



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

The Wisconsin Light

*Season's
Greetings*



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Christmas,
Hollywood
and the Stars
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News Briefs

World Bank Warns About AIDS Epidemic in Asia

Bangkok-AP-Asian countries must invest heavily in AIDS control programs now, while the epidemic is still in its early stages, the World Bank says. "The center of gravity of the infection is shifting from Africa to Asia," said a health advisor of the bank, Dr. Richard Feacham. "But both large and small countries in Asia have the opportunity to take effective action now and avoid facing a crisis in the future." While eight in ten infections worldwide occur in developing countries, only 10% of global expenditure to fight the infection is spent in these countries, Feacham said.

"With 60% of the world's population, Asia will come to dominate the HIV picture in terms of total numbers infected," said another bank specialist, Dr. Michael Porter.

300 March on 17th Anniversary of Milk's Death

San Francisco-AP-Harvey Milk, San Francisco's first openly Gay supervisor and Mayor George Moscone, were assassinated on November 27, 1978 by former supervisor Dan White. White was later convicted of manslaughter, served five years in prison and committed suicide after his release. Each year since the killings, the Harvey Milk Democratic Club sponsors a candlelight vigil that begins in the Castro and ends at City Hall.

This year, about 300 marched quietly down Market Street, some holding the edge of the Rainbow Flag in one hand and a candle in the other. "Tonight we are here to remember when that first flame of the candle was lit for us. That candle was Harvey Milk," said Lawrence Wong, a member of the community college district board. Wong said that Milk would have wanted all oppressed groups to unite "so that the flame would burn so fiercely it would blind our enemies. That was Harvey Milk's dream."

Man Convicted in Murder of Gay Man

Houston-AP-A former high school football star, who with some teammates had gone to a Gay bar district to rob patrons, now faces a death sentence in the killing of a 29-year-old Gay man.

Demarco McCullum was convicted on November 30th in the July, 1994, shooting death of Michael J. Burzinski. Jurors returned to court on December 1st to decide if McCullum should die or spend the rest of his life in prison.

The former Aldine High School Mustang quarterback was just weeks away from reporting to Tyler Junior College on a football scholarship when the murder occurred. According to witnesses, McCullum wanted to rob a Gay man because he thought Gay men were "weak and rich." Burzinski was forced into a car, robbed, beaten and taken to a deserted spot where he was made to kneel and shot in the back of the head. After which, McCullum and his friends played dominos until dawn.

Honolulu Recognizes Domestic Partners

Honolulu, HI-AP-The Honolulu City Council has introduced a resolution that would forbid council members from hiring the immediate family of their "significant others." The proposal comes on the heels of a debate over councilman Andy Mirikitani's hiring of his girlfriend's son. If the rule is approved, as it is expected to be, it would apply to same-sex domestic partners as well. The resolution defines a domestic partner as "an adult, unrelated by blood, with whom a council member has an exclusive, committed relationship, maintains a mutual residence and shares the cost of basic living expenses." Current rules apply only to opposite-sex relationships and blood family members.

Study Shows AIDS Growing Relentlessly

Des Moines, IA-AP-The incidence of AIDS is continuing relentlessly growth in Iowa, with the greatest increases coming in the heterosexual population, a new study has shown. While Gay man and IV drug users remain the dominant victims of the disease, the number of straights becoming infected is steadily on the rise.

"We still have roughly 7,000 to 10,000 Iowans a year who come down with sexually transmitted diseases," said Kevin Teale, a spokesman for the Iowa Department of Public Health. "The only way you get those is unprotected sex. The message of universal precaution still needs to get through to some people," he said.

HIV infection continues to hit hardest at minority communities, the report said. While African-Americans make up 2% of Iowa's population, they make up 7% of the AIDS cases.

Teale said that people who have unprotected sex because they are straight, don't do drugs and think they can't become infected "are playing Russian roulette."

Gay-Themed Book to Return to School Libraries

Kansas City, KS-AP-A critically acclaimed book about two teenage girls who fall in love with each other cannot be banned from high school library shelves in the Olathe School District, a federal judge has ruled. Judge G. Thomas Van Bebber on November 29th said school board members violated the First Amendment when they removed the book, *Annie on My Mind* in January, 1994 because they disagreed with the book's Lesbian content.

"The court's decision is a necessary reminder that there is no room for small-minded bigotry in our public schools," said Marjorie Heins, an ACLU lawyer in the case.

Nancy Garden, who wrote the book in the 1970's, testified in the trial that she meant the book to show children that being Lesbian or Gay does not doom them to a sad and miserable life. The Massachusetts author laughed with pleasure when she heard the ruling.

School Board president Robert Drummond who also testified in the case said that "homosexuality is a mental disorder that leads to a destructive life. The bible says it is a sin," he told the court.

Hate-Free Zone Meets Opposition in Montana

Bozeman, MT-AP-The campaign to create a Hate-Free Zone in Montana is under attack as a scheme to undermine the constitutional right of free speech. Militia of Montana spokeswoman Kamala Webb and the Rev. Richard Crow of the Temple Baptist Church claimed that those who want a Hate-Free Zone are trying to silence opponents of Gay people.

"People who speak out against homosexuality are worried about it because it sounds like in a Hate-Free Zone you can't condemn the fags without violating the Hate-Free Zone," Crow said. "That robs people of their First Amendment Rights." Gay sex in Montana is against the law, though that law is seldom, if ever, enforced.

Amendment 2 and You

Washington, D.C.-The Supreme Court's decision on Colorado's anti-Gay Amendment 2 will reverberate for Gays and Lesbians across the country. On October 9th, the Court heard arguments on the constitutionality of the amendment. The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) helped coordinate hundreds of activists nationwide in demonstrations in an "Undo 2 Day of Action."

Planning is now underway for a coordinated response the day the decision is rendered (expected anytime between January and June). NGLTF is asking the community to once again be prepared to raise its collective voice in demonstration or celebration. Call Field Organizer Tracey Conaty at (202) 332-6483, ext. 3303 to learn what you can do.

Right Wing Religionists Keep Gay Christians Out of Christmas Parade

Key West, FL-AP-Singing the Christmas carol "O' Come All Ye Faithful," some 200 Gay churchgoers held a prayer vigil Saturday, December 2nd to protest their exclusion from the city's annual Christmas parade. About 400 people dressed as angels and shepherds marched past the vigil; the parade also had five floats and proceeded peacefully down Duval Street. The parade's organizer, the Lower Keys Ministerial Association, has angered many residents by refusing to allow the predominantly Gay Metropolitan Community Church from participating.

So the church and many Gay groups held a vigil to "express a message to those hateful Right Wingers what love, togetherness, and Christmas are all about," said a statement released by the Lambda Coalition.

Some vigil participants held signs proclaiming, "Jesus protect me from your followers," and "The Christian right is neither."

At Lucky Street Gallery, owner Dianne Zolotow painted the words "Jesus Wept" in red, dripping paint. In front of the Bourbon Street Pub, people held signs that said, "God does not discriminate." But the parade itself proceeded peacefully down Duval Street.

Kitty Barber, Milwaukee Lesbian Activist, Wounded at End of Madison Police Chase

By Terry Boughner

Milwaukee—The Milwaukee Lesbian and Gay community was shocked and saddened to learn that Kitty Barber had been wounded by Madison police at the end of a high speed chase 2:00 a.m. Friday morning, December 1st.

Barber was a long-time Lesbian and Feminist activist in the Milwaukee community, making enormous contributions to a wide variety of organizations. For example, she was a founder in 1989, and spokesperson for the Lesbian Alliance of Metro Milwaukee (LAMB), the strongest Lesbian or Gay organization in the state.

Barber and Gotzler also ran Midwest Women's Music Distributors, a wholesaler of music by and about women.

She played a key role in the reorganization of Milwaukee's Women's Coalition and worked tirelessly to promote a positive image of Lesbians and Gay men among the mainstream population. She was also a nationally known singer and songwriter.

Barber had moved to Madison to attend Law School at UWM.

According to police reports, police spotted Barber's minivan speeding and began chasing her. They said she raced east onto East Washington Avenue which turns into Highway 151. Officers from the Wisconsin State Patrol, Capitol Police and the Dane County Sheriff's Department joined the pursuit as the minivan reached Sun Prairie and then headed west on State Highway 19.

Twenty minutes into the chase, Barber stopped at a SuperAmerica parking lot in the town of Windsor.

Officers said Barber emerged from the van and put a gun to her head, said Dane County sheriff's Lt. Steve Gilmore. She was ordered to drop her handgun, but refused. Instead, she aimed her gun at an officer, prompting a second officer to fire at her.

The first officer then accidentally slipped to the ground while Barber aimed at him from a distance of five to eight feet. When she ignored further orders to drop her weapon, five officers fired numerous rounds, hitting her five times.

Barber was shot in the chest, abdomen and leg.

She was taken to University Hospital in Madison where she was listed in critical condition. Karen Gotzler, Barber's former partner, rushed to be by her side.

By Sunday, December 3rd, Barber's condition was upgraded from critical to serious. She was reported to have had further surgery on December 5th.

As we go to press, the report is that Barber went through surgery well and is in stable condition. Gotzler remains by her side.

Barber is much beloved in the Milwaukee Lesbian and Gay community. Numerous people called *Light* to express their sorrow at what had happened and to wonder why.

Mike Higgins, 44, speaking to the *Wisconsin State Journal*, said that she had been sick for about three weeks this semester and was "way, way behind" in her studies and was



KITTY BARBER

feeling the pressure because finals were less than two weeks away.

Those familiar with graduate work of any kind realize what a pressure chamber grad school can be. "It's an endurance contest," one student told *Light*.

Higgins agreed, saying that many students are overly stressed. "There should be some real soul searching going on (by the administration)," he said.

Barber was interested in either becoming a criminal defense attorney or a prosecutor, Higgins said.

Gilmore said police don't know why Barber wouldn't stop after officers gave chase. Madison police spokesman Brian Ackeret said Barber wasn't a normal speeder.

"It appears as if she knowingly passed a marked squad car traveling at a high rate of speed," Ackeret said. "This is not a typical speeding violation."

Reporter's Note: I first met Kitty Barber at a party in 1988, when we had both gone out on a porch to smoke. She was a friendly person, one with a wry sense of humor and a twinkle in her eye.

Subsequently, I appeared with Kitty on a WISN radio show—one very cold and snowy night. Again I loved her humor, her charm and easy way she had about her.

But I also knew Kitty as a determined and dedicated fighter for civil rights. There was none better, none more fervent in her determination to achieve equal rights.

Wisconsin Light wishes Kitty the very best and joins with the entire community in hoping for her speedy recovery. We need you, Kitty, we need you bad.

Those wishing to send a card to Kitty can do so by sending it to her at University Hospital, TLCS 10, 600 Highland Avenue, Madison, WI 53792.

ARCW/MASN Strongly Oppose Legislation Permitting Discrimination in Housing

Milwaukee—Proposed legislation that would legalize some types of housing discrimination is meeting with strong opposition.

At a recent public hearing, the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin (ARCW) and the Madison AIDS Support Network (MASN) told lawmakers that "with as many as 30% of our clients living in housing affected by AB-662, its permissible discrimination against people with AIDS and others will worsen the plight of people with AIDS in Wisconsin attempting to secure safe, stable housing."

AB-662 would permit owner-occupiers of dwellings with four or fewer independent living units to discriminate based on age, ancestry, color, disability, family status, lawful source of income, marital status, national origin, race, religion, sex or sexual orientation of another person.

Sources well placed in both Milwaukee and Madison have told *Light* that AB-662 is a "hatchling" of the Religious Right and ultra-conservatives within the Assembly; the first step in rolling back hard-won civil rights gained over the years.

Political observers in both Madison and Milwaukee have told *Light* that the fear is that if AB-662 passed, other civil rights laws, including the Gay rights law, would be in danger.

At a hearing of the Assembly Committee on Housing held Thursday, November 20th, ARCW joined with over 20 individuals and organizations in opposition to AB-662.

"The out-pouring of opposition to this proposed legislation was overwhelming. Committee members got a clear message—this bill is a giant step backwards from Wisconsin's proud history of fair housing," said ARCW's Mike Gifford.

ARCW spokespeople reported at the hearing that 65% or more of its clients seek help each year to obtain safe, stable housing or to maintain their current housing situation and well over 800 of its clients are in jeopardy of becoming homeless each year. At the hearing Gifford claimed that AB-662 is a retreat in the AIDS epidemic because:

- People living with HIV/AIDS who are homeless or have unstable housing conditions are less likely to access medical care including HIV intervention and medications for the prevention of opportunistic infections. Bypassing early, regular medical care for HIV increases the cost of AIDS care;
- With the reduction of housing availability, people with HIV/AIDS are likely to be forced into high cost hospital or nursing home care to meet their housing needs.

"ARCW and MASN joined forces to aggressively oppose this bill and send the definite signal to the Assembly that the AIDS epidemic is worsening and this legislation will impede our efforts to help people living with HIV/AIDS," said Gifford.

No Committee vote was taken on AB-662 and no further action is scheduled.

Gifford said that after talking with both Republicans and Democrats, the hope is that AB-662 will proceed no further.

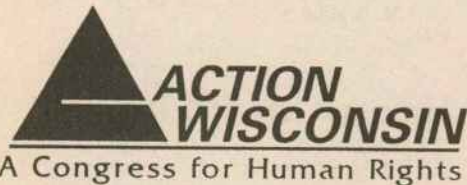
Everyone is encouraged to contact their State Representative by calling 1-800-362-9472 to express their opinion.



Action Wisconsin Convenes Blue Ribbon Planning Committee to Guide its Growth

Madison—Action Wisconsin has convened a "blue ribbon" Strategic Planning Committee to guide its growth. The Board of Directors has decided that, like many organizations, Action Wisconsin needs a "Plan 2000"—a plan for where the organization is going to be in one year and in the year 2000. The strategic Planning Committee will assist the Board in designing not only where the organization wants to go, but how to get there.

The Board of Directors wants Action Wisconsin to be politically powerful in every region in the state.



As Vice President Don Buzanowski said, "The GLBT lobby in this state needs to be as powerful as any other. We need to let our elected officials know that Gay and Lesbian people live in their districts and vote. And that we are organized to protect the rights we already have and to seek more."

President Juliet Brodie added, "We also need to have the power to be a force in the private sector. We want to praise companies that recognize our families, for example, with domestic partnership policies, and publicize it when companies take action against us."

"Just as in politics, we have influence to wield in business. The GLBT market is substantial and government and the private sector both need to know that we will protect our right to be treated with dignity."

Action Wisconsin Debates Ralph Ovadal of the Radical Religious Right Wing

By Juliet Brodie

On October 19, 1995, as President of Action Wisconsin, I had the dubious distinction of debating Ralph Ovadal, the president of Wisconsin Christians United (WCU), on Madison local cable access television show, "Ground Zero."

Ovadal, well-known as Wisconsin's major mouthpiece for the Radical Right, believes that homosexuality is a sin; that homosexual conduct should be criminal; and that the laws of the United States, and of Wisconsin, should reflect what he thinks is the law of God.

He takes pity on "homosexuals," likens us to alcoholics, and believes that "depravity begets depravity," suggesting that those of us who commit the "depraved" acts of homosexuality are more likely than straight people to commit other depraved acts like child sexual abuse and bestiality.

Ovadal is personally insulting (he actually told me on the air that he thinks I "need Jesus desperately"), and utterly beyond the reach of rational debate.

Worse, though, he is frightening; he represents our worst nightmare of an America captured by narrow-minded bigots who can't tell the difference between their personal interpretation of the Bible and the Constitution of the United States.

Ovadal does not want equal justice for all under the law; he wants everyone to be just like him: heterosexual and Christian.

And, while there's nothing wrong with being either of those things, there is plenty wrong with imposing his values (in the name of God) on the rest of us. It's downright unAmerican!

Ovadal knows that Action Wisconsin is on the move. The literature he distributes demonstrates a knowledge of our meetings and what we stand for, indicating that his followers either read The Light or infiltrate our meetings.

As far as I am concerned, that is great. We have nothing to hide and it shows how powerful we have become. Action Wisconsin is on the move—we are here to ensure that the civil rights that we do enjoy in Wisconsin are protected from the repeal efforts of zealots like Ovadal in Colorado, Maine and Oregon.

We are here to enhance those rights by working for same-gender marriage, for the extension of "real" benefits to domestic partners, for federal protection from employment discrimination.

We are here to support GLBT youth, to work against AIDS and to support other organizations that do all this important work.

We are here to work in coalition with people of color, people with disabilities, people across class lines, everyone whose rights are jeopardized by the rise of the Radical Right.

