



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

The Wisconsin Light

HRL to Host Public Officials Reception and Local Coming Out Day Awards, Events

Milwaukee—As part of the Milwaukee community's recognition of National Coming Out Day, the Human Rights League for Lesbians and Gays (HRL) is sponsoring the Annual Public Officials Reception.

Scheduled to be held on Wednesday, October 11, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Village Church, 130 E. Juneau Avenue, the Reception is offered each year as an opportunity for members of the LesBiGay community to meet with local as well as state elected and appointed government officials.

Previous years' Receptions have seen over 40 public officials attend the Reception.

Coming Out Day Awards

New to this year's event are the National Coming Out Day Awards. Recognizing the efforts of local community members and businesses who promote and reflect a positive Gay or Lesbian image through their active participation in the community, the Awards are to be presented during a portion of the Reception.

To be recognized this year are: Steve Brondino, AfterWords Bookstore, Ujima and SAGE.

Other Events

The Public Officials Reception and Awards presentation are only two of a series of events sponsored by HRL in celebrating National Coming Out Day, annually recognized across the country on October 11.

Other events in Milwaukee include:

- Straight But Not Narrow Reception for Family, Friends and Allies, to be held on Saturday, September 30, from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. at the Milwaukee Art Museum.
- Town Hall Meeting with Candace Gingrich to be held on Wednesday, October 4, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Centennial Hall located in the main library in downtown Milwaukee.
- Coming Out in the Public Eye: Media and the Lesbian and Gay Community, to be held on Thursday, October 5, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the UWM Student Union's Fireside Lounge.
- Coming Out in the Bars Community Forum, to be held Thursday, October 12, from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. in Dance, Dance, Dance Night Club, 801 S. 2nd Street.
- Coming Out Dance to be held on October 13, beginning at 8:00 p.m. at Fannie's

For more information on these events, call (414) 228-1921.

Ryan White Bill Passes House with Equitable Funding Due to Nelson and Clarenbach

Washington, D.C.—The House on Monday, September 18, extended through 2000 the Ryan White Act, the federal government's main source of funding for AIDS programs.

The House bill, approved by voice vote, makes some changes in the existing act, including giving states more flexibility to provide a wide range of treatments and support services.

It requires states to provide mandatory AIDS counseling and voluntary HIV testing for pregnant women and supports state programs requiring mandatory HIV testing for newborns.

It modifies the distribution system that saved most of the funding for large urban areas that have been hit hardest by the AIDS epidemic, but ensures that no city currently receiving aid will face a reduction greater than 1 percent of its 1995 funding level.

Hill staffers told *Wisconsin Light* that this new, equitable funding was largely due to the lobbying efforts of Doug Nelson, Executive Director of the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin and David Clarenbach, former Acting Executive Director of the Madison AIDS Support Network.

While working hard for equitable funding, Nelson and Clarenbach were also among those leaders whose successful lobbying efforts targeted at moderate Republicans and key Democrats prevented anti-Gay zealots from attacking the bill with hostile amendments.

Health advocates had worked to avoid a repeat of the midsummer attack on the bill by Sen. Jesse Helms (R-NC), who offered amendments on the Senate floor designed to gut funding for the program and deny life-sustaining medical care for Lesbian and Gay

Full Federal Appeals Court to Hear Case Challenging 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell' Policy



Records Broken—Tipper Gore represented Vice President Al Gore and herself as she cut the ribbon at the start of AIDS Walk Wisconsin on September 17th on Milwaukee's lakefront. Both served as the event's honorary co-chairs. Pictured (l-r) are: Stan Kokos, Green Bay Center Project; Doug Nelson, ARCW; Congressman Tom Barrett; Gore; Carole Meekins, Today's TMJ4; and Mary Turnquist, MASN.

Record-Breaking Crowd Raises Over Three Quarters of A Million Dollars in AIDS Walk Mrs. Gore Praises Gays Who Are Out

Milwaukee—AIDS Walk Wisconsin, held September 17, 1995 along Milwaukee's lakefront, raised more money than any other AIDS fundraising event ever held in Wisconsin. A record-breaking crowd of 10,028 turned in an unprecedented number of pledges to help push the total dollars raised to \$783,748. The money will be used throughout the state to fund AIDS care, prevention, research and advocacy.

Honorary Co-chairs for this year's historic event were Vice President Al Gore and his wife Tipper. While constraints of schedule

prevented the Vice President from attending, Mrs. Gore was there. According to Doug Nelson, Executive Director of the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin (ARCW), AIDS Walk Wisconsin is only one of two such events Mrs. Gore has attended.

Mrs. Gore attended the AIDS Walk Breakfast held at the Italian Community Center, where she was introduced to the crowd by Sen. Herb Kohl.

Kohl spoke of his close personal friendship with the Gores. He praised Mrs. Gore for having "carved out for herself her own identity and interests, primary among which is AIDS."

Kohl further praised Mrs. Gore for being representative of the "woman of today, the woman of tomorrow. She is truly a special woman," he said.

Kohl's introduction was followed by a standing ovation of the same kind she had received when she'd entered the room.

Mrs. Gore praised the public officials who attended the breakfast, showing, she said, their determination in the fight against AIDS.

Those elected officials at the head table included Reps. Tom Barrett and Gerald Kleczka.

Others seated in the audience included State Reps Tammy Baldwin and Tim Carpenter; Milwaukee Alderpersons Marlene Johnson and Paul Henningson.

She also praised Doug Nelson for his work in lobbying for equitable funding for AIDS.

"I am here today," Mrs. Gore said, "because I want to show support and solidarity with those who are infected with HIV and AIDS, with all those who are giving care and with all those who are trying to find a cure. And with all those who make it possible to live every day with hope in their hearts."

She said that she wanted to "emphasize very strongly" that "AIDS is a human disease, affecting families, women and children." She added that "the fight against AIDS truly is the Administration's number one priority."

She assured the audience that the Clinton Administration would "keep the pressure on" to see that the fight continued. She urged others to do the same.

"Everything," she said, "must be brought to bear to find a cure."

Meanwhile, at the Henry Maier Festival Park (Summerfest grounds), the crowd of walkers was assembling. Before the ribbon cutting, speakers addressed the vast, enthusiastic crowd.

Carole Meekins, of Today's TMJ4, who had

Washington, D.C.—The full 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals will hear a case challenging the Clinton administration's "don't ask, don't tell" policy on Gays and Lesbians in the military.

The court issued an order saying all 13 of its active members would hear oral arguments in the case of former Navy Lt. Paul Thomasson sometime between December 4-8. A three-judge panel of the court requested the action after a hearing in the case on September 12.

The 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals sits in Richmond, Virginia. A copy of its order was obtained Friday, September 22.

Thomasson, who worked for the admiral administering "don't ask, don't tell," told his commander about his sexual orientation days after the policy went into effect. After the Navy moved to discharge him, he challenged the policy in federal court and lost. He then appealed to the 4th Circuit, which heard his case in a special, expedited session.

It is the first case challenging the administration policy to reach the federal appeals court level.

Noting that circuit courts rarely hear cases with all active members present, Allan B. Moore, Thomasson's attorney, called the court's order unusual and encouraging.

"If the court were not troubled by the government's position, they would see no reason for the full court to come into the case and sit with them and hear it again," Moore said. "It clearly is a signal that they have some very, very serious concerns."

In a statement issued Friday, September 22, the Justice Department said, "The court is obviously taking seriously the parties' arguments. We welcome the opportunity to present this matter to the full court and look forward to a resolution of this important case."

In Hawaii

Meanwhile, a Gay airman stationed at Hickam Air Force Base in Honolulu said he was discharged Friday, September 22, by a military review board after it determined that he had had sex with another man.

The Air Force said the Privacy Act prevented it from releasing information on decisions the board made in the case of Airman 1st Class Prentice Watkins.

Watkins, 25, said he had received a general discharge at the end of a three day hearing. Watkins said he will sue the Air Force, claiming he deserves an honorable discharge.

Even if he would have been allowed to remain in the military, Watkins said he doesn't think he could have handled the stress anymore. "I'm tired, so tired. I feel like I've been harassed," he said.

Watkins said he enlisted last year to pursue a career in the civil engineering field, not to reform the military policy on Gays. "No one had a problem with me," he said.

No one cared about his sexuality, he said, until a civilian Mainland man, whom Watkins had a relationship with last year, sent a letter to Watkins' supervising officers disclosing his sexuality.

Watkins said the man wanted revenge because he had broken off their relationship. After receiving the letter, Watkins said military officials searched his room and found such things as a picture of him kissing another man.

Watkins said he is getting a lot of support from Gay friends, who are mostly in the military in Hawaii.

"Believe it or not, since I've been on this island, which is going on six months, I've met hundreds of Gay military members here," he said.

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TURN TO AIDS WALK, PAGE 2

Doug Johnson, New At MAP, Seeks to Offer Compassion, Care and Understanding

By Terry Boughner

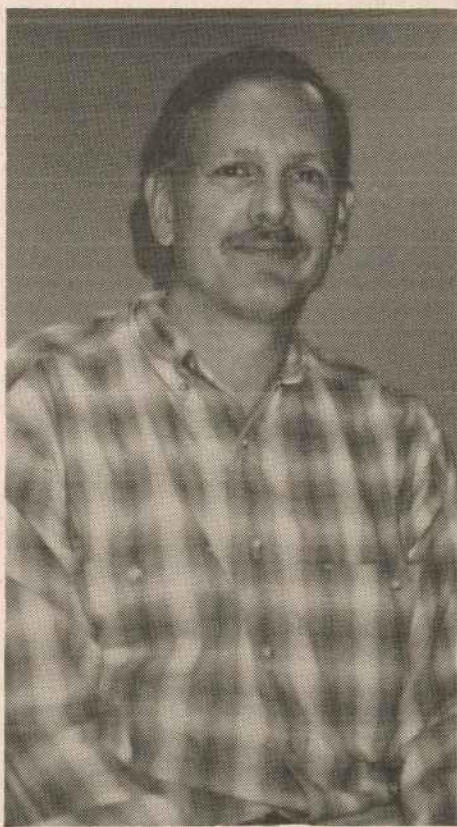
The Milwaukee AIDS Project surprised many in the Gay and Lesbian community by announcing recently its hiring of Doug Johnson, RN as MAP's new Manager of HIV Clinical Services.

Johnson is well-known and respected by many in the community for his long-time involvement with AIDS.

MAP Executive Director Doug Nelson called Johnson "One of the finest HIV nurse-clinicians in the city who has been an important part of the fight against AIDS from the beginning."

"Doug Johnson's leadership and clinical expertise will help build an excellent primary health care service at the Milwaukee AIDS Project," Nelson said.

On a cloud-bound September 19, Doug Johnson and I sat together at MAP to discuss his new position, his duties, his goals, as he enters on his job.



Doug Johnson

Wisconsin Light: When did you start here at MAP?"

Doug Johnson: I started the day after Labor Day. That was my first day as Manager.

WL: What is your background?

DJ: In the past, I've worn many different hats and been in many different positions, but I got my start in HIV even before HIV started. It was actually at Brady East STD Clinic. I started volunteering there right after I graduated from nursing school. I acted as a clinician with STD's, doing diagnosis, evaluation and treatment.

In 1984-'85, I got involved in HIV/AIDS work, by attending a conference in Denver at that time, where I learned more about HIV and what was going to be happening here in Milwaukee.

I continued to volunteer at Brady East Clinic over 10 years.

Then I worked for STD Specialties Clinic. I started there in 1992. We had three programs: counseling, testing services for HIV and early intervention programs services.

After that, I came here, to MAP.

WL: What do your duties entail?

DJ: Right now my duties are to oversee the counseling and testing services, the HIV anonymous testing services that's done here at the Milwaukee AIDS Project and also at outreach sites. That would be the Lifepoint Needle Exchange Program and also at the Dennis Hill Center.

I'm also overseeing the Early Intervention Program. That's for persons who are HIV+, but who haven't been connected up with health care. Typically those would be people who have been newly diagnosed as being HIV+. But there will be times too when we pick up people who haven't had any connection to health care services for a long period of time.

WL: Do you have immediate contact with the Needle Exchange Program?

DJ: What the people in the Needle Exchange Program are doing—even though that's not under my services—we do have people who are going out with that department and actually doing HIV testing and counseling with persons who engaging in IV drug abuse.

What they do there is to have people bring their syringes and exchange them for clean syringes. That's the first and foremost point. Then it's also to encourage them to have HIV testing and counseling. Even if they don't have HIV, they still go through the prevention messages.

We have HIV risk reduction strategies that we encourage them to us. Frequently it's taking them step-by-step—first getting them to exchange needles.

WL: What are your main goals in this new position?

DJ: What I want to do is see that the services that we're providing are of highest quality, and are client centered. It's not just to see numbers, but it's really to make the services here at MAP acceptable—user-friendly—as barrier-free as possible, to make them as sensitive to the needs of clients as possible.

What I mean by sensitive, it's not that the program imposes its priorities on the client. The client comes in and we do whatever we can to find out where that client is, accept where that client is, and help nudge them along, to help them take the steps that they can to take control of their disease.

That means a number of different things. One this is that those people who are HIV negative is to reinforce prevention messages. What kind of steps can you take to reduce your risk? We're not judgmental, we're not punitive, not impose upon them what we might want to see, but to find out what they want to do, what they're capable of doing and continue to reduce their risk of HIV.

Those persons who are HIV positive, we will try and find out where they're at and how they want to deal with their HIV infection. Give them the information on why it's important to address their disease and let them act on it.

Some want to take time, some do not. But we will take the time to help them all. We will keep in contact with them, but give them their

space. We have to recognize that for many people just to step through these doors is an act of courage, an act of strength.

My primary goal is to be compassionate, to be understanding, to reach out. I want to do those things. That's how I can best serve my community and MAP, both at the same time.

Free Flu Shots

Milwaukee—Free Flu shots will be offered at two different times at the M&M Club. These Fall Flu shot clinics are scheduled for Thursday, October 19th from 6:00 until 8:00 p.m. and Tuesday, October 24th from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m.

Both clinics will be in the upstairs banquet room of the M&M Club, 124 N. Water in the Historic Third Ward.

Flu shots are particularly recommended for persons who are HIV infected, their partners and caregivers.

This annual opportunity is made possible by the collaborative efforts of the Gay and Lesbian Nurses Association, the M&M Club, the Milwaukee Health Department, BestD Clinic, Wisconsin Light and Wisconsin In Step.

For information about other opportunities for flu shots, call the BestD Clinic at (414) 272-2144.

Autumn Calendar at AfterWords

Sunday, October 8th.

1:00pm Author Appearance: Yvonne Zipter, **Ransacking the Closet**

Monday, October 9th

7:30pm AfterWords Book Club : Book Discussion: **Virtually Normal** by Andrew Sullivan

Wednesday, October 11th

National Coming Out Day Special All featured Coming Out Titles 20% off

Sunday, October 15th

3:00 - 6:00 pm BESTD Clinic Outreach, Free Anonymous HIV Testing

Sunday, October 21st

1:00pm Author Appearance: Mark Zubro, **Another Dead Teenager**

Monday, October 30th

AfterWords Halloween Bash. Featured Guest: Author Pam Kesey, Dark Angel: Lesbian Vampire Stories

For more information, call (414) 963-9089.

UW-Milwaukee Library to Exhibit Materials on Gay and Lesbian History

Milwaukee—A small exhibit of rare and special research materials for the academic study of the history of Lesbians and Gays will be on view in the Special Collections Reading Room, on the fourth floor of UW-Milwaukee's Golda Meir Library, through November 3, 1995.

The exhibit was curated by Dr. Jeffrey Merrick, UWM Associate Professor of History, who will give the opening presentation in the Golda Meir Library's 1995/96 speaker series, "The Scholar and the Library." Professor Merrick will discuss issues of researching the history of homosexuality. The presentation will be held in Room 281, in the East Wing of the Golda Meir Library, on October 6th, 12:00 to 1:00 p.m.

The exhibition and the presentation are free and open to the public.

The exhibition of books and periodicals, covering a period from the late 18th Century to the present, illustrates the variety of resources available for scholarly research in Gay and Lesbian history; the development of sexological theory from the late 19th Century to World War II; post-war "homophile" literature and the post-Stonewall political and literary movements.

The Special Collections Reading Room is open Monday through Friday, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The Golda Meir Library is located at 2311 E. Hartford Avenue.

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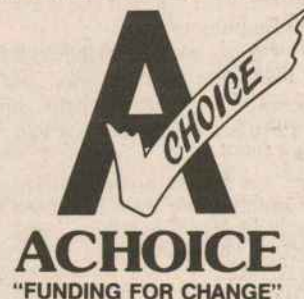
- ▼ Payroll deduction makes it easy to give.
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CREAM CITY FOUNDATION
P.O. Box 204
Milwaukee, WI 53201
(414) 265-0880



Editorial

It's Time To Give

One of the most dynamic and valuable—and unsung—organizations in our community is the Cream City Foundation. In a recent issue, we wrote about them, giving a couple of examples of the work that they do. Suffice it to say here that without the Foundation, organizations and events, like PrideFest, in our community would have a lot harder time making a go of it—and some events might not take place at all.

