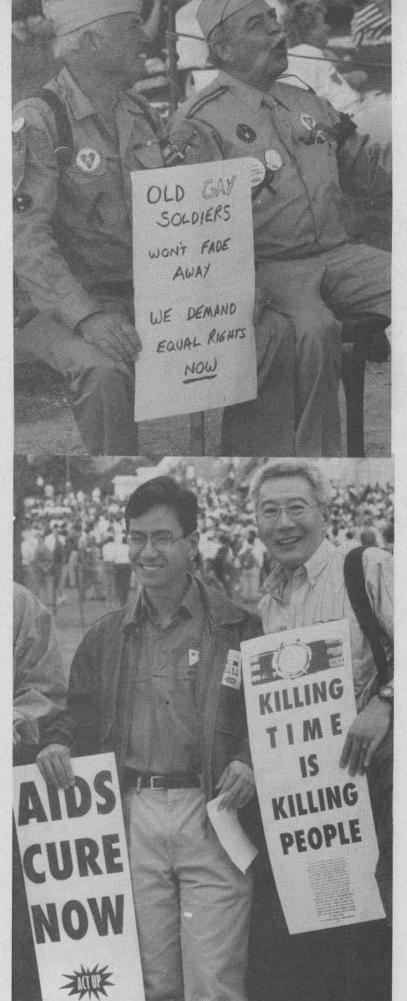




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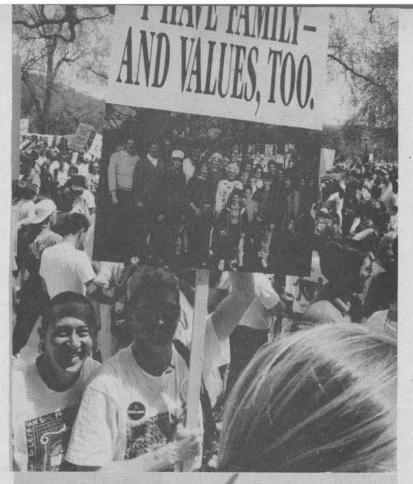
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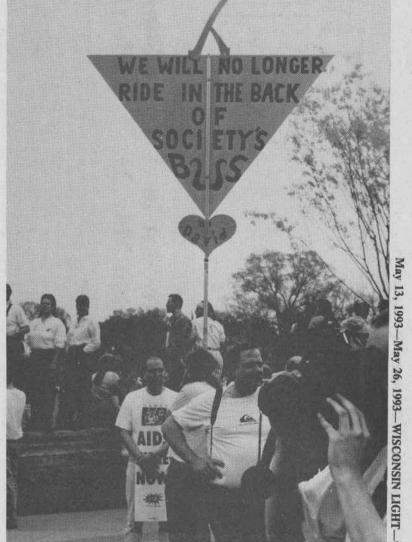












The Light LIVELY ARTS

Artists To Celebrate 'Art In The Park' In Madison May 23

[Madison]- The New Harvest Foundation is organizing a celebration of artists of the Gay and Lesbian community. Scheduled for Sunday, May 23, this event — the first of its kind in Madison — will take place in Orton Park, deep in the heart of Madison's 6th District, home to many Gay men, Lesbians and their friends.

The celebration of creativity will coincide with the installation of a plaque commemorating the George Segal sculpture, Gay Liberation, which was installed in Orton Park for four years, from 1987 to 1991.

Artists of all genres are encouraged to participate. This is the first in what is hoped to become an annual affair, and those responsible are making plans with the intention of being as inclusive as possible. This is not a juried show. The overall goals are celebration and appreciation.

Due to site restrictions, those who perform will need to be scheduled. It is

expected that visual artists will be more easily accommodated. New Harvest will be responsible for publicity, which will be aimed at attracting a large attendance from around the state, and basic organization. The means of display is the individual artist's responsibility.

In fulfillment of our mission as a philanthropic organization, incorporated to proved grant support to projects benefiting the Gay and Lesbian Community, a small donation of proceeds from art sales on May 23 would be welcome.

For the sake of organizing and planning—this is an effort run by volunteers—all registrations must be received by Saturday, May 15, so don't delay in making the initial contact. The event will be held rain or shine.

For more information or to register, call Earl Bricker at (608) 244-0289 or write: Celebrating Art, The New Harvest Foundation, P.O. Box 1786, Madison, WI 53701

Present Music To End Season With Special Concert at Lakefront

[Milwaukee]- Present Music will close its 1992-'93 season with a special concert and party at the Milwaukee Art Museum on Friday, May 28, 1993. The concert, beginning at 8:00 p.m., will feature premiere performances by guest composers Michael Torke and Kamran Ince. Leslie Fitzwater will join Present Music as guest vocalist. The exhibition Common Ground/Uncommon Vision: The Michael and Julie Hall Collection of American Folk Art will be open to all ticket holders starting at 6:30 p.m. The evening will end with a post-concert party with Mrs. Fun. This big splash will take place in the Museum's lake-front galleries.

Torke, born in Milwaukee in 1961, is considered by many to be the most talented of this generation of American composers. Present Music's artistic director Kevin Stalheim has commissioned Torke to write a new set of songs. Four Proverbs will be premiered by Present Music and vocalist Fitzwater. These songs are Torke's first foray into this medium for solo vocalist and chamber group. Torke's ground breaking Yellow Pages will also be performed by Present Music.

Ince, born in 1960 in Montana to American and Turkish parents, has impressed Milwaukee audiences and critics with a performance of Night Passages. He will join Present Music in a performance of his Waves of Talya. Ince is composer-in-residence with Memphis State University.

Mrs. Fun (Connie Grauer and Kim Zick) are well known in Milwaukee for their weekly performances at Cafe Melange and their collaborations with K.D. Lang, Theater X, Victor DeLorenzo

For ticket and other information, call (414) 271-0711.

'In The Life' To Air Washington March Coverage

[Milwaukee] — The May episode of the Gay/Lesbian variety show In the Life, featuring coverage of of the April 25 March on Washington for Lesbian, Gay and Bi Equal Rights and Liberation, will be televised on WMVS-TV in Milwaukee at 12:30 a.m., May 28. Because of the late hour, it will appear in TV listings as the last program scheduled on Thursday evening, May 27.

In the Life is televised monthly but does not have a regular time slot. Viewers should call WMVS Program Director Tom Dvorak at (414) 271-1036 to ask that it be aired at a consistent time each month. The program is funded, in part, through a grant by Milwaukee's Cream City Foundation.

To request that it be aired in Madison, viewers should call either Program Director James Steinbach at WHA-TV: 1-800-422-9707.

Gonzalez-Torres' Artwork To Be Displayed In Milwaukee

[Milwaukee]- Felix Gonzalez-Torres is a conceptual artist who imbues simple images and forms with meaning and emotion; a multi-media artist who combines characteristics of different artforms in objects and installations. He has explored how images from his personal history can be conveyed and interpersonalized in the public sphere, particularly on billboards around Milwaukee.