Ralph Ovadal sounds like a joke when he talks about the laws of the United States being subordinate to the laws of God (as Ovadal interprets "God," of course). But the Radical Right is no joke.

Our recent victory in Maine, where the voters rejected by a large margin an attempt to keep Gay rights laws off the books, should not make us drop our guard. We must stay united, stay vigilant, work together across race, class and gender lines, to make sure that the Ovadals of this world—and the Pat Robert-

To be maximally effective, the Board of Directors wants to see Action Wisconsin with thousands of members, an office, a staff, and the ability to travel statewide.

Of course, all this takes not only money, but membership and leadership development. The members of the Strategic Planning Committee are leaders from all quarters, with skills in fundraising, membership building, corporate relations, community activism and grassroots politics.

Members of the Committee include: State Rep. Tammy Baldwin (D-Madison); Cathy Woolard, Deputy Policy Director, Human Rights Campaign; Chris Ahmuty, Director, ACLU-Wisconsin; Brett Hulsey, Director, Sierra Club of Wisconsin; Tom Reed, Director of Public Affairs, Miller Brewing; Stan Kocas, Director, Center Project; Larry Marx, Wisconsin Citizen Action; Nadine Badger, People for the American Way; Mary Jean Collins, People for the American Way; Woody Carey, retired clergy; Steve Starkey, Director, Wisconsin Community Foundation; Joanne Elder, PFLAG; Dale Johnson, former president, United; Catherine Ratte, former president, Dane County Rape Crisis Center; Betsy Abramson, Director, Elder Law Center; Karen Gotzler, Human Rights League; Margaret McMurray, former president, Wisconsin NOW; and Rich Fluetchling, United Church of Christ, Committee on Gay and Lesbian Issues.

Action Wisconsin is confident that this team of planners will take the organization securely into the future, making it ready to keep fighting the Radical Right and to enhance GLBT rights throughout the state.

sons, the Fred Phelps, and the Phil Gramms—do not set our movement back.

Action Wisconsin is the only statewide GLBT political organization in the state. Working in coalition with other organizations, we are on our way to becoming the umbrella group that will be part of the powerful nationwide Gay movement for civil rights.

In addition to debating Ovadal, here is some of what we have been up to in the past six months:

1. Traveling to Washington, D.C. to meet with several members of Wisconsin's Congressional delegation to introduce them to Action Wisconsin as the only statewide GLBT organization, to thank them for their support of ENDA (the federal non-discrimination bill) and to alert them to possible negative Congressional action if our right to marry is upheld in Hawaii;
2. Having regular regional meetings in most regions to discuss and strategize around local issues;
3. Speaking engagements around the state about the importance of GLBT statewide organizing;
4. Representing Wisconsin in national Gay rights struggles;
5. Co-sponsoring the appearance in Madison of Candace Gingrich, Lesbian sister of House Speaker Newt Gingrich, as part of her 51-city National Coming Out tour;
6. Working closely with leaders of the Human Rights Campaign (HRC) so that Action Wisconsin is recognized by the leading Gay rights groups in Washington.

If you are not already, you need to be a part of Action Wisconsin. We have a large and growing membership and we want to be able to tell our elected officials, private industry, school boards, etc., that we represent everyone in Wisconsin who supports our Action Agenda to support and advance GLBT equal rights. Annual membership dues are on a sliding scale. The important thing is that you get involved.

Ralph Ovadal is no idiot to be following Action Wisconsin. He knows that the GLBT movement in Wisconsin is making significant gains and is only getting stronger. Be a part of it. Tell Ovadal what America really stands for: equal justice for all. Be a part of the Action!

To get involved, write us at: P.O. Box 342, Madison, WI 53701-0342; or call, (608) 231-1099.

Designing Men
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New Studies With Weakened HIV Give Some Hope for Eventual AIDS Vaccine

Washington, D.C.—There is increased hope that a live AIDS vaccine might one day work in light of seven Australians whose immune systems remain healthy despite up to 14 years of infection with the AIDS virus.

The Australians have a genetically weak strain of the HIV virus that until now had been found in only one other person in the world and coincidentally is almost identical to a synthetic strain that U.S. researchers developed as a possible AIDS vaccine.

Scientists urged caution, noting there's no proof people with weak HIV will never get AIDS. That's vital to know before they'll risk giving a healthy person a live HIV vaccine.

"This extraordinary experiment of nature ... makes you think again about the feasibility of a live attenuated vaccine," said Dr. Anthony Fauci of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases. "But it doesn't necessarily take us any closer to having an attenuated live vaccine."

Still, "our hope is that by continuing to identify these kinds of individuals, society's going to say, 'Yes, we really need a vaccine,'" said Dr. John Sullivan of the University of Massachusetts. "With a new HIV infection occurring in the world every 15 seconds ... how long will we wait?"

More immediately, the findings help explain why some people maintain healthy immune systems beyond the 10 years it typically takes HIV to turn deadly, wrote Nicholas Deacon of Australia's Macfarlane Burnet Centre for Medical Research. Deacon chronicled the study in today's edition of the journal *Science*.

The Australians' HIV is missing parts of a gene called *nef*. Scientists believe *nef* spurs HIV to reproduce frantically until it overwhelms patients' immune systems—and if *nef* doesn't work right, immune cells can control HIV just as they fight most viruses.

"These data show that survival after HIV infection can be determined by the HIV genome," Deacon concluded.

Only a very, very small percentage of the 17 million people infected worldwide stay healthy beyond a decade.

Killed HIV virus isn't strong enough to use as an AIDS vaccine, and scientists fear a shot containing live but weakened virus—the kind used against most diseases—could sicken people instead of preventing AIDS.

Three years ago, Dr. Ronald Desrosiers of the New England Primate Research Center

removed the entire *nef* gene from the monkey version of HIV to create a powerful vaccine that protected adult monkeys. But development slowed when other scientists discovered the shot infected baby monkeys.

In January, 1995, Desrosiers and Sullivan discovered missing *nef* pieces in a 44-year-old American whose immune system was healthy after 12 years of HIV infection.

One case did little to impress skeptics. Now there's stronger evidence.

An HIV-infected man donated blood to the Sydney Bloodbank 14 years ago that infected seven other Australians. One already had severe lupus and died of that disease in 1987. But the others have normal immune systems, no HIV symptoms and little virus in their blood, Deacon reported.

The HIV infecting the Australians is missing different portions of the *nef* gene than the American lacked, prompting Sullivan to urge that other long-term HIV survivors be tested.

There are good reasons to wait, Fauci countered. The body eventually sheds most viruses and the vaccines that incorporate them, but "HIV integrates itself into the genome of the cell so it's with you forever," he explained.

In addition, HIV constantly mutates, so a weak strain might get stronger, he said.

Omar Perez of the National Association of People With AIDS said a vaccine must be developed very cautiously and tested only in people at very high risk of catching HIV.

Therion Biologics Corp., which licensed Desrosiers' vaccine, hopes to start testing such people within five years.

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The Volunteers, who are the BESTD Clinic in Milwaukee, gratefully acknowledge the partnership and cooperation of the following organizations and establishments during 1995 in our mutual effort to help curb the spread of HIV:

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Boot Camp
Eighth Street School, MPS
Galano Club
La Cage
MATC- Downtown Campus
PrideFest '95
Sherman Park Rainbow Association
Tri-Center School
Wreck Room

Alverno College School of Nursing
Club 219
1100 Club
Just Us
LINKS Block Party
M&M Club
ShermanFest
3B's Bar
UWM Health Fair

Thank You!

Brady East STD Clinic
1240 East Brady Street
Milwaukee, WI 53202
414/272-2144





Editor's Note

Christmas Memories

By Terry Boughner

The build-up to the holidays (Christmas in my tradition) was always the most exciting time of the year. My mother would sigh and say that I was "on strings." And why not? The signs of the approaching season began then, as now, early and increased with each passing day.

In September, my mother made her fruitcakes, preparing the heavy, dark brown batter in the large pot reserved exclusively for that purpose. After baking and filling the whole house with their deliciously sweet aroma, they would be wrapped in foil and stored away in an upstairs cupboard. An apple was nestled among them to keep them moist. Just to open that cupboard was to smell Christmas on the way.

But it was right after Thanksgiving that things really picked up. Then would come the annual trip "into town." (That meant Pittsburgh 12 miles distant. Going "down street" meant McKeesport only 3 miles away.)

My mother and I would go in by trolley to meet my father after work. While she disappeared, my father's duty was to keep me busy. He would take me to see the electric trains, the windows in Gimbels, to ride the "moving stairways" and to visit Santa Claus.

Always, always before she left us, Mom would say to my father, "What do you want me to get for your sister?"

My father would normally reply, "Merion, I don't care. Nothing would be alright with me." She would give him a disparaging look and off she would go in a whisk of skirts.

But one time, I remember, when I was about 9 or 10, he replied through a chuckle, "Why not a box of Kotex?"

"Dan, the boy!" my mother hissed.

She needn't have worried. For one thing, I knew what Kotex were and, for another, I'd bearly heard. I was too busy looking at a clerk, a young man, who I thought was cute, but didn't know why.

After that, in the weeks to come, things speeded up. There was my mother's cookie cutter cookies—sugar and ginger and anise ones with their designs rolled into them. I will never taste their like again.

On Christmas morning, my other, as usual, would proclaim the house "a wreck" adding that her most fervent hope was we could get through dinner without anyone dropping in.

Her hope was never fulfilled. Never, in all the time that I lived at home, did we ever have an uninterrupted Christmas meal.

Nor was there ever a time when I didn't hear my mother say to whoever was at the door, "Come in, Come in. Merry Christmas. We were just finishing." This, when most likely, we had just sat down.

All that is memory now, but one thing has not changed. I still love Christmas. No, "love" isn't the word, really. I adore it.

I am absolutely enthralled by its magic, its mystery, its ethereal beauty, its music and its lights. I revel in the sense I still retain that Christmas Eve is a night of miracles, the most wondrous night of the entire year.

Even in these, my cynical years, every Christmas Eve, I still glance up and would not be surprised to see a sleigh and reindeer skimming across the sky. I haven't seen them yet, but there is a peace that comes only on Christmas Eve, a hushed expectancy that makes me shiver with delight.

And I love the traditions that Jerry and I try and maintain. Some come from his childhood, some from mine, but we manage somehow to put them together as we have ourselves. That's one of the beauties of married life.

This Christmas, as with the others, we will be surrounded by family, our family, Jerry's and mine, our Gay and Lesbian family, and no less a family for that.

As the tree glows softly in the background and the candles gleam, we will all gather round the table to tuck into the "groaning board." We will talk with each other as families do, of shared experiences, bonds which bring us all together once again.

This is the marvelous thing about Lesbian and Gay families, I think. It is not an accident of birth which brings us together, it is experiences that make us friends and then transcend friendship to something more sacred yet.

Those who speak disparagingly of the "Gay lifestyle," should come and see us on Christmas night. What they would find is a family, happy, joking with each other, laughing, having a warm and contented time as Gay people do.

They would find guests, Lesbian, Gay and straight, young and old, coming in at the door, smiling, rosy-cheeked, calling out "Merry Christmas" or "Happy Holidays" depending on their wont.

In the meantime and before, Jerry will murmur a hope that we can get through a dinner—just this once—before the guests arrive. It won't happen. My mother could have told him that. But who cares?

So to our detractors I would say that this is the "Gay lifestyle," a home redolent of tradition, a family. This is what it is and this is what it can be.

As we approach the holiday season, the build-up is the same and I am still "on strings." The ancient carols are playing, the tree stands in the outer hall waiting to be trimmed. The board and train are ready to go down. Soon, Jerry and I will begin our baking (not together. God, no! He and I in one kitchen?! Heaven forbid!).

It is Christmas, a Gay Christmas. Jerry joins me in saying to all of you, "Come in, come in. Merry Christmas! We're just finishing up."

STRONGEST ORGANIZATION OF THE LESBIAN AND GAY COMMUNITY IN THE STATE!

After serving for many years with LAMM, Karen moved on and helped form the Human Rights League for Lesbian and Gay Rights (HRL). She was the founding Lesbian Co-Chair of HRL. She worked to develop the organizational bylaws, helping to keep the important balance of power within the organization, while recognizing the need for ever aspect of the community to be a part of HRL.

While part of HRL, Karen has been involved in many meetings with top public officials. Karen exerts her leadership abilities when meeting with top officials in the Police Department, the Fire and Police Commission, and the Mayor's Office.

Karen has worked on many ad hoc committees as a representative of our community, including the Milwaukee Civil Right Committee, the Community Action Council, and Faye Anderson's Peace Commission.

Karen has also worked on behalf of HRL and our community in training over 600 police recruits on Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual issues.

Karen has done this while maintaining her own personal life. She has her own record label, Ice-Bergg Records, promoting Lesbian and Gay music, while, at the same time, producing many artists and concerts.

Karen was able to develop and maintain a personal relationship for over eight years. Together with her partner, they purchased and developed many inner city homes, which were then rented to low income people. This is consistent with Karen's current job, working on the Governor's Inner City Initiative Program.

Obviously, Karen Gotzler has been leading our community for many years, while working to better the city of Milwaukee for all its inhabitants. I believe that the Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual community, as well as the entire city of Milwaukee, has no better choice than to support and elect Karen Gotzler as the Alderwoman of the Third District.

No other person running, whether a member of our community or not, has the same qualifications or strength that Karen Gotzler has.

So, vote for our community, vote for the city of Milwaukee, VOTE KAREN GOTZLER.

Scott D. Gunkel
Milwaukee

A Time for Harmony

TO THE EDITOR:

BestD Clinic as an agency, admires and applauds both Karen Gotzler and Steve Rose for putting their hats in the ring as openly Gay and Lesbian candidates in the Third Aldermanic District race. BestD volunteers, in many cases, will personally support and work for, one or the other, since choices must be made.

BestD Clinic as a non-profit corporation, however, must and will remain politically neutral and silent in this and all other political races at all levels. While the Clinic appreciates recognition and fund raising efforts on its behalf by others, including political candidates, this must not be viewed as BestD support or an endorsement.

Even though choices will be made, it is our hope that, especially within the Queer Community, they can be made without divisiveness or hostility. When the race is over, winners, losers and all of their supporters should be able to unite toward strengthening and supporting OUR Community. It takes everybody to get the job done!

Ross B. Walker
BestD Clinic President
Milwaukee

Letters

On Frank Sinatra

TO THE EDITOR:

I wanted to share with you not only my love for the music of Frank Sinatra, but also my love for the man. As a member of the International Sinatra Society (HQ in Lakeland, Florida), I receive a monthly magazine from the fan club. In the most recent one was a reprint of an article about his upcoming (December 12th) 80th birthday. There will be an ABC TV Special airing on December 14th entitled "Sinatra: 80 Years My Way."

Frank has always been a supporter of charities and champion of the underdog and minorities (he won an Oscar for this role in 1945's *The House I Live In*, a short subject that preaches racial and religious tolerance—novel ideas 50 years ago.)

The best news of all is that proceeds from the ABC special will not only go to the Barbara Sinatra Children's Center, a facility for abused children, but also to AIDS Project Los Angeles!

Not only is Frank Sinatra pop music's greatest star, but he is also a great humanitarian. I fell in love—head over heels—when a Gay friend introduced me to him in 1989. I came out to myself that year, and Sinatra's wonderful voice has been a backdrop to my life ever since. Anyone who ever heard him sing "We Kiss in the Shadow" knows how this can be so.

Many of Sinatra's fine, romantic ballads from the 1940's have sexually ambiguous lyrics. The slender, gorgeous young Sinatra ("Frankie") was a very androgynous figure, who appealed strongly not only to females (the bobbysoxers), but also to Gay men of the day. Apart from asserting his own heterosexuality (when asked), Sinatra never sank so low as to demean or condemn Gay people he knew and worked with. Cole Porter was a close friend.

Unlike so many of today's pop/rock/rap singers who seemingly delight in their ignorance, intoler-

ance, bigotry and homophobia, Frank Sinatra remains as he has always been: an American icon for all races, religions, sexes and sexualities. HAPPY BIRTHDAY, FRANK! MANY, MANY MORE!

John A. Jahn
Milwaukee

Support Karen Gotzler

LETTER TO THE EDITOR:

As an activist in the Milwaukee Lesbian and Gay community for over 15 years, I have been part of no less than 15 organizations in the city. I also belong to 17 national organizations. To say the least, I am involved.

I believe that as an activist, I am qualified to speak about Karen Gotzler.