The Foundation is us. It works incredibly hard to promote us in our struggle for equal rights. It grants money for our leaders to attend conferences. It grants money to bolster PrideFest. It grants money so that our History exhibit can be a truly gala affair. It grants money to keep badly needed organizations afloat. It grants money so that one day, we may be free.

To accomplish its work, the Foundation relies on us, and only us. That is why, at this time when we have an opportunity to give in the workplace through ACHOICE, we cannot urge too strongly that you use Donor's Choice to give to the Cream City Foundation.

We also urge that for those of you making your wills, that you remember the Cream City Foundation. Leave money for a scholarship, perhaps, or some other good cause in which you believe. Or better yet, let the Foundation decide, knowing that their efforts are always for the good of the community.

The Cream City Foundation works for us throughout the year. It is time now to give it all the help you can.

Different Drummer Theatre

The other day, at the AIDS Walk, we chanced to meet one of our favorite people, a sunny-bright woman who works tirelessly for the community in various organizations. She was standing outside the Italian Community Center greeting those coming for the Breakfast. Needing a cigarette with our coffee, we joined her.

For awhile, we talked of shoes and ships and sealing wax, but then she mentioned that she had been to see *You Should Be So Lucky*, the play being put on by Milwaukee's Different Drummer Theatre Alliance, the only LesBiGay theatre company in the state dedicated to putting on plays for Gay people. She said how very much she had enjoyed the production, but added that she was disappointed over the lack of support the company seemed to have from the Gay community itself.

We had the good grace to blush. We too have been derelict in that regard, which is not right, not right at all.

Different Drummer is a struggling company working tirelessly to put on some of the best Gay-themed plays that our community at large has to offer. For that, if nothing else, they deserve our thanks and support.

But they deserve our support too because it is through companies like Different Drummer that LesBiGay playwrights are given a voice. It is a voice that can educate, a voice that can broaden our horizons on the reality of who we are, not only to us, but to those who are not us, but seek to understand us.

Any city is extremely fortunate to have a Gay theatre company. Milwaukee has one of the best. The next time they put on a play, please join us in being there and having a marvelous time.

Note From the Editor

They Always Know

By Terry Boughner

"Gee, Doc, we always knew. When did you find out?" Gary Lukehart asked in a mixture of surprise and bewilderment he always had when things in life didn't quite make sense.

Admittedly, life had a tendency to puzzle "Luke" a lot, but in this case he was not alone. All the rest of my students at La Roche seemed to know I was Gay and took my coming out with interest followed quickly by a decided ho-hum.

As Sue agreed, "We always knew." Pause. "Can I get an extension on my paper?"

What they took so casually had come at the end of a long, hard road over which I had traveled as my own worst enemy, as my own oppressor, as the persecutor of myself. In the end and finally, coming out was, in a very real sense, an act of maturity, a final act of growing up. I had taken responsibility for myself, for who I was. It felt good.

It's not easy trying to live two lives, especially when one impinged on the other far more often than I would have liked.

Contrary to what the Fundies say, you're Gay, not just in the bedroom (or wherever). You're Gay all the time. It's a state of being, an integral part of your birth makeup, the warp and woof of who you are. There's actually no way to truly hide it, though I certainly tried.

The other day, Don, Jerry and I were at the Mall of America, touring all 78 acres of it. We had stopped to look at the parrots sitting on their perches in front of a restaurant called The Rainforest. My feet hurt. I was dragging. But then things picked up.

While Don and Jerry made noises at the birds, I noticed a man and woman standing beside me, clean-cut, suburban types. With them was a young man. He was about 17 and very cute, with thick, dark hair, deep-set eyes, a peaches and cream complexion with roses in his cheeks.

Our eyes met and, just for a second, locked. Nothing whatever was said, no gesture passed between us, but in that moment, he "knew" and I "knew." Like had recognized like. Kindred spirits had met along the way.

I glanced at his mother. She looked back at me with an expression that was a mixture of defense and fear. He son, I'd be willing to bet, hadn't come out to her yet, but she knew. That was a safe assumption to make.

The three of them, mother, father and handsome son, went soon on their way. But as I watched them go, I couldn't help thinking about what Luke had said once long ago. "We always knew."

My mother and I were often at odds (which is putting it mildly). We were much too much alike—except in one thing. I am Gay. She most decidedly was not.

For example, when we went on vacations to Virginia Beach, she would go to the boardwalk of evenings and sit. Once I asked her why. She

told me she liked to watch the sailors come and go because through their white pants, you could see their briefs.

I was 14 or 15 at the time and was terribly embarrassed for her. My God! My mother had "feelings." She was interested in—men!

Some 20 years later, she was in the hospital. She had liver cancer, had slipped into a coma, and, they said, would shortly die.

One night, when I couldn't sleep, I drove into the hospital to see her. It was about 2:30 in the morning, but since most of the nurses had been my students, I had no trouble getting in.

She lay there as if sleeping, unable to hear me, completely unaware that I was there. I took her hand and started to talk, trying to tell her how much I loved her, trying to give her permission to go.

It was late May. Dawn comes early to Pennsylvania in the Spring. I could hear the sounds a hospital has with the changing of the shifts. It was then that I told her, "Momma, I'm Gay." It was the first time those words had ever been out of my mouth.

I had bowed my head and raised her hand so that it touched my forehead. It would not be long before I would never feel that warmth again.

She had not heard me. She could not have heard me, but when I looked up, I saw one single tear glistening on her cheek. And I heard—I honestly heard—her whisper, "I know." Those were the last words she ever said.

Two days later, one sunny afternoon, she died. The nun who cared for her told me—and my uncomprehending brother—that she was remarkably at peace.

On October 11th we will celebrate National Coming Out Day. In this rigid American society of ours, coming out, being honest about your sexuality, is one of the harder, more difficult things to do.

But if it's any consolation, coming out is the right thing to do. (I guess that's why it's hard). It's also intelligent. It's stupid to be your own oppressor—and it's the mature thing to do: taking responsibility for yourself, for who and what you are.

Besides, the more sensitive people around you already know. They always know.

Letters

Open Letter to Steve Rose

TO THE EDITOR:

Congratulations on your decision to run as a candidate in Milwaukee's Third Aldermanic District. If elected, you would be a fulfillment of the Victory

Fund's goal of having open Gay and Lesbian office holders. Unfortunately, that goal, as we all witnessed last November, is not ranked very highly by the political "movers and shakers" in either the Milwaukee or Madison Gay and Lesbian community.

Successful politicians are those who can effectively work with other people in obtaining their goals and reaching specific objectives. Your announcement in the August 17th issue of *Wisconsin Light* shows no "track record" of this sort. Using precious "ink" to proclaim that you are "the youngest member and charter member of SAGE Milwaukee" just doesn't cut the mustard. A long list of "Gay" memberships isn't necessarily indicative of the "loud voice that all will hear." Let us know—"what have you accomplished?"

Guided by the 1994 wisdom of LAMM, HRL, and Tammy Baldwin's group, I shall put "having a place at the table" in low priority. My support shall be guided by a person with a proven track record of outstanding success in working with others. S/he need not be Gay or Lesbian—but does need to be Gay/Lesbian friendly.

Robert Moore
Milwaukee

Let Kids See "Kids"

TO THE EDITOR:

Glenn Bishop's review of *Kids* in the August 17th issue headlines a "Tale that offers little." Perhaps the one thing that it has offered is a wake-up call to adolescents and teens. As a result of the filming of this movie, BestD Clinic has seen a dramatic increase in anonymous HIV tests among this age group. They are coming in groups of two, three, and four to be tested, indicating to BestD Counselors that they were "scared by seeing the movie and wanted to do something about it."

Kids has had a more immediate and direct effect toward risk reduction than anything we know of that has been tried recently. My only regret is that the Oriental Theatre would not allow a person under 18 to see the film without being accompanied by a parent or legal guardian.

Perhaps some organization should plan and fund a special viewing of *Kids* just for kids and hold it in a very accessible and public place. I would be glad to work on it with others who are interested. Call me at Best D Clinic, (414) 353-4798.

Our experience confirms what *Wisconsin Light* wrote in the September 14th lead editorial. "The rational, clinical approach to AIDS . . . should and must be coupled with the non-rational, erotic approach as well."

Let's have more brochures, magazines, handouts and movies that shock, tempt and tease people at risk for HIV, AND GET THEM TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT!

Ross B. Walker
BestD Clinic
Milwaukee

Open Letter to Steve Gunderson

TO THE EDITOR:

In my "Haven't You Heard" column in the May issue of *Big Muddy Bend*, a LaCrosse alternative newspaper, I wrote the following news brief titled "Once More With Conviction, Senator." In a recent interview in the *New York Times Magazine*, Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole said, "There oughtn't to be discrimination. Everything ought to be based on potential. Everyone should be treated alike, whether they're Black or brown or disabled or homosexual."

After a deluge of complaints from conservative groups, Dole had this to say in a March 21st letter to the *Washington Times*, ". . . we must avoid creating special rights for special groups. I oppose the special interest Gay agenda that runs from Gays in the military and reaches as far as to suggest special status for sexual orientation under federal civil rights statutes."

Recently, the Senator's campaign returned a contribution from the national Gay organization, the Log Cabin Republicans. According to Dole's campaign spokesperson, the reason for the rejection was that Gay Republicans' agenda was "100% at odds with Senator Dole's."

That action prompted your personal letter to Dole (*LaCrosse Tribune*, Sept. 7th) asking him some pointed questions, among them: "Are you rejecting support of anyone who happens to be Gay? If this is so, do you now reject my support and request those on your staff who happen to be Gay to resign?"

The Senator quickly responded, calling you to assure you that he "has never, nor will he ever advocate discrimination against any American." As reported in a September 8th *Tribune* followup, Dole campaign spokesman, Nelson Warfield, added that the rejection of the contribution was "not about discrimination, but about rejecting the support of an organization that promotes an agenda that is overwhelmingly at odds with Senator Dole's views."

What views, Steve? Does Senator Dole oppose the Employment Non-Discrimination Act, for instance? What parts of the Log Cabin agenda does the Senator reject? 100%? If so, it seems safe to suggest that would include much of the agendas of nearly every Gay organization in the nation and, I trust, therefore, much of yours as well.

Not privy to your telephone conversation with the Senator and with only the news reports to go on, I see nothing in his "assurances" that answers any of your questions or reassures me in the face of his transparent pandering to the Far Right on our (Gay) issues. Unless he said much to you that is unreported, he said nothing, while his spokesman repeated the rejection. Yet, you indicate, by your af-

firmation of your endorsement of the Senator, that you are reassured.

Of what, Steve?
Bill Steffenhagen
LaCrosse

Great Expectations is Not So Great

TO THE EDITOR:

Recently, I made the decision to contact the dating service Great Expectations after viewing their infomercial. This thirty minute spot has been airing on a few of the Milwaukee area television stations over the past month and my interest was peaked enough to call their toll free telephone number to inquire about whether or not their nationwide dating service also offered same-gender dating as part of their dating services. They have a local office at 186600 W. Bluemound Road, Suite 100, Brookfield, WI 53005. Tom Diez is the manager.

Upon calling their 1-800 number on Sunday, September 10, 1995, I was asked by the operator how I learned of Great Expectations and then for my zip code so she could locate the office closest to me.

I stated then that I wanted to be very up-front and honest with them; that I was Gay and wondered if their dating services were offered to those of us seeking a same-sex match.

The woman was very polite, saying she didn't know, that she would check and came back on the line shortly, informing me that they did and that the Brookfield office would be able to help me. She took

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

The Wisconsin Light



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Monday-Friday-10:00 a.m. -5:30 p.m.

24-Hour Recording

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AP Associated Press

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Rae Carea and Francis Kunreuther Explain Mission of National LesBiGay Youth Group

By Jason Jellison

For those of us who follow the front page of *Wisconsin Light*, we saw that the last issue reported that Gay Youth Milwaukee was on its way to Washington, D.C. to attend The National Advocacy Coalition on Youth and Sexual Orientation's (NACYSO) convention. The purpose of this convention was to educate ourselves and ultimately our communities, about what are being referred to as the "Lou Sheldon Hearings."

These hearings were reportedly called by several groups within the Republican Party. Sources in D.C. say that they were called primarily by Newt Gingrich as a payback to Sheldon and the Christian Right for helping the GOP sweep the Congressional elections last year.

Having been postponed once due to an unexpected public outcry against them, the hearings are now scheduled to begin on October 13, chaired by Rep. Peter Hoekstra (R-MI).

While I was in D.C., I thought it might be a good idea to see if I could get an interview for the paper with Rae Carey, NACYSO's Director. I also wanted an interview with Francis Kunreuther, the Executive Director of the Hetric-Martin Institute in New York City. Fortunately, both acceded to my request.

My first question dealt with general information about NACYSO and its roots.

"The Hetric-Martin Institute in New York brought people together in October, 1992 for a meeting which actually resulted in this coalition," Kunreuther said.

"What we did," she continued, "was bring together national Gay groups and national youth groups that help work on LesBiGay issues, specifically LesBiGay service providers from around the country, and as we talked about how we would like to change attitudes in Washington and how we felt we needed to have more of a policy influence and more of a voice for LesBiGay adolescents."

Kunreuther went on to explain what eventually (some would say inevitably) resulted in the forming of the coalition.

Kunreuther also explained that the time span for developing the coalition was actually about a year and a half. When they managed to get some funding, Carey was hired as the director.

Author's Note: Contrary to popular belief, Carey was not hired out of the Hetric-Martin Institute. She was actually with the HIV prevention Project for the National Network of Runaway Youth Services, based in Washington.

Kunreuther explained that Carey was hired due to the fact that she was with a national group.

"We felt that it was important to have someone from a national youth organization that knew the scene in Washington and had advocated for youth before. Rea came in as a policy maker," Kunreuther said.

I asked Carey about NACYSO's long term outlook.

"Well," Carey said, "I think there are really two areas that we work in national public policy. One is proactive, in educating members of Congress and in educating Administration officials on the needs of LesBiGay youth, which is always a long term process."

Carey went on to say that "We work proactively and reactively with members of Congress to educate them on the needs of young people, but also to work with them to defeat anti-LesBiGay youth legislation and to try to push forward more proactive legislation that can be more helpful to young people."

In regard to the Sheldon Hearings, Carey said, "We will only be allowed one person to explain the realm of LesBiGay youth." She went on to explain that this means that every issue in this hearing will have to be confronted by a single person, who NACYSO will not pick.

As to the future, both Kunreuther and Carey agreed that the biggest impact will not be made by NACYSO as an entity, but rather will be made by its individual members.

"Write letters," Kunreuther urged. "Write to your representative that you are appalled at the fact that the (Sheldon) hearings are even being held and demand that they be canceled."

"Inform your peers at school," Carey added. "Inform parents, family members and educators on what is really going on here."

"This is an attack on America's school systems, its curriculum, its libraries. This is a censorship issue," she said.

Carey added that it is unfortunate that the media focuses so greatly on the propaganda of the Religious Right as opposed to the truth of LesBiGay youth and their lives.

Author's Note: Last year when anti-Gay amendments were added to the education bill, Washington received 20,000 letters from the Christian Coalition and only about 20 from the LesBiGay community supporting its youth.

Please help us. Write to Rep. Peter Hoekstra, 1122 Longworth Building, Washington, D.C. 20515 or phone: (202) 225-4401.

As Kunreuther told me, "People get a lot of myths, but not a lot of facts." Help get the facts to Capitol Hill.



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School Board Urged to Ban a Lesbian-Themed Book Since Only Gays Get AIDS

Kansas City, KS—Being Lesbian or Gay is a mental disorder similar to schizophrenia or depression, a suburban school board president testified in a book-banning civil trial in U.S. district court.

Olathe School Board president Robert Drummond testified Friday, September 22, in the third day of a trial involving the board's 1994 decision to remove from three high school libraries *Annie on My Mind*, a book about two girls who discover that they are Lesbians.

Homosexuality "is a disorder," said Drummond, a psychologist and vice president of MidAmerica Nazarene College in Olathe. "I believe homosexuals have a difficult problem with God."

He testified that the book glorifies the "homosexual lifestyle," which is "sinful in the eyes of God."

"I believe what the Bible says about homosexuality," he said. "And the Bible says homosexuality is a sin" and, he added, the punishment for it in scripture is clear."

The American Civil Liberties Union filed the lawsuit against the Olathe district on behalf of five students and their parents. It claimed the district violated the First Amendment by removing the book without due process.

The plaintiffs want the book returned to the district's libraries.

"No formal complaint had ever been made about this book," the plaintiffs' attorney J. Eugene Balloun said in opening statements Wednesday. "They denied access to ideas because they disagreed with ideas in that book."

Defense attorneys argued the district willingly keeps numerous other books dealing with Gay people in its libraries. They said the book was banned because the district didn't want to submit to the agenda of a special-interest group.