'Seers and Rowbuck' In Music Finals

[Milwaukee]- On Saturday, June 12, 1993, Dawn "E-Poo" Roethler and Cindi Lampman will be one of eight finalists at a music competition at the Milwaukee County Zoo grounds. Roethler and Lampman, a musical duo, that performs under the name "Seers and Rowbuck," won the right to perform in the final competition in April when they did it "just for fun." Now, the "fun" is over. The serious stuff begins.

From the eight finalists on June 12, a winner will be chosen who will go on to perform on the stage at this year's Summerfest, known the world's largest music feetivel

music festival.

Roethler and Lampman would like everyone to attend the finals. They will be held on Saturday, June 12 at the Zoo grounds, 10001 W. Bluemound Road in Milwaukee from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. The cost of admission is \$6 (zoo admission fee). For further information, call Roethler and Lampman at (414) 344-8093.

Lampman and Roethler will also be performing at Milwaukee's 1993 Lesbian and Gay Pride Day, on Sunday, June 13 at Juneau Park. Admission is free for this

event.

These billboards show a single bird in flight, a metaphor of the artist himself traveling north to Toronto in the 1970's to see his lover who has since died of AIDS. To Gonzalez-Torres, the north is a "place of magic, a place to fly to, a place to love."

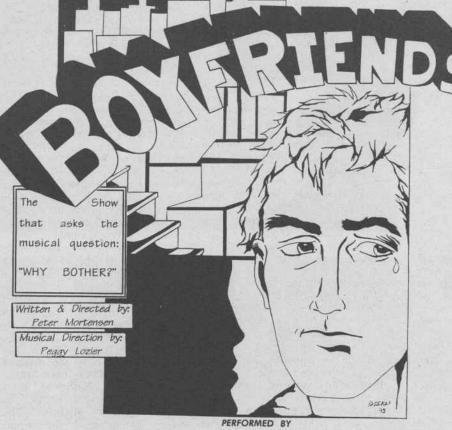
The image of the bird is dream-like, appealing to the desire, often realized in dreams, of humans flying to mysterious realms beyond the clouds. In placing this image on a billboard, the artist comments on the erosion of the distinctions between the highly private and the immensely public.

Like so many of Gonzalez-Torres' works, his billboards are ephemeral and destined to be depleted by the middle of Summer. Then, they will be returned to their intended marketing function.

The Milwaukee Art Museum will be showing an exhibit of Gonzalez-Torres' work beginning on May 28 and continuing to September 12, 1993. For more information, please contact the Museum at (414) 224-3262.

Chamber Music To Benefit Abortion Rights League

[Milwaukee]- On May 20, 1993, at 7:30 p.m. the National Abortion Rights Action League of Wisconsin will present a chamber music benefit concert at the Piano Gallery, 219 N. Milwaukee Street, in Milwaukee. Musicians affiliated with the Milwaukee Symphony, the Wisconsin Conservatory, Present Music and UW-Milwaukee will play modern and classical compositions. Tickets are available at the door or in advance by calling (414) 271-4811.



FEST CITY SINGERS

FRIDAY JUNE 4, 1993 8:00 PM
SATURDAY JUNE 5, 1993 8:00 PM
SUNDAY JUNE 6, 1993 2:00 PM
SUNDAY JUNE 6, 1993 7:30 PM
ADMISSION: \$8 in advance \$10 at the door
GROUP RATES AVAILABLE

SKYLIGHT OPERA THEATRE 814 N. JEFFERSON ST., MILWAUKEE Reserve your tickets by calling 263-SING

The New Harvest Foundation

invites you to participate in

Art Park

an exhibit and sale of Lesbian & Gay Art, and a commemoration of Segal's sculpture, "Gay Liberation"

Orton Park in Madison, WI — May 23, 1993 — 3:00 - 6:00 PM

Bring friends & family. There will be games & food.

We encourage those attending to pack a picnic lunch!

Tammy Baldwin: What Did She Do At The March?

By Tammy Baldwin
What did Tammy Baldwin,
Wisconsin's openly Lesbian State
Representative do while she was in
Washington for the March?

We're glad you asked. Here are some excerpts from her journal kept during the busy weekend.

Friday, April 23, 1993

5:30 a.m. Left apartment to pick up four traveling companions. (Nice to know our public officials believe in car pooling.)

11:00 a.m. Arrived National Airport.
Dropped off luggage at home of a College friend

1:00 p.m. Met with other openly Gay and Lesbian elected and appointed officials to plan upcoming conference. (The 1993 Conference of Openly Lesbian and Gay Elected and Appointed Officials will be in Chicago, November 18-21.)

5:30 p.m. Attended reception for the ACLU Lesbian and Gay Rights Project at the Stewart Mott House. Greeted Roberta Achtenberg (Assistant-HUD Secretarynominee) and her partner, Mary Morgan, Chief Municipal Judge in San Francisco. Discussed Roberta's upcoming confirmation hearings and the family's move to Washington. Broadway and film star Mandy Patinkin was the event's special guest.

8:00 p.m.- 2:00 a.m. Attended the NOW Lesbutante Ball at the National Press Club.

Saturday, April 24

10:00 a.m. Joined many others in reading names at the opening of the Names Project Quilt Display on the mall.

11:00 a.m. Was one of about 70 persons honored for making political history as Gay or Lesbian activists. James Carville, Chief Strategist for the Clinton/Gore Campaign was the inspiring keynote speaker. A new video was shown featuring Tammy and other elected officials. When all the elected officials

were called forward, the stage barely held

Noon Honored at the NOW Women of Power Luncheon, recognizing contributions of out Lesbians to our struggle for freedom. Colonel Margarethe Cammermeyer, who was discharged from

Cammermeyer, who was discharged from the Army after a long and stellar career because she acknowledged that she is a Lesbian was the moving keynote speaker.

3-6:00 p.m. Sightseeing in DuPont Circle

10:00 p.m.- 4:00 a.m. Spring to Life Dance at the Post Office Pavilion (benefit for AIDS.) One of 4,000 people attending to hear performances by Rozalla and RuPaul.

Sunday, April 25

The March 9:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m.

Joined with nearly a million people in 7-hour March for Lesbian, Gay and Bi Equal Rights and Liberation. Marched with Wisconsin delegation, arriving at the mall at 6:30 p.m., wearing T-Shirt proclaiming "Wisconsin, the first Lesbian and Gay rights state".

Monday, April 26, 1993

10:00 a.m. Lebby Days Training near the Capitol - trained an eager crew of citizen lobbyists on how to meet their Representatives and Senators and lobby them on issues including Gays in the Military, Gay/Lesbian Family issues, the Federal Civil Rights Bill and Hate Crimes Legislation.

1:35-4:10 p.m. Flight back to Madison. (Arrived just in time to dash over to the City County Building for a Personnel and Finance Committee Meeting at 5:30 p.m.)

Tuesday, April 27

Rose in State Assembly to ask for unanimous consent to recognize the nearly 1 million persons, including many Wisconsin citizens, who marched in Washington, D.C., on April 25, 1993 to promote basic civil rights and an end to violence and discrimination against Gay and Lesbian Americans.