As many of you by now have heard, Karen has entered the Third District Aldermanic race. Many of us in the Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual community know her, as we well should. Karen has been part of the community for well over two decades.

I have worked with her in many organizations that covered many concerns of our community. Karen has always given everything she has to our community. She has been an extremely able and willing supporter of this community.

Karen has been in many organizations, not just as a member, but as a leader of our community. I first had the pleasure of working with Karen as part of the Cream City Business Association (CCBA), which at that time, was the strongest organization in Milwaukee's Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual community. Many of Milwaukee's top political and business leaders recognized CCBA for its community leadership.

Karen helped form the Lesbian Alliance of Metro Milwaukee (LAMM). Karen was the founding president of LAMM, and under her strong leadership, LAMM has become what it is today, THE

An Open Letter to the Community

Everyone at AfterWords is excited and pleased that there are two such qualified, openly Gay and Lesbian candidates such as Steve Rose and Karen Gotzler running for Alderman in the 3rd District.

AfterWords has always sought to create a neutral space, one that equally welcomes all members of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender community.

While AfterWords is located within the 3rd District boundaries and has welcomed campaign materials from all candidates, AfterWords cannot endorse any specific candidate.

We wish both Karen Gotzler and Steve Rose well in all of their campaigning efforts.

Sincerely,
Carl M. Szatmary
Owner

Hooray for PrideFest

TO THE EDITOR:

Wow! What great news to read that PrideFest is moving to the Summerfest grounds. I can think of no better way to thank the PrideFest Committee than to send them a check to help pay for our festival.

Other people can show their thanks by making donations to PrideFest, P.O. Box 93852, Milwaukee, WI 53203.

Patrick Wessels
Milwaukee

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

The Wisconsin Light



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From Peoples' China to Las Vegas, Heads Bow, Lights Dim for World AIDS Day

Milwaukee—Tolling bells, dimmed lights, a muffled statue, the warm clasp of hands. Miniskirted women marching through Tokyo. Somber men bearing crosses in Berlin. A polysyllabic announcement from the United Nations.

Spanning cultures and time zones, Friday, December 1st, was about bearing witness: It was World AIDS Day.

More than 4.5 million people have been infected with the human immunodeficiency virus since the late 1970s, but for Marge Martinez it was the death of one, her son, that drew her to San Francisco's Golden Gate Park.

"It means a lot," said Martinez, whose son died of AIDS earlier this year. "I love my son and I would like to help people with this thing."

Around the world, the call went out for people to help one another.

In Las Vegas, the sybarite capital of the United States, hotels on the Strip dimmed their marquee lights.

At the University of Nevada, lights dimmed, while students gathered with red lights shining to form a ribbon in memory of those who have been lost.

In Oklahoma City, center of the Bible Belt, hundreds of people gathered for a memorial march through downtown.

Despite Right Wing protests, AIDS prevention programs have been required for Oklahoma's public school students since 1987 in the 5th through 12th grades.

"Let us join hands and together bear the responsibility and make our contribution to controlling AIDS in China and the world," China's public health minister, Chen Minzhang, said in the Communist Party newspaper, the *People's Daily*.

A Roman Catholic nun praying at the center of a snowy bridge linking Ottawa and Hull, Canada, saw more linkages.

"It's a way of showing solidarity for people living with AIDS and also for their families and caregivers and everyone that's involved," Claudette Gravelle said as some 250 people formed a human chain across the bridge.

In New York, with more than 60,000 lost, thoughts were of unity as a lone reader began naming the dead at a midnight gathering in City Hall Park. Later, others took turns at five microphones, mingling their voices to suggest the devastation AIDS has wreaked on communities. They continued their somber task for 24

hours. "We have to let the government know that we need help, research and that we are human beings," said one HIV-positive New Yorker at the demonstration, 34-year-old Minerva Soto.

Marking the Day Without Art, Auguste Rodin's sculpture of "The Thinker" in San Francisco was draped in black.

A less visual, if more practical, note was struck at the United Nations in New York, where Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali said the UN's AIDS program will replace the World Health Organization's Global Program on AIDS on Jan. 1.

"UNAIDS will strengthen and expand national capacities to respond to the pandemic whose dangers and dimensions are yet to be fully grasped in many parts of the world," Boutros-Ghali said.

A variety of approaches to raising awareness about AIDS were apparent around the world on Friday.

Smiling, long-haired women wearing matching sweatshirts and short skirts paraded through Tokyo with a heart-shaped red balloon in a Stop AIDS march.

In Vietnam, Ho Chi Minh City allowed an unusual social gathering that welcomed Gays to the local Youth Cultural House. The event included a competition testing people's knowledge of AIDS.

A more dour group took to the streets of Berlin, where men painted dark tears on their cheeks and carried wooden crosses labeled with the names of the dead in a march of mourning.

Moscow planned a huge Stars against AIDS show at the Luzhniki sports stadium, devoted to the memory of rocker Freddie Mercury of Queen and featuring leading Russian pop and rock musicians and dancers.

Such worldwide attention brought hope to some, like actor-producer Paul Michael Glaser of Los Angeles, who has lost his wife and daughter to AIDS.

"There is an opportunity here, there is a gift, there is a choice," Glaser said.

"Whether it's AIDS or cancer or a hurricane, man's mortality is there to teach him, it's there to awaken him. As long as we keep learning, keep searching and trying to learn, that's a blessing."



Don Bohanka

The Milwaukee AIDS Project marked its Tenth Anniversary on December 1st, World AIDS Day, with a luncheon attended by several hundred people at Milwaukee's downtown Hilton Hotel. Shown above is a portion of the display chronicling MAP's first decade.

Feingold Announces Delegate For White House National AIDS Conference

Washington, D.C.—U.S. Senator Russ Feingold (D-WI) has nominated AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin Executive Director Doug Nelson to represent the state at the first-ever White House Conference on HIV and AIDS. The Conference convenes on December 6th.

The purposes of the Conference are to raise public awareness about the impact of the AIDS epidemic; to gain additional information from the conference participants; and for President Clinton to call for additional action on the AIDS epidemic.

"I am pleased that a person with Doug Nelson's experience and conviction will represent our state at the White House Conference," Feingold said. "I know his expertise and commitment will benefit the President, Doug's fellow conferees, and people living with AIDS and their families."

The National Association of People with AIDS (NAPWA) in a press release, commended the President for convening the Conference. However, NAPWA said that it was in disagreement of the goals set forth for the Conference.

The goals and structure are "extremely shortsighted and have the potential to waste precious time. Over 100 Americans will die" during the course of the Conference, NAPWA said.

NAPWA called on the President to implement the final report of the National Commission on AIDS issued in 1993. Further, the group asked for a status update on the execution of Clinton's pre-election promises to the American public on AIDS made in 1992.

Deadlines

As we have done in past years, "Wisconsin Light" will be taking a one-issue break over the holidays. This means that there will be no issue on December 21st.

The Editor will be busy making the editorial corrections on his novel, "The Advent Project," which he intends to bring out in 1996.

Copy deadline for the January 4th issue is December 29th. The ad deadline for that issue is January 2nd.

Copy deadline for the January 18th issue is January 12th. The ad deadline for that issue is January 16th.

In the meantime, may we take this opportunity to wish everyone

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New Government Sponsored AIDS Prevention Ads Target Teens

Washington, D.C.—The government's newest AIDS prevention ads preach the virtues of condoms or abstinence to teen-agers and young adults with in-your-face messages.

The spots reel along like MTV videos, interspersing personal advice from young people with scenes from dance clubs, Greenwich Village and a drug store. They are punctuated by headlines that scream, "Put It On," "Talk About It" and "It's O.K. to Wait to Have Sex."

"If you don't like these ads, you're old," Health and Human Services Secretary Donna E. Shalala said Thursday, unveiling the campaign on the eve of World AIDS Day, December 1st. "These ads ... will save thousands of lives and heartbreak."

The bottom line message is: "Respect Yourself, Protect Yourself."

One public service announcement features Wayne, a Gay man who cheerily insists, "If I'm going to have sex it's going to be protected. ... I'm HIV-negative, and I intend to stay that way."

Another shows Vivian unabashedly buying condoms. "If you have a condom and your partner doesn't, you just say, 'Here, put this on,'" she explains.

A third stresses that appearances are no tipoff to who is infected. "Nobody ever knows that I have AIDS unless I tell them," says Carol, a picture of health.

Some spots promote abstinence, even for those who are not virgins.

"Secondary virginity is what I practice," says Tami. "The next time I have sex will be

when I get married."

The Family Research Council, a Right Wing Religious group, branded all the spots, except the abstinence ad, irresponsible.

The others "begin with the flawed premise that there is nothing wrong or harmful about teenagers having sex as long as they use a condom," said Gracie Hsu, a policy analyst for the ultra conservative lobbying group. The government should not "give its imprimatur for teens to have sex."

But the Rev. Kenneth T. South, executive director of the AIDS National Interfaith Network, said that while the spots may seem to promote sex outside marriage, it would be "heinous for the federal government to withhold life saving information ... to reduce the spread of this epidemic."

Shalala said, "Young adults are the group that's at risk. You've got to go directly at them and be very clear."

AIDS is caused by a deadly virus for which there is no known cure. A half-million Americans have contracted the disease and 300,000 have died. It is the leading killer of those aged 25 to 44.

The government spent \$400,000 to create the spots, developed by the ad agency Ogilvy & Mather.

An earlier round of AIDS prevention ads got \$30 million worth of free air time since their January, 1994 introduction, the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimated.

In one of those ads, a condom sprang to life and danced into bed with a surprised couple.

Colorado Attorneys Air Their Thoughts on Anti-Gay Amendment 2

Denver, CO—The state attorney who argued before the U.S. Supreme Court that the anti-Gay Amendment 2 should stand insists his personal opinion on the measure isn't important.

"My personal views are not relevant, and any discussion of them is distracting to our role in the case," said Tim Tymkovich, the state's solicitor general.

But the attorney who presented the case against the amendment in the October 10th hearing said while good attorneys should be able to argue both sides of a case, she draws the line on this issue.

Jean Dubofsky, the first female justice on the Colorado Supreme Court, said she thinks the amendment, approved by Colorado voters in 1992, is "mean-spirited."

"I think it was promoted for...reasons of bias," Dubofsky said.

Amendment 2 prohibits laws offering legal relief from discrimination based on sexual orientation. It would void such laws already on the books in some Colorado communities.

However, the constitutional amendment has never taken effect because of legal challenges. Last year, the Colorado Supreme Court upheld a district court that found the measure unconstitutional on grounds that it violates the guarantee of equal protection under the law.

The state attorney general's office is appealing that decision, disputing that the amendment is unconstitutional. Attorney General Gale Norton has also said the voters' will

should be honored.

In addition, the attorney general's job is to defend state officials who were sued by Gay advocates after Amendment 2 was approved.

Tymkovich, a Broomfield High School graduate, appeared before the nation's high court in March in a water dispute between Colorado, Wyoming and Nebraska.

This was Dubofsky's Supreme Court debut. "I was little daunted by it, but it was all right," she said.

Work on Amendment 2 has consumed the last three years of Dubofsky's life, but she said it's been worth it.

"Amendment 2 tends to resonate with me," she said. "The issue is similar to other kinds of discrimination professional women experience."

Dubofsky, a 1960 graduate of a Topeka, Kansas, high school, was first in her class at Stanford University and earned her law degree from Harvard. She was appointed to the Colorado Supreme Court in 1979 and left in 1987 to spend time with her husband, Frank, also an attorney. She returned to private practice in 1988.

Her lead opponent in the Amendment 2 case considers her a worthy foe.

"I think Jean is one of the outstanding lawyers in the state of Colorado, and not only because of her involvement in this case," said Tymkovich, who has practiced law with major firms in Denver and Washington, D.C.

Detroit Moves Closer to Granting Domestic Partnership Rights to Gay Couples

Detroit, MI—Members of a task force crafting plans to grant domestic partnership to Gay, Lesbian or other unmarried couples predict city residents will go along with the plans, mostly because they have other things to worry about.

"They're not worried about who you're sleeping with in Detroit," Jim D. Brunell said. "They're worried about crime. They're worried about putting food on the table." The Religious Right isn't worried about these things, he said. It's worried about sex.

Most but not all Detroit residents are tolerant enough to accept the change, Brunell said.

He and his partner, Rob Fetzer, are members of a task force that is writing proposals for presentation to Detroit City Council by the end of the year.

The proposals include having the city set up a way for couples to register as domestic partners.

While domestic partners would not have all the rights of spouses, they would be able to visit one another in hospitals or jail. And under another proposal, those whose partners are city employees would be eligible for health and other benefits.

Neither Fetzer nor Brunell works for the city. But they say the changes are the right thing to do.

"They are one more step toward making this nation more tolerant of people who are different," said Brunell, 34.

Ann Arbor is among about 20 cities that allow unmarried couples to register as domestic partners. Since 1991, Ann Arbor has registered 131 domestic partners, city clerk aide

Herb Katz said.

One proposal going to the Detroit City Council would let city residents register as domestic partners if they are unrelated, at least 18 years old, live together, share expenses, are unmarried and do not share a domestic partnership with another person.

The registration is expected to cost about \$23 per couple.

Another proposal would grant the domestic partners of any of the city's 17,000 employees health and dental benefits as long as they are not already covered.

Already, more than 150 public and private employers in the United States recognize the domestic partners of their employees and give them some benefits.

In many cities, however, local laws and the narrow attitudes of the electorate and company officials have been slow to broaden and change.

A proposal to extend benefits to domestic partners of employees of the city of Seattle sparked such a controversy that the question was put to voters in the form of a referendum. That referendum passed in November 1990, but in Austin, voters in 1994 repealed a similar provision for the companions of its city employees.

Typically, less than 3 percent of a work force takes domestic partner coverage when it is offered, usually because many partners are already covered by their own employers, according to a 1994 study by Hewitt Associates, an employee benefits and compensation consulting firm.

In companies where coverage is offered, about 70 percent of the couples are heterosexual, the study showed.

Several insurance companies initially added a surcharge because they expected domestic partner coverage would be costly, but most dropped it after a few years because they found it was not expensive.

Domestic partners tend to be younger and healthier than their married counterparts, and same-sex couples have a near-zero pregnancy risk, the Hewitt study said.

Gunderson Warns of Dangers in Ignoring AIDS Threat

St. Louis, MO—The heavy dose of attention in recent years has made people tired of thinking and talking about AIDS, says U.S. Rep. Steve Gunderson.

"We don't have the luxury to be tired," warned Gunderson. "This is not just a big-city issue; people with AIDS are coming home, to rural Iowa and rural Wisconsin and rural Missouri."

Gunderson, the only publicly Gay Republican congressman, spoke over the first weekend in December at the third annual fundraiser for the Human Rights Fund (HRF) at the Hyatt-Regency Hotel at Union Station.

Gunderson said he agreed with AIDS activist Mary Fisher that this country was in the midst of an "AIDS fatigue" that was endangering the lives of thousands of Americans.

A congressman for 15 years, Gunderson said he was committed to "building bridges" between Gay Americans and people who feared or distrusted Gays.

He criticized both the Religious Right for its intolerance of Gays and many Gays themselves for their involvement in activities such as Gay parades.

"Sometimes, it comes off as an in-your-face kind of thing that seems totally committed to destroying your values," he said. "I have as much difficulty with radical Gay groups as I do with the Republican Right."

He acknowledged that he broke political stereotypes. "I'm a rural, religious Republican and, oh, by the way, I happen to be Gay," he said. "I don't see myself as a weirdo; I see myself as mainstream."

He agrees that abstinence is the first line of defense against AIDS. But Gunderson added, "I don't think we should pretend we're in some beautiful Disneyland." He said work in AIDS education and research must be accelerated.

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Milwaukee Appears Slated to be One of the Test Sites for New Salk AIDS Vaccine

Milwaukee—The "Salk Vaccine," designed to slow the progression of the AIDS virus is appears slated to be tested in Milwaukee next year. Milwaukee will be one of 60 locations nationally where Immune Response Corp., of Carlsbad, California, wants to test its new vaccine.

The vaccine is named after the late Jonas Salk, the medical pioneer who developed the first vaccine to halt polio, died in June, 1995, of heart disease at the age of 81.

If FDA clearance comes, as expected, more than 100 people infected with HIV will be chosen through the Wisconsin Community-Based Research Consortium, an affiliate of the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin.

Dr. Richard Trauger, Salk's student and researcher with Immune Response, was in Milwaukee on December 1st to speak at the 10th Anniversary luncheon of the Milwaukee AIDS Project. Afterward, he spoke with Wisconsin Light.