Defense attorney Daniel Denk said the district wanted to preserve its right to choose books for its curriculum.

A national Gay-advocacy group, Project 21, donated *Annie* and another book, *All-American Boy* to the district in 1993. The district accepted *Annie* but rejected *All-American Boy* because it was poorly written.

School board member Ron Hinkle said he opposed *Annie* because he didn't want the school board to appear to be endorsing a "homosexual lifestyle." He also said the book doesn't address the consequences of being gay, such as contracting AIDS and "only homosexuals get AIDS."

Nancy Garden, who wrote *Annie*, testified Thursday the book is appropriate for students in junior high.

"I wrote *Annie* to show both Gay and straight kids that being Gay does not doom you to a sad and miserable life," Garden said.

Garden testified that her book needed to be on school shelves because none of the district's library books that touch on Gay themes are told through the eyes of a young Lesbian.

The trial is scheduled to continue October 4. U.S. District Judge Thomas Van Bebber is expected to issue a written decision in mid-October.

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"I'm not a straight man, but I play one on television."

Many gay and lesbian people like Dan Butler thought acting straight was better than being open and honest. They hoped that others did not know, or that they feared friends and family would not accept them. After coming out, the love and support many receive tells them one thing -- that being themselves is the best act to follow.



National Coming Out Day is October 11

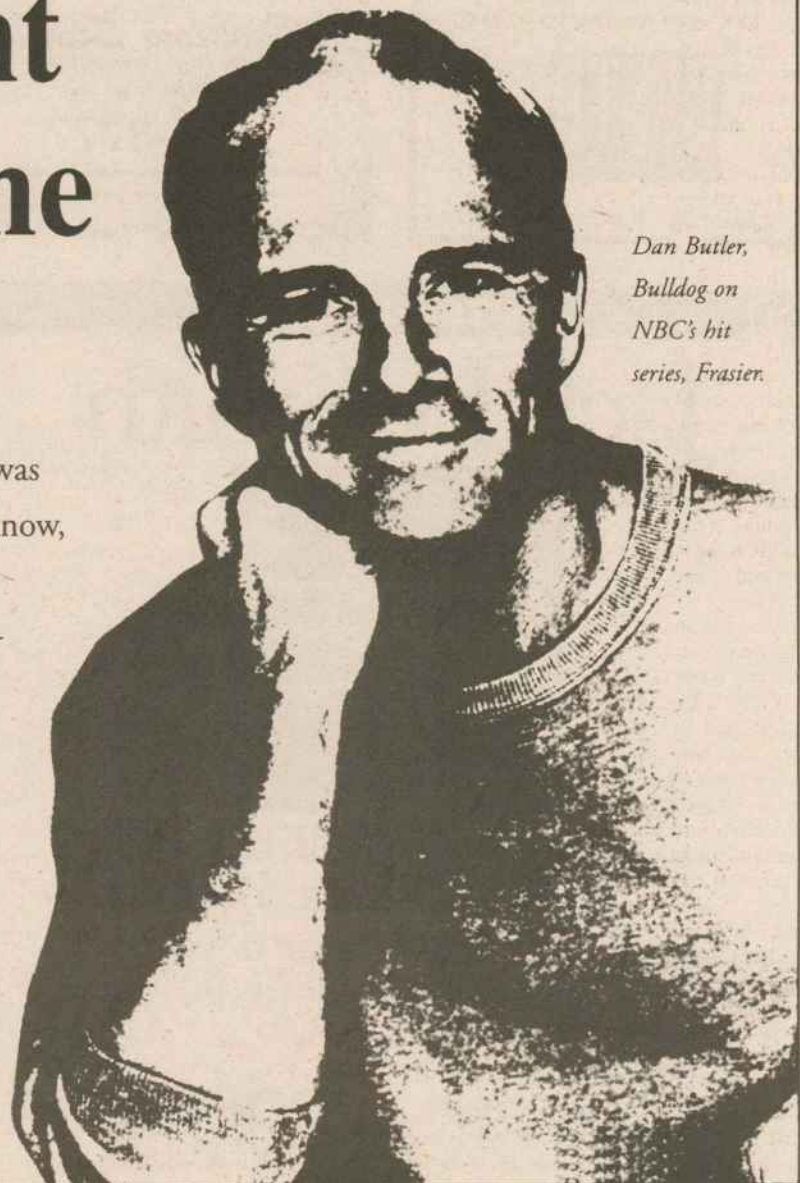
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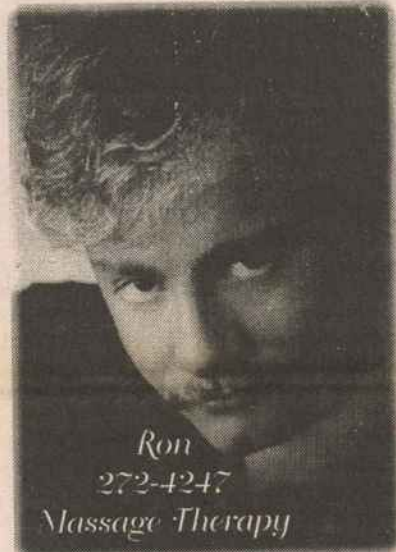
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NGLTF Urges Groups to Support Colorado in "Undo 2 Day of Action" On October 9

Washington, D.C.—The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) is supporting the efforts of Equality Colorado, Ground Zero and other Colorado-based groups to declare Monday, October 9th, "Undo 2 Day of Action." That day is the eve of the U.S. Supreme Court hearing about Colorado's anti-Gay Amendment 2 which was struck down by the state Supreme Court as unconstitutional.

A statewide coalition of Colorado groups is coordinating various events in Colorado on and around the day of the Supreme Court hearing. NGLTF is encouraging organizations and individuals around the country to hold events on October 9 to educate and inform local communities about the dangerous nature of Amendment 2. Organizers are also urged to consider coordinated actions on the day a ruling is handed down, sometime between January, 1996 and the end of the court session in June.

To date, at least 17 cities outside Colorado plan to host actions on October 9, with more being added every day.

These cities include: Atlanta, Austin, Chicago, Detroit, D.C., Kansas City, Las Vegas, Louisville, Nashville, New York City, Portland, OR, St. Louis, San Antonio and others.

Activists are using the Supreme Court hearings as an opportunity to hold vigils, teach-ins, rallies, town meetings, press conferences, and other events to educate the media and public.

"Because our freedom is not won or lost at the Supreme Court, we are calling on people of conscience to hold actions on October 9 in conjunction with efforts in Colorado," said Melinda Paras, NGLTF Executive Director.

"We must use the Amendment 2 case as an opportunity for our movement," said Sue Anderson, Executive Director of Equality Colorado and NGLTF Board co-chair. "It is an opportunity to talk about equal rights. It is an opportunity to educate about discrimination. It is an opportunity to educate about the violence directed against us. And it is an opportunity to tell the truth about our lives and about our family and sexual identities. This is an opportunity that we cannot miss."

For more information, contact NGLTF field organizers Karen Bullock-Jordan at (202) 332-6483, ext. 3206 or Tracy Conaty at (202) 332-6483, ext. 3303.

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Politically Speaking

Log Cabin is Like the Peace of God, It Passes All Understanding

Commentary by Bill Meunier

In the difficult to explain department are the recent national Log Cabin Republican Club National Convention and the return of Log Cabin money by the Republican Presidential front runner, Bob Dole.

Don't get me wrong. I am all for the idea of having a LesBiGay Republican organization. What I am not all for is the leadership of that organization hampering instead of promoting the agenda of equality for all.

Consider the Log Cabinites' national convention. One of the few effective weapons we have is the boycott. The "leaders" of the Log Cabin Club chose to hold their convention in Cincinnati.

What's wrong with Cincinnati? Nothing really. I hear it's a wonderful city. Of course there is that little matter of the voters in that city overturning a Gay rights ordinance by a whopping 62% to 38% margin. Even the appeals of the Catholic Archdiocese couldn't hold down the margin of defeat.

While straight and Gay businesses and organizations were busy canceling their plans to visit Cincinnati, the Log Cabin Club scheduled its annual meeting there.

In so doing, Log Cabin undercut one of the most successful campaign tactics activists had been using to defeat anti-Gay referenda, the threat of a boycott.

Henceforth, the bigots of Idaho, Oregon and other places where attempts to repeal or preempt LesBiGay rights laws can claim that the threat of a boycott is an empty one. As proof, they can cite the actions of the Log Cabin Club and its choice of meeting sites.

Even now what passes for Log Cabin's brain trust may be following developments in Maine, Tampa, Oregon, Washington State and Idaho very closely. Should the voters in any of those places repeal Gay rights legislation, the Log Cabin Club will be the first in line to schedule its next convention there.

Bob Dole

Then there is the Dole episode. Senator Bob Dole was sent a \$1,000 donation by the National Log Cabin Club. He returned the money, denounced the club and proclaimed that he is "100% opposed to its agenda."

Dole, through his spokespersons, took particular issue with the Log Cabin Club's support of Gays in the military and LesBiGay marriage. The Senator, they assured us, is against discrimination, but apparently believes that bans on military service and marriage are not discriminatory.

Enter Steve Gunderson, the sometimes openly Gay Congressman from Western Wisconsin. Gunderson publicly took Dole to task.

Believe it or not, the Log Cabin Club has proclaimed this little episode to be a great victory. In a curious twist of logic, its follow-

ers point to all the publicity the incident has gotten for them.

Now, if our movement consisted only of people who knew not what they do, and who formed an organization named after a building, I might agree with them, but it does not. In fact, the Dole affair underscores one of the reasons why the Log Cabin Clubs are so heavily derided by other activists.

One is left to wonder why any LesBiGay organization would send money to a candidate who helped lead the fight against opening the military to us. Dole properly recognized (even if Log Cabin Chair Rich Tafel and his Board did not) that his interests and beliefs were and are diametrically opposed to the Log Cabin Clubs.

What the Log Cabin Club did was confirm the belief that it is more than willing to support a candidate who supports discrimination against us, if it believes that candidate can help the Republican Party.

To make matters worse, Gunderson announced that he would continue to support Dole. All it took was one phone call from Dole and Stevie boy was shuffling his feet. Steve now says that Dole is not in favor of discrimination.

How that statement meshes with Dole's votes in the Senate and his refusal to even accept our money is beyond me. I guess being a Gay Republican takes enough explanation in and of itself and little time is left to explain anything else.

The problem is the message the Log Cabin Club and Gunderson have sent. They have said that LesBiGay people can be fooled into subordinating their interests in favor of electing a bigot.

They hold a convention in a city that is the subject of a national boycott. Then donate money to a candidate who uses it as an opportunity to slap them in the face.

Then they claim that both of these events were some sort of victory for all of us. They only people these things were victories for are those who say the Log Cabin Club doesn't know what it is doing and/or doesn't really care about our rights and/or is nothing but a collection of Queer conservatives who like to get together and deride people who are making real progress.

Yes, we need a strong voice in the Republican Party. Yes, we need an organized voice of reason. But that voice can not and should not be one of apology, one that undercuts the efforts of others and one that doesn't seem to speak to anything other than the partisan politics of "My Party, my Party above nearly all else."

With more "victories" like these, who needs defeats?

New Book Tells of Boy's Suicide Because "God Hates Gays"

San Francisco— Scared and full of self-hatred, Bobby Griffith took his mother's advice and prayed his homosexuality would be healed by God.

In his diary, the teen-ager wrote: "Am I going to Hell? That's the gnawing question that's always drilling little holes in the back of my mind. ... Lord I want to be good. ... I need your seal of approval."

On August 27, 1983, at the age of 20, Bobby flipped backwards off the edge of a freeway overpass and toppled into the path of a speeding truck. His suicide became the genesis for a book about his mother's change of heart over the roots of her son's being Gay.

In *Prayers for Bobby*, veteran journalist Leroy Aarons tells how Mary Griffith came to decide three years after her son's death that God "had not healed Bobby because there was nothing wrong with him."

Aarons, formerly a foreign correspondent and editor at *The Washington Post* and *The Oakland Tribune*, is founder and president of the National Lesbian and Gay Journalists Association.

He came across excerpts of Bobby's diary in the *San Francisco Examiner*, which published a 16-day series on Gays and Lesbians in America, which included interviews done in Milwaukee.

"My instinct was to grab hold of the boy who was writing these words and shout, 'No, Bobby! You've got it all wrong. You're OK. It's the others who are crazy with ignorance!'"

His book, published by HarperCollins of San Francisco, begins like a family portrait in which Bobby, his parents, his two sisters and his brother talk movingly about their love for each other as well as their misunderstandings. It ends with Mrs. Griffith's transformation into a Gay rights activist and a cataloging of recent landmarks in that campaign.

Details are layered to create middle-class suburban family life scenes that ring so true they may be haunting to readers from similar

backgrounds. But Mrs. Griffith's religious fervor juxtaposed against Bobby's secret agony make this family's story particularly poignant and dramatic.

At first, Bobby tells only his diary his adolescent dreams are about men. He overhears conversations at home and at church that hurt.

"They've said they hate Gays, and even God hates Gays, too," Bobby confided in his diary. "That really scares me when they talk that way because now they are talking about me."

Bobby ultimately is broken by a raging frustration at a God who won't "heal" him and a mother who won't accept him as he is, but the focus of the story is Mrs. Griffith's shifting perspective on the psychological collapse.

"Bobby's death was the direct result of his parents' ignorance and fear of the word Gay," Mrs. Griffith wrote after much soul-searching and Bible study, guided by the pastor of a church accepting Gays and Lesbians.

She is portrayed as the quintessential homebody, whose shyness and lack of self-possession make her an unlikely spokesperson for a movement that draws venomous opposition. But Aarons writes that her lack of polish makes her seem more genuine, and her first-person narratives let audiences see only a boy who needed unconditional love and a well-meaning mother who failed him.

Mrs. Griffith wrote in a letter to her son after his death, "You were the apple of God's eye just as you were. If we had only known."

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Jonathan Wilson Shows That There's Little the Bible Bangers Fear More than Truth

Commentary by David Clarenbach

In late January, Des Moines School Board Member Jonathan Wilson, announced his sexual orientation at a packed school board meeting broadcast live throughout the state. In an act of uncompromising integrity and courage, Jonathan chose to sacrifice his right to privacy and speak the truth about his life—about our lives—despite a campaign of intimidation including threats of violence against him and his family.

Wearing a bullet proof vest at the request of law enforcement officials, the 12-year veteran of the School Board said, "I am coming out to educate and so that I can speak with a clearer, unintimidated voice. These death threats show how desperately we need to educate people about tolerance for differences."

Last week, Jonathan Wilson lost his bid for re-election. And he didn't lose because he is Gay. He lost because he is a well-respected attorney at a prominent law firm, a fiscal conservative, an outstanding advocate for education, a man of faith, a loving parent, and a good neighbor.

You see, Jonathan Wilson epitomizes everything that the Radical Right wants people to believe Gay men and Lesbians aren't.

Jonathan's visibility as an openly Gay official seriously compromised the Far Right's ability to demonize the Gay and Lesbian community as a recruiting and fundraising gimmick. Because of that, they mounted one of the most sophisticated campaigns ever to target the three-time school board president for defeat.

The Right Wing agitator who started the anti-Wilson movement is ultra-conservative carpetbagger Bill Horn. Horn was sent to Iowa less than a year ago to open the midwest office of *The Report*, a California-based group that distributes the virulently homophobic video "The Gay Agenda."

Horn does not live in the Des Moines School District. Rush Limbaugh wanna-be, Jan Mickelson, harangued against Jonathan and "the Gay agenda" on his radio talk show and sent fundraising letters for *The Report* to help "stop homosexuals from indoctrinating our children in the public schools."

Right Wing politicians were quick to join the fray once pickle puss pundit Pat Buchanan took the first shot. Presidential hopeful (read hopeless) Phil Gramm even mailed a fundraising letter "thank(ing) God for Bill (Horn)

and the thousands of parents who would not be intimidated by the liberal media or the radical homosexual community."

In addition to recruiting candidates to run against Wilson, the Christian Coalition distributed more than 48,000 voter guides and mobilized thousands to vote.



David Clarenbach

A special appeal letter from the Coalition stated that this election was "a test of strength between the pro-family movement and the homosexual rights movement."

Ultra-conservative pastors exhorted their parishioners to "vote for those who will uphold the principles of godliness."

There are 15,000 school boards and Jonathan was one of only nine openly Gay school board members in this entire nation. That a cabal of Right Wing media, social and religious groups would concentrate so much money and energy on defeating him, shows how desperate they are to keep people from seeing the truth.

The Radical Right makes millions of dollars and wins political power by perpetuating the stereotype of the homosexual as an antisocial deviant—and Jonathan Wilson blew that stereotype to smithereens.

To people who make their living selling lies, there's nothing more dangerous than the truth.

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The Light



LIVELY ARTS



It's Showtime! One of the powerful and energizing dance numbers from the Las Vegas show "Goddess" is pictured in Paul Verhoeven's highly controversial film, "Showgirls."