Court-Martialed Green Berets' Officer Upset Over Military

Commentary By Jay Hatheway

As a Gay man and as a former commissioned officer in the Green Berets who was court-martialed because of my sexual orientation, I am troubled by the arguments the armed forces have advanced to support the ban against Gays.

Because the military has been unable to develop even one rational constitutional argument in support of their position, the Joint Chiefs have resorted to intellectual subterfuge to scare the American public into opposing Clinton's plan for integration.

integration.

By presenting as a fact a deceitful bag of unsubstantitated, prejudiced and stereotypical cliches about homosexuals and homosexuality, the Joint Chiefs do a disservice to their country and their

Since the publication of the Pentagon report "Nonconforming Sexual Orientations and Military Suitability" in December, 1988, the military recognized homosexuality per se was insufficient to bar Gays from duty, and that sooner or later, the ban would be found unconstitutional.

Rather than accept the conclusions of its own report or the findings of the federal courts, the military has decided to elicit an emotional response. The top brass are playing to the public's worst instincts by painting a picture of homosexuals as oversexed and immoral creatures, who, in a military environment, would be driven to insatiable lust into seducing "normal and moral" heterosexuals, thereby transmitting HIV and spreading death and destruction.

Without regard for truth of the very laws they are sworn to uphold, the military predicates its objections to Gays on what it hopes the majority of Americans feel about homosexuals to bypass the constitutional arguments in support of Gays.

If today the majority can determine that Gay men and Lesbians are not to be accorded full citizenship irrespective of the Constitution, then tomorrow it may be another group. Lest we forget, this is the stuff of Nazism.

The Joint Chiefs seem to believe that homosexuals will force the "religious" persons in the military to resign. Since when did the military become a sanctuary for religion and the protector of religious fundamentalism?

As for recruitment, this may shed insight into the military's real reason for its resistance. As anyone who has served knows, the military would like to think

that it projects an "all-American" image, one that is acceptable to our overwhelmingly middle-class manners and morals. Our armed forces are to be composed of tough, iron-willed and honorable soldiers who will neither flinch nor be afraid to project their testosterone on a global basis.

In short, the real military is for real men, not "men-women," sissies, pansies or sodomites.

Finally, and almost as an afterthought, there is the "problem" of the shower.

Nowhere does the image of the sex-crazed Queer come into focus than with this irrational scenario. Without regard for any proof, the military asserts that Gay men do indeed behave in a specific way, and that based on this fact, Gays will create a "shower problem."

Not only is this an absurd assumption, but a projection of irrational fears that originate out of ignorance and prejudice. Anyone who uses a gym will understand how much of a non-starter the shower issue really is.

Rather than accept Clinton's integration plan and allow the constitutional political process to go forward, the military is engaging in purposeful deceit to go over the head of their Commander-in-Chief and spread fear and loathing among the public.

This is both wrong and dangerous. Clinton would be well advised to replace the entire lot with individuals who accept the lawful orders of their Commander-in-Chief and who also accept as true a belief that legal discrimination against a suspect class of persons is wrong and must cease. To do anything less is to invite further discrimination against all those whom the military or the majority might deem unworthy of full citizenship.

Editor's Note: Dr. Hatheway is a Professor of History and Politics at Edgewood College in Madison. The contemporary legal origins of the current debate regarding Gays in the military began with Hatheway's court-martial and the legal challenges of Leonard Matlovitch in 1974/1975. It was Hatheway who brought the first constitutional challenge to the military's sodomy statute.

In the process, Hatheway was shot at, physically assaulted, beat up, placed under house arrest, subjected to painful physical neurological tests, shadowed, phone-tapped and threatened with death.

The above article first appeared in the February 2, 1993 issue of the **Wisconsin State Journal** and is reprinted here with the permission of the author.

ACT UP to Hold Town Hall Meeting In Milwaukee May 24

[Milwaukee]- ACT UP Milwaukee is hosting an important Town Hall Meeting on May 24, 1993 at All Saints Cathedral, 816 E. Juneau Avenue, at 7:00 p.m. New members are especially welcome.

The goal of this meeting is to harness the energy brought home from the March On Washington and direct it towards AIDS issues in the city of Milwaukee and the state of Wisconsin.

The first hour of the meeting will be set aside to explain what ACT UP is and what it does. Explanations of current issues, such as the HIV/AIDS immigration ban, needle exchange, youth sex education, etc., as well as what ACT UP is doing on

these issues will be included in this discussion. A question and answer session will conclude the first hour.

During the second hour, a condensed version of an ACT UP meeting will be held to illustrate how one is run and how decisions are made.

A new member's packet will also be available at this meeting. This in-depth packet on ACT Up includes a history, operational procedures and a handy HIV/AIDS dictionary.

Everyone is encourage to attend. For more information, call ACT UP at (414) 769-8708

Milwaukee Pride Committee Thankful for Financial Support

The PrideFest Organizing Committee has issued the following statement thanking the major sponsors for this year's event.

Producing PrideFest and the Pride Parade is an enormous undertaking. We are proud of the contributions made by everyone involved. We are especially proud of those groups and businesses who have lent substantial financial support to PrideFest 93.

Without any of these organizations it would not have been possible to produce this year's Pride celebration. Their community spirit, sense of pride and caring are to be commended by everyone in our community.

Special thanks goes to The Cream City Foundation which has given us a grant of \$5,000. We sincerely hope that those who come to this year's celebration will remember the Foundation during this fall's annual giving campaigns. Anyone who sees our celebration as worthwhile owes a debt of gratitude to CCF.

Gay People's Union has also made a substantial donation to PrideFest. Throughout the years, GPU has maintained an attitude of working to serve the entire community. Through its hot line and other activities, GPU has served Lesbian and Gay Milwaukee for 24 years.

Lesbian and Gay Milwaukee for 24 years.

In Step Magazine through its sponsorship of Mardi Gras, its donations of ad space and its complete advance

coverage of PrideFest activities has given us an opportunity to reach thousands of people and raise badly needed funds.

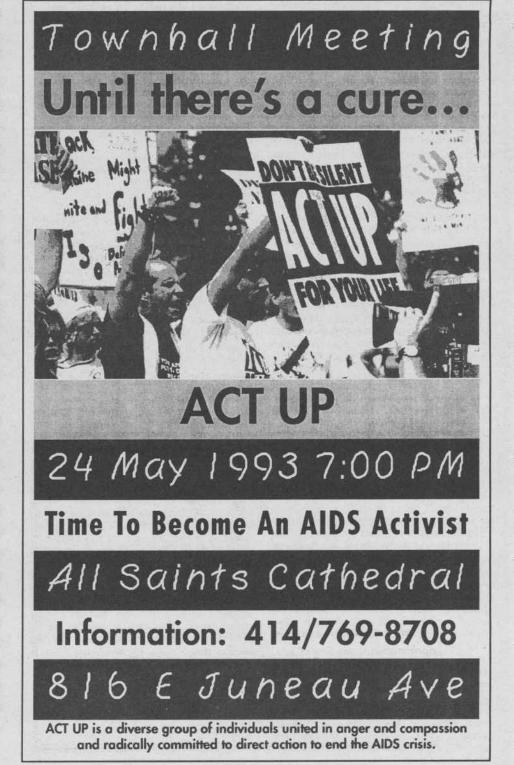
Miller Brands, the distributor of Miller Brewery products in Milwaukee has also made a substantial contribution to this year's festivities. Through a generous donation of cash, goods and services, Miller Brands has shown its concern with the well being of our community.