Wisconsin Light: Is this a vaccine, really a vaccine?

Richard Trauger: It's designed like a vaccine, but it's used differently. A vaccine usually consists of an antigen, what's used for the response, and an antigen to wake up the immune system to the antigen. So this is a vaccine in the sense that it's an antigen and antigen mixture that you inject, but it's not used like a vaccine in that it's not used to prevent infections.

WL: If I'm negative . . .

RT: You don't get this vaccine. We've never done any studies using negative people.

WL: It can't prevent me from . . .

RT: We don't know that. We are more concerned with treating people who are infected. We feel this is the greater need and we feel this is Jonas's mandate to us.

The human immune system is the single most powerful anti-viral agent. We're surprised at that because we always think of HIV as an immune deficiency, but it's not initially. The acute phase of the infection is a great success for the immune system.

Unfortunately, the immune system doesn't completely eradicate the virus because the virus probably goes into cells that are more resistant to immune destruction.

WL: When you're looking for a test subject, do you want someone who's T-cell count is up around 500 or someone with 10.

RT: For immune-based therapies, the tendency was always to use the healthiest population you can get. We have always tried to stick with people with 500 T-cell count or greater because we wanted to see activity, in the sense that immunity was boosted.

If you take someone with 10 CD-4 cells, the likelihood that they have the tools in their immune system to respond is much less.

Milwaukee GAMMA Holds 18th Annual Banquet, Elects New Officers

Milwaukee—At its 18th annual banquet on November 17, 1995, Milwaukee GAMMA elected two new members to its governing board: Ray Elenteny and Jim Heidt. Both men have been active in GAMMA in such events as leading dining out and biking and camping tours.

Re-elected to the Board were Paul Borchart, Doug Johnson, Bob Moore and Kurt Schwanz.

GAMMA presented two newly-created awards to Bill Reinemann and Pat Brady as "Volunteers of the Year" and to Paul Borchart as "Innovator of the Year" for reintroducing miniature golf as a successful GAMMA activity. Reinemann and Brady received their recognition for leadership in providing social volleyball for the Gay and Lesbian community.

The Keynote Address, delivered by Brian Duchinsky, stressed the five major reasons that GAMMA has survived and grown over the past 18 years: successful major events such as the "Iroquois" boat trip, the annual picnic, and the annual banquet; emphasis on outdoor activities open to all members of the greater Milwaukee Gay and Lesbian community; the successful organization of year-round volleyball a the social, competitive and outdoor level; the restriction of GAMMA activities to a "fun" agenda; and the dedication of the people who manage and who participate in GAMMA events.

Upcoming Activities

GAMMA's forthcoming activities include its annual Christmas party on December 8th, a downhill skiing weekend on the Whitecap slopes from January 4th to 7th, a cross country skiing weekend near Eagle River, and its major Winter activity: a fun-filled weekend (in a condo with a hot tub and sauna) at the base of Indianhead Mountain in Upper Michigan.

For information on these activities—and on any of the host of other "fun" GAMMA events, please call GAMMA at (414) 963-9833.

But it's not an all or nothing thing. We've seen people with low CD-4 cells respond better than people with high levels of those cells.

Now, in this phase of our trials, we're looking for people in the 300 to 500 range. Eventually, we would like to do work with those lower than 300.

Also, we'd like to get people who are asymptomatic, category B type people, ones with no opportunistic infections yet.

WL: If I take this vaccine and I have symptoms, can I expect those symptoms to go away?

RT: No. This is a therapy designed to treat HIV. All the symptoms that you have are not HIV.

WL: If all goes as you expect and I take this vaccine, will I have HIV for the rest of my life?

RT: Possibly. The disease becomes chronic, not cured.

WL: Are we anywhere near a cure?

RT: No. But, if we can keep people around long enough and healthy, then they can take advantage of a cure when it comes. Right now, what we've got to do is slow the virus down.

How to we get HIV out? That falls into the realm of gene therapy.

WL: What about people who live for years with the virus and suffer no symptoms? Why does this happen?

RT: A person could have a very good immune response. He could also have a very benign virus. Not all viruses are the same. Some viruses are much more pathogenic than others. Viruses can become defective and can't infect another cell.

December 7, 1995—January 3, 1996—WISCONSIN LIGHT—7

There's a tremendous variation in what you can become infected with, what state you are when you become infected, what your immune system is, etc.

We can take virus out of those guys and it'll rip through cells in a culture, which would suggest that it is the immune system that is covering it.

The message that people ought to take home from these immune therapies is that they are

going to be available and that you have nothing to lose. The therapy will improve your immunity. It's not going to compromise the drugs that you take.

If you participate in these trials, we can promise you that you will not be hurt. But, we can not promise you that it's going to help.

What you have to do is live sensibly, treat your body well, so that you can take advantage of all that will be coming along.

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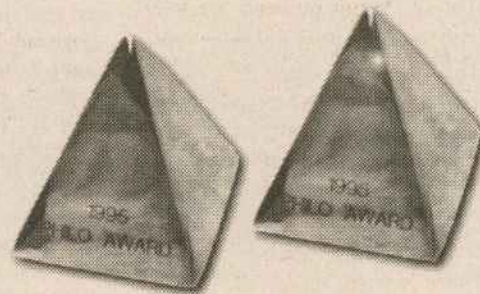
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The Dance of the Angels

By Terry Boughner

Where the idea had first come from, no one really knew. That was lost in the mists of Parkerstown history and didn't make any difference anyway. All that was important was that it was special, unique, a kind of thing full of magic and the wonder of love.

"It" was the Christmas dance, the Cinderella Ball as it was called, given by the parents' group to the Parkerstown

Senior class. It was held every year on the evening of December 23rd at the country club, a place admirably suited to the name of the event.

Located on 1,000 acres of exquisitely manicured grounds, the club house looked like a 17th Century French chateau, complete with leaded windows and round towers with conical roofs that looked like elfin hats. It was massive, yet there was a certain delicacy about its design, a feeling one got of regal grace, that called to mind Louis XIV, the Sun King, at Versailles.

In keeping with the fairy tale theme, upon his arrival, every young man who was single, was handed a woman's slipper made of glass. The idea was that he would give it to his "Cinderella" as a token of his undying love. He was her "prince" and together, they would dance into Christmas. As they did, if their love was true, if the lovers shared a single heart, they would, at midnight, hear the ancient carols of the angels whispering from the Throne—or so the legend said.

Perhaps it was because of the legend, or maybe it was just to have a good time. Whatever the reason, everyone went to the ball, everyone that is, who could afford the price. Gowns and tuxes, all the finery that was required, cost money, a lot of money sometimes. But no one gave the money much thought.

Parkerstown was an affluent place, an American suburb of a great city, a place where the stores were chic and people's mouths were full of words unseasoned by thought. There weren't any poor around, except on the fringes, where they were hidden, clustered around the interstate. Nobody paid them any mind.

But some of the children of the less than wealthy went to Parkerstown schools. Joey Al-Katheri was among them. Of both African and Arab descent, on his father's side, Joey was of medium height and slender, small-boned, with a tight swimmer's build. He was more cute than handsome, yet, there was in his luminous, soft doe eyes and in the dimples around his shapely, rose-red mouth, a tenderness and sensitivity that made him beautiful to behold.

Joey's mother and father were dead. He lived with his stepmother and his two stepbrothers, both older than he. The stepmother looked like a branch on which vultures sat, while the two stepbrothers looked like malignant buddahs. All three of them were cruel people, bullies in every sense of the word, who couldn't seem to get through a sentence without hurting someone.

Though the family was wretchedly poor, the stepbrothers never did a lick of work and squandered what money they got on gambling and beer. Nevertheless, their mother doted on them, telling everyone who would listen how intelligent and refined they were.

Joey, worked and worked hard, but he never was allowed to have more than a few thin dimes for himself. The rest, his stepmother took for food and rent—and to give her two sons the where withal to go to the dance. They would meet "nice" girls there, she said (by which she meant "rich,") and live, all three of them (Joey wasn't included in her plans) bathed in luxury for the rest of their lives.

Every year, Joey watched as the limos pulled up, saw his stepbrothers dressed in their tuxes get in and go to the dance. He wanted to go too, go so badly it hurt, because one of the people sure to be there was the love of his life.

Though no one knew it, no one could have ever guessed, Joey was in love, head over heels in love, with Tag Boronelli. Tag was tall, with sandy blonde hair, high cheek bones and deep set eyes that were as blue as a tropic lagoon. As the high school's champion gymnast, he was poetry in motion, a splendid young athlete with a lithe, perfectly sculpted physique.

In Junior high and high school, Joey went out of his way to make Tag his friend and to Joey's great joy, Tag had responded, opening to him as he had with no one else. For example, Tag seldom smiled, instead maintaining a solemn, stoic expression and a fierce eagle-like glare that could intimidate the strongest hearts, but Joey could change that. Joey, and only Joey, could make Tag relax, make his blue eyes soften and then sparkle and even get him to laugh.

Tag, on the other hand, and only Tag, could settle the normally irrepressible Joey with a what-do-you-think-you're-doing look. One dark eyebrow raised slightly in Joey's direction was always enough.

No one noticed any of what passed between them, which was fortunate. Had anyone done so, had there been the slightest indication that Joey was Gay, his life wouldn't have been worth living. His stepbrothers would have beaten him senseless, while in Parkerstown he would have fared little better. The suburb was a conservative, family values sort of place. Human differences, especially when it came to being Gay, were not tolerated at all.

But still Joey dreamed of Tag, of holding his hand, of kissing him, of dancing with him close held in his arms. And every time he saw Tag with a girl, he was in anguish. Tag, he wanted so badly, to be his.

In the city, there was a Gay community center where Joey had met a drag queen named Miss Goldie, with whom he had become good friends. She was tall, a big-boned person, beautiful inside and out. Time and time again, she listened as he spilled out his heart, taking and talking to her about his undying love for Tag.

Two weeks before Christmas and Joey's 18th birthday, Miss Goldie listened as again Joey told her about how much he loved Tag and how badly he wanted to go to the dance. Her big heart was near to breaking. He so reminded her of a sparrow driven to earth by a storm and she determined that she would see to it that there was some magic in his poor life. She would be his fairy godmother, she decided. He would go to the dance.

The night of the dance, Joey took the Metro rail into the city. There, at the Community Center, Miss Goldie worked her spells. Perhaps what she did wasn't exactly magic, but the effect was the same. Using her pots and jars, her feathers and frills, she cast over Joey a vale of illusion that would bewitch and beguile all but the most discerning eye.

Instead of a cute young man, she had before her a snow princess dressed in a full-length gown of sparkling white. Around his shoulders, he wore an ermine cape to which a sprig of holly had been pinned. On his head was a wig in whose raven curls nested a diamond tiara that glistened in the light.

When she was satisfied that everything was as it should be, Miss Goldie escorted Joey outside. There waiting for him was a stretch limo as white as fresh-fallen snow.

"Do you think it'll work?" Joey asked apprehensively.

"Yes," Miss Goldie replied, "it'll work. Your prince will give you the glass slipper and, for a few hours, he will be yours just like you've always wished. But just remember," she warned, "this is all only an illusion, a bit of stardust to sparkle in Tag's eyes. There's nothing real about this and not too long after midnight, it must come to an end."

When Josephine, as Joey now was, arrived at the club that night, she was an instant sensation. She had no sooner sat foot in the place, than every man in the club, including Joey's two stepbrothers, stopped what they were doing and stared.

There was a murmur of voices in the room. "She's beautiful," someone whispered in awe. "Who is she?" "Who cares? She's a princess," another one replied. Some of the

young men started toward her, each intending to give her his glass slipper, but none of them had a chance. Tag was there before them, scattering them like so many crows with his eagle's glare.

"Be mine?" Tag asked, holding out the glass slipper.

Joey's heart skipped several beats and his strong legs felt weak. He took the slipper, tucked it into his small purse and in reply to Tag's question, only smiled sweetly because he couldn't trust his voice. When Tag leaned forward and kissed him gently on the cheek, Joey knew he was at Heaven's door.

The music began to play and they danced, oh how they danced, so lightly, so easily, as if they were carried along on angels' wings. People said how natural they looked together, what a beautiful couple they made. The princess, they said, was radiant, like a rose window just at dawn, and no one could remember ever seeing Tag smile so tenderly and so much.

"That's a match," someone said. "Love at first sight." And there was nobody who would disagree.

Joey was happy, happier than he'd ever been in his life, but it was a happiness alloyed by the fact that all this would have to end. All too soon, as Miss Goldie had said, Josephine would have to disappear, never to be seen again.

About a half hour before midnight, Joey left the ballroom to "powder his nose." In a deserted ladies room on the second floor, he stood in front of a sink, clutching the rim, head down, feeling the enormity of what he had done. He had fooled all the people. He had fooled Tag as well, but in the end, the only person who he'd really fooled was himself.

The whole thing's backfired, Joey thought bitterly. And it's backfired right in my face. It's not me he loves, it's someone who doesn't exist.

Joey's poor, sad heart was savaged by pain, worse than he'd ever known before. He decided he could not let this go on. He would not wait for midnight and the one dance he'd dreamed about. He would leave now, go out the back door, and run. Where, he didn't know, but wherever it was, he would never hide again, never be a phony. If he could ever get over Tag and find someone who loved him, it would be love based on who he really was, he promised himself, not some illusion.

The door opened. Joey didn't hear it. "Would you mind telling me what's going on here?" Joey whirled and fell back against a sink. There, standing before him, was Tag, with a questioning, yet somehow gentle, expression on his face.

Joey tried to stammer something out, what, he wasn't sure, but after a few moments, he reached up with one hand and pulled off his wig. "There," he said in resignation. "There, you see me," and added quickly, "but don't worry, no one will ever know."

"Yeah, I see you. I guess all I want to know now is why?"

"Because," Joey pleaded, "I'm in love with you, Tag. I'm in love with you. So maybe you can't handle that and maybe you're outraged an' upset an' angry an' maybe . . ."

Tag was to him in an instant, to gather him into his arms. "Angry? Outraged?" Tag asked softly, stroking Joey's sweaty hair. "Joey, Joey, none of those things. How can I be when it's my fault as much as yours?"

Joey raised his head. "Huh?"

"Look, I've loved you since the seventh grade, since I first laid eyes on you. I've been so much in love with you that it hurt all the time. And it didn't take a psychic to know you loved me too. But Joey, don't you see, there was nothing we could do. If we'd come out, there'd been all hell to pay. We might have run, but to where? The streets? I thought we had to wait until we were both 18 and I'd gotten title to my grandfather's farm, a place we can live, work, make a family of ourselves. But until then, I had to fake it, date girls, act the Parkerstown macho role. That's all the religious nuts want anyway; to have everybody act like them. So, I did it. My idea was that I'd wait until after graduation, then we'd leave, but when I saw you tonight, I realized the schedule had just gotten updated."

"You knew?"

Tag smiled softly. "Joey, Joey, oh yes, I knew. All that finery might fool others, but it couldn't fool me." He paused, taking Joey's head in both his hands. "Be mine, Joey. Marry me?" When Joey, unable to speak, nodded affirmatively, Tag kissed him gently but with sublime, sweet passion on the lips. "Now, get outa that stuff. We're goin' downstairs and dance into Christmas 'cause it's only in your arms, Joey, and only with you for the rest of my life, that I'm ever gonna hear the angels sing."

Only one question now remained and Joey asked it. "What am I supposed to wear?"

Joey had no sooner finished speaking, than the door opened and Miss Goldie walked in, carrying a tux. "Fairy godmother time," she exclaimed. "Cinderella is about to become a prince." And so it was.

Followed by Miss Goldie, Tag and Joey, now in a black tuxedo, went back downstairs, entering the ball room, proudly on each other's arms.

Gasps of outrage and horror arose from the guests, but there was also something else. For those who could feel it, there was magic in the air that night that overshadowed all the hate. Tom Chambers, director of the band sensed it and smiled. He had hidden for so long. "Play," he ordered his startled musicians. "Play as you've never played before."

Miss Goldie felt the magic too as she stood there proudly, watching the two young lovers twirl on to the floor. And when one of Joey's stepbrothers seemed as if he were about to rush out and stop the dance, she decked him.

Tag and Joey noticed none this, nor did they hear any of the clicking, disapproving tongues. They were too lost in themselves, enshrouded in a glow that was like little white Christmas lights glowing through a veil of angel hair or a mist of snow.

On they danced, waltzing to the most beautiful music that either had ever heard. Tag smiled, Joey beamed as Tag whispered "I love you, I love you so much."