'Showgirls' Is Little Beyond Being a Straight Male Wet Dream Splashed on the Screen

Reviewed by Glenn Bishop

Glenn Bishop does seem to be getting sent to review stranger and stranger films but perhaps none so strange as the ultra-hyped *Showgirls* "already one of the most controversial and eagerly anticipated releases of 1995", at least according to publicity material.

Even before director Paul Verhoeven decided to "do" Hollywood and in the process mystifying middle America with deeply flawed yet nevertheless fascinating *Basic Instinct*, Gay film fans may remember back to 1984 and his marvelous homoerotic thriller, *The 4th Man*. Those who do will indeed wonder, "what price Hollywood" after seeing *Showgirls*, a juvenile heterosexual male wet dream masquerading as an "intense psycho-sexual drama with cutting-edge musical interludes."

Yep, that darned United Artists publicity department strikes again. Imagine this: A lovely, doe-eyed young woman with stars in her eyes (or rather the dazzle of the bright lights of the marquee) is befriended by a sweet if somewhat gullible decidedly marginal member of the show biz community. Immediately our star-wannabe finds herself being dragged into the star's dressing room for an introduction. Star dislikes young girl initially but then befriends her.

Skip several pages of the script to get to the point when suddenly our young heroine finds herself the star's understudy. Star has a hissy fit when she finds out, especially since our gal is boffing the star's boyfriend. Betcha little missy is going to get a chance to replace the show's Grande Old Dame.

Skip a few more pages. Done! Applause! Applause!! Any guesses at the title of this film?

Nope, it's not *Valley of the Dolls*, partly because Grande Dame Susan Hayward was undoubtedly playing a Lesbian, but largely because Hayward's Helen Lawson had the good sense to fire Patty Duke's miscast little butt before she could take over as her understudy.

Now, if you guessed *All About Eve*, you'd be awfully close, particularly since writer Joe Eszterhas seems to have simply cut and pasted whole chunks of Joseph L. Mankiewicz's classic *All About Eve* plot into his *Showgirls* screenplay.

One might, if in a particularly bitchy mood, refer to *Showgirls* as "All About Eve in a G-String." But given the endless parading of naked females across the screen in scene after scene, even that would be an over-dressed statement.

Newcomer Elizabeth Berkley, fresh from TV's "Saved by the Bell" is Nomi (do we sense an attempt at a symbolic name?), the drifter who becomes a star. Berkley in her best, "let's put on a show" tradition is certainly earnest but just as certainly is no Anne Baxter. Then again Anne wasn't asked to "lap-dance" in *All About Eve*.

Kyle MacLachlan, hot on the heels of his

memorable appearance in *The Flintstones*, is equally ridiculous here as Zack, boytoy to the stars. Be he endlessly brushing aside those annoying bangs that forever hang in his eyes, while playacting the role as the MBA-endowed Entertainment Director at the Stardust, or especially while leering at and later faking an orgasm for Nomi as she lap dances, Kyle is woefully miscast. Kyle, please give Patty Duke a call. She certainly ought to know how long it takes to live down such a performance.

Some of the actors manage to fare somewhat better. Old Hollywood would have turned to a real, if invariably waning star (like the original Helen Lawson: Judy G.) to portray Vegas diva Cristal Connors but this sure as hell ain't old Hollywood at work. While Cristal Conner's talents seem to be limited to the display of surgically enhanced body parts, Gina Gershon manages to rise above this vile cesspool of clichés to create a deliciously bitchy performance.

Glenn Plummer and Gina Ravera are appropriately sincere in the ever-so sincerely written roles of gal pal Molly and dancing mentor James Smith. The true scene stealer in *Showgirls* is Lin Tucci, a true "showgirl", a showgirl with a gimmick!

Verhoeven and Eszterhas again prove to be no friends to the Lesbian and Gay community. Sure, there's plenty of implied Lesbianism in *Showgirls* but it, like the gratuitous female nudity, inter-racial sex, flagrant drug use, graphic violence merely serve to sufficiently titillate the masses of adolescent heterosexual American males. There is nothing new or particularly interesting here.

But at 127 minutes and a reputed \$35 million budget, *Showgirls* knows it must wear its controversy not to mention its NC-17 rating on its sleeve. Controversy sells tickets. So does sex. Gosh, everyone knows that.

Rating: \$ (scale \$ to \$\$\$\$\$\$)

Suggested Readings For LesBiGay History Month

1. *The Rise of A.G.A. and the Lesbian Movement*, Barry D. Adam, Pb-----\$15.95
2. *Christianity, Social Tolerance, and Homosexuality*, John Boswell, Pb-----\$18.95
3. *Gay New York*, George Chauncey, Pb-----\$15.00
4. *The Question of Equality*, David Deitcher, Pb-----\$35.00
5. *About Time: Exploring the Gay Past*, Martin Duberman, Pb-----\$14.95
6. *Hidden From History*, Martin Duberman et al. Pb-----\$15.95
7. *Stonewall*, Martin Duberman, Pb-----\$12.95
8. *One Hundred Years of Homosexuality*, David Halperin, Pb-----\$16.95
9. *Becoming Visible*, Kevin Jennings, Pb-----\$9.95
10. *Out of the Closets: Voices of Gay Liberation*, Jay, Karla and Allen Young, Pb--\$15.95
11. *Gay American History*, Jonathan Katz, Pb-----\$20.00
12. *Boots of Leather, Slippers of Gold*, Elizabeth Kennedy and Madeline Davis, Pb--\$12.95
13. *The Gay Past*, Salvatore Licata and Robert Preston, Pb-----\$19.95
14. *Not a Passing Phase*, Lesbian History Group, Pb-----\$15.95
15. *Making History*, Eric Marcus, Pb-----\$14.00
16. *Out of the Past*, Neil Miller, Pb-----\$16.00
17. *Out in all Directions*, Lynn Witt et al, Pb-----\$24.95

List of books courtesy of AfterWords Bookstore

Celebrate LesBiGay History Month in October by Reading a Book

By Terry Boughner

In the past couple of months, I've had the pleasure of seeing several outstanding exhibits detailing LesBiGay history.

It began in June, at PrideFest, with the exhibit of Milwaukee's LesBiGay history put together by Steve Brondino. It really was an outstanding and badly needed piece of work—and one that is on-going, fortunately. But that was only the tip of the triangle, as it were.

In September, Steve, with the help of the Cream City Foundation, the Pride Committee and Miller Brewery, brought in *The Advocate's* exhibit showing our history nationwide since Stonewall.

Still, with all that, as good as they were, how many more people do we have to reach?

For example, one time a few years ago, someone came up to me in The Triangle and wondered aloud at the name of the bar; where had it come from? Why did they pick that design?

When my students dragged themselves into history class at the beginning of term, one of the first things out of my mouth was why they were there at all.

Most of them, I would say, knew where they were in space (at least I figured some of them did), but not many knew where they were in time. Until they did, life tended to be two dimensional at best.

That's what history does. It dimensionalizes us, giving us a sense of depth that goes back beyond our years.

It is through history that a people—any people—find their identification, mythologizing some of the past and accepting or coming to terms with the rest.

It is through a knowledge of history that we learn the meaning of symbols. That's important because symbols are the genes of history, mutating over time, but still carrying the meaning of who and what we are.

As LesBiGay people, we have a long, proud history. Certainly, it's a history of persecution and oppression, but it's also a story of great creations, giving to the world art, philosophy and much else that, I am convinced, arises out of our innate Gay sensibility.

But more than that, knowing our history can, today, have life or death consequences, especially for our youth.

Remember when you thought that you were all alone, that there wasn't and never had been anyone like you?

A knowledge of our history can remedy that. It can teach our youth that they are not alone. They don't have to kill themselves or live lives of quiet desperation, but that in being Lesbian, Gay or Bisexual, they can love and live good and wonderfully creative lives as is in their talent so to do.

October's Gay History Month should remind us that we need to get in touch with ourselves through our history. We need to know about the uncounted numbers of us who have gone before—not only since Stonewall or even in this century, but in the millennia that have preceded those.

Elsewhere in this issue, you will find a list of books, courtesy of AfterWords Bookstore. These are excellent titles, but two I especially recommend. One is Plato's *Symposium* which, in my opinion, is the most beautiful account of same-sex love ever written.

While I'm at it, let me heartily recommend John Boswell's *Christianity, Social Tolerance and Homosexuality*. It's wonderful.

Queer TV Schedule for October

Milwaukee—The following is the schedule for upcoming Queer Program shows.

Tuesday, Oct. 3—Members of the Human Rights League will be guests on the Queer Program to talk about their upcoming events for National Coming Out Day.

Tuesday, Oct. 10—Co-hosts Michael S. Lisowski and Dan Fons, will feature a special Coming Out Day program. Watch for the premier of the longest same-sex kissing video ever to air on Milwaukee TV.

This special program will also feature Queer youth who met with Presidential liaison Marsha Scott and Congressional leaders as part of the National Advocacy Coalition on Youth and Sexual Orientation in Washington, D.C.

Tuesday, Oct. 17—The Queer Program's premier showing of the Milwaukee-based video campaign, "A Circle of Friends Should Never End." The video, featuring Milwaukee area "stars," is part of the media campaign designed to educate and motivate men of color who have sex with men to seek HIV antibody testing and counseling.

The campaign was coordinated by Milwaukee's HIV Prevention Planning Council and was funded by the Wisconsin State AIDS/HIV Program. HPPC Co-chair, Rodney Johnson, and video "stars" will be guests on the program.

The Queer Program broadcasts every Tuesday from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. on Cable Channel 47. The Queer Program replays at 4:00 p.m. on Thursdays and on Saturdays at 11:00 a.m. For more information, call The Queer Program's "Homophone" line at (414) 225-1500.

AfterWords

Author Appearance

Yvonne Zipter

RANSACKING THE CLOSET

Sunday Oct. 8th

1:00pm

AfterWords Book Club discusses

Andrew Sullivan's

VIRTUALLY NORMAL

Monday, Oct. 9th

7:30pm

AfterWords 2710 N. Murray Ave. Mil., WI 53211 963-9089

In 'You Should Be So Lucky,' Different Drummer Finds Delicious Comedy Farce

By C. Marlow

Milwaukee's Different Drummer Theatre Alliance, responding to community requests for lighter fare, has succeeded brilliantly in serving up a delicious menu of comedy-farce with their recent production of *You Should Be So Lucky* by New York playwright/actor Charles Busch.

The play, acted by the ensemble cast with a skill and delicacy of touch that true comedy demands, proceeds to tell the convoluted tale of Christopher, a shy Gay electrologist who has developed a platonic friendship with Mr. Rosenberg, an elderly financier of the Jewish persuasion.

That seems simple enough, but things are complicated by Polly, Christopher's live-in sister who has thespian pretensions; Walter Zuckerman, Christopher's publicist cum boyfriend; Rosenberg's bitchy daughter, Lenore, and Wanda Wang, the talkshow host from hell.

Rosenberg shuffles off this mortal coil, dying in Christopher's electrologist's chair, no less, of a heart attack, possibly induced by all those volts. The chaos begins.

It turns out that the old boy is gold-rocks wealthy and he has willed half his 20 million to his friend, a bequest that leaves his daughter having a hissy-fit.

This legal angst is aired (where else) on the Wanda Wang Show, where all such disputes in the '90's wind up. And so it goes.

Rosenberg is the glue that holds the play together. John R. Hazard II portrayed him as the father-grandfather we would all want, a thoroughly nice, easy chair comfortable, non-judgmental man. He is willing to accept us for who and what we are, offering unconditional love because we deserve it.

Bob Hoyt showed his wide range of acting ability in his portrayal of Christopher. Kind and caring, but never a wimp, as Hoyt plays him, Christopher has a strong sense of self—even if, like his apartment, his life is a mess. Hoyt clearly depicts the many sides of this complicated character, bringing him to a vibrant life.

But Hoyt is not confined to Christopher. There is one scene where he is "possessed" by the spirits of Rosenberg's brother and wife. As difficult as it may be, Hoyt manages to give them each separate and distinct personalities before returning to Christopher.

Paul Handle's Walter is the perfect counterpoint to Christopher. He's neurotic, controlling, loving and more than a little selfish.

Shannon Sloan-Spice's portrayal of Polly was assertive, acerbic, hilarious and brash as Polly must be. Sloan-Spice does all this without taking the easy route: turning Polly into a caricature of herself.

And the clothes! The AB-FAB girls would have died for them, Sweetie!

Carrie Anne O'Neil was a sassy, brassy, bratly Lenore, a genuine "New York Princess", if you know the type. I mean the kind that thinks there's no life west of the Hudson or above 42nd Street.

Miriam Frost as Wanda, had just the right mix of borderline dits (read bitch) who was more than able to pull off what we have come to expect of talkshow insanity—whether on TV or radio.

Stephen Spera has directed every play presented by Different Drummer since it was founded. With *Lucky*, he has vaulted to new heights, giving us a romp that has the audience laughing throughout.

There is no doubt about it, *Lucky* is a Gay play, but it is not just a Gay play, one for Gay audiences only. There is a universal here, a theme of family values, the love between siblings, parents and children, and the love we share with our friends.

Kindness and compassion are rewarded. The good guys win. After what's been coming down at the movies lately and the pap on TV, that's refreshing, decidedly so.

All I can say is that those of us who were fortunate enough to see *You Should Be So Lucky*—were.



Lake Romance—Venessa Redgrave is romantically drawn to Edward Fox in the film "A Month by the Lake." The movie celebrates the romantic impulses that inspire men and women of all ages to seek true love while demonstrating that one pivotal vacation in an erotic setting can change the course of an entire life. "A Month by the Lake" opens September 29th at Milwaukee's Downer Theatre.

Milwaukee Offers Two Great Choices in Vocal Ensemble Music

Milwaukee—The Milwaukee community is fortunate to have two choices when it comes to LesBiGay vocal music: The Fest City Singers and the Wisconsin Cream City Chorus, Ltd. Each has its own identity, its own musical focus, and its own concept of its role in the community.

Fest City Singers

Founded in 1984, the Fest City Singers (FCS) is dedicated to music theatre, from cabaret to musical reviews to musical comedy. While the chorus has a permanent music director, the artistic director is hired on a per-project basis.

The chorus performs original works and is always open to considering new scripts.

FCS makes it a point to use the strengths of its members and is happy to audition singers who have no previous experience with other aspects of performance.

"Many of us, when we joined Fest City, hadn't had much experience with acting and dancing," said one veteran chorus member. "But we have so much fun together and everyone is so supportive that we're always surprised at how quickly we learn."

The chorus presents two major performances each year: a family Christmas program and party in December, and a LesBiGay-oriented musical production in the Spring.

In addition, the Fest City Singers perform for PrideFest, MAPFest, National Night Out, weddings, commitment ceremonies, parties and celebrations of life. "We are encouraging the formation of ensembles from the chorus to perform when a whole chorus isn't needed," said FCS music director Peggy Lozier.

Financial support for FCS comes from members' dues of \$3 per week and from several generous grants from the Cream City Foundation and other private donors. "Singers who don't wish to commit to multiple performances, may 'join' for a one-time fee of \$10," explained FCS president Jonathan Justice.

The chorus has performed both in Milwaukee and in other state and national venues. Milwaukee venues have included Milwaukee at Studio Theatre in the Broadway Theatre Center, The Stiemke Theater, the South Shore Pavilion, Villa Terrace and the old Skylight Opera Theatre as well as several churches and numerous bars.

Performances in other statewide venues include the Oshkosh Convention Center, Za's in Green Bay and the Pivot Club in Appleton. The chorus also performed to standing ovations at the 1992 GALA (the national Gay and Lesbian Choral Association) convention in Denver, Colorado.

The Fest City Singers won special acclaim for its 1991 nostalgic and powerful music review, "History, Herstory, Ourstory," written and directed by talented Milwaukeean Peter Mortensen. The show was a history of the LesBiGay movement from the 1950's through the present and was so popular that it was revived in 1994 to be presented at the Studio Theatre.

"It's not inconceivable that we would eventually revive the show again," said Justice. "It has become the Fest City Singers' signature show."

FCS will meet to begin its Fall season on Wednesday, September 20. Rehearsals are held every Wednesday evening at 7:00 p.m. to work on the 1995 family Christmas show, "Memories of Christmas Past."

Mortensen has written the script for the musical review.

"Stylewise," Mortensen said, "it will be a sort of elegant pageant, with music from the medieval period through the Victorian age."

"Memories will be presented at 7:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 10, at Westminster Presbyterian Church. A party with refreshments will follow the performance.

Anyone interested in taking part in the Christmas show or simply finding out more about membership in FCS, should call the chorus helpline at (414) 263-SING.

Cream City Chorus

The Wisconsin Cream City Chorus (WCCC) was born on All Fools Day of 1987 when it became clear that there were two distinct musical niches in the LesBiGay community. While the Fest City Singers focused on cabaret-style entertainment, the WCCC's founding members chose to move toward choral music, especially including older, more serious or complex pieces.