Wisconsin Light through its sponsorship of our annual Mardi Gras, the Pride Plant sale, and the PrideFest Rummage sale deserves the thanks of everyone associated with PrideFest. Like In Step, The Light made sure that its readers are fully informed about PrideFest. And like In Step, Wisconsin Light works tirelessly throughout the year to raise badly needed funds to ensure that PrideFest will go on.

We also wish to thank the Shoreliners and 3 B's bar for agreeing to hold a PrideFest fund raiser on Friday June 4th, and we wish to thank the Boot Camp Saloon for holding a fund raiser on Friday May 15th.

Special thanks also goes to **This Is It Bar** for its continuing ongoing support.

All of the above organizations have sought out ways to help make sure that our community is fully able to display its Pride. They stand as one more reason to celebrate our Pride on June 12th and 13th.



Observations Of A Lesbian **Couch Potato**

By Jamakaya

The print and broadcast media gave unprecedented coverage to the March on Washington and all its related events the last weekend in April. For the most part, the coverage was excellent, stressing the diversity of people in attendance and the different rights we are demanding.

The overall image conveyed was one of a well- organized, determined group seeking civil rights, a theme captured best in the march's slogan "A Simple Matter of Justice." Organizers were thrilled with the turn-out and especially pleased at the peaceful and orderly nature of the crowd. Out of a million people, there were only five arrests all weekend.

The success of the march can be measured by the level of vituperation right wing columnists Cal Thomas and Joseph Sobran used to discredit it. Thomas saw only a "shameless promotion of sexual immorality," while Sobran idiotically stated "the majority were fairly flaming... Flaunting was the order of the day."

Which march did they watch? Participants looked so well-scrubbed and middle class, this viewer was desperately looking for some outrageous queens to liven things up! God, respectability is boring!

Yes, dear reader, I stayed home like one of those lazybones Lezzies I'm always railing against. I played couch potato and watched the daylong coverage on C-SPAN. I've been doing penance ever since, loaning out my video to friends who were actually in D.C. that day. The Badger contingent didn't leave the step-off point until after 5p.m., missing the entire afternoon rally, so watching C SPAN was like having a front row seat.

Among the highlights of the rally were performances by Melissa Etheridge, singing her guts out to "Keep It Precious," Supermodel RuPaul strutting her stuff, a beautiful a cappella song by the Indigo Girls and Romanofsky and Phillips doing a campy spoof on the military to "Be All That You Can Be."

Ian McKellan, the Gay actor recently knighted by Queen Elizabeth, gave a stirring and very relevant reading from Shakespeare. He chose a powerful oration in which Sir Thomas More quells an angry street mob protesting the presence of strangers among them. He ended by declaring that "William Shakespeare is on this march today!" He also thanked everyone "for the encouragement and hope that you bring to all Lesbians and Gay men outside the USA." It reminded me that just as American feminism has spread across the globe inspiring others to take action, so too has the Gay liberation movement.

For sheer emotional intensity however, it had to be Michael Callen, looking more frail than ever but in great voice, singing the touching ballad "Love Don't Need a Reason," and diva Patti Austin, singing the AIDS anthem "We're All in This Together." There wasn't a dry eye at my house.

A bevy of Lesbian comics emceed and kept the rally moving. Karen Williams said that as a triply oppressed woman, she demanded free groceries from her local store: "I'm black, Lesbian and a mom, bag 'em up!" Lea DeLaria definitely had the most outrageous line. You could hear a million queers gasp in unison when she observed: "I love this administration, and I'll tell you why. Because finally, in this country, we have a First Lady you could fuck!"

Kathy Majimy offered another opinion about our man Bill, saying the reason we feel more pride in our country is "because we finally have a leader who is thinking with his heart and his mind and not just his penis." (Gee, I can't imagine why Bill and Hillary didn't show up...)

In other celebrity sightings, Martina Navratilova got one of the longest ovations. In her speech, she urged people to come out of the closet. "Throw away all those excuses. Instead, find all of the wonderful reasons you too should be out," Lily Tomlin and Jane Wagner, who were watching at home, sent a supportive

message. And Cybill Shepherd, looking absolutely gorgeous, gave a heartfelt speech, repeatedly using the line "If I loved a woman...If I loved a woman..." Well, I nearly died! When the media asked why she was there, she replied gamely: "I'm straight, but I'm not gamely: "I'm straight, but I'm not narrow!" (Shepherd also narrated a new



JAMAKAYA, COUCH SPUD

video about Gays in the military that's being given to members of Congress.)

Our political leaders gave speeches sounding mostly assimilationist themes. Torie Osborn, new director of NGLTF: "We're coming home America." Ginny Apuzzo: "America, our time has come." Tim McFeeley of the Human Rights Campaign Fund: "We will take responsibility for the problems that face our community and we are resolved to win." Snore, snooze.

How refreshing it was then, to hear a couple real radicals tell it like it is. Naturally, they were both with ACT UP.

Akiko Carver began by asking the throng if they wanted the Pentagon ban lifted and if they had the right to serve their country. When they responded with cheers of affirmation, she let 'em have it: "Well if you believe that, then you're racist!"

After a litany of abuses the US military has inflicted on third world people, Carver really let go: "The NGLTF and the HRCF aren't fighting for human rights. They're fighting against homophobia as an obstacle to white power! You're not fighting against economic apartheid, you're fighting for Margarethe Cammermeyer's pension!... The politics of the Queer movement have watered down to nothing. The movement started with a riot and it needs to end with one!"

Larry Kramer, never one to mince words, also lashed out against Bill "The Welcher" Clinton and Donna "Do Nothing" Shalala. "Time is being pissed away, just like under Reagan-Bush. Nothing is any different. What kind of inhumanity is this? This is yet another President and yet another Health Secretary who do not care about AIDS. Why are we kissing this President's ass?'

And what would a Queer rally be without an outing or two? Just when Shalala was hoping the closet was safe, Kramer charged to an audience of millions: "Donna Do-Nothing Shalala is a Lesbian! And I know it, and she knows it and thousands of Lesbians from coast to coast know it, so why is she denying it so vehemently and helping us so little? We do not need another Ed Koch to ruin our

While celebrities and activists predominated, one of the most beautiful speeches was delivered by Dorothy Hadjys, the mother of Allen Schindler, who was brutally murdered by fellow

"I've been told that many mothers would have kept their mouths shut. They wouldn't have wanted the embarrassment of everyone in the nation knowing that their son was Gay. But, you know, you can mess with a lot of people and a lot of things and maybe I would have kept my mouth shut. But you don't mess with my kid."