Just then the roof seemed to vanish and from the depths of the night, from the heart of Christmas morn, a great, shimmering blue cloud descended, swirling, throbbing, undulating like the glory of the great Northern Lights, with a light as big as the sea. And within it were little lights, uncounted numbers of them, as if all the stars from high heaven's halls had come to bless and enshroud the lovers with their might.

Then Tom Chambers heard it and Miss Goldie did too, magnificent, regal music carrying a triumphant, rapturous, joyful message, sung by an angelic choir. "Love there is and love is all," the words came, as soft as a wind among the pines, as hushed as mountains just at dawn, as powerful as a trumpet, as beautiful as the moonlight on the breast of the snow.

"Tag?" Joey began. "Oh, Tag, I love you," but he gasped, but could go no further.

Tag nodded, unable to speak. For the first time in his life, a tear escaped his eye and coursed down his cheek and he lowered his head to bury his face in Joey's neck. In his aching chest, he knew, as Joey did, that their love so long hidden, was now open and being blessed by Heaven's choir.

"Joey, help me. Love me."

"I do Tag, I do."

As the crowd watched in open mouthed wonder, the cloud enveloped Tag and Joey and obscured them from view, whisking them away from the hatred that had no place on Christmas Day. When the cloud lifted, they were gone, vanished as if they had never been.

Maybe I'm more of a fairy godmother than I knew, Miss Goldie thought in wonder as she went her way.

Tag and Joey? They lived happily ever after in a heaven-made land of love.

Scientists Turn to the Rain Forests in an Effort to Find a Cure for AIDS

In the jungles of South America, a 17th century Jesuit missionary discovered that Indians were using a tree bark to cure fevers such as malaria. His discovery gave the world quinine.

Since then, herbal medicine has come a long way.

It is still practiced in its basic form in both primitive and modern societies. And it gave rise to high-tech research and manufacturing that no primitive healer would recognize.

For example, tons of leaves from a Madagascan periwinkle plant are harvested yearly to make precious ounces of a powerful drug against childhood leukemia. And scientists are searching the world's disappearing rain forests for cures for cancer and AIDS.

Yet at its most basic level, healing with plants is still one of the least understood and most mistrusted of arts.

The United States is "like a developing country" when it comes to herbal remedies, says Professor Norman R. Farnsworth, a globe-trotting expert in natural medicines at the University of Illinois at Chicago.

Government rules and the lack of a long tradition of practice have kept the herbal therapy out of the mainstream, Farnsworth says.

"We don't have a history of it like in England or in Germany. We have Indian medicine men, and nobody thinks much of them," says Farnsworth, director of collaborative research in pharmaceutical sciences.

Four-fifths of all people still rely chiefly on traditional medicines, largely plants and their components, the World Health Organization estimates.

Many developed countries have integrated herbal remedies into their health care, says Roy Upton, president of the American Herbalists Guild.

Such countries include Germany, the United Kingdom, France, Belgium, Australia, New Zealand, China, India, Japan and African nations, he says.

"In many of those countries, not only are herbal medicines widely utilized, but they're also reimbursed under the national insurance plans," says Upton, quality manager for an herbal products company in Scotts Valley, Calif.

But mainstream U.S. medicine is so uninformed that it has been a source of flagrant misinformation in the field, says Farnsworth, who also has served as a consultant to WHO and to the National Institutes of Health.

"The worst articles condemning herbal medicines used by humans are published in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, (JAMA)" he says, citing misidentifications of plants and misinterpretations of plant chemistry.

Dr. George D. Lundberg, editor of JAMA, defends the journal, saying it depends on "a vast number of high quality reviewers" to guide its choice of articles.

One University of Michigan-trained physician who uses herbal remedies in her practice estimates fewer than 5,000 of almost 700,000 U.S. doctors accept such treatments as legitimate and use them.

"All we learned about (in medical school) was drugs," said Dr. Joan Priestley, who incorporated holistic remedies into her practice after seeing patients improve while taking them.

American consumers, however, are embracing herbal remedies.

The U.S. market for them has more than doubled since 1985, to \$1.13 billion in 1993, excluding teas and homeopathic remedies, according to the London firm McAlpine, Thorpe & Warrior, Ltd., which has the latest figures.

Growth is expected to continue at 10 percent to 15 percent annually through 1997, the firm says.

"It's an industry I would compare to the computer industry," says Peggy Brevoort, a past president of the American Herbal Products Association, based in Austin, Texas. "It's exploded in the last few years."

The World Health Organization, recognizing a global increase in the use of herbal medicines, in 1992 issued guidelines for countries in regulating their manufacture, safety and sales.

It also promoted their benefits.

"I cannot overemphasize the importance of countries ... endorsing the value of medicinal plants in therapy and self-medication," said Dr. Olayiwola Akerle, then-manager of WHO's traditional medicine program, at a 1992 conference in Italy.

Herbal medicines are different from high-tech pharmaceuticals using plant compounds, WHO noted.

High-tech medicines use highly isolated chemicals alone or with other active chemicals. Herbal medicines are actual parts of plants, or their juices, oils or gums. They may be used in extracts, tinctures, teas, capsules or tablets with inert fillers.

In the United States, the booming popularity of herbs and other dietary supplements has so worried the FDA that it has cracked down from raiding doctors' offices to confiscating products.

The backlash led to a new federal law last

year that restrained the agency and called for a new regulatory approach, which the FDA is developing.

About 400 herbs are in general commerce in the United States, including 75 to 100 exclusively in herbal remedies, estimates Robert S. McCaleb, president of the Herb Research Foundation in Boulder, Colorado.

His nonprofit educational group receives about 20,000 calls a year from people seeking information, he said.

Another 5,000 to 6,000 inquiries go to the foundation's sister organization, the American Botanical Council in Austin, Texas, according to the group's executive director, Mark Blumenthal.

"The interest is astonishing," he said. "It's increasing among health professionals, physicians and the press. We just keep getting more requests for information."

The council and the foundation co-publish *HerbalGram*, a magazine geared to lay readers but reviewed by scientists before publication.

Medicinal herbs with clear benefits include ginkgo for treating aging-related conditions, saw palmetto for reducing symptoms of benign prostate enlargement, echinacea (EK-in-AY'-see-ah) for strengthening immunity and garlic for protecting against heart disease, McCaleb said.

Ginkgo, for example, is used to increase blood flow to the brain and relieve short-term memory loss, ringing in the ears and dizziness.

Doctors in this country hardly know about ginkgo—made from the leaves of an ancient Chinese ornamental tree—but more than 100,000 physicians worldwide wrote more than 10 million prescriptions for it in 1989, researchers reported the following year.

As a prescription medicine, it is covered by national health insurance in countries such as Germany, says Professor Varro E. Tyler, a plant-medicine expert at Purdue University.

More than 200 studies have been done worldwide on the effects of ginkgo in humans, Farnsworth said.

Rather than invest in added research on such remedies, U.S. companies put their money, time and effort into looking for new chemical plant compounds they can modify and synthesize, he said.

A single find can change the world.

Quinine did, for example, after a 17th-century Spanish Jesuit discovered that a Peruvian tree bark was curing fevers such as malaria in Ecuador. The bark is still used to produce the drug.

More recently, the Madagascan rosy periwinkle yielded an effective compound against childhood leukemia. Tons of periwinkle leaves are harvested to produce each ounce of the costly medicine, called vincristine.

Though chemists now synthesize much of what plants have to offer, nature is far more inventive than humans, and nature's compounds are needed to copy.

The National Cancer Institute is testing tens of thousands of plants and other natural products to find drugs for treatment of cancer and AIDS.

Botanical gardens and schools such as the University of Illinois at Chicago do the harvesting. UIC has the world's largest computer data base on medicinal plants, with more than 75,000 articles or books. The school also runs a 40-acre field station west of Chicago where plants are grown, processed and analyzed for medicinal properties.

"We're in a race for time, in that some of these (undiscovered) plants might go extinct," Farnsworth says. "Then the medicine is lost forever."

Rain forests contain more than half of the 250,000 species of flowering plants. But the forests are being destroyed annually in tracts that would add up to the size of South Carolina or even Tennessee, depending on the estimating.

About three-quarters of more than 120 drugs that are still extracted from plants for prescription pharmaceuticals worldwide were discovered following up native folklore claims, Farnsworth has calculated.

All of them came from about 90 species of plants, he says.

"If all the drugs we get from plants that people feel are useful came from only 90 species of plants ... common sense tells you there have to be hundreds more waiting," he says.

Out Front For Karen Gotzler

Isn't it amazing that no out gay or lesbian has ever been elected in Milwaukee? **Karen Gotzler**, candidate for the 3rd aldermanic district, will mark a new era in Milwaukee politics if she is elected as the first open lesbian in Milwaukee's history. The Milwaukee City Council needs an effective advocate on lesbian, gay and bisexual issues.

Karen Gotzler was born and raised in the 3rd District on Milwaukee's East side. She will be an effective voice on issues affecting our community such as community oriented policing, domestic partnership, HIV/AIDS prevention and access to social services for our community.

Call 264-4354 to join the "Out Front for Karen" list:

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Volunteers needed! For more information or to get involved, call 264-4354 or send your donation to *Friends of Karen Gotzler*, P.O. Box 92392, Milwaukee, WI 53202.

Paid for by Friends of Karen Gotzler, Steven M. Brondino, Finance Chair.

AT&T Class Teaches an Open Workplace for Lesbians and Gays is Profitably Correct

By Thomas Petzinger, Jr.

North Andover, MA—You may call it political correctness. I call it good management.

A smirk, a sneer, even an innocently told joke can blow someone's workday. Employees should have to worry about being teased or shunned. Getting the best from every employee requires a welcoming workplace.

Maybe you're sick of hearing this stuff, but don't dismiss it. Here at the largest factory in the AT&T Corporation system, those principles guide a workshop called "Homophobia in the Workplace." Some 2,000 employees have attended, all voluntary.

Despite protests from some customers riled up by the fanatics of the Religious Right, AT&T is staunchly committed to the program, convinced the benefits in the workplace exceed the costs in the marketplace. Indeed, a class was recently added for the midnight shift here.

Precisely why is AT&T battling homophobia in this Catholic and blue collar bastion?

The answer begins with a new mother, Sheila Landers, who attended a management seminar on the subject in 1989. She listened to the workshop leader describe the anguish of growing up Gay—the dread of exposure, the fear that he would lose the love of his parents. Once, he told the group, he had attempted suicide.

Incidentally, the suicide rate among Gay and Lesbian teens is high and getting worse, according to government figures.

Landers was deeply moved. Thinking of her newborn baby, she realized that no child should ever fear loss of love for any reason. And no adult, she decided, should be forced to live a secret life.

Before long, Landers found herself in a personnel job here and approached her bosses about adding the homophobia seminar to the diversity training curriculum.

Now let's get a few things straight about AT&T. This is a company that knows something about making money. It practices profitability correctness, not political correctness. With its international sales surging and its entire business becoming more complex, AT&T craves a diverse work force, a multitude of perspectives. In this pursuit, displays of intolerance are costly setbacks.

Landers' bosses approved. And the job of conducting the training went to the same man whose story had touched her. His name is Brian McNaught.

AT&T refused to let me watch McNaught's presentation, insisting that my doing so would compromise its employees' privacy. But McNaught's style and message are evident on videos and in the books he has written.

Now 47 years old, he tells his audience of growing up one of seven children in a Midwest Catholic household, the son of a senior General Motors executive. His was a model childhood—altar boy, class president—apart from the misfit identity that eventually led to his suicide attempt.

He believes he is the first openly Gay person who many of his audience have seen, so his tone and appearance are excruciatingly conservative.

Being Gay, he explains, is a way of thinking about one's self and defining one's social relationships—an orientation of which sex constitutes only a part. He reels off research from Kinsey and others about the differences between identity and behavior.

"But we don't talk about our private lives," a straight member of the audience protests. To which McNaught says yes, you do, every time you refer to your marriage or what you did with your children over the weekend. Closet Gays and Lesbians, on the other hand, can't talk so freely about their outside activities, he says. They must invent answers to innocent questions about their dating lives. They must stifle the sting of a faggot joke.

Maintaining such fortresses, McNaught says, impairs job performance—an assertion with which plant management agrees. "It's an issue of productivity," said Landers' boss, Robert Pettrossi, the personnel chief. "If people are devoting some of their energy to hiding what they are or worrying about what other people are saying, it takes away from the job."

Participants become more relaxed as the hours progress. Landers says she sees it in their body language—the arms uncrossing, the smiles widening.

Along the way, McNaught makes no effort to win anyone over on moral or religious grounds. When a session is over, "people still have their own opinions," said Frederick Malcolm, an engineer here. "But they keep them out of the workplace."

Landers ends every session by offering a magnetic pink triangle to anyone vowing to make his office or workbench a "safe space" for Gay people. Thousands are in evidence throughout the plant.

Intended or not, programs like this may have their greatest value as they impact on peoples' lives. Unlike government, unlike academia, business discharges policy according to what makes sense in the marketplace. Business, then, can be a force for unity where other institutions fail. If that is political correctness, then bring it on.

Court Rules that Gay Sailor Can Serve While His Appeal is Pending

Richmond, VA—A Gay Navy lieutenant can remain in the service while awaiting court rulings on the Clinton administration's "don't ask, don't tell" policy for Gays in the military, a federal appeals court said.

The 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals issued the order in the case of Lt. Richard "Dirk" Selland late Thursday, November 30th, the clerk's office said Friday.

The action came a few days before the court hears arguments in another case that was the first challenge of the policy to reach the appeals court.

U.S. District Judge Joseph H. Young of Baltimore in October stayed an order allowing the Navy to discharge Selland, who is from Salisbury, Maryland. The sailor's lawyers told Young the Navy wanted to dismiss Selland within days, leaving no time for an appeal to be heard.

The appeals court's upholding of the stay allows Selland to continue as director of procurement at the Fleet & Industrial Supply Center in Norfolk for 90 days or until appeals are decided, whichever comes later.

"This is a big load off my shoulders as well as the command because now we can all feel at ease," Selland said in an interview.

"I think the Lord's looking over me. People at work as well as at church are saying they're praying over me."

The Justice Department had no immediate comment on the ruling.

The 4th Circuit has yet to schedule arguments on Selland's case.

The appeals court will hear arguments Tuesday, December 5th, on another challenge to the "don't ask, don't tell" policy.

In that case, all 13 active judges of the 4th Circuit will consider whether former Navy Lt. Paul Thomasson was wrongfully discharged after he told his commander he is Gay.

A three-judge panel of the court heard arguments in a special, expedited session on September 12th and then requested that the full court review the case. It is unusual for the full court to hear arguments before a three-judge panel has even ruled. Lawyers for both sides said the move shows the appeals court takes the case very seriously.

Thomasson, who worked for the admiral administering the "don't ask, don't tell" policy, told his commander about his sexual orientation days after the policy took effect. After the Navy moved to discharge him, he challenged the policy in federal court and lost.

He appealed to the 4th Circuit.

Thomasson contends that the policy is unconstitutional because it equates the words "I am gay" with illegal sexual acts.

The Justice Department argues that the policy is fair because open Lesbians and Gay men can stay in the service if they convince a discharge panel they won't have Gay sex. They can, however, have sex with a member of the opposite sex.

The Family Research Council said Friday that its attorney will join the arguments Tuesday. The Washington-based Far Right Wing advocacy group said it will tell the court to order a ban on homosexuals in the military.

Obituary

Michael S. Biernbaum

Michael S. Biernbaum died peacefully in his home on Thursday, November 14, 1995, with his family and friends at his side. Michael was born on September 9, 1943 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He received his undergraduate degree from the University of Pennsylvania and his Ph.D. in Organic Chemistry from Stanford University. He was married in 1969 to Diane Sommers, then moved to Madison in 1973.

Survivors include his son, Joshua, and daughter Rachel; his granddaughter Jessica Lynn; his sister Joanne; and a multitude of strange and wonderful friends.

Michael was preceded in death by his parents, Jerry Israel and Hattie Moskowitz Biernbaum; his soul friend and adventurer Peg West and the love of his life, Dickey Lee Stafford.

Michael was an activist and feminist who embraced personal and political movements toward non-violence. He was the co-founder of many organizations, including Protective Behaviors, Men Stopping Rape, and **Changing Men Magazine**.

He was an avid collector of folk art, kitsch, and chatchkes as well as interesting people from all over the world. He gathered with friends in Australia, the Midwest Men's Festival and at Short Mountain Sanctuary.

Michael never held back on his love and generosity. He lived. He lived full of passion and spirit. He will be remembered for his gifts of humor, creativity and his ability to turn obstacles into adventures.