Under the musical direction of Scott S. Stewart (also Choral Master for the Florentine Opera Company), the WCCC endeavors to bring quality choral music to the LesBiGay community, while simultaneously promoting a positive image of Gays and Lesbians to the community at large.

Anyone is welcome to join them, even those with little or no vocal experience. "We're a learning, growing organization," said one member. "We encourage the same of our members."

The Chorus' signature pieces are "I Love Myself," which advocates self-acceptance and love, and "Everything Possible," a children's lullaby without prejudice.

In addition to special concerts and appearances, the Cream City Chorus performs three annual concerts at the PAC's Vogel Hall, where the group enjoys resident status in the PAC Tenent Development Program.

April's "The Gay Concert" highlights ensembles from within the Chorus, while the Spring/Summer concert offers a wide selection of choral numbers on themes important to the LesBiGay experience.

December brings the holiday concert, with music from many traditions and times.

Other performances include the Martin Luther King Day Celebration, Milwaukee PrideFest, MAPFest, the AIDS Candlelight Memorial, Milwaukee Tree Lighting, and occasional services at the Unitarian Society.

One of the highlights of recent years remains the chance to accompany Barry Manilow's "Greatest Hits Tour" here in Milwaukee three years in a row.

The Wisconsin Cream City Chorus began its Fall season in August with weekly rehearsals at 7:00 p.m. each Wednesday at the First Unitarian Society at 1342 N. Astor. The group is working on a CD of holiday music, entitled "Christmases Remembered," to be released in conjunction with their holiday concert of the same name.

"Christmases Remembered" will revive some of the best numbers from the group's 8 year history, plus introduce several new pieces. "The Chorus is pushing itself to higher vocal standards every concert," said WCCC publicist Emory Churness. "We think you'll notice the difference."

Financial support for the Chorus comes from fundraisers, donations, grants and from a \$15 per month membership fee during the 10 months the Chorus is in rehearsal. Income provides not only for music, but the rehearsal site, Chorus office and much more.

Both the Wisconsin Cream City Chorus and the Fest City Singers are members of GALA Choruses, the national Gay and Lesbian Alliance of Choruses, although neither will be attending the 1996 convention in Tampa Bay, Florida. Both groups have decided to stay home and dedicate their time and effort to the community.

If you are interested in more information, in joining, or learning about the Wisconsin Cream City Chorus, contact the Chorus at P.O. Box 1488, Milwaukee, WI 53201 or call the Chorus office at (414) 933-WCCC.



Grasse Quilting Bee—Finn (Winona Ryder) is surrounded by some of the remarkable women who share eye-opening stories of loves lost and won during their lives. From left: Gladys Joe (Anne Bancroft), My (Ellen Buretya), Marianna (Alfre Woodard) and Constance (Kate Nelligan). The deeply moving and touchingly funny film, "How to Make an American Quilt," opens at theatres on October 6th.

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Deadly Sins—Detective David Mills (Brad Pitt) and Lt. William Somerset (Morgan Freeman, right) investigate a series of bizarre murders in the mystery-thriller "Seven."

'Seven' is a Taut and Finely Crafted Version of 'Silence of the Lambs,' With a Punch

By Patricia Bibby

In *Seven*, a brilliant and sadistic killer is out to rid the world of the seven deadly sins, identified by the Catholic Church in the Middle Ages as gluttony, greed, sloth, envy, pride, wrath and lust.

Each crime is diabolically orchestrated to illustrate the sin in question. Gluttony involves an obese man killed after being force-fed until his insides burst, for example, while lust is dispatched with the sexually inspired killing of a hooker.

It all adds up to a taut and finely crafted thriller reminiscent of *Silence of the Lambs*, with a powerful, visceral punch.

Though its catalog of horrors occasionally spills over into the realm of ridiculousness and some scenes hint at campiness, its images linger long after the lights are up.

Taken from a screenplay written by Andrew Kevin Walker while he was a record store cashier in New York City and directed by David Fincher (*Aliens 3*), *Seven* features Morgan Freeman as the soon-to-retire Detective William Somerset and Gay male heart throb, Brad Pitt as cocky, idealistic Detective David Mills.

The murders they are trying to unravel are set in a dark, gritty and perpetually rainy metropolis that's intentionally unidentifiable—it's merely a place that exudes toxic gloom.

Somerset is a meticulous man who lives alone and tidily makes his bed each day before venturing out into an increasingly chaotic and untidy world. He uses a metronome to lull himself to sleep. It's a wonderful contrast, the order and civility of his apartment against the gruesome disarray of the crime-ridden city.

Mills, on the other hand, is all sheer shortcut and brash youthful bluster. While Somerset laboriously searches through books like the *Canterbury Tales* and Dante's *The Divine Comedy* for literary clues, Mills skims the Cliff Notes. A nice touch has Mills mispronouncing "Aquinas," as in St. Thomas Aquinas.

The two instinctively clash during their first outings, with Somerset insisting Mills is too inexperienced to take on such a crafty killer and Mills, with his inflated ego, indignantly trying to prove he's up to it.

Freeman is superb with his courtly, quiet civility. He imbues Somerset with depth and cerebral complexity. It's never clear whether his inner stillness is the result of a stoic wisdom or simply a sad, lonely soul.

The duo finally become friends after Mills' wife, Tracy (Gwyneth Paltrow), intervenes by inviting Somerset over to dinner. In one of the film's few shortcomings, Tracy is a bland, one-dimensional character who is little more than sunny relief to the film's persistent bleakness.

Using one of Hollywood's tritest clichés, it's immediately clear that she'll inevitably become one of the murderer's targets.

Seven also falters by pushing its shock quota a little too far. The sloth victim, for instance,

is a man who had been strapped to a bed for an entire year. When he's discovered, he's a skeletal shell covered in what appear to be cobwebs. Yet, impossibly, he's still alive.

But these complaints pale in comparison to the film's net effect.

With its insistent darkness and cunning, *Seven* emerges as a richly disturbing and spellbinding film that leaves viewers haunted by its nightmarish intensity.

Produced by Arnold Kopelson, the New Line Cinema release is rated R.

Yvonne Zipter to Read From 'Ransacking the Closet In Milwaukee and Beloit

Milwaukee—AfterWords Bookstore & Espresso Bar is especially pleased to welcome back to Milwaukee writer/columnist Yvonne Zipter for a reading and signing on Sunday, October 8 at 1:00pm.

Zipter is a popular columnist for *Outlines* Newspaper in Chicago. Her unique blend of snapshots of Lesbian life and ironic self-portraits, titled "Inside Out" is syndicated throughout the country, including in *Wisconsin In Step*.

Zipter is also the author of two earlier books, a nonfiction book, *Diamonds are a Dyke's Best Friends* and a collection of poetry, *The Patience of Meta!* which was a Lambda Literary Award Finalist.

Ransacking the Closet, published this September by Spinsters Ink Press is a series of essays reflecting the width and breath of Lesbian life and is described by the author as "a lovely melange of preprocessed material and fresh stuff, sort of like a Betty Crocker cake mix."

Advance praise for *Ransacking the Closet* is very positive. Writes Shelley Roberts, author of *The Dyke Detector*: "In *Ransacking the Closet*, Yvonne Zipter details the hilarious, everyday, ordinary existence of everyday, ordinary Lesbians in ways that the historians will never capture. Because they don't even know how to ask. And because they're not nearly as funny as Yvonne. If you want to know what Lesbians 'do', read this"

And from cartoonist Jennifer Camper, "While there are many things Lesbians do well with their mouths, Yvonne Zipter reminds us that laughing out loud is in the top ten."

Yvonne Zipter is a native of Milwaukee and currently lives in Chicago, where she was recently inducted into the 1995 Chicago Gay & Lesbian Hall of Fame. For further information concerning Zipter's appearance, please



Yvonne Zipter

call (414) 963-9089.

Zipter in Beloit

On October 7, the day before her appearance at AfterWords, Zipter, currently on a Midwest tour, will be appearing at A Different World Books, 414 E. Grand Avenue in Beloit. She will be reading from *Ransacking the Closet*, her most recent and highly acclaimed work.

According to *Chicago Tribune* columnist Barbara Brotman, *Ransacking the Closet* is a "round-the-Lesbian world tour with the perfect guide: witty, self-deprecating and given to playing 'pin the tail on the dyke' at a birthday party."

For more information, call (608) 365-1000



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RYAN WHITE

Continued from Page 1

Dingell (D-MN), Gerry Studds (D-MA) and Henry Waxman (D-CA).

Differences must still be worked out with a Senate version of the bill passed in July.

The Ryan White Act, passed in 1990, provides grants to help states, cities and health care providers offer treatment and support services to people infected with HIV and those who have acquired AIDS, the illness caused by HIV. The act is to expire this year.

The bill was named for the Kokomo, Indiana, teen-ager who contracted AIDS through a blood transfusion and led a nationwide campaign for understanding of AIDS victims before he died in 1990.

Congress appropriated \$633 million for the program in fiscal 1995. A House-passed spending bill provides \$644 million in 1996.

HIV Infections Spreading at Alarming Fast Rate, U.N. AIDS Officials Say

Chiang Mai, Thailand—Asian government leaders must drop their fears and ignorance and immediately confront the AIDS epidemic or it will destroy Asia's great development of recent years, officials told a major AIDS meeting Thursday, September 21.

"AIDS remains the most critical threat to the social and economic progress of the region, along with environmental degradation," said former Thai Prime Minister Anand Panyarachun. "Leaders still do not realize how seriously their societies will be affected. ... There is far too much deception and denial about the extent of AIDS in the countries of this region."

Forget about more talking sessions, Anand said: Get the heads of government into the same room to endorse national AIDS action plans.

"Any other economic or trade issue with the potential to affect 20 percent of GDP ... would have its own summit," he said. "Why should AIDS be different? Only because the leaders do not understand that AIDS is an economic issue."

Years of isolation have made Cambodia apathetic, and unless that changes, the country runs the risk of exposure to a killer even more lethal than the Khmer Rouge in year zero," said Judge Michael Kirby of Australia.

Kirby, U.N. envoy for human rights in Cambodia, was referring to the Communist slaughter of more than 1 million people in an attempt in the 1970s to force Cambodia back to "year zero," its primitive state.

The speeches ended a weeklong meeting on how Asia has replaced Africa and the West as the disease's new vortex. Only four Cabinet level officials attended—a symptom of the problem, said conference organizer John Dwyer, who heads a regional AIDS group. The Malaysian prime minister's daughter, AIDS activist Marina Mahathir, said government officials were the most difficult people to persuade on AIDS.

Thai Foreign Minister Kasem S. Kasemsri said he hoped the December summit of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations would produce a statement of collective commitment on AIDS.

Asia now has 16 percent of the world's cumulative AIDS virus infections. By 1997, Asia's annual number of new infections will exceed that in Africa, and its global share will reach 25 percent by the year 2000, U.N. experts say.

The roots of the crisis range from the less-than-a-dollar prostitutes on India's highways, to the heroin-shooting dens involving mother, father and child on the Thai-Burma border, to the homeless waifs who roam streets of sex and drugs in Manila. Much of it is fueled by immense migrations of traders and workers, but Asian governments scarcely cooperate on AIDS.

More than 2,500 delegates from 52 countries heard many stories of discrimination and persecution, such as the doctors who refuse to treat AIDS patients in India and Indonesia, and another violent attack on an AIDS hospice near Bangkok, Thailand, the most open Southeast Asian country in tackling AIDS.

Stop relying on legal sanctions to control the epidemic, said Kirby, who chaired the Australian Reform Commission for 10 years. The only way is to change behavior by winning the trust of prostitutes, drug addicts and other

groups at risk, he said.

In Burma the situation is particularly bad. Drug use is rife since the country forms part of the so-called "Golden Triangle" of the opium trade. Drug lords control much of Burma's frontier.

John Dwyer, an Australian immunologist who is President of the AIDS Society for Asia and the Pacific, said that much of Burma's crisis is because of the fact that the country has so many borders and so few friends.

"There simply have been far too few international cooperative programs to help Burma with its problems. It's a major international scandal that we're trying to contain an epidemic and here the crucible is burning brightly," Dwyer said.

"I've visited AIDS units in hospitals in Rangoon and seen people dying of HIV with chains on their legs much like 17th Century prisoners because they were awaiting trial for drug offenses."

Vietnam

Another Asian country in trouble with AIDS is Vietnam which lacks money to mount an effective prevention program. However, unlike some other Asian countries, Vietnam has the will to fight the disease. As a result, the U.N. is close to raising \$8 million to help pay for the effort.

Vietnamese health officials report that there are currently 3,000 HIV infected people in the country. The number is expected to rise to 570,000 by 1998.

Rob Moodie, another U.N. AIDS specialist, said Vietnam has an advantage over some other developing countries in that its people are more receptive to promotional campaigns aimed at selling condoms.

Thailand and Australia have strong AIDS programs, "but if the other leaders in this region don't wake up, there's no hope," said Michael Merson, who had headed the U.N. AIDS program and now is at Yale University.

"If we're going to let our irrational fears and our cultural taboos of talking about sex inhibit our response, then at least we should do it with our eyes open and admit that we're contributing to the disaster," he said in an interview.

"These fears are everywhere, but Asia is having a particularly tough time and that really worries me," Merson said.

Anand, a leading businessman who was prime minister in 1991 and 1992, said leaders must realize that AIDS is not a health problem but an urgent national development priority. If you are not in control of the situation, foreign tourists and investors will go elsewhere, he said.

During his tenure, Anand said, he was the only regional head of government to lead a national AIDS effort. He enlisted help from companies, schools, army and communities. Such open promotion was not popular then, but it slashed by 77 percent the incidence of AIDS infections from 1991-1993, he said.

He said the U.S. Bureau of the Census estimates that if Thailand does not slow the infection rate, Thais born in the year 2010 can expect to live only 44 years. That is 30 years less than what it would be without AIDS, and would return Thailand to the 1930s level.

As an incentive, the Asian Development Bank should offer grants to countries that successfully fight AIDS, Anand said.

Thirty-one percent of patients, or 427, died during the study. Researchers reported no significant differences in survival rates among the demographic groups. Housing status, health insurance and drug use also did not appear to affect the mortality rate, researchers said.

Regardless of demographics, the patients most likely to die in the study were those whose immune system cells dipped to 200, compared with a normal level of 1,000, and those who had AIDS symptoms at the beginning of the study.

Patients who took the drug AZT or received treatment for Pneumocystis pneumonia, a disease common among AIDS patients, also lived longer than those who didn't, the study said.

Several doctors said the study results pointed to the urgent need for better access to medical care for all people.

"AIDS is not terribly different than any other disease," said Dr. Mervyn Silverman, president of the American Foundation of AIDS Research. "And like other diseases such as cancer and heart disease, if people have access to care and get it early, it can go a long way."

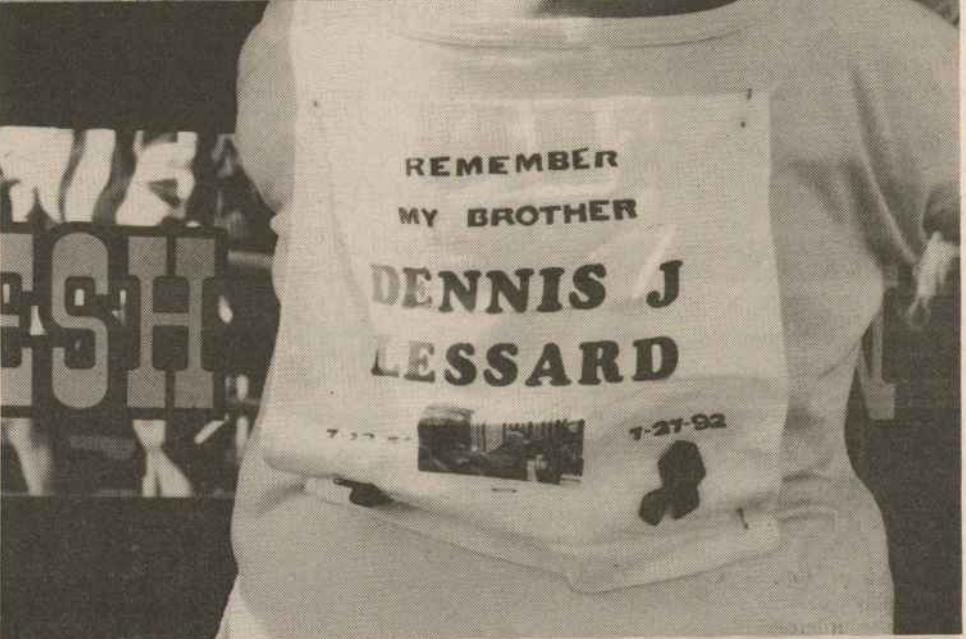
Dr. Deborah Cotton, an infectious disease specialist at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston, said assuring medical care the minorities, the poor and women "is going to become more important as the health care system in America is dismantled."

"Hospitals have to be able to provide care to the disadvantaged," she said.