"My desire is that every mother of every person that's here will accept you for what you are and who you are, that they'll love you and that they'll tell you they love you. You know, twelve hours before Allen was killed, I talked to him on the phone and I told him four times during that conversation that I loved him. And I know that Allen is up in heaven, and he's up there now, saying: 'Go for it, mom. Don't let anyone else die the way I did."

Let's hope the mothers of America were listening. Let's hope everyone in America saw a little of the love and determination exhibited in Washington April 25. There's still so much hatred and stupidity to be overcome. But let's hope the spirit of pride and community we all felt that weekend sustains us in the battles ahead.

Dykes To Watch Out For



PRIDEFEST Rummage Sale

Sunday, June 13, Juneau Park

Have items you can donate to the PrideFest Rummage Sale?

WE NEED THEM!

To donate, please call (414) 372-2773 for pick-up or bring items to the Wisconsin Light, 1843 N. Palmer St., Milwaukee

A Fundraiser for the Parade and Festival Sponsored by The Wisconsin Light

ON THE MOVE! The Transition From Wisconsin To California

Commentary By Allan Stroik

"It was a dark and stormy night." Well, at least it was a cold and snowy night. This whole idea of me sitting down and writing a letter back home every other week got its start back in February, on the night of the ill-fated Mardi Gras Ball at the Domes. When I told Terry that I was planning on moving to California in July, he thought it would be a neat (Okay, he didn't really say "neat.") idea if I wrote a column for the Light telling about my thoughts, reactions and adjustment to life in the Los Angeles basin. I thought it would be kinda fun.

And then, when my plans to move were abruptly shoved forward to the end of April, Terry still thought it would be a

good idea.

As of this writing, I am still in Milwaukee. I never imagined that trying to put all my affairs in order would be such a pain. Deciding what to take and what to leave, who to invite to a going away party, who I wanted to say good-by to, and who I could care less if I never saw them again. Moving cross country is a real pain. I only recommend it if you have a nice supply of Morphine.

I don't know what will happen to me once I get settled. All I know for sure is that Mike is glad to have me moving out there, and I am glad to be getting the opportunity to spend time with him.

know! I know! Long distance relationships supposedly never work out. That's what everyone tries to tell you. Fortunately, I know of many instances where they do work out.

That's what I am looking forward to with Mike. We've been seeing each other for over a year now. We have discussed just about every possible situation that may arise, and I think we are about as compatible as any two people can be. Of course, if it fails, it will give me one more thing to write about.

So, over the next couple of years you can expect to read all sorts of entertaining, informative and many times, just plain stupid ramblings on life

in California.

My journey begins on the 29th of April. I leave for Memphis where I will spend a day or two visiting with my sister and my best friend. After Memphis, it's on to Sedona, Arizona for a day and then I arrive in Redlands where my Grand New Adventure really begins.

Oh, yes, one last thing. Confidential to Steve and Mike: The bedroom wall isn't as thick as you two think it is!

TEEN TALK: Statistics Class, The Prom and Summer Vacation

By Jose Delgado

I've got about a month of school left now, so all you seniors in high school know that I'm running around, busier than ever. I have to pass my statistics class to graduate, but I'm flunking right now. Summer school will totally mess up

my plans for this summer.
I've got two dates for the prom, but they're both straight girls. I think I'm going this weekend to try on my tuxedo.

The March was so much fun, but I don't even have the time to tell you about it. Next issue for sure will be all about my trip to Washington. I met so many people I hope to remember.

While having coffee at Center City Face in Racine, I ran into an old friend. So after I caught up on the gossip, I mentioned my articles in the Light. He automatically knew about the articles, but didn't know I'd written them. I've gotten a few letters and I'd like to say "thanks" for your encouragement. After graduating, I will use my real name and if I can find a good picture, I'll be sure to include it in the

paper.

If I graduate on June 13, the next article will have all my goodies included. Wish me luck in statistics and keep writing. I'll make sure to get back to everyone.
Write: Boxholder, P.O. Box 85151,

Racine, WI 53400-5151.

Remember, being a Gay teen isn't all that bad, if we stick together. PEACE.

FAREWELL FOR NOW: LaCrosse Writer to Be Replaced By Spouse

By Darren J. Foster

While many Light readers attended the April March On Washington, Bill and I remained in La Crosse. (Somebody had to remain in the heartland to "keep the store open" while all you guys and dolls had fun for a good cause in D.C.!) Hopefully, all of your hard work and effort will affect some genuine policy changes in America. However, for us, this past week has brought some changes in my life which leads me to write my farewell-fornow column.

Effective Tuesday, April 20, I have been elected to the position of Editor-in-Chief of **The Lumen**, the student newspaper of Viterbo College, a Catholic Liberal Arts college in La Crosse.

As my work on The Lumen and my

pre-law studies will occupy most of my working hours, I am going to suspend my regular contributions to the Light for the foreseeable future. To fill the void of not having a La Crosse correspondent, my partner, Bill Steffenhagen, has agreed to replace me in this capacity. I am confident that Bill will do well in presenting Gay news from La Crosse plus a rather maverick perspective, for a member of the Gay "community.

I believe Bill will provoke you, entertain you at times, and I hope some of his ideas will prompt all of us towards introspection and critical thinking. I also hope that y'all will welcome an occasional contribution from "yours truly" (and from my good buddy, Dieter!) as opportunities arise. Semper Fidelis!

Military Charged Trying To Silence Imprisoned Gay Man

[Milwaukee]- A Chicago area attorney is charging that the military is trying to silence Larry Meholick, a Gay man who is imprisoned on forcible sodomy charges at Ft. Leavenworth Disciplinary Barracks in Kansas.

Meholick, 44, who served 18 months of combat duty in Vietnam with the 101st Airborne and won a Bronze Star, was charged with sodomy in 1990 and sentenced to 12 years in prison. He has been transferred to two prisons since his sentencing and has been the victim of harsh mistreatment and harassment, according to the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF).

Meholick currently is in maximum confinement, locked in a cell for 23 hours a day and granted only one hour outside. His attorney, Robert Spriggs, has been unable to reach him.

Spriggs insists that Meholick did not receive a fair trial and certainly has done nothing wrong to merit a transfer to Leavenworth.

Scott Shuger, a writer for the Washington Post, suggests that the transfer is the military's way of silencing Meholick to keep him from gaining media attention. Spriggs agrees.

Two Kansas City Gay activists, one who is serving as co-counsel for Meholick and one serving as a legal aide, were able to meet with Meholick. Jerry Hagerty, founder of a Kansas City Queer Nation chapter, reported that Meholick is being treated well. "He hasn't been roughed up," Hagerty reported.

According to Spriggs, Meholick was charged after he reported or threatened to report military violations he observed on the part of officers stationed on his ship, where Meholick disbursed paychecks.