AIDS Action Council Head Mark Barnes Says Gays Must Learn to Work With GOP

Milwaukee—On December 1st, World AIDS Day, Mark Barnes, head of the Washington, D.C. based AIDS Action Council, was in Milwaukee to address the Milwaukee AIDS Project's 10th Anniversary luncheon. Following the luncheon, he sat for an interview with Light.

Wisconsin Light: You seem very optimistic about working with the Republicans in Congress. How do you find working with the GOP?

Mark Barnes: Well, I think that it's difficult—the challenge is really for us to build a bipartisan coalition, a kind of working majority on AIDS. That's the real challenge. The Senate is easier than the House because House members run for election every two years, so lot of their campaigns are based on "hot button" issues that the Far Right is very capable of manipulating. So it's harder to get House members to vote against a Helms-like amendment (that would be anti-Gay).

It's also tough to build a bipartisan majority because frankly people in the AIDS community, particularly in Washington, have for so long identified with the Democratic Party.

We should not forget what the Democrats have done for us, but by the same token, it is and was a gross strategic error for us to have affiliated ourselves so closely that we're (the AIDS community) viewed as one of many Democratic interest groups, because we're not.

So much of what I've had to do since I've been in Washington is to try and undo some of that damage and try and build bridges to Republicans who have just been slammed before or whose support was never acknowledged or appreciated.

Congress and the Far Right

WL: How do you view the power of the Far Right?

MB: The Far Right is resurgent. I think they're going to be somewhat frustrated by the presidential campaign in 1996, because whoever it is, whether it's Dole or whoever, once the primaries are over, whoever it is, is going to have to move back toward the center.

Anyone running on a Far Right platform will not be elected. Mainstream America repudiates that.

So, what I am somewhat afraid of is that

when the vitriol of the Far Right when it doesn't find its expression in a presidential candidate, like Dole, they will turn back to their representatives in Congress and they're going to want to make noise against HIV prevention, about funding for AIDS research, things like that.

The really hard battle, besides AIDS funding, is going to be the battle over social issues.

Clinton and AIDS

WL: How do you find working with the President?

MB: This Administration is largely uncoordinated. It is in many cases, rudderless. It is difficult to get firm decisions out of them. It is disappointing.

By the same token, there has been decent leadership by the President on AIDS. There have been large increases on AIDS proposed in all his (Clinton) budgets, and we are grateful for that. It is something he has done himself.

But the moral leadership has largely been lacking, not only the moral leadership, but strong, really strong statements directed at teens and others about AIDS prevention and treatment.

Substance abuse, in Wisconsin and elsewhere, is in many cases, the real engine driving the epidemic, more than just sex itself.

If you really look at what causes HIV transmission, you see that its caused in many cases by impaired judgment because of drug use in all communities.

You're talking about people who may have gotten the message because it's not directed at them.

It's not enough to just speak out about using condoms. It's largely in that arena that this Administration has not shown leadership, moral or financial.

The substance abuse initiatives of this Administration have been paltry and weak. And that's a shame because people have died.

Ultimately, safer sex must be emotionalized, eroticized. Addressing it intellectually is not enough. You have to bring in the expectation that safer sex is cool, it is hip, it is hot to be protected, not only you, but your partner.

The message has to be one of responsibility that you must protect your partner as well as yourself.

HIV DRUG TRIALS OPEN FOR ENROLLMENT

WISCONSIN COMMUNITY-BASED RESEARCH CONSORTIUM (WCRC)

The WCRC is currently enrolling individuals with HIV disease for participation in two trials of experimental drug therapies. These trials may advance scientific knowledge and future treatment for other individuals with HIV disease.

TRIAL NO. 1 – DELAVIRDINE

This is a double-blind, randomized study. The study compares the responses of individuals taking a combination of Delavirdine (DLV) and Didanosine (ddI), or placebo and ddI.

ELIGIBILITY:

If your are fourteen years of age or older, are HIV positive, have a CD4 count of 50 to 300, have previously been on AZT and have not been on ddI therapy for more than four months, you may be eligible for this study.

TRIAL NO. 2 – DELAVIRDINE

This is a double-blind, randomized study. The study compares the responses of individuals taking varied doses of Delavirdine (DLV) and Zidovudine (AZT), or placebo and AZT.

ELIGIBILITY:

If your are fourteen years of age or older, are HIV positive, have a CD4 count greater than 200 but less than 500, and have not been on AZT therapy for more than six months, you may be eligible for this study.

For information about enrolling in these trials, please call Jacque Kaczinski, R.N. at the WCRC office at 414-225-1578.

ARCW

The Wisconsin Community-Based Research Consortium is a service agency of the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin, Inc.

Youth Column

Dig The Yule!

By Jason Jellison

No, this article has nothing to do with Yule Brenner. This is an article about my favorite time of year, the holidays (Namely X-mas). I just love 'em. For me, there is nothing better than seeing a Christmas Tree covered with ornaments or fresh cookies and eggnog on the table. Yum! Yes, once again it's time to dust out the wallet and part with some cash for a charitable cause. I could swear right now that I hear Santa in his red leather suit coming right around the bend. But Hark! He's already been visiting—or at least so I have read in *Wisconsin Light*, that is.

It was just last week that I opened *The Light*, only to find an incredible assortment of great news. Oh, it was better than a WOKY good news report. In fact, it was the BestD news I could have read. Oh, yes, Santa and his little elves were putting in some serious overtime this season.

I cannot express how energizing it is to see progress in the making. Furthermore, it surprises the mind optimistically to open any modern newspaper and read what others are doing to help other people.

BestD Clinic has received two grants to further its work. In addition, BestD is one of NINE organizations to make front page news for their efforts to form a new coalition that serves people.

PrideFest is expanding to the SummerFest grounds (Maier Festival Park, I should say to honor the late husband of one of the greatest ladies in the state).

New Gay and Lesbian Studies certificate programs have won automatic approval after years of fighting at UW-Milwaukee and are now open to virtually any student who wishes to participate in them—over two dozen course!

What a happy holiday season indeed!

I think that we should be most thankful for all of these gifts. In our rush to finish the holiday cookies, in our mad dash to the mall to finish the holiday shopping for the kids, we often forget that there are "other" people.

These are people who don't have families to go home to; people who are infected or affected by HIV and AIDS, or cancer or any one of a number of equally terrible diseases to which our race is prone.

We often forget in our time of self-pity and self-centeredness that we are truly blessed.

I don't know about you, but I confess that I

have had quite a few things happen this year in my life. They are things that stand a real chance of making me embittered and ungrateful.

I've come out into the Community and to my family, both of which have been often uncomfortable for similar reasons.

I've moved onto a stage where prematurely I have had to make myself independent from many of my peers, including peers in the community. I have lost a good job and, perhaps, have even seen a few potential opportunities wither away.

However, when I get to thinking about how fortunate I am, I am VERY blessed to have my health. I still maintain a somewhat positive relationship with my family and have started another good job.

I have friends, good friends, who care about and love me quite deeply even though we don't agree on everything.

I am also fortunate enough to understand myself. I am fortunate enough to have fought many battles already and can look forwards to fighting more. I am fortunate enough to be honest with my family and not have to worry about checking over my shoulder on the way out anymore.

As this holiday season is upon us, let us be aware that we, despite our personal standings, are role models for people who have less. For me, I know that there are many lonely eyes centered on me in class because my classmates are aware of who I am, as are my superiors. This may be true for you. Perhaps for many others, it is the executive next to you who you see every morning and think nothing about. Perhaps it is a close relative or friend.

At any rate, we, as a community of people, have a lot to be thankful for. We have also a lot to remember and a lot to deal with. We must bear in mind ad perhaps say a special word to ourselves or to our God for those less fortunate than ourselves.

There is far too much pettiness that goes on all year long. I think my readers have quite a bit to look forward to next year, as do I.

So, with that in mind, I say "Happy Holidays" to all of you, and I will look forward to a new year. It will be a good year.

If you would like to write to me, send your letter to me at: 2585 N. Cramer St., Milwaukee, WI 53211 (Please note my new address).

Working in the Trenches, Chaz Gives AIDS Patients a Human and Loving Face

Janesville, WI—Charles "Chaz" Pope leaned near the dying young man and gently asked: "When was the last time you saw a face?"

The young man named Jerry, who had a new disease called AIDS, couldn't remember.

Chaz, wearing a paper hat over his hair, a filter mask, ankle-length surgical gown and sterile gloves, ripped off the filter mask covering his nose and mouth.

Then, he tore off the surgical gloves.

He reached over and gently rubbed Jerry's arm.

Jerry, who breathed with the help of a respirator, smiled.

In the hospital isolation unit, where everyone wore masks and gowns to take care of AIDS patients, Jerry didn't know what most of his care-givers looked like.

Until Chaz, a stranger, came into his hospital room and his life one night in the Spring of 1984.

"I walked out of there scared because I didn't know what I had done to myself by taking off the mask and gloves," Chaz remembers.

"But I felt so good because of what I gave to Jerry: a human touch, a face behind the space gown, a human being who wanted to help."

In the early 1980s, the medical community didn't understand how AIDS was transmitted. So patients were quarantined and had minimal human contact.

Today, we know that AIDS is transmitted in specific ways, and the disease cannot be caught by touching someone.

Chaz worked as a medical technician at University Hospital in Madison when the first AIDS cases appeared.

After a man died of AIDS complications, Chaz vowed to do something.

But he wasn't sure what.

So he asked the next AIDS patient who arrived in the intensive care unit: "What do you need?"

"I need someone when I'm scared," the man answered.

Chaz knew what to do.

When his 8-hour shift ended, he began visiting the man and other AIDS patients and offering emotional support.

Often, he was their only advocate.

Soon, hospital staff began turning to Chaz for help, too.

Chaz, who also offered a shoulder to the families and partners of AIDS patients, began

referring to himself as the Madison AIDS Support Network (MASN).

Later, he and another man, Will Handy, formed the first MASN board of directors.

Today, MASN staff and volunteers offer physical and emotional support to people with AIDS. They also provide AIDS education to prevent future spread of HIV infection. More than a million people in 13 counties in south-central Wisconsin benefit from MASN's work.

The agency has an office in Janesville to serve Rock, Jefferson and Green counties.

In the beginning, Chaz served as a board member and later as a consultant to the board.

But his heart remained in working directly with clients.

Eleven years later, he's still in the trenches where most don't want to go.

"I'm there with dying people because I don't want them to be alone," Chaz says.

"I've learned from them what's important in life. I've learned that I need to live my life right now. I've learned that every day is a gift."

He vowed early that he wouldn't count the deaths.

"It doesn't matter if you've lost one friend or 100. It hurts. I know there are lots of people I miss who aren't here anymore."

On World AIDS Day, people around the globe paused and thought about the AIDS pandemic that has left no continent untouched.

Chaz remembered his friends.

"It's such a tragedy when I think of the enormity of loss," he says.

He pauses, then weeps.

"I'd like everyone to take some time and think about what a horrible thing AIDS is. I'd like people to make a commitment to do what they can in the next year."

Chaz made his commitment years ago.

He has no intention of backing off, even though every death takes its toll on him.

"My parents taught me that when a person's need is great, I should respond. I don't care what color a person is or what their sexual preference is," he says.

"We need to be human with each other."

David Brand, Local Gay Business Owner, Gets a Role in a Charles Bronson Movie

Milwaukee—David Brand put down the phone and looked at it incredulously. Had he heard right? Maybe it was just someone trying to be funny? But then, on second thought, perhaps not.

He remembered that only a week before, this past September, someone had come to Milwaukee who represented a movie company. She was hunting for a limousine to appear in a film.

Since David own a limousine service (Brand Limousine Service), he remembered her taking pictures of his long, sparkling white limo—along, he says with "every other limousine in the city."

He didn't think much more about it until the call came through telling him that it was his limo that was to have a role in the production, part of which was to be shot in Milwaukee.

"My nail were not long enough to pinch myself," he says.

The movie would star Charles Bronson, an actor well-known for his action roles.

(Editor's Note: Last issue we said that the movie was called "The Brewery," since that is what it is called on the posters.)

However, since that time, it has been renamed. It is called *Family of Cops*.)

The first day, David drove to the set with a police escort, arriving at the Wells Street bridge. This was where the first scene his car was in was filmed.

The second scene involved him driving his car out of an ally by the Pabst Brewery, while the third scene had him driving down Milwaukee Street, passing over Wisconsin Avenue and disappearing into a "dark ally."

He points out that in all three of these scenes, there is no one but him in the car, but, he adds, "people watching TV won't know that."

Part of the movie was shot in Toronto. David drove the limo there—at the movie company's expense—and, at their expense, he got "first class" accommodations. He would spend four days in that most English of North American cities.

David had wanted to meet Bronson in Milwaukee, but the actor was always shooting in a different location. So, he had to wait until Toronto before they met.

Bronson, David says, is "real polite," to

those working on the set. However, if you just rush up to him off the street and ask for an autograph, you'll get short shrift.

At 75, Bronson is still "good looking, trim," David says. "Maybe he doesn't exactly run around the block any more, but he's in good condition."

Bronson enjoys a practical joke now and again. Once, David said, he came on to the set after the crew had spent long hours getting everything ready.

"What the hell is this!?" Bronson exclaimed, his craggy features dark with irritation. "I want this set over here," he demanded, point out the place.

The place wasn't that far away, but moving everything would mean more hours of work and expensive delay in making the film. Yet, the crew was going to do it just to satisfy the star.

And then Bronson started laughing in that hearty, robust way of his that starts in the gut and just explodes upward, as David described it.

There was a real thrill in meeting Bronson, David said. But there was also a thrill in driving at high speed, taking corners on two wheels, with no worry about the cops.

And David's next step? He cocks his head. "I guess the next one will be with Brad Pitt." Then he smiles, showing he's learned a thing or two from Bronson about putting people on.

Though he does add proudly that the director praised him, telling him he took direction "very well." Maybe something will come of that—maybe.

His final assessment is that making a movie is a "hard work" but it is, he admits, "exciting and lots of fun."

Family of Cops aired on Cable Channel 29 and Channel 58 in Milwaukee on Sunday, November 26th.

Brand Limousine Service is a Gay-owned business and Milwaukee-based. See the movie, David says, then rent the limo.



fall walks in the woods
Friday fish fries
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hot partners on cold days
blues on Brady
movies at the Oriental
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PrideFest
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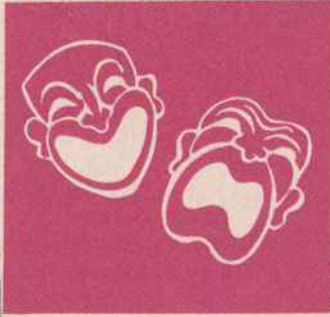
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ARCW

The Milwaukee AIDS Project is a service agency of the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin, Inc.

The Light



LIVELY ARTS



Peep Show—A traditional pull-string cowboy named Woody, who is the leader among all of the toys in Andy's room, has a flirtatious encounter with Bo Peep, the delicate lamp stand figurine in Walt Disney Pictures' delightfully irreverent animated *Toy Story*, the first animated feature to be created entirely using computer technology. *Toy Story* is currently the number one film at the box office.

Benefit Concert by Milwaukee Symphony Will Feature Stirring Music

by Andrew Buelow

The late Leonard Bernstein's electrifying "Chichester Psalms" will be coupled with Mozart's haunting Requiem in a special Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra (MSO) concert.

The performance—held in the Marcus Center for the Performing Arts at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, April 4—will benefit the Milwaukee Aids Project, Brady Street Clinic, Galano Club, Lesbian Alliance of Metro Milwaukee, Pridefest, and St. Camillus.

Artistic Advisor Stanislaw Skrowaczewski (pronounced STAN-iss-lahv Skro-vuh-CHEFF-skee) will lead the MSO and five acclaimed soloists, along with the Milwaukee Symphony Chorus—over 300 musicians joining forces to perform two of the most stirring, dramatic works of all time.

Soloists will include soprano Marvis Martin, mezzo Catherine Robbin, tenor Jon Garrison, and bass-baritone John Cheek, along with young boy soprano Justin Leath of Appleton.

Commissioned by the Very Reverend Walter Hussey, Dean of Chichester Cathedral, Bernstein's score was written in 1965 for that community's annual summer choral festival. Sung in Hebrew, the work includes settings of Psalms 2, 23, 100, 108 and 131.

At a recent performance of the work at Lawrence University in Appleton, soprano Justin Leath sang with astonishing simplicity and clarity. The unwavering, youthful timbre of his voice adds to the music's emotional impact. Unusual scoring—including strings, three trumpets, three trombones, kettle drums, seven percussionists, and two concert harps—also provides a striking sound quality.