AIDS Walk Wisconsin, September 17, 1995, Milwaukee's Lakefront



Gary Hawkins



New Study Shows Necessity of Early and Effective Treatment of AIDS

Baltimore, MD—People infected with the HIV virus who receive medical attention are likely to outlive those who don't seek treatment, regardless of their age, race or income, a study to be published Thursday found.

"The major lesson we've learned from this study is that HIV behaves similarly in all sorts of ethnic backgrounds and all sorts of behavioral backgrounds," said Dr. Richard E. Chaisson, associate professor at Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, who directed the study.

The finding contradicts previous studies that suggest demographic factors such as income, race, age and sex determine how well a person responds to AIDS treatment, Chaisson said.

Past research has indicated that men with AIDS live longer than infected women, low-income AIDS patients died faster than their middle- and upper-income counterparts and non-drug users outlived drug users.

Those statistics haven't changed, but the study is evidence that assuring medical access to all demographic groups is key to combating AIDS, Chaisson said.

"It's very encouraging to find that AIDS treatment is effective and effective in all groups," Chaisson said. "But we also still have a ways to go before this is a disease that people can live with."

The study, which was published in the September 21 issue of the *New England Journal of Medicine*, tracked 1,372 HIV-positive patients treated at Johns Hopkins Hospital for five years. Thirty percent were women, 77 percent were black and 21 percent were white.

'Art for Teachers of Children' is Profoundly Disturbing, But a Film You Should See

Reviewed by Glenn Bishop

Our love affairs with movies have traditionally been based largely upon one single expectation, i.e. our expectation to be entertained. Escapism is the "ism" that Hollywood does best.

Yet truly memorable films, those which remain with us beyond the inevitable rush to the exit must invariably end up being something more. Sometimes the effect is to drain us emotionally.

Or perhaps, as in the case of Jennifer Montgomery's deceptively titled *Art for Teachers of Children*, the filmmaker has sought to challenge us intellectually.

Montgomery has quite deftly titled her exploration of child pornography and age of consent. The terms "teacher" and "children" are exceedingly loaded with visual and philosophical connotations. For example, "children" are young and innocent, highly impressionable and above all, sexless.

On the other hand, "teachers" are guardians, older and wiser, they are "responsible" for the growth emotionally, physically and intellectually of their students.

Historically the relationship of teacher and student have often been portrayed in almost sacred terms.

Very low budget, often amateurishly acted at times, *Art for Teachers of Children* is Montgomery's grim if determined, autobiographical look at such a relationship gone terribly wrong.

At fourteen, Jennifer is a rather awkward, painfully insecure junior high school girl. Hiding behind oversized glasses and a shock of unruly hair, Jennifer has matured physically far faster than she has emotionally.

Away at boarding school and uncertain how to handle her emerging sexuality, Jennifer turns first to her roommate. Finding Molly to be as naive and inexperienced as she herself is, Jennifer turns to her dorm counselor, John.

John (Duncan Hannah), always photographing students, senses and later exploits Jennifer's obvious interest in photography. With deliberate slowness and filmed with an almost unnerving awkwardness, their relationship develops, soon transcending the accepted bounds set both for teacher and for student.

Ultimately and inevitably John's and Jennifer's relationship turns sexual in nature. Montgomery however refuses to allow the

viewer simple identification of "villain" and "victim" in this scenario.

It is Jennifer for example, not her teacher who initially suggests a topless pose. Jennifer is also the one to initiate any overt discussion of sex. Not so much as a predator, Montgomery portrays John as a mere opportunist.

Despite his John's initially declared reservations and his demands to Jennifer to keep their special relationship, "clandestine", he is clearly enchanted with the idea of dominating such a willing partner. Yet as Jennifer becomes increasingly dependent, so too does John. Feeding upon the other, John and Jennifer seem to spiral out of control.

Years later John will become the focus of a FBI child pornography investigation. When FBI agents question first her parents and later Jennifer herself, an older Jennifer, now secluded at an artist colony, is forced to re-live and more importantly to re-examine her relationship with John.

Plainly filmed in grainy black & white, *Art for Teachers of Children* possesses a very deliberate, almost detached style to its storytelling.

With great relish, Montgomery blurs the distinction of "villain" and "victim". She does indeed blame the man she had trusted yet is painfully aware of her own involvement. The benefit of hindsight and a considerable amount of detachment makes Jennifer, the present-day filmmaker, question the tenuous and fleeting concept of consent, blaming her lover for "the sex acts he had committed without my full consent."

Art for Teachers of Children is sure to raise debate and controversy. Topics like the abuse of children like that of child pornography are decidedly unpleasant topics. Most of us would prefer to simply try to wish them away.

Montgomery isn't going to let us off the hook quite so easily.

Rating: \$\$\$\$ (scale \$ to \$\$\$\$\$\$)

Art for Teachers of Children screens at 7:00 p.m. on Friday-Sunday, October 6, 7, and 8 at the UW Milwaukee Union Theatre, 2200 E. Kenwood Blvd., 2nd floor. Admission is \$3.50 for students and seniors and \$4.50 for the general public. Jennifer Montgomery will be present at the October 6th screening.

Shocking Gray Mail Order Goes Belly Up Because of Poor Business Procedures

New York, NY—New York's *In Unison Magazine* reports that Shocking Gray, one of the nation's leading mail order businesses for Lesbians and Gay men, has closed and intends to file for bankruptcy.

Ed Rhuebart, a Manhattan-based buyer for the catalogue company, said Shocking Gray has stopped processing orders, released employees and padlocked their offices. Rhuebart said he did not know if Shocking Gray's shutdown is permanent or if they will re-open after re-aligning the company and its procedures.

A former office assistant of the company said Shocking Gray was not being run like a business should.

"It was a real big mess. We had vendors stop supplying us unless we paid cash. Creditors were hounding us and we just dug a big hole too deep to get out of," said the former employee who requested anonymity.

Rhuebart confirmed the bankruptcy is a result of bad business decisions by Shocking Gray. In fact, Rhuebart said he did not know about the closing until August 17 when he was re-negotiating his contract with Shocking Gray. Rhuebart was waiting for his contract to be faxed from the company, when he discovered the company was closed.

After a lengthy wait, Rhuebart, who is Gay, called the company only to find its phone lines were disconnected.

"I was real surprised at the way they handled this, considering they are my brothers and sisters. I could understand it if it was AT&T," he said.

With the closing, Phoenix Rising co-owner Rex Mitchell said he'll reach more consumers through catalogue sales.

Phoenix Rising, headquartered in Virginia, will distribute about 900,000 catalogues for

the holiday shopping season right around the corner.

"We're poised and ready to go in there and fill the void Shocking Gray has left," Mitchell said.

Mitchell said he doesn't think Gay and Lesbian consumers will have any difficulty ordering merchandise, but may have to look harder for products.

"With Lambda Rising going on America Online and us setting up our own World Wide Web page, I think Gay and Lesbian consumers won't have any problems ordering this year," he said.

Mitchell said he has already been bombarded by former Shocking Gray vendors wanting to get in his chain's catalogue.

"I'm really sorry this happened to Shocking Gray, but at least there are alternatives available," Mitchell said.



Deadlines

Deadlines for all copy except late breaking news, is the Friday before publication at 5:00 p.m.

The copy deadline for the next issue (October 12) is Friday, October 6, at 5:00.

The copy deadline for the issue coming out on October 26, is October 20 at 5:00.

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WISCONSIN LIGHT PERSONALS

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Milwaukee BOYS WILL BE BOYS: GWM, 26, 5'10", 165, blonde hair, blue eyes seeks GWM under 30 for friendship and possibly more. Please leave a message. ☎11276

Milwaukee BI BOYS: 18, blonde hair, blue eyes, 5'9", BIWM, seeks other young WM's between 18-21, for friendship, camping and hiking. Other things possible as well. Please leave a message. ☎11307

LaCrosse STRAIGHT BUT BENDS: GWM, 34, 6', blue eyes, long blonde hair, masculine, seeks GWM, 18-36, who are straight acting/appearing, and who know what they want from life. Please leave a message. ☎11450

See An Ad You Like? GRAB THAT PHONE!

Wisconsin NOT TYPICAL: GWM, 23, 6'2", 170, blue eyes, long brown hair, not into the bar scene at all, seeks other GWM's between 18-30 for friendship first with endless possibilities. Please leave a message. ☎11725

Madison BUDDY BONDING: GWM, 27, 5'2", 125, brown hair, blue eyes, seeks other GWM, 21-32, for fun and adventure. I have varied interests as I hope you will. Please leave a message. ☎11802

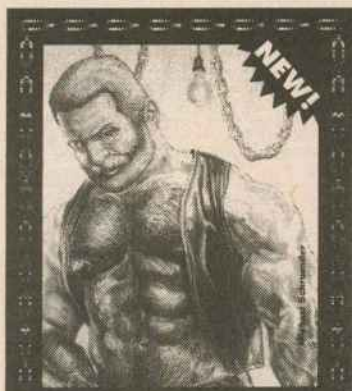
Madison DADDY CAN BE A BOY: GWM, 46, 5'11", 160, seeks fraternity hazing with other frat boys under 25. Please leave a message. ☎11816

Madison BI THE WAY, R U?: BIWM, 25, 6'1", 230, seeks other BIWM's under 30 in the local area for a good friendship with more possible. Please leave a message. ☎12072

Milwaukee SIR, THANK YOU SIR!: GWM, 27, 6'2", 230, brown hair, brown eyes, seeking a dominant master into CBT, TT, WS, FF, shaving, S&M, B&D, and humiliation. Nothing I won't do for you sir! ☎11529

Wisconsin YOU AND ME: GWM, 27, 160, 5'8", enjoys sports, seeks GWM, 18-28, for outings and friendship. Please leave a message. ☎12286

Wisconsin PLEASURE SEEKER: GWM, 30, 5'8", 150, attractive, new to area, seeks other local GWM's. Please leave a message. ☎1095



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Oshkosh OUTSPOKEN: Gary, 39, 6'1, 225, lkg to have some fun, give me a call- ☎6678

Janesville HAIR: 25 5'11 145 shoulder length hair, slender build, soft smooth body, tired of one niters, if you want someone to love for a life time, give me a call- like hiking canoeing, outdoors, into crystal and rock collections, writer- call me-

S. Fond du lace LIFE PARTNER: Fred, GWM, late 30s, look younger 5'9, 165, dk brn/blue, fit and tan, kind and caring, iso gdlkg non smoking, GWM 20-35, enjoys outdoors, quiet talks, videos, fit and muscular, ready for a long term rel, call me. ☎9315

Green Bay YOUNG LOVE: Eric, 1m 26, iso my age in the area, outdoors, good music, having fun, lv a message- ☎9485

Eau Claire SIR, YES SIR: Submissive GWM, 35, blonde hair/blue eyes, 135, seeking dominant men who know how to give orders and follow them through. Your command is my desire. Please leave a message. ☎9539

Appleton ERECTOR SET: GWM, 34, 5'10", 135, very muscular, cabin owner, seeking construction worker dudes who enjoy outdoors, cabin living, scuba diving, swimming, tackle football, lifting weights and male bonding. Call me. ☎10046

Madison OH DADDY: 50 yr. old, 170, daddy, looking for 18-25 yr. old son to take care of this masculine daddy with affection and obedience. All messages answered. Swimmer's build and smooth a definite plus. ☎10233

Racine FULL ATTENTION: GWM professional, 55 yrs old, looking for any and all interested males to share my time and life with. Age/Race unimportant. Call soon. ☎10495

Milwaukee HANKERIN' FOR A HUNK: BIWM, brown hair, blue eyes, well built seeking a different experience. First time for me and am curious. Please leave a message soon. All messages will be returned. ☎10510

WISCONSIN BOY TOY: GWM, 19, 5'10", 150, very picky, looking for good sense of humor, outdoors oriented, GWM's 19-22 who want to meet for a fun time. ☎46428

Milwaukee DEEP NEED: GWM, submissive oriented, seeking dominant individuals for obedience training and leather cleaning. Make me your servant. ☎10274

Jefferson County BI THE FENCE: Married BIWM, 31, very new to this lifestyle, seeks experienced Bi or GWM to help me follow my desires. Be my mentor. My eagerness is doubled with excitement and adventure. Please leave a discreet message. ☎10639

Green Bay YOUR COMMAND IS MY DESIRE: GWM, 6'1", 240, overly submissive, seeks heavy aggressive GWM to receive the service he desires. Total service is my life's ambition. Please leave me a message. ☎10649

Wisconsin STARS AND FIREWORKS: GWM, 24, 6'1", 180, blonde hair, blue eyes, seeking GWM, between 18-25, who are friendship/relationship oriented. Please give me a call and let's get together and shoot fireworks. ☎11144

Fox City FULLY COCKED: GWM, 30, 5'8", 155, blonde hair, blue eyes, iso GWM between 20-35, for great times and encounters. Masculine and very well built are a definite plus. Please leave a message. ☎11151

Madison LET'S EXPERIMENT: young couple looking for an older male or couple someone to experiment with, flex attr easy to get along with, if this interests you call- ☎6734

Racine GW BI male, single 55, lkg for someone with same interests for a good time, Tom. ☎7464

Milwaukee HAIRY TEDDY BEAR: 35 subm GWM, 5'11, 220, hairy teddy bear,

inexperienced, lkg for hairy dom men 30-45 to have fun with and try new things- ☎7629

Madison REDHEAD: Ray, 21, 6', red 190 well built, like dancing, actor, lkg for some friends, maybe more- ☎7803

Oneida Co. LOOKING FOR FRIENDSHIP: Steve, 29, GWM, like snowmobiling, bowling, hiking, camping, iso a man for friendship talking and some fun give me a call- ☎8137

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Wisconsin 24 HOURS: hot looking GM looking for day time or night time fun. ☎8945

Milwaukee BORN TO PLEASE, hands energetic Italian gay male, late 40s well built, hairy chest, iso WM or HM or BM 25-45 for hot fun- ☎8552

La Crosse TALL AND MUSCULAR: Rick, tall musc, 40 Professional, iso good times, poss rel, like working out, boating skiing traveling, dining, out, like a variety of things, give me a call- ☎8569

W. Wisconsin MR. POLICEMAN: Mark, GWM, 37, 6' 170 law enforcement officer, iso friends, spec person for long term rel, 18-40 like camping, movie, eating out, any race ok, BM a plus- ☎8734

Hurley 19 COLLEGE STUDENT, 5'7, brn/brn, like movies, hiking, horseback riding, just want to get together give me a call- ☎8808

Milwaukee FONE FUN: Tony 24, 6', 170, lkg to meet guys, int in having fun, fone fun, give me a call- ☎8944

Madison OUT ON THE TOWN: Steve, int in guys 18-30 for rel, friendship maybe more, like music, like to go out alot, lv a message- ☎9070

Janesville WALKS IN THE WOODS: Shane, 25, GWM, 5'11 140 smooth chest, long dk hair, dk eyes, into nature, hiking, outdoors, and the woods, movies, warm cuddly eyes iso same, guys under 26 smooth body same build, writer, ☎9236

Kenosha DADDY AND BOY: BIWM 40 and BIWM 21 seeks young men for hot fun. we are into heavy metal and concerts. call us. ☎5636

Milwaukee TAN LINES: If you are 18-36, good looking and have a great tan. call me. ☎5833

Milwaukee SUMMER HEAT: I'm 26 y/o, 5'11, brn/hzl, 175lbs. I like biking, reading, movies and long rides. If you are in the 608 area code, call me. ☎5940

Milwaukee HOT FOR TEACHER: I'm 32 y/o, 5'7, 175lbs. I'm new to the scene and would like to meet some hot guys to teach me a few things. ☎5947

Green Bay LETS GET TOGETHER: I'm a 33 y/o GWM lkg4 platonic friendships. I'm a non smoker, professional, into the outdoors and I love to travel. ☎5959

Milwaukee ARE YOU EXPERIENCED ?: I'm a 21 y/o GWM with little experience. I like movies, dinner, the lake and walks. I'm lkg4 a good relationship with someone. ☎6030

Milwaukee CUTE AND SHY: I'm a shy guy and I love music, dining, music and quite times at home. I have brn/brn, hairy chest, good shape. I'm an easy going person. If you are romantic, sensitive and caring, call me. ☎6385

Milwaukee GOOD TIMES: I'm 6ft, 150lbs, blonde/hzl. I like to have a good time, call me. ☎6485

Oshkosh GARY, 39, love getting with other men, give me a call, ☎6678

Milwaukee BIWM, 28 6'1, 210, athletic build, blue/ wavy hair, look like a model, ISO athletic male, 21-35 with sim interests, if this sounds like you, ☎6740

Lake Mills DARTS AND POOL: Ryan, 26, GWM ISO same, into darts, pool, hangin' out, go to Madison once in a while give me a call- ☎38592

Appleton CLOSET BOY "I'm a 35 y/o straight acting WM. I like tennis, golf, movies, music and aviation. I'm not into the gay scene. I'm lkg4 a GWM that is tired of being alone. ☎2953