After these incidents, three men claimed that Meholick had gotten them drunk and then raped them, Spriggs said.

Meholick was placed in the Pearl Harbor brig. There, according to NGLTF, guards yelled "faggot!" and "Queer!" as they strip-searched him. Other and similar abuses have been claimed.

A press conference called by the national "Tour of Duty," was held outside Leavenworth prison to call attention to Meholick's case. The "Tour of Duty" is a bus tour of Gay veterans now making its way through the country. Milwaukee's Miriam Ben-Shalom is part of the tour.

Mr. Windy City And Divine To Perform May 23

[Madison]- David Wilshire, Mr. Windy City will appear at the New Bar, Saturday, May 23, along with Divine, a popular entertainer.

The evening will include drag

performances, live singing, comedy routines and a special version of the Dating Game, in which Wilshire himself to take part.

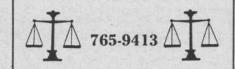
The evening will be a benefit for the Illinois Federation for Human Rights and the Chicago Lesbian and Gay Community Center. All of the \$3.00 cover charge will be given to these two organizations.

The New Bar is located in the Hotel Washington Complex, 636 West Washington Ave. This special event is scheduled to begin at 10:30 p.m.

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Ignorant, Bible-Bashing Lout Calls Gays 'Pesky Flies'

Commentary By Bill Steffenhagen

Last November, the American people elected a new social philosophy and the Gay community was not only a significant factor in that election, but the largest single contributory block. The smell of power justly titillates our senses. But we should not assume victory.

Whether our efforts toward social justice succeed or fail, will depend upon our collective judgment, preparedness, and will; upon whether we are indeed a viable "community," and primarily upon our vision. Without a vision, the rest will avail us nothing. We must begin to ask ourselves questions that will demand hard answers.

What is our goal? How can it best be achieved given the challenges we face? What are those challenges? How can we best counter and defeat them? How do we do this without devouring ourselves?

Pesky Flies

My partner and I are totally "out" in this conservative Midwestern city and we are vocal in supporting our causes particularly on the opinion page of the La Crosse Tribune, our local paper.

In response to one of my opinion-page letters, a rather ignorant, bible-bashing lout called us (homosexuals) "pesky

My first reaction was mild amusement. His scripturally ignorant pronouncement of judgment upon us was too ludicrous to be insulting or even damaging.

But on reflection, I see a point made that we may be blind to; some members of

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our community are pesky flies, buzzing thoughtlessly about, making a nuisance of themselves at the Great American Picnic.

Who Are The Flies?

Most of us are not flies. We belong at the picnic. But we have an image problem. Much of society sees only flies. False stereotypes remain very much alive. Why should it be otherwise?

So long as the vast majority of Gays and Lesbians in a given community remain closeted, the flies will set our public image by simple virtue of being the only ones seen. We must change what they see and there is only one way we can do that. We must come out.

It is not politically correct, but it is nevertheless true, that we can be Gay and Lesbian and acceptable, or we can be Gay and Lesbian and unacceptable. We all know the difference.

We must, as a group, recognize and accept general standards of social and public behavior, Gay or straight. No society, after all, can long survive a milieu of behavioral anarchy. There is intelligent and useful "in their face," and there is counterproductive "in their face."

If we are to realize our goal, our anger

must be thoughtfully controlled and judiciously directed. We cannot expect to be allowed to integrate into the larger, predominantly straight society without some compromise.

The reality is that we are greatly outnumbered and we must accept some responsibilities to that greater society and

Promiscuity, for instance, now endangers all of society and, quite apart from traditional moral considerations, it is plain stupid to insist, by our behavior, that it be made acceptable.

Internally, agism is a prejudice that prevents the insights and restraints of maturity from being passed to our youth. One result is the promiscuity and rising incidence of AIDS among young Gays.

Part of becoming mature as a social group is the willingness to subordinate our diverse parts to the common goal. Purists cannot integrate. We must abandon counterproductive notions of political correctness and, together, change our image, or deservedly fail.

If We Make Up 3% Of The Population, where are the other 7%?

Commentary By Karin Swann

Familiar to most Gays and Lesbians in America is the Kinsey Report's statistic revealing that a full 10% of the American population had experienced some form of personal exposure to "homosexuality." This statistic was determined by a survey conducted in the late 1940's which - 50 years hence — is certainly worthy of re-evaluation. How was homosexuality assessed in Kinsey's research, and how might today's population be best assessed? Or, perhaps more importantly, would a contemporary survey reveal these numbers to have changed?

The recent attention brought to Gays and Lesbians by the Administration's position on Gays in the military has brought a wave of related reports to the American public.

Recently, a story ran on CNN's Headline News offering more current statistics on Gays in America which, I would argue, has an indisputably negative impact.

In this report, a "General Social Survey" administered by Tom Smith at the National Opinion Research Center (University of Chicago) revealed that 2% of men and .7% of women report "exclusive homosexual activity in the preceding year."

If this survey is accurate, Gays and Lesbians are confronted with the reality that in 1992, they made up less than 3% of the population. Where did the other 7%

Of course, because the survey's assessment is period-specific, and age/cohort- unspecific, it is not surprising that these statistics are considerably lower than the Kinsey report's. Furthermore, the survey's assessment of "exclusive homosexual activity" is limited to Gays and Lesbians who were sexually active in the past year.

The question arises, however, are statistics limited to respondents who classify themselves as "exclusively homosexual" best suited to assess the full size of our community? What about those among us who shrink away from classifying themselves as "exclusively homosexual" because we don't want to acknowledge what "exclusivity" means in a homophobic society. Or what of those who are afraid to reveal information about

There are a myriad of other factors which serve to encourage the invisibility, especially of Lesbians, in our society. How then, can we best assess ourselves?

In an interview with Smith, the CNN study (sample size: 2,243 men, 3017 women) was described as a "totally representative, nationwide, random survey of households."

Smith was asked about the value of a random nationwide survey given the tendency for Gays and Lesbians to congregate in urban areas and in particular regions of the country.

Smith responded that "only under very extreme conditions where all the group is concentrated in a particular area" do regional oversights have much of an effect.

Furthermore, after some additional commentary, Smith assured his listeners that for the past ten years San Francisco and New York have, in fact, been included in the sample. When asked if there was any significant increase in the number of Gay/Lesbian self-reports in those particular areas, Smith answered that no qualified statistician would isolate those statistics since the respondents from those areas represented a "very small" percentage of the total and would therefore not provide a reliable measure.

The significance of this report is two fold. 1. The survey was structured in such a way that Gays and (especially) Lesbians were rendered more "invisible" than they already are.