In an age when most composers were tinkering with atonality and experimental composition techniques, Leonard Bernstein

created music that was fresh, beautiful and accessible to everyone.

The composer once remarked, "I don't have to meddle in electronic or serial music in order to satisfy my longing for advancement and originality."

Coupling the Bernstein with Mozart's 18th Century Requiem provides "a fascinating contrast," according to MSO Principal Double Bassist Roger Ruggeri. The work was featured prominently in the movie *Amadeus* as the composer's "deathbed obsession."

As the film indicates, Mozart was visited during the summer of 1791 by a "mysterious stranger," who commissioned a setting of the Requiem mass.

Severely weakened by alcoholism and malnutrition, Mozart died before completing the work. A pupil of Mozart's, Franz Sussmayr, completed the score at the request of Mozart's widow, Constanze.

Perhaps because the composer sensed that he was dying, the music has a haunting intensity, described by one music writer as "terrible earnestness" and "awesome solemnity." The great scientist Alfred Einstein, an avid fan of Mozart, agreed, but maintained that the ending with the words "eternal light" represented a final statement of hope on the part of the composer—who, despite a troubled, difficult life, always held an essentially sunny outlook. Einstein concludes that, for Mozart, "death is not a terrible vision, but a friend."

Tickets are priced at \$28 for orchestra (main floor) seating; and at \$24 for seating in the center loge. A portion of the ticket price will benefit the organizations above. The deadline for ordering is March 12th. For more information, see the accompanying advertisement in this publication, or contact Wisconsin Light at (414) 372-2773.

Unique Television Magazine Series Turns the Lens on a 'Positive: Life with HIV'

St. Paul, MN—Despite the shrinking media coverage of the AIDS epidemic, HIV is anything but old news for the estimated one in three Americans who know someone with HIV or AIDS. What is new, however, is an innovative television series designed to serve these one in three.

Commissioned and presented by the Independent Television Service (ITVS) and produced by AIDSFILMS, Inc., *Positive: Life with HIV* represents a unique collaboration between television and those affected by or infected with HIV. The four-part series will be broadcast nationally on public television stations beginning in January, 1996.

Positive is an abrupt departure from the "misery as spectacle" format of most TV coverage of the pandemic. The series blends documentary stories with satire, animation, music, dance and first-person commentaries by a "chorus" of speakers. The segments were produced by more than 20 independent producers from across the country who worked directly with their subjects to craft video pieces that reflect their experiences and points of view.

Among the many segments in the series, viewers will see:

1. A grandmother in Puerto Rico, record-

ing televised video letters to her grandchildren so they will know her story as she wants it remembered;

2. A married couple in rural Oklahoma, recounting the reactions of local churches and their decision to chart their own Christian course;
3. Tonya, a feisty New Yorker who has seen more than 12 years pass since her diagnosis, juggling AIDS-related surgery with a trip to Puerto Rico to find her birth mother;
4. A West Indian man, reluctant to accept his Gay son's life until faced with the son's AIDS-related death.

The four programs are oriented around major themes related to the HIV experience. Program One, "Community," introduces viewers to a broad range of people with HIV, many of whom have not seen themselves represented in the media.

In Program Two, "Identity," participants tackle such important personal issues as sexuality, relationships, and work as they share their process of self-discovery and change.

Program Three, "Care," looks at the many ways people with HIV disease are approaching care and treatment, emotionally and physically.

Program Four, "Fighting for Our Lives," looks at the different fronts on which people are fighting the war against AIDS and the many ways people living with HIV are preparing for the future.

Positive: Life with HIV has gone to extraordinary lengths to ensure that its message

TURN TO TELEVISION, PAGE 23

The United Presents....
A New Year's Eve Celebration and Benefit

New Year's Eve **OUT** *The Pink Party*

December 31, 1995
9pm-2am

Madison's Civic Center
in
The Marquee Room

Madison's Only Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual
New Year's Eve Party

Pink Party Package 9pm-2am

Music, Dancing, Party Favors
(hors d'oeuvres 9pm-10:30pm)
Advance Tickets ONLY—Reserve Them now!
(Please purchase tickets by Dec. 24.)

Tickets are \$30 each or Two for \$50*

*Admission After 10:30pm: \$10
(Payable in advance or at the door.)

Complimentary Champagne Toast at
Midnight

Proceeds to Benefit: The United

For More information call The United 255-8582
P.O. Box 310, Madison, WI. 53703

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Now available on cassette tape, a collection of 15 holiday and seasonal pieces as performed during our eight year history.

Only \$10

+2.50 shipping & handling
Make checks payable to the Wisconsin Cream City Chorus

Send your check or money order to:
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PO Box 1488
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Tapes will also be available at our annual holiday concert, "Christmases Remembered" on December 10th, 3 p.m. at the PAC Vogel Hall. Tickets are \$10 at the door.



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John Cheek, Bass-Baritone
Justin Leath, Boy Soprano
Milwaukee Symphony Chorus/
Lee Erickson, Director

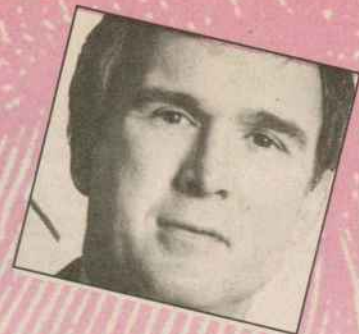
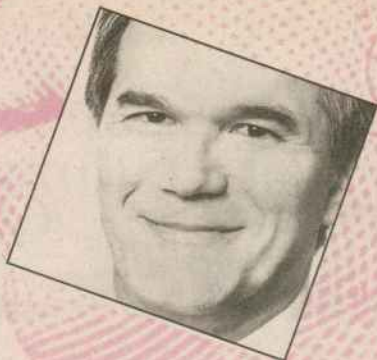
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John Starser and Flora Coker star in Theatre X's *A Christmas Memory*.

Theatre X's 'A Christmas Memory' Has Everyone Singing Its Praises

Milwaukee—Theatre X's 5th annual rendition of Truman Capote's *A Christmas Memory*, has received praise and kudos from a wide variety of "Christmas experts" such as George Bailey, George Handel and Ebenezer Scrooge, and is expected to become a new tradition for theater goers who wish to add a new play to their standard list of *Nutcracker* and *A Christmas Carol*. The play runs from December 13th through December 23rd at the *Broadway Theatre Center* in Milwaukee's Historic Third Ward. Evening and matinee performances are scheduled.

"*A Christmas Memory* weaves wonderful, heart-warming images of compassion and humor through the use of truly poetic language

and themes of love and relationships," said John Schneider, Artistic Director of Theatre X.

The one-act production, set in the rural south, looks back at the relationship of Buddy, a 7-year-old boy and his older female cousin named Sook. Together they share such simple adventures as finding the right Christmas tree and making holiday fruitcakes. Ultimately, it reveals a story about life itself.

Prior to each evening performance, a brief curtain raiser entitled *Noel Noire*, written by Rip Tenor, will be performed.

For ticket and other information, call (414) 291-7800.



Scott Christensen (right) as Jesus and Jake Jacobson as Santa appear in the short play *Deck the Malls* from the Mercury Players Holiday Pageant. The Pageant includes eight original short comedies about and around the holiday season, several with a Gay or Lesbian theme, put on at Brave Hearts Theater, 1988 Atwood Avenue in Madison.

Keanu Reeves To Make Action Movie in Wisconsin in 1996

Madison—There are plans to film a motion picture in Wisconsin in February that could star actors Morgan Freeman and Keanu Reeves, the governor's office says.

The 20th Century Fox motion film entitled *Dead Drop* is an action-thriller directed by Andy Davis who directed the box office hit *The Fugitive*. The film is about a scientist-researcher on the run.

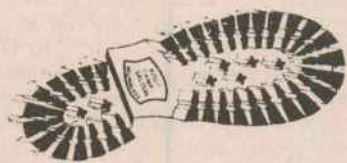
It will be filmed at the University of Wisconsin Memorial Union and the State Capitol in Madison. It will also film scenes Lake Geneva at George Williams College and Yerkes Observatory.

More details on the film and its cast are expected later this year.

Wisconsin has landed another major movie to be filmed in our great state, which will pro-

vide us another venue for showcasing the beauty and riches of our state to the entire nation," Gov. Tommy Thompson said.

The last major picture filmed in Wisconsin was *I Love Trouble* starring Julia Roberts and Nick Nolte. That film was shot in Madison and Baraboo in 1993.



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Willaim Clifford, l-r-Pamela Brown, Joseph Weber and Jim Gallagher star in the Boulevard Ensemble's production of *Wenceslas Square*.

Boulevard Ensemble to Stage 'Wenceslas Square' for the Holiday Season

Milwaukee—The Boulevard Ensemble will continue its 10th Anniversary Season by producing Larry Shue's rarely-staged play, *Wenceslas Square*, Wednesday, December 20th through Sunday, January 14th at the intimate Boulevard Theatre, 2252 S. Kinnickinnic Avenue on Milwaukee's South Side. Ticket prices are \$9-\$15.

Please note: There is no performance on Christmas Eve.

Shue, author of the popular comedies, *The Nerd* and *The Foreigner*, worked as an actor and playwright at the Milwaukee Rep for many years before losing his life in a plane crash ten years ago. Although best known for his well-crafted comedies, Shue ventured into more dramatic fare with *Wenceslas Square*.

The play adroitly weaves the threads of comedy and drama in telling the story of an American professor and his younger academic colleague as they return to Czechoslovakia to update the professor's forthcoming book dealing with the arts community and the issues of repression in the late '70s in that country. Their visit is fraught with personal complications as both Americans discover that many individual fates hang upon the decision to publish or not to publish the book.

This delicate comedy of the human spirit will be directed by Maureen Kilmurry, a local director who recently directed the inaugural production of Amethyst Productions' *A Mid-*

summer Night's Dream.

Featured in the cast is one of the best, if not the best actresses in Milwaukee, Pamela Brown, the founder of Amethyst Productions and an actress who has appeared many times in Boulevard Ensemble plays.

Curtain times vary. Please call (414) 672-6019 for information and for reservations.

Homeless Shelter Benefit

The Ensemble will continue its Annual Charity Benefit Series by presenting an evening of staged readings of Christmas stories on New Year's Eve at the Boulevard Theatre. All funds raised will go directly to the Hope House Homeless Shelter.

Hope House is a South Side facility that for many years has served the needs of Milwaukee's homeless population by providing food and shelter for displaced men, women and children.

The Theatre will open at 6:30 p.m. and light refreshments will be served. The readings begin at 7:00 p.m. The suggested donation is \$10. As seating is limited, patrons are encouraged to call and reserve space.

Works to be read will include poet and writer Dylan Thomas' favorite *A Child's Christmas in Wales*, Dr. Seuss' classic, *The Grinch Who Stole Christmas* and many others.

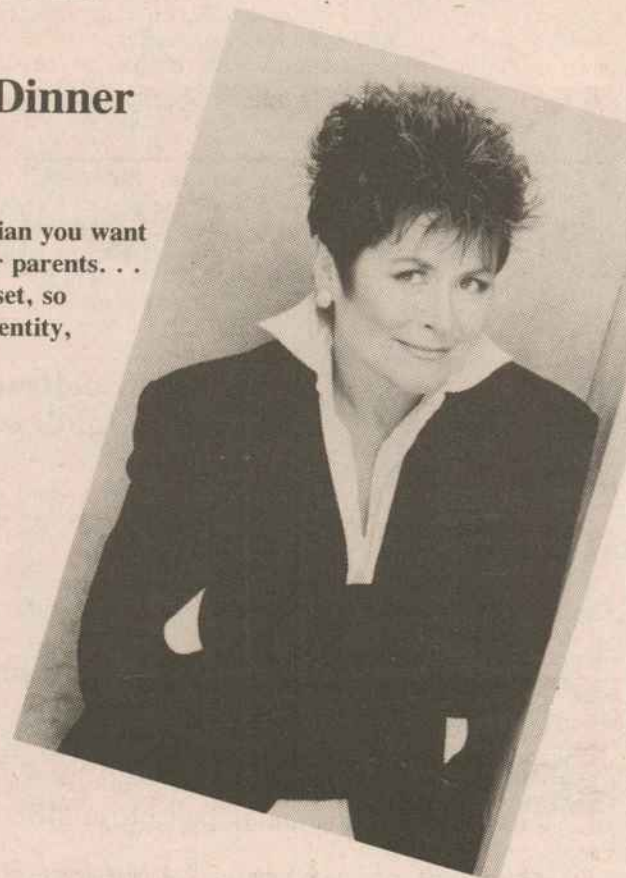
Please call for reservations at: (414) 672-6019.

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CHRISTMAS, HOLLYWOOD AND THE STARS

By Dale E. Kuntz

Bing Crosby and "White Christmas"

In 1942, Paramount Studios, Irving Berlin, Bing Crosby and Director, Mark Sandrich, teamed up to make a film about a singer opening a night club—which was to be open only on holidays. Berlin was to write a special song for each holiday. The result was *Holiday Inn* and "White Christmas." And Hollywood, Crosby and Berlin changed forever our image of Christmas.

"White Christmas" went on to become the most popular commercial Christmas song ever written or recorded. There are over 400 different recorded versions of it and it still remains the best-selling song of all time, both in records and sheet music.

Crosby's version (still the most popular) alone has sold in the millions. And, Bing went on to sing the song in two more films, *Blue Skys* (1946) and *White Christmas* (1954).

Hollywood and Christmas also had a great affect on the hotel industry. A new hotel chain was looking for an idea to launch their new hotels. They liked the idea of *Holiday Inn* and secured the rights to the name from Paramount. Thus, the most successful hotel chain was launched . . . named after the movie!

While Berlin had written a song entitled "Happy Holidays" for the film, he did not own the rights to the title "Holiday Inn." Had he owned the rights, we now might be staying in something like "Snuggle Inn."

Ironically, Berlin did not have much faith in "White Christmas." He thought it would just be another film song and would fade with the film's popularity. Which brings us to our trivia question: *Which song from Holiday Inn did Berlin think would become a great hit and an annual standard?*

Lionel Barrymore

Next to Crosby, the Hollywood name most associated with Christmas is Lionel Barrymore. Beginning in the 1930's, and going to the 1950's, every Christmas Eve, Barrymore would play Scrooge in a radio broadcast of Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*. In all that time, he missed only one performance due to a stay in the hospital. That one Christmas Eve, his famous brother John (wickedly handsome and the heart throb of millions of women—and certainly some men), stepped in for him and did the broadcast.

Barrymore's version of Scrooge became an anticipated annual event around the world. Almost every family that had a radio would begin their Christmas Eve by listening to Lionel Barrymore's Scrooge. The radio script was published annually for years in various radio magazines and a 78 rpm album was recorded. It was later re-issued in 45 rpm and LP albums. It is still available on LP (if you can find it) and there are embryo plans to re-issue it on CD and cassette.

A Christmas Carol on Film

Yet, the Academy award-winning actor never got to play Scrooge on the silver screen . . . a natural for him and his home studio, MGM. In 1938, MGM planned a lavish version of *A Christmas Carol* that would be based on Barrymore's radio script—and, of course, starring Lionel Barrymore.

Sets were built, costumes designed and made, co-stars were put under contract and the production was set to begin. But fate would have its way.

Barrymore was in an auto accident, broke his hip, and due to his increasing arthritis, he was confined to a wheelchair for the rest of his life. Since MGM had already spent so much money on the production, it decided to go ahead and make the film with Reginald Owen in the starring role. To his credit, Owen turned in a superb performance, but one wonders what a masterpiece it might have been if Barrymore had been able to take his traditional role?

For myself, you can keep all the other film versions of *A Christmas Carol*. Yes, even the celebrated Alastair Sim version—whose "darker" concept of Scrooge is probably closer to Dickens' concept of the character. But if I have to watch just one version, without a doubt, each year it will be the 1938 MGM version with Reginald Owen. If you have not seen this one, watch it on TV, rent the video for Christmas Eve, or whatever, but choose this version. It is not only the most lavish version ever filmed, but it comes closer, I think, in spirit to what Dickens intended than anything made for movies or TV.

Christmas and Hollywood PR

Many a future star in Hollywood (under the old studio system) got her start posing for Christmas publicity photos as a starlet. The list includes Ava Gardner, Virginia Mayo, Alice Faye, Jeanne Craine and yes, even Marilyn Monroe. Each year, along about July, the studios would have their people haul out the fake snow, gaily wrapped packages, trees along with every other conceivable seasonal prop imaginable.