Appleton LOOKING FOR A LOVER "I'm a 24 y/o GWM, 6ft, 150lbs. brn/brn. I'm lkg2 get together with someone 18-30 for a poss. relationship. I have lots of interests." ☎3034

Jamesville PRE-OP "39 y/o pre-op TS, parent of 2. I'm lkg4 someone to share some things with. call me." ☎3214

Wisconsin HEY GUY'S "I'm a 20 y/o WM, 6'4, 160lbs. brn/brn. I'm lkg4 someone to get to know. I have lots if interests." ☎3229

Grenade NO CAR BUT LOTS OF HOPE "I don't have a car. I'm 5'9, 160lbs. blonde/blue. I have an average build and I like to do a lot of things. call me." ☎3419

Madison TOP THIS "my name is Jeff. If you are in central Wis. call me. I'm a very hot 28 y/o btm. If you are a very experienced top man, call me." ☎3517

Appleton MARRIAGE MINDED "I'm 41 y/o and lkg4 a long term relationship. I'm tall, well built and would like to meet someone for long term love." ☎3533

Eau Claire BOTTOM LINE "I'm 30 y/o and I like quiet nights at home, movies and country music. I'm 5'8, 210lbs. please call me." 3548

Madison NEW AT THIS inexperienced 25 y/o WM lkg4 an athletic GWM for friendship. ☎3558

Madison NO STRINGS "I'm a 38 y/o GWM lkg4 a gay or bi guy up to 40 for hot, no strings fun." ☎3600

Madison SHOW ME "married, bi and lkg2 get together for exploration. call me." ☎3725

Madison PICK UP THAT PHONE my name is Spike. I need to have hot phone fun. I'm a btm boy and I like to be told what to do. call me. ☎3848

Wisconsin HOT FOR TEACHER I'm a 35 y/o man. I'm 200lbs and I like to go to movies and out to dinner.. ☎4444

Madison NEW KID IN TOWN: my name is Rick and I'm new to the area. I'm a 30 y/o BIWM lkg2 meet the same. call me! ☎1095

Appleton ANYTHING ONCE: 28 y/o GWM lkg4 other bi or gay men 18-30 y/o into experimenting new and different things. I love to please people and I will try anything once. call me! ☎45881

Madison SITTING ON TOP OF THE WORLD; my name is Jeff, I'm 5'8 145lbs and 28 y/o I'm lkg4 a well built , hairy guy top guys. call me! ☎46038

Wisconsin WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT? my name is Steve, I'm very curious about meeting men who dress up as women. I am new to the scene and would like someone to show me what its all about. ☎11250

Green Bay BOYFRIEND WANTED: 29 y/o guy who is a very cute, handsome professional with various interests looking to meet a guy 25-40 for a possible rela ☎46088

Hayward YOU CAN DRIVE :I'm a 20 y/o blonde hair blue eyed boy lkg4 hot top men to have fun with. I am very sub. ☎44165

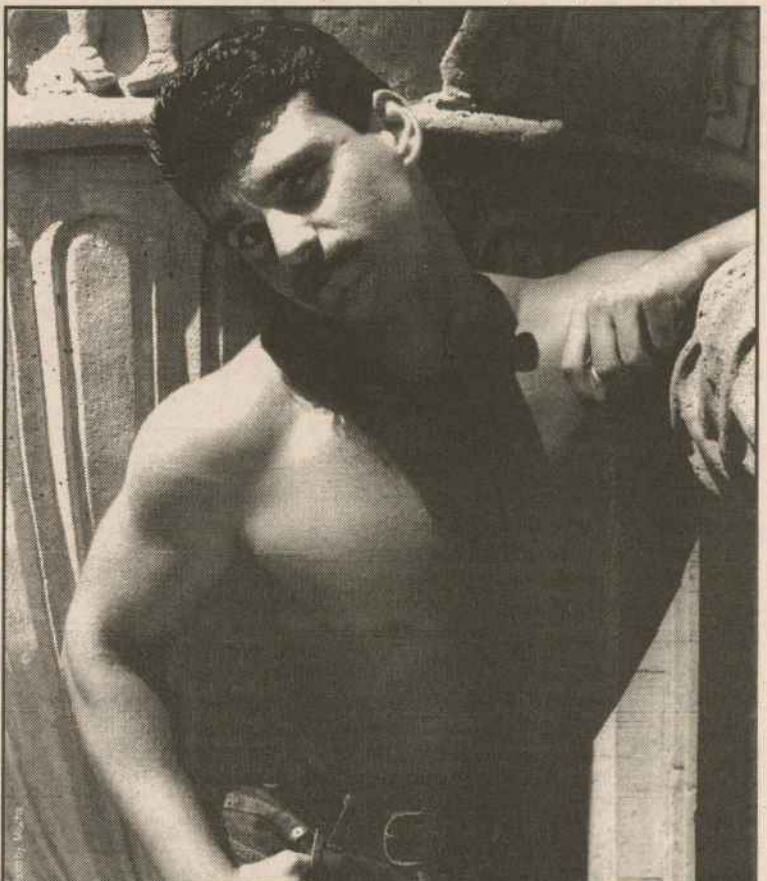
Green Bay/Appleton LETS GO CAMPING: 30 y/o GWM, 5'10, 200lbs, brn/brn. lkg2 meet others in my area. I'm not into the bar scene. I enjoy camping, boating, computers and more. ☎46185

Green Bay FRIENDS FIRST: 24 y/o GWM lkg4 someone to have a good time with. I'd like to be friends first, then a poss. relationship. If you are 18-30 and have a slim build, call me, hairy chest a +. ☎46216

Green Bay LETS SPEND SOME TIME TOGETHER: 36 y/o guy into hiking, biking, outdoors and more. I'm lkg4 someone to spend some time with. ☎46267

North East LETS GO FOR A RIDE: my name is Jim and I'm into biking. I would like to meet some other semi-serious guy's into biking. If you are lkg4 someone to ride with, call me, lets ride together. ☎22935

Appleton/Green Bay HEY GUY'S :my name is Andy. I'm 19 y/o 5'10, 150lbs in



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weights, summer fests, ISO a male friend to have a great summer together. (Call Thru) Box# 7401

Rita, 33, GF, looking for G/BiF who wants to have some fun. (Call Thru) Box# 8655

GM ISO others, lets hang out it will be fun. (Call Thru) Box# 8331

Steven, looking for someone to call me, any race. Call me sometime. (Call Thru) Box# 9464

GWM, 34, 170, 6'8, fun-loving, open-minded but conservative, caring, enjoy good conversations, music, ISO another guy for good company. (Call Thru) Box# 5163

GWM, 5'10, 175, very good-looking, well built, versatile, ISO other guys, any race, for real hot times. (Call Thru) Box# 7875

George, 26, 5'10, 175, hzl eyes, brn hr, college student,

Rodney, GBM, 29, attractive, handsome, understanding, high-spirited but sensual. Looking for the same. (Call Thru) Box# 9111

GWM, 30, interested in GWM, under 35, for social activities, and fun get together. Hope you call soon. (Call Thru) Box# 8818

Attractive GWM, 5'10, 170lbs., well built, versatile. ISO attractive M, who likes to get into some good times in the afternoons. (Call Thru) Box# 8598

Top GWM, 32, 5'5, 180lbs., blonde hair, blue eyes, seeking relationship, and hot times with M, 40 or younger, who's interested in trying bondage, but not necessary. (Call Thru) Box# 2887

Chris, 36, overweight bottom, looking for smaller, adventurous, fun loving, hairy top. (Call Thru) Box# 4283

Tommy, 38, 5'5, bottom, red hair, blue eyes, french active, greek passive, HIV-, right leg amputee. ISO well endowed M, any race, any age. HIV status is unimportant. (Call Thru) Box# 6437

GWM, 40, 6', 155lbs., brown hair, brown eyes, professional. ISO GBM, 25-45. Please call, let's get together. (Call Thru) Box# 9355

SWM, 26, open minded, with varied interests. Looking for SWM. Box# 3958

Dean, GWM, brown hair, blue eyes, mustache, hairy body, well endowed. ISO a great bottom to have a great time with. (Call Thru) Box# 9022

Jack, 37, WM, 5'8, brown hair, hairy chest/legs, Italian, works out. ISO M, around same age, for friendship, possible relationship and more. (Call Thru) Box# 4381

GWM, 27, athletic, looking for military, college student, or All American. (Call Thru) Box# 2153

Nick, 22, 5'10, 189lbs., blonde hair, blue eyes, likes hanging out, sports, being with friends. Looking to meet some people. (Call Thru) Box# 0861

Peter, 34, 6', 225lbs., brown hair, stocky. ISO hot M, any race, who enjoys having a lot of fun. (Call Thru) Box# 7032

Tom, BM, 20, bottom. ISO aggressive WM, top, well built, very muscular, and very aggressive. If you think you can handle me, let me know. Box# 6072

Dave, 35, 5'7, 160lbs., top, dark hair, green eyes, mustache, 7 inch cock. ISO M, 35 and under. Box# 0266

David, GWM, 26, 5'7, 165lbs., very muscular, runner, 32w, 40c, brown hair, brown eyes, moderately hairy, mustache, beard. ISO top GWM, 28-40. (Call Thru) Box# 3737

GWM, 28, 5'9, 155lbs., brown hair, green eyes. ISO G/ASIAN M, to get together with, see what happens, for fun or whatever. (Call Thru) Box# 6776

Scott, 26, 5'11, 185lbs., blonde hair, blue eyes, college student. ISO M, similar, regular guy, to hang out, have fun, and make friends. (Call Thru) Box# 9089

M, looking for M, to kick back, relax, and let someone take care of him.

Box# 9070

Carlos, 5'11, masculine, muscular. Looking for someone, blonde hair, muscular, 6', about the same. Box# 7312

Shawn, GWM, 23, handsome, attractive, looking for masculine M for incredible encounters. Hairy a plus. S&M is "A" O.K. (Call Thru) Box# 7009

Nick, 22, 5'10, new to area, light brown hair, blue eyes, not into games, likes theatre, dancing, swimming, music. ISO M, good personality, to hang out with. (Call Thru) Box# 3300

Emmanuel, BM, 38, looking for interesting, positive people, especially saved, or spiritual. God Bless You. Box# 7883

BiWM, 20, 5'8, 140lbs., interests from horseback riding to jumping out of airplane. ISO Bi/GWM, 18-22, with keen sense of adventure. (Call Thru) Box# 6838

Dean, 5'5, 120lbs., blonde hair, hazel-green eyes, likes romance, meeting new people, and having fun. ISO M, 18-34, who likes to have fun. (Call Thru) Box# 6163

Ron, GWM, 23, new to area, looking for friendship, and possible relationship. Give me a call. Box# 5762

John, Asian M, 24, 5'8, 140lbs., medium build, fair complexion, black hair, brown eyes. ISO GWM, 20-30, for friendship, possible relationship. (Call Thru) Box# 5922

Dave, BiWM, 30's, 6', clean shaven, good shape, dark hair, green eyes. ISO Bi/GWM, similar age, masculine, fun, no strings attached, discrete, into good times. (Call Thru) Box# 5673

Gary, GWM, late 30's, 5'10, brown hair, green eyes, professional, likes quiet evenings at home, dining out, cooking. ISO M, similar interests, 30-40, for sincere, honest, long term relationship. (Call Thru) Box# 5962

Jason, 19, blonde hair, blue eyes, swimmers build. ISO bottom for good times. (Call Thru) Box# 5032

BM, 24, 5'11, 165lbs., smooth, attractive, looking for straight acting/appearing, versatile, endowed, educated BM only. No fems. (Call Thru) Box# 4213

Mark, Asian M, 25, 5'10, 155lbs., looking to meet people, and perhaps something more. Ages 20-28. Box# 4142

Mark, BM, 40, 6'1, 170lbs., brown skin, GQ type, professional. ISO school boy type M, slim, under 40, passive, submissive, bottom, for genuine love, and forming a relationship. (Call Thru) Box# 2275

Michael, GWM, 33, 5'9, 156lbs., dark brown hair, brown eyes, HIV+, good health, loves life. ISO GM, 27-37, any race, HIV+, for possible relationship. Box# 1773

Kyle, WM, 29, 5'11, 170lbs., 32 waist, brown hair, blue eyes, attractive, in-shape, student. ISO younger M, student or military, and masculine. (Call Thru) Box# 0788

Andre, BM, 32, 5'10, 180lbs., 34 waist, 44 chest, brown eyes, mustache, top, aggressive. ISO M, any race, for friendship and fun. (Call Thru) Box# 1061

Nick, 22, 5'10, black hair, blue eyes, likes hiking, biking, swimming, the outdoors, movies, theatre, dancing, music, not into games. ISO real person to go out, and have fun. (Call Thru) Box# 0877

Attractive GM, 35, 5'11, 170lbs., smooth, brown hair, brown eyes, educated. ISO masculine, top, G/BiWM, dark hair/eyes, well-endowed, professional, for sensual afternoons, and evenings. (Call Thru) Box# 0730

Tom, professional BiM, middle age, looking for someone for quiet, mutual, honest relationship, not based only on sex. Box# 0431

Tom, BiM, professional, middle-age, looking for someone for a quiet, mutual, honest relationship, not based only on sex. (Call Thru) Box# 0428

GWM, 22, 5'10, into body piercing and stuff like that. ISO alternative, punk rocker type M, 5'6-6'2. (Call Thru) Box# 9185

Ronnie, 25, 5'8, brown hair, brown eyes. Steve, 26, 6'3, brown hair, blue eyes, both looking for M, to get together with, see what's going on, and talk about things. (Call Thru) Box# 6735

M, 18, 153lbs., looking for some fun, and someone to teach me a few things. Age/race is unimportant. Must be discrete. Box# 1602

GM, 25, tall and slender, looking to meet GM around 25. Box# 7871

M, 21, 6'2, 220lbs., dark skin, pretty eyes, likes having fun, wants to meet new people, any age/race, as long as your head is in the right place. (Call Thru) Box# 6648

Jason, BM, 21, 6'3, 200lbs., light skin, looking for M to chill, hang out, whatever. Peace. (Call Thru) Box# 5927

M, nice body, clean cut, clean shaven, nice butt. ISO M, so give a call. (Call Thru) Box# 0335

Ken, 36, 6'2, 178lbs., gym body, all around good guy. ISO similar M, with values, and intellect, who wants to get acquainted. Box# 0265

Peter, 6'1, curly brown hair, 165lbs., beard, swimmer, enjoys walks, dancing, and tennis. ISO someone similar, to hang out with, converse, and have fun. Box# 1000

Robert, GWM, 24, straight-acting, looking for muscular, straight-acting GBM, 25-35, to hang out, take long walks, listen to the radio, and quiet evenings at home, for friendship and possible relationship. Box# 3065

Henry, GBM, 32, 5'4, 145lbs., bottom, into fitness, looking for top, in-shape M, 20-40, 5'2-5'6, for blow out. (Call Thru) Box# 4178

Dave, 40, 5'10, 175lbs., hot and well built. I'd love to meet you. (Call Thru) Box# 4075

Oliver, GBM, 19, 5'10, 160lbs., medium build, looking for M, 18-33. Box# 9954

Ray, BiWM, 49, HIV-, beard, looking for M, 40+, for fun and hot sex. (Call Thru) Box# 8868

Dad, GM, seeks 18-25 yr. old, for occasional night out, cuddling, and hot fun. Let's talk. Box# 8134

Greg, 6'1, 172lbs., fair complexion, African-American, musician, enjoys movies, theatre, the outdoors, conversations, and cuddling. ISO M, 25-35ish, height/weight proportionate, with similar interests. Box# 3681

Brian, 30's, slender, clean shaven, buzz cut, into wild times, and partying, anytime. Box# 4416

Andre, BM, 25, dark skin, masculine, nice build. ISO rough neck type, B/HIS/Puerto Rican, under 24, masculine. Let's hook up. Box# 0886

Bruce, GWM, 38, 6', 200lbs., works out, brown hair, hazel eyes, caring, sincere, easygoing, enjoys plays, dining out, long walks, reading, computers, and gardening. ISO M, 28-40, for friendship. (Call Thru) Box# 5632

Anthony, WM, 30, Italian, 5'7, black hair, brown eyes, mustache, medium build, easygoing, fun, spontaneous, and masculine. ISO masculine BM, under 40, solid-lean, interested in sports, and music. Box# 6652

BiM, HIV-, TV submissive, religious, seeks live-in husband, 40+, for monogamous relationship. Anything you need if you're the right one. Box# 0986

Michael, GBM, top, 5'7, dark complexion, looking for slim B/Latin M, bottom. Box# 5238

Steve, looking for someone for good times with friendship, and possibly leading to relationship. Box# 5169

Paul, 26, new to area, 5'8, 155lbs., brown hair, blue eyes, good looking, clean shaven, smooth, looking for M, around 26. Let's talk. (Call Thru) Box# 5109

BiWM, 23, 130lbs., seeking older, adult M, 27-35, big, rugged, about 175-195lbs., for an encounter. Beard/mustache preferred. Box# 9717