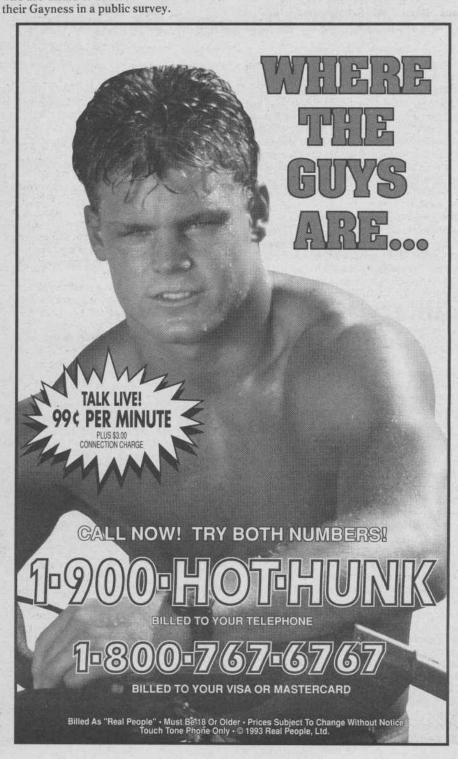
2. The report is highly damaging to

both Gays and non-Gays.

I suggest that Gays and Lesbians would do themselves a great service by exposing surveys that claim to assess our number in the population to a severe critique. Most of all, we should think of ways in which we can accurately reach one another and develop our own means of determining the size and extent of our

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Not Alone: Living With A **Person Living With AIDS**

It was only a year ago now that we found out, my lover and I. Mark (let's call him that) had taken a test at one of the local bars. A little over a week later, we went together to the clinic for the results. He wasn't scared or worried or even upset. I thought that was a good sign. But then, the bottom dropped out. They said he was HIV positive.

I held him. We didn't cry, but he clung to me. I can still feel his fingers digging into my back and his cheek resting on my

After that, there was counseling, for him, not for me. I thought that was the way it should be. It was he who was sick after all. It was he who had now to face his own mortality. I didn't have to face mine, not yet. I was negative, healthy, so they said.

I promised him that I'd say nothing about his HIV status to anyone, not a soul. He was afraid for his job as well as the stigma attached to the disease. The Christian crazies, far to the Right of sanity as they are, have done their work well in that regard. I didn't realize how awfully difficult that promise would be to

Mark joined a support group at MAP. He never said much about what happens there, but whatever it was, it was and seems to be good for him because he became more cheerful, more up-beat. Also, he remained symptom-free which was good. Life seemed to go on as before.

But it didn't go on, not the same, anyway. See, I love Mark, love him just the same as when I first laid eyes on him five years ago. And I'll stick with him. That's part of love, part of commitment and I'll hold to it. But where everything seemed so permanent before, now it's all so temporary.

Please don't tell me to take one day at a time. I try to do that, but often it doesn't work. Everytime he sneezes, everytime he coughs or looks the least bit tired, a cold, fearful chill clutches at my gut and I get scared. I am scared. I'm just so damned scared.

I need to talk to someone. I knew that right from the start. But who?

It can't be Mark. I don't want to add to his burden, the one he already bares. I've tried to talk to a few close friends, but that didn't work. They're sympathetic, sure enough, but you can see what they're saying in their eyes: "Please, don't put this on me." Then they turn away.

We did agree to tell our parents. Mark's mother told him AIDS was God's punishment and she didn't want to hear about it. Mine said not to come home since "the disease was catching."

I read articles in In Step and other periodicals written by People Living with AIDS. But nowhere at all do I find things written by people living with People with AIDS. Maybe they're out there. Maybe I'm not well enough read. But I just haven't found any.

So that's why I'm writing now and will write in the future. I need to talk. I need to relieve the twin palls of loneliness and isolation that I live with constantly. I need to vent anger that I sometimes feel. I need to know that when the hurting's so bad that I can hardly stand it anymore, I can take up my pen and no one will be able to tell me with their eyes to go away.

But there's another reason. I think I can contribute something from my experiences with this disease to the people who are like me. I hope I can,

Please believe me when I say that I feel no pity, not for Mark, certainly not for myself. If, the gods forbid, he died tomorrow, I'd count myself the most fortunate of human beings for having known and received his love. It's just that as I said, I need to talk and I think there's another side to this horror that needs to

Editor's Note: The confidentiality will be strictly respected. At his request, his real name and that of his lover will never be known.

Money is Powerful So Why Not Talk About It?

By Maytee Aspuro

"Lesbian money is the one issue Lesbians should be talking about but refuse to because it is too dangerous."

Money is about power.

Money is about privilege.

Money is about "isms." Sexism, racism, classism...

I have initiated conversations which have led to discussions which have resulted in tension-ridden conflicts. The subject is money and the Lesbian community. As ideas and feelings are raised among women, I find a disturbing double standard, a contradiction about the realities of money and its role in the Lesbian community.

"No woman ever 'makes it' without sacrificing her beliefs."

Reaching the relative yet fragile position of economic security has placed many Lesbians in a new closet. It goes far beyond the conflict of having an intimate relationship with a woman in a lesser economic circumstance. It is reactive to the prevailing assumption that money, being a privilege of the patriarchal community, cannot be held by a Lesbian without tainting her.

Give It Away

Dirty hands must be cleaned. The appropriate method of cleansing one's self is to give away what has been earned. If not renouncing money, there is a mandate for Lesbians to turn away from the privileges money garners, enjoying only the satisfaction of exercising charity. Many refuse to do so.

I think back to the feminist movement from the turn of the century to the 1920's. Reclaimed by historians, many of the women who made an impact were women of means. They had the luxury to look beyond day-to-day survival. They wrote, they marched, they fought to change the status quo. Few renounced the privilege of their incomes, aware that loss of it would impede their progress.

Money is power. Lesbian organizations that struggle to pay their bills know the necessity of money. I believe that there is a hushed "politically correct" position which deems it to be acceptable to have some money as long as you don't have too much money. Too much money being a relative concept no one has yet to define.

I am frustrated by this covert philosophy. It is based on a simplistic set of assumptions. The result is a wedge

between Lesbians.

A Hierarchy of Power

"Haves" and "have nots." A dichotomy reflective of conservative traditions has been rearing its ugly head. A hierarchy of power and integrity is inferred. "Haves" are inferred to think that "have nots" haven't worked hard enough. "Have nots" are inferred to believe that "haves" have sold out. Neither is true.

In our community, many "haves" were once "have nots." It is wrong to assume that amnesia sets in after the bills are paid. Lesbians have been raising their standards of living through education and hard fought battles in the market place. Those battles are daily and it is nearly impossible for any Lesbian to forget where she has come from, no matter how high she economically rises. I believe that those who do forget are the exception and not the rule.

Money does reflect the social order (vs. the natural order), but having money does not mean that a Lesbian has bartered away her opposition to oppression.

There is no inherent nobility in poverty. I do not believe any Lesbian would chose it. Lesbians take pride in surviving in the harshest of environments, aware that money does not reflect the value of the individual. If Lesbians are fighting the war against poverty, why then is it so difficult to embrace those who have won their individual battles?

Lesbian survival is an issue of money, be it the dollar, franc, the pound, yen, etc. Lesbian money is increasing. The majority of Lesbians have no children to raise and thus an ever increasing fraction of their gross incomes is starting to cross over to the point of becoming disposable income; money to be spent as they choose for other than necessities.