The starlets would be posed as "Mrs. Santa" in short ice skating skirts trimmed with fur, sitting atop a chimney, peering out of a snow-coated, wreath-trimmed window . . . in a long, red velvet gown trimming a tree . . . surrounded by gifts and any other thing that could call to mind the images of the holiday season.

Most of these shoots were done in color. The whole idea was publicity for the studio. Color transparencies were sent to every major newspaper in the country as well as to the movie magazines and popular glossies like *Look*, *Life*, *Cosmopolitan*, etc. The hope was that the pictures would be used as covers for the holiday issue, but more often than not, they wound up in the newspaper's Sunday supplements or in the rotogravure (There's a word from out of the past).



Marley's Ghost (Leo G. Carroll) visits Scrooge (Reginal Owen) in MGM's 1938 version of *A Christmas Carol*.

But regardless of how they were used, they forever fixed the image of Hollywood and Christmas in the public's mind.

Major stars were not immune to the studios' imagery of the holidays. They were posed hanging wreaths, trimming trees, and what have you. Then they would write a greeting on the photo and it would be reprinted in the dozens of movie magazines or sent to newspapers for hope of publication.

Female stars were ornamented with poinsettias in their hair or in a white fur hat and muff holding bouquets of poinsettias. They were posed peering through holly wreaths and many other poses, which were then used as the holiday covers for fan magazines.

During World War II, stars were posed with or shown wrapping, War Bonds, meaning, of course, to suggest them as patriotic gifts. In 1942, Bette Davis appeared in a War Bond theatrical short, promoting the giving of Bonds. She posed as a mother (years before she actually was one), telling her children she was giving them Bonds rather than the traditional gifts because it would help their father who was in the service as well as helping to insure their own futures.

Also during World War II—the war as some still refer to it—and years after, stars were used in promotional theatrical shorts to support the sale of Christmas seals. For example, John



Jeanette MacDonald on the cover of the January, 1940 issue of *Modern Screen* magazine.

Wayne, appeared in one of those, ironically, supporting a cure for cancer, which is what took his life.

Christmas Then and Christmas Now

Without the studio system, Hollywood and Christmas seem to have gone their separate ways. Can you honestly imagine Johnny Depp, Madonna, Clint Eastwood, or Keanu Reeves trimming a tree and wishing us all "Happy Holidays" and have anyone believe them?

Perhaps these are harsher, more deadly times when the glory days of Hollywood and its current crop of stars can no longer be a part of our holiday fun. But there was a time when Christmas was hardly Christmas without Santa, tinsel (real, not plastic), candy canes, gingerbread men and big 7-watt light bulbs that could turn a whole room into a technicolor delight.

Maybe that's why, we who are older, hang on to old Bing Crosby albums and remember seemingly more gentle times. And perhaps that's why those who are younger, still play them and listen with the rapture that once we knew because they would like to live, if only for a few minutes, what we once knew.

Oh, by the way, Irving Berlin thought the *St. Valentine's Day* song, "Be Careful, It's My Heart" (sung by Crosby and danced by Fred Astaire and Marjorie Reynolds) would be the lasting hit of *Holiday Inn*.

Season's greetings . . . And may your holidays be as bright and happy as an old Sonja Henie movie!

Fourth Gay Erotic Video Awards Mixes Celebrities and Sex to Benefit AIDS

West Hollywood, CA—Gay Video Guide's Fourth Annual Gay Erotic Video Awards will take place at the prestigious Palladium in Hollywood on Monday, December 4th to honor the best in Gay erotic videos.

From over 500 videos that were produced this year, 73 were nominated with over 100 stars, directors and technical crews being nominated in traditional categories like "Best Actor," "Best Music," and "Best Director."

This year there is a new category, "Best CD Rom."

Some awards were created to promote AIDS awareness such as "The Best Depiction of Safe Sex," and "Leo Ford AIDS Humanitarian Award," which is given out to the pornstar who has volunteered to help Aid For AIDS the most during 1995.

This year's inductee in the "GV Guide Hall of Fame" is veteran pornstar Derrick Stanton.

Nominated videos for the top award, "Best Video of the Year," include: *The Other Side of Aspen: Parts 3 & 4*; (Falcon Video); *Matinee Idol* (HIS Video); *Bulls' Eye* (All Worlds Video); *Diamond Stud* (Sierra Pacific Video); *Idol Country* (HIS Video); *Mavericks* (Studio 200); and *Bad Moon Rising* (All Worlds Video).

Celebrity judges this year include RuPaul, Clive Barker, John Waters, Dirk Shafer, Greg Gorman, Barry Krost, Sam Irvin, and Ronnie Larsen.

Proceeds from this event will benefit Aid For AIDS which provides direct assistance to persons living with AIDS the Los Angeles area.

Cream City Chorus Sings at Mayor's Tree Lighting, Welcomes New Stage Manager

Milwaukee—In its annual tradition, the Wisconsin Cream City Chorus joined Milwaukee Mayor John Norquist for his annual tree lighting celebration. In addition to the ever-appropriate "Oh, Christmas Tree," the Chorus shared three numbers from its upcoming holiday performance, *Christmases Remembered*, which is being held on December 10th at the PAC's Vogel Hall.

This year's concert marks a special beginning for one of the Chorus' newest talents, Stage Manager Arnetta Hooks. Hooks comes to the Chorus with a fine set of credentials in live theatre and production.

In addition to being Artistic Director for the Talent Development Program of the Milwaukee Public Schools, she has produced, filmed, edited and mixed sound tracks for several production films.

Hooks has also been responsible for keeping accounts abreast for new musical releases, promoting music labels for top celebrities, and has toured with Janet Jackson as body double on the 1989-90 *Rhythm Nation* Tour.

She is currently pursuing a career in TV and Video production.

The Chorus is very proud to welcome Hooks as a new member of their creative team.

The Cream City Chorus rehearses every Wednesday evening at the First Unitarian Society, 1342 N. Astor. Those interested should contact the Chorus office at (414) 344-WCCC or P.O. Box 1488, Milwaukee, WI 53201, to arrange an audition. Rehearsals will begin again in January.



Kellita Smith-l., Jack Nicholson and Priscilla Barnes-r-in Sean Penn's *The Crossing Guard*, which is now playing at Milwaukee's Downer Theatre.

'Crossing Guard' is a Very Monotonous, Unpleasant and a Thoroughly Muddled Film

Reviewed by Glenn Bishop

The trailer for the new Jack Nicholson films promised an exciting tale of retribution, a sleek and smart game of cat-and-mouse between the grieving yet revengeful father (Jack Nicholson) and the drunk driver (David Morse) who took the young and innocent life of his little daughter.

Now let it be said that Glenn Bishop loves exciting tales of retribution. There is something truly and quite marvelously cathartic about a film or a book or a play where justice triumphs, where with an element of fairness, evil gets its just reward. Such tales are a tonic for the soul continually diminished by the reality of the world that we live in.

So what went wrong, so terribly, terribly wrong with Sean Penn's *The Crossing Guard*?

To begin with *The Crossing Guard* is no sleek and smart game of cat-and-mouse. Penn's protagonist Freddy Gale is a weak man, a man whose soul has given in to an ugly, all-consuming guilt.

Present Music Rings in the New Year with the Music of Leonard Bernstein

Milwaukee—Present Music makes it to Broadway on Friday, January 5th at 8:00 p.m. in the Cabot Theater for its New Year-New Music program. Composer-in-residence Bright Sheng will conduct the Present Music Ensemble with internationally acclaimed baritone Kurt Ollmann and soprano Susan Hofflander, in the theatrical song cycle *Arias and Barcarolles* by Leonard Bernstein. Bernstein's student, Bright Sheng, orchestrated the song cycle at the request of his teacher. Two of Sheng's chamber ensemble pieces round out the evening's program.



KURT OLMANN

The creation of the eight-movement song cycle *Arias and Barcarolles* for soprano, baritone and piano, four-hands began in 1955 to celebrate the birth of Bernstein's son. Thirty-three years later, the various movements were finally complete and the piece premiered at a private benefit in New York City in 1988 with Bernstein and Michael Tilson Thomas at the piano.

The name of the piece was came from President Eisenhower who told Bernstein, "You know, I like music with a theme, not all them arias and barcarolles."

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

Estranged from his wife Mary (Anjelica Huston), Freddy meticulously ticks off the days to that one special date, the day when John Booth will be released from prison. As Freddy waits, it becomes quite clear that he has simply ceased to live, routinely existing on a diet of too-much liquor and a seemingly unending line of cheap strippers.

John Booth is likewise a man who has given in to guilt. Booth has openly confessed his sins but cannot forgive his own trespasses.

Upon his released from prison, John's loving parents seek to care and protect their son, offering him the use of the trailer that sits in their back yard. Still they find themselves on the outside, utterly and absolutely helpless to offer John whatever support or assistance that might enable him to absolve himself from his crime.

In the end, Penn's *The Crossing Guard* is not that promised, exciting tale of retribution. Jack Nicholson's Freddy Gale is not a hero of or for the people.

In long, tedious scene after long, tedious scene, Freddy bares his squalid soul to the embarrassment to all those around him (including those of us in the audience), particularly to his ex-wife who has courageously sought to continue on with her own life with her two sons and new husband.

Seemingly hours into the film, the big day of John Booth's release finally, finally arrives. Freddy with supreme and thoroughly embarrassing clumsiness, screws up. His gun jammed, Freddy promises to let John live three more days, when once more he shall return. Long, tedious scene follows long, tedious scene...

It is difficult to exactly pinpoint when Glenn became stone-cold bored with *The Crossing Guard*. To be sure there were several occasions when other audience members sought to hush Glenn from shouting back at the screen. I believe there was even a minor altercation involving Glenn and the poor beleaguered cinema manager. An apology is forthcoming. Hopefully the police do not need to become involved.

Penn's objective has certainly been to pen a morality play for today's difficult and troubled times. Yet despite Penn's noble intentions and efforts, the resulting film is monotonous, it's characters unpleasant, and its message muddled.

The incident of a young life taken at the hands of a drunk driver is unquestionably regrettable. Still it is exceedingly difficult to side with such a pathetic excuse for a human being as Freddy Gale. In addition, John Booth is so very riddled with guilt that any continued retribution against him seems inhuman. Penn has created two characters devoid entirely of any spark of life, two automatons merely going through the motions. What is the message in that?

Jack Nicholson always gives a Jack Nicholson-like performance, one sure to please his many fans. David Morse is also effectively ineffectual as John Booth. Anjelica Huston, despite her third billing status is in all of maybe four scenes which she seems to have phoned in.

Glenn feels responsible to cite one especially unpleasant, rabidly homophobic moment in the film. As an irate shopper Eileen Ryan (Sean Penn's mother !?) refers to Freddy's jewelry store clerk as a "Jap fag". Clearly deliberate, such a line is extraordinarily uncalled for, wholly inappropriate to the scene and absolutely unnecessary. What gives Sean?

Could *The Crossing Guard* be as bad as this? Check it out for yourself.

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

Leonardo DiCaprio's Somewhat Anorexic Charms Can't Save 'Total Eclipse'

Reviewed by Glenn Bishop

Glenn is confused. Well, okay, Glenn has been awfully confused a lot of late. But still, Glenn is confused, absolutely baffled really, by the absolutely obsessive regard that ever-so many Gay men seem to hold for young Leonardo DiCaprio. Mr. DiCaprio is an exceedingly talented actor to be sure. But then to these bleary eyes, Glenn finds Leonardo a bit on the anorexic side. Well, to each his own.

Still *Total Eclipse* held great promise for Glenn. Arthur Rimbaud is an exceptionally fascinating figure, a poet/rebel who created a unique and unparalleled body of work before the age of twenty, then never wrote another line. A James Dean for the 1800's.

For many Gay men, Rimbaud's relationship with fellow poet Paul Verlaine has been the source of much romanticism and certainly much speculation. Poetry written by the two men, in particular Rimbaud, alludes to an intense, intellectual and physically erotic coupling. The trailer for *Total Eclipse* certainly suggested the fascinating, sure to be entertaining, exploration of this extraordinary relationship.

To be sure, *Total Eclipse* does focus on the remarkable relationship between poets Arthur Rimbaud (Leonardo DiCaprio) and Paul Verlaine (David Thewlis) and Verlaine's young wife Mathilde (Romane Bohringer). Still, Glenn must conclude that it promised far more than it actually delivered.

Total Eclipse opens with the arrival of the young poet/phenomenon Rimbaud, who has been invited to stay with Verlaine and his young and very pregnant wife Mathilde. Mathilde (and I suspect most in the audience) immediately find Rimbaud an extremely rude, uncouth boy. Verlaine is however is dazzled (as I likewise suspect that most are meant to be).

Rimbaud on his very first night proceeds to begin to trash Verlaine's lovely home, stealing a few things here, breaking a few things there until Mathilde's father orders him out. It just so happens that it is actually his house.

Naturally Verlaine follows Rimbaud, thus beginning their highly charged, sadomasochistic, ultimately self-destructive relationship.

For those, like Glenn, expecting a depiction

of their relationship in a romantic, or at least, even a positive light, *Total Eclipse* offers only disappointment. While Rimbaud and Verlaine are shown sharing a physical, sexual relationship, Director Holland depicts their lovemaking as violent and painful. Verlaine, truth be told, appears to continue to prefer sex with his voluptuous wife.

DiCaprio's Rimbaud is young, no question on that matter, but deeply immature, radically inconsistent and more than a little bit mean. His whole demeanor suggests a young man who thinks himself above such mundane demands as conventional, socially accepted modes of behavior.

Unfortunately the film never provides any basis for Rimbaud's attitude in this regard. *Total Eclipse* is almost entirely devoid of any of Rimbaud (or Verlaine's) poetry.

Glenn is especially confused because the press packet for *Total Eclipse* actually includes poetry from both Arthur Rimbaud and Paul Verlaine. Arthur Rimbaud and Paul Verlaine are legendary literary figures. Glenn wonders how one can expect to create a convincing portrait of such literary figures as Rimbaud and Verlaine and then proceed to leave out that very essence that makes them such compelling characters. Glenn actually never believed at any point in the film that DiCaprio's Rimbaud was realistically capable of creating the lines attributed to Rimbaud.

Holland winds down *Total Eclipse* with the re-telling of Rimbaud's sad and rather pathetic last days. Bound for adventure and excitement following his ultimate break with Verlaine, Rimbaud would only find misfortune, disappointment and a slow lingering death as an expatriate in Africa.

The main source of pleasure in *Total Eclipse* is some absolutely stunning photography by Yorgos Arvanitis. Thewlis' Verlaine effectively portrays the poet's intellect and his many weaknesses. Romane Bohringer is lovely to look at but wasted as Verlaine's wife, sex partner and occasional punching bag.

For many, the highlight in *Total Eclipse* will be a beautifully lit shot from the back of a very naked Rimbaud. Still, this is not enough to save Holland's very disappointing film.

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

'White Man's Burden' Gets At the Truth of Racism, but Makes Some False Points

By Patricia Bibby

On the face of it, the premise of *White Man's Burden* would make for a fascinating study of race in America. In the film, starring John Travolta and Harry Belafonte, Blacks are dominant and whites are oppressed.

This race reversal could inspire a provocative exploration of the psychology of racism. The first few minutes alone are rich with possibilities as you are forced to imagine life in another person's skin.

What emerges, however, is a disappointing effort that drives this gimmick into the ground while adding little to the discussion of race. Stereotypes aren't exploded, they are merely amplified to caricature extreme. And with a leaden plot that has so little energy, it actually seems to suck air from the audience. The only thing this film provokes is a yawn.

First-time director Desmond Nakano draws such broad strokes that if you reverse the roles once again, making Blacks the oppressed and whites the oppressors, the portrayals would be nothing short of insulting.

Louis Pinnock (Travolta) is the picture of a noble working stiff. He labors hard at a candy factory (nice opening shots of chocolate and vanilla swirling around) and runs extra errands to ingratiate himself with the boss. He has a wife (Kelly Lynch) and two small children. They live in a run-down little hovel that's a stone's throw from a gang of brooding, white skinheads who play incessant heavy metal music.

Their world seems crowded, both physically and psychically. It is stultifying and soul-deadening. The encroaching urban noise pollution alone would drive most people to distraction.

We're repeatedly flogged over the head with the idea that Louis is a good father. Providing for his children is his greatest pleasure and happiest virtue, we're told in no uncertain terms ... over and over again to the point of overkill.

Belafonte is Thaddeus Thomas, the moneyed candy factory owner who lives in a Moorish mansion with peacocks on the lawn, in what could pass for Beverly Hills. He's also a racist fond of