Les, WM, 26, 5'11, 135lbs., red hair, hazel eyes, new to area, farm boy at heart, enjoys the outdoors. ISO WM, 23 and under, slim, smooth, boyish, farm boy looks. (Call Thru) Box# 3111

James, GWM, 20, 5'7, 175lbs., into just about anything fun, likes having good times. Give me a call. (Call Thru) Box# 2546

Ben, 27, 5'11, 160lbs., brown hair, hazel eyes, new to area, professional, looking for GWM, 24-30, hairy chest, relationship-oriented, who knows what they want. (Call Thru) Box# 2424

Zack, looking for mature M, 40 years plus. Give me a call. (Call Thru) Box# 1888

Thomas, 18, just out of the closet, looking for someone to give me some fun, and a little show around. Box# 0623

Luke, 34, 5'5, 120lbs., professional, looking for top B/WM, 28-40, for something serious, or a relationship. No games. (Call Thru) Box# 0022

George, 18, sexy, slim, brown hair, brown eyes, creative, erotic, enjoys going out, having fun, and exploring. (Call Thru) Box# 8485

John, 27, 5'11, has own business, looking for F interested in boating, outdoor activities, movies, and going out. If

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Men Seeking Men

Bi white teddy bear, 37, looking for male companionship. I aim to please. Box# 1104

Adam, 20, college student, ISO someone 18-25 for dancing, clubs, etc. (Call Thru) Box# 8936

Greg, 21, brown hair, green eyes, student, in a band, enjoys sports, looking for F to have fun with, hang out, who's down to earth, and mature. Box# 8547

GM, John, 22, college student, ISO someone out-going for good times. Box# 5093

GM, body-builder, 54-inch chest, 36-inch waist, 210, 40's, ISO someone younger, in good shape like myself. (Call Thru) Box# 4684

GM, Erin, 24, quiet, sincere, like music, astrology, ISO a monogamous, fun male, 21-35. (Call Thru) Box# 2526

Timmy, 5'10, 195, long blond hair, hairy chest, ISO WM, 25 and over. Box# 2742

Jeff, 29, 5'8, 130lbs., BiCurious, brown hair, brown eyes. Would like to have some fun. Box# 6542

GWM, Jay, 25, ISO another M, 25-35, for fun. Box# 9973

Tim, SWM, 35, 6'1, nice guy, respects woman, has good sense of humor, just give me a chance. You won't be sorry, I'll try to make you happy. Box# 8674

Two long-haired young dudes ISO other long-haired young dudes. We're into alternative/rock music, the outdoors, and camping. Box# 3224

GWM, 41, (look younger), ISO guy, 19-30 for good hot times. Box# 8955

Earl, GWM, 27, hairy, good build, loves quiet times, intimate times, dancing, and watching a beautiful movie with a beautiful person. Prefer heavy guys, 32+, hairy. Box# 7119

M, 24, 5'9, 165, long brown hair, blue eyes, mustache, I'm easy-going, ISO similar dudes. Box# 3216

Bill, 32, 5'8, 160, prof., not into glitter, self-absorb, bitchy or stereo-types, ISO someone who is truthful, warm, gentle, in-touch, with a quiet strength for mutual honest friendship, no sex right away calls please. Box# 8684

Mike, 32, versatile, 5'6, 165, brn hr, gm eyes, ISO compatible M's to share my house I just purchased. Box# 9644

Steve, 44, bottom ISO tops. Box# 7381

New guy in town, 5'6, 151lbs., likes bottoms. Would like to hear from some of you. Box# 6113

Caribbean GBM, 20, ISO GM 18-24 for friendship, poss. rel., serious only. Box# 1627

Michael, GWM, tall, attractive, 6'1, 175lbs., slim, looking for B/HIS M, slim, 5'8+, for good times. Box# 8866

Todd, 25, 6', 180, ready to have good times. Mark and his partner. Please call me. Box# 6649

Robert, 5'10, 145, brn hr/eyes, excellent shape, American/Indian, Black, Italian, ISO G/BiWM, who enjoys

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2 very attractive GWM's, open, 22 and 24, ISO cute GWM's 18-24 for summer fun. Box# 5655

2 very good-looking, straight acting GWM's, early 20's, ISO attractive, young looking bi or GWM, 18-25 for friends and more. (Call Thru) Box# 1323

Shaun, 26, ISO young college guy, blond and blue with nice body preferred. Box# 1232

Drew, 25, 185, brn hr/eyes, ISO other males for fun. Box# 8536

Dave, 35, 6'2, 185lbs., light brown hair, blue eyes, clean shaven, looking for someone to have some fun. Box# 3168

Bob, 29, WM, attractive, very athletic, easy going, great humor, open, discreet, interest are biking, racketball,

very good-looking, clean shavend, masculine, ISO Asians or Hispanic guys, 25-. (Call Thru) Box# 9625

Chris, ISO the right guy, 30-40 for friends and whatever. (Call Thru) Box# 2194

Tom, 31, Italian, bi, 5'10, 210, very muscular, dark hr/eyes, ISO other males and couples. (Call Thru) Box# 9619

GAM, 22, 5'7, 140. Inexperienced. ISO GWM, masculine. For exotic massages, wrestling and companionship. Box# 3066

GM, 29, 5'10, 175. BR hair and blue eyes. Variety of interests. ISO GM to have some good times. Box# 4073

GM, likes to stay up late in hot tub, ISO someone to accompany him for contact and oral. Box# 6063

Erin, likes to have fun, be with people and have alot of good times. ISO M to share good times with. (Call Thru) Box# 3069

Asian M, 22, 5'7, 142lbs., conservative dresser, clean cut, slim. Enjoys running, wrestling, cuddling, massages, not into bar scene. ISO WM, 25-40, 5'8-6', 160-190lbs. (Call Thru) Box# 4113

Hi! I'm a cool guy, clean cut looks and appearance, looking for a boyfriend. You should be the same and be 21-35. Call me. Box# 3437

Jeremy, WM, 18, looking for compassionate M friend, 18-25, any race. Box# 7307

Dave, 39, 6', 200lbs., good shape, fun guy, likes skiing, scuba diving, swimming, cars, mexican restaurants, movies, dining out. Sexually I like alot of things. ISO M. (Call Thru) Box# 0179

In-shape, M, 38, bottom, seeking top M, for regular, safe, discreet encounters. Box# 0827

Rob, WM, 32, 5'7, 145lbs., brown hair, green eyes, in-shape, non-feminine. Seeking WM, 18-30, good looking, straight-acting, boyish, smooth, who enjoys movies, music, travel, nintendo. (Call Thru) Box# 0935

Chuck, WM, 24, dark hair, blue eyes, tan, GQ type, good looking. ISO BM, good-looking, good-shape, well-dressed, straight-acting. Maybe we can hook-up, get together, and get to know each other. (Call Thru) Box# 8009

Bob, 43, trying to get in shape, wants to get back that lean muscle shape. Looking for M to train with, lift weights, go walking with. (Call Thru) Box# 1432

Kevin, 24, 6'1, 170lbs., into hip-hop, R&B, dancing, doesn't like anybody knowing his business. ISO attractive Puerto Rican/BM, no fems, no fats. Box# 2465

John, GWM, 44, 5'7, 200lbs., big chest, big arms, brown hair, green-eyes, trim mustache, HIV-. ISO GM, any race, likes outdoors, quiet times, body massages, cuddling, to settle down, serious relationship. Box# 4271

Darrell, 49, 5'7, very active, likes volleyball, cycling, hairy men, the arts, dancing, music. ISO M, same age or younger, honest, truthful. Not into games. (Call Thru) Box# 3393

Italian BM, 32, looking for M, well built, well hung. Box# 2532

GWM, 29, 6'1, attractive, blonde hair, green eyes, looking to meet M, attractive, fit, secure with themselves. (Call Thru) Box# 4682

Steve, BiM, 23, looking for other M to have some hot times with. (Call Thru) Box# 4233

Muscular, hairy M, looking for other muscular, hairy M. Facial hair a plus. Box# 7620

Steve, 33, nice looking, works out, always hard. Looking for hot M, to have some fun, sexual times. Box# 9593

Tim, 24, 5'7, 135lbs., long brown hair, blue eyes, looking for M to have fun with. Box# 9854

Greg, GBM, 30, 5'7, 150lbs., seeking sincere GBM, 20-40, masculine, straight-acting, for good times, possible serious relationship. Be real with yourself, let's talk and see what we come up with. (Call Thru) Box# 4649

Jerry, 32, lives in country, fun person. Looking to meet someone for friendship or possible relationship. Serious replies only. Relationship oriented. (Call Thru) Box# 5808

Allen, WM, mid-30's, 5'11, 140lbs., good looking, slender, dark-brown/hair, blue/eyes, mustache, bottom, somewhat hairy. ISO M, hot top, hairy daddy, who knows what he wants and how to get it. (Call Thru) Box# 4724

GBM, 27, professional, looking to meet people, friends, for movies, theatre, and shows. Box# 7458

M, blonde hair, blue eyes. Give me a call, let me know what's going on with you today! (Call Thru) Box# 9687

Mike, 41, 6', 200lbs., body builder, open, willing to do almost anything. ISO M, for friendship, developing into long term/sexual relationship. (Call Thru) Box# 8725

Dave, 6', 32 waist, 175lbs., dark hair, clean shaven, musician, and singer, has a boat, lives on the water. Looking for love, and companionship, and someone to share life with. (Call Thru) Box# 3567

LETTERS

Continued from Page 1

my name, address and phone number, telling me someone from Great Expectations, Brookfield, would contact me soon.

As I am not dating or involved with anyone, I thought why not try a different course of action in attempting to meet that one, right person. The people featured in the infomercial for Great Expectations were both singles and couples, though, of course, straight. They spoke of joining this service to meet other people, in a dignified manner, with the hope of perhaps meeting someone to share their life with, maybe marry, but mainly they wanted to try meeting nice, quality people through a different route than they had been trying. Even though nothing was mentioned with regards to Gay and Lesbian dating, I thought: "Who knows? Maybe it's there and available, but they don't openly advertise it?"

In the early evening of Tuesday, September 13th, I received a call from a woman identifying herself as being with Great Expectations in Brookfield. She went on to say they had received information that I had called the toll free number requesting information about their dating service.

She began to talk about what their business offered and it was very obvious to me that she was not aware of the reason of my call and that I am Gay. She didn't specifically mention dating women, or having any involvement with the opposite sex, but indicated to me an ignorance of the situation.

I excused myself and told her of my initial phone call, stating I am Gay. As I realized I had surprised her, I asked her if their business did offer the services I was told were available. She seemed confused, saying "no," she didn't think so, was pretty sure about it, but would check. I was put on hold for a couple of minutes.

A man then picked up the line. There was no introduction, no greeting, no identification as to who he was, but instead, "What can I help you with?" said with a tone, an attitude and a manner that we have all come to recognize as contempt for anyone Gay, different or a situation of misunderstanding about us by too many.

I began explaining my reason for calling, that I was told by the 800 number that Great Expectations did offer same-sex dating service as part of the busi-

ness. I was told, very rudely: "We don't do anything homosexual!"

Repeating what I had initially been told, I was informed, "We don't have anything to do with that homosexual stuff!"

Even though this is 1995 and things have changed greatly, I was angered with this treatment and his offensive attitude. I was told: "We don't have what you're looking for!" My reply: "No, I don't think you do." End of conversation.

I've since forwarded complaints to Mr. Deny Firebaugh, president of Great Expectations, Encino, California, and to the Better Business Bureau, Milwaukee. Not only am I offended by the way in which the conversations was handled and the attitude of negativity towards me as a Gay man, but I am upset and confused with the misrepresentation of Great Expectations.

Todd M. Laehn
Milwaukee

Milwaukee School Board Election

TO THE EDITOR:

As expected, the pressure is on the Milwaukee Board of School Directors. This time, it's from the City Election Commission to reconsider scheduling the December 5th election for District 6. The procedure is the same as it has been the past few years. The radio, TV and newspapers, influenced by the MMAC carry on with their editorials. It seems to work well because the Board usually caves in and the big corporations continue to control the Board.

The issue or excuse this time is \$88,000 which probably wouldn't be an issue if the Board were to donate the money to help build the new stadium. However, since these dollars would be used for an election in order to fill a Board seat as soon as possible, big business is unhappy. After all, with a small turnout, the corporations might lose control.

There is a struggle to control the dollars allocated to the Milwaukee Public Schools. This is why the Milwaukee Board of School Directors must remain independent of both union and corporate control. The decision regarding the election should be up to the Board, not the corporations or the MTEA.

There are educational issues at stake which will impact upon the future of children. A Spring election, separate from a presidential primary will focus on issues that impact public education such as neighborhood schools, decentralization, accountability and much more.

It is important to have the input of all districts during these deliberations before the Board makes decisions regarding the MPS budget. Politics and pressure should be put aside to ensure that all districts are represented.

Sandra Small
Milwaukee Board of School Directors
Milwaukee

Dykes To Watch Out For



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Depressed? Forget Prozac. Natural, effective amino acid remedy explained in my new publication. "Overcoming Depression Naturally: An Orthomolecular Basis for Self-esteem, Resilience and Joy" by J. Fontenot. \$12. Prima Materia Publications, 522 Maple Ave., Madison, WI 53704

Housing/Share

Housemate Wanted—Madison
Own Room in house on southwest side. Share with two women (1 Gay, 1 not). Both older students. Close to Arboretum, shopping, and on E-Bus line. We have developed creative ways to get around UW parking problem. \$250 + utilities. Ruth (608) 273-4269

Personals - Men

Increase The Odds
The chances of us meeting at the office, on the street, or even at a bar are small, so increase the odds and write today. I'm tall, goodlooking, 35, nonsmoking, romantic, and lots of other things! Send your photo and I'll send mine. It's kinda like lotto: ya gotta play to win. Boxholder, Box 365, Evanston, IL 60204-0365

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Milwaukee bar for sale. Tavern. Est. business, parking lot. Confidential inquiries to: Wisconsin Light, Box 70, 1843 N. Palmer. Milwaukee, WI 53212. Replies will be forwarded.

Organizations

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

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

Foot Buddies! A club for men into feet, shoes, socks, boots, tickling and related clothing. For info, write: SOLFB, P.O. Box 558, Lake Villa, IL 60046

To Miss America, Thanks For Everything, Kiki the Winner of Atlantic City's Crown

Atlantic City, NJ—You've heard of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert? Hold on to your rhinestone crown: Here's Kiki, queen of the Boardwalk.

She's 6 foot 4 in heels, wears a crushed velvet top to die for and fights a losing battle masking her pesky facial hair. And can she ever lip-synch!

Roll over, Miss America Pageant. It's the Miss'd America Pageant, a lavish spoof in which female impersonators vie for the coveted title, a rhinestone crown and a \$300 gift certificate at a store that carries women's shoes in men's sizes up to 16.

"Drag queens can never get big-enough shoes," said organizer John J. Schultz, a Gay city councilman who owns the bar where the event is held.

Six blocks and a world away from Convention Hall, the pageant is scheduled each year on the night after that other one. The benefit's proceeds go to the South Jersey AIDS Alliance.

"It's everything you expect from Miss America and maybe a little less. It approaches the line of good taste and boldly leaps over it," said judge David Spatz, an entertainment writer and local TV personality.

If it all seems familiar, you may be thinking of the movie *To Wong Foo, Thanks For Everything!* Julie Newmar, which had the biggest box-office take for a second consecutive week.

In the movie, Patrick Swayze and Wesley Snipes win a drag queen beauty pageant in New York City and set off for California to compete in a national pageant.

The Atlantic City parody, which drew a capacity crowd of 400 people Sunday night, September 17, tips its feather-bow headdress to the other one in more ways than one.

Contestants competed in evening gown and talent, but not swimsuits. A former winner showed up to perform. The reigning queen, decked out in a gold lame cocktail dress, took her farewell walk, but down a rickety wooden runway.

These were no earnest, bright-eyed beauties,

but many were in comic drag. Miss Perfectly Disgusting, for example, and Chunky Marina, were both 280-pounders squished into a V-necked cocktail dresses; Miss Perfectly Rotten wore a red sequined dress, blonde wig and glittering earrings that hung to her shoulders; Miss Perfectly Stupid wore a shimmering multicolored gown with red, green and blue beads on top.

Kiki, a 24-year-old casino worker, performed a medley of Janet Jackson songs, donning a microphone equipped headset and gyrating lasciviously. The crowd, which was 75 percent heterosexual this night, was in stitches.

She won out over the other six, prompting a catty response from fans of Joy, who delivered a showstopping version of Patti LaBelle doing "Over the Rainbow."

When the judges delivered their decision, Kiki's painted lips opened wide in a gasp. Then came the song as she accepted her crown and roses and headed down the runway, practically falling off her high heels.

The song sounded oh-so familiar. Only different.

"Boy, have we missed America/The good times now, are here to stay/We picked a true beauty, she took the crown by storm/God knows what she's stuffed in her Maidenform/So there she is. . . Miss'd America," the drag queen host crooned to the new winner.

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

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