Lesbian money should be cause for celebration, not embarrassment. Instead of driving Lesbians of means into a new closet, they should be encouraged (without use of guilt) to use their money to support our community. Attacking the economic success of Lesbians is attacking one of our community's up-and-coming

Editor's Note: The writer is a long-time writer for Light, now resident in Madison.

Seers and Rowbuck To **Perform At Pride**

[Milwaukee]- Seers and Rowbuck a newly formed Lesbian musical duo will be performing at this year's PrideFest. The twosome comprised of Cindy SEERS Lampman and Dawn ROWBUCK Roethler, sing their own original material.

The group may be new, but they already have achieved some fame. Last month they beat out over 50 other performers to make the finals of the Summerfest Music competition. The winners in the finals will play at this year's Summerfest.

"We entered the competition for pure fun" said ROWBUCK Roethler. "And to alleviate some stage fright" adds SEERS Lampman. "Little did we know that we would get to the finals."

They might not have known but friends who have heard them perform privately did. In fact, many of their friends have been urging them to go public with their

The duo bills itself as "Musicians With a Message." A flyer promoting their appearance in the finals of the Summerfest contest says they perform with "props, comedy, animal noises, wrong notes, ballads and interesting smells."

The PrideFest organizers were so impressed with Seers and Rowbuck that they invited them to appear during the Saturday evening concert on June 12th and during the all day Sunday festival. "These women are not to be missed," said PrideFest Chair Bill Meunier, "They are very entertaining."

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PRIDEFEST **Continued from Page 1**

the X - Cleavers, led by Jamicaian David Robinson.

The Shoreliners - Milwaukee's popular Line Dancing group. Smart Answer - Five folk singers from

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1:45 A Lecture on Breast Cancer Sponsored by the Milwaukee Health Department.

2:15 Line Dancing Lessons - Sponsored by the Shoreliners.

3:00 A Lecture on Menopause - Given by Debra Reed.

3:30 Lesbian Herstory/Gay History -Presented by Pat Calchina and Terry

4:00 Song Writing - A free workshop presented by Smart Answer.

5:00 Dance, Dance - A free lesson presented by the Dance Factory.

6:00 Poetry Corner - Readings from some of Milwaukee's best Lesbian and Gay poets.

The Stonewall Stage will in a tent located near the organizational booths.

In addition to the above, there will be Sports area, organizational booths, a Youth tent and a huge rummage sale. Admission to PrideFest is free.

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Readers Give Reactions To The Great March On Washington **Dyke March Overcomes Exhaustion**

By Judi Trampf and Katy Heyning

It was 7:00 p.m. on Saturday night. We had taken the midnight cruise on the Potomac, came home at 4:00 a.m., gotten up and walked to Hands Around the Capitol, viewed the Quilt, toured the Air and Space Museum (counting Gays and Lesbians became more interesting than the planes hanging from the ceiling), shopped at Dupont Circle, bought Queer Scout cookies and now we dropped on our beds absolutely exhausted from the day. Our feet throbbed, our legs were jelly, and no one even had the energy to shower. We were tired, hungry, dirty and one step short of death.

Lying on the bed dozing, I heard something that startled me. It sounded like whistles and cheering. I rolled over to look out the window and see what all the noise was about. "Hey, it's the Dyke March coming past the hotel! You should see the crowd — it's HUGE!"

Suddenly, the dead came to life as four women bounced out of bed, dressed faster than firefighters on drill, and were in front of the hotel cheering on the Dyke March. The energy soon captured us and we found ourselves in the midst of the march, cheering, clapping and singing, completely forgetting about how exhausted we were.

Maybe that's what the whole March On Washington was all about. People who were tired, exhausted from fighting for their rights, exhausted from leading double lives, coming together and pooling their energy to create one massive voice. A voice which can not be ignored. One voice saying that it is, "A Simple Matter of Justice."

Editor's Note: The authors are residents of Madison.

We Are Angry and We Are Marching

A moment that stood out for me in the course of our March: A short distance past the White House came a turn in the road where groups of Fundamentalists had massed by the line of march holding signs proclaiming that God hates fags and that we're gonna

Several of the women in our contingent — our group exhibiting typical internal shifting movement rather resembling an amoeba — quickly and smoothly positioned themselves nearest the hate-spewing signs and proceeded to raise their voices in what struck me as just the right response.

In an alto key that blended perfectly with baritone voices like mine, these Lesbian women began to sing: "We are gentle angry people, and we're marching, marching for

And so we all joined in and sang several verses, each with a lyric change at the beginning. The last one that got to me the most: "We are Gay and straight together..."

It was a moment of redemption, small yet wide. It made me feel that we were more than just acceptable, but models of our community and of our country's spirit at its best. It was an expression of the human heart opened up to face the darkness of bigotry and fear...

In the truest sense, it was a "demonstration" that gave our highest values a voice.

Editor's Note: The author is a resident of Madison

We Came, We Saw, We Conquered

We came; we saw; we conquered.

We, the people of the LesBiGay Community; Queers from L.A. and New York, Queers from Belen, New Mexico and Sheboygan, Wisconsin, came home to our Nation's Capital, the seat of power, land of towering monuments and stark, but oh so eloquent memorials of marble, granite and earth.

We saw each other. We saw our hopes and dreams and love, and we saw our power. We saw our highest aspirations and our darkest fears reflected in the faces of a million of our brothers and sisters. We saw, for a brief and shining moment, a world were equality is the law of the land; a land where holding hands with your lover was as safe and respectable as it should be for everyone, everywhere, every day of our lives.

And we conquered. We didn't end homophobia, oppression and ignorance, but many of us conquered fears and insecurities that have haunted our lives since early childhood.

We demonstrated both our diversity and our unity. We vocalized our pain in one breath and our joy with the next. We vented our anger and resentment while voicing our hope and commitment.

We did not come hat in hand, begging for better treatment; we came in strength and

pride to demand the equality that we deserve.

And we are changed because at the heart of everything that we saw and did was our

Editor's Note: The author is a resident of Milwaukee.

They Are Singing For Their Freedom

By Brandon Marsh

As I was leaving the March On Washington, I overheard from a local political analyst that the fringe groups of leather, radicals, and drag queens should not have been included

This type of political thinking of exclusion is both disruptive and dangerous to a political movement which produced a unified march of 1,000,000 plus individuals for a common cause of rights. Now is not the time to fragment, but to strengthen the unity for equal

As I was riding the Metro to the March On Washington, a Gay chorus broke into spontaneous song to entertain all in the Metro car. A mother with two little girls were on the car. Upon hearing the singing, one little girl asked her mother, "Why are they singing, Mommy?'

The mother responded, "They are singing for their freedom."

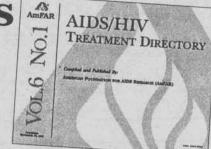
Like the chorus, we have to unite in one voice to achieve our rights and to be equal under the law like all other Americans are guaranteed under the Constitution of the United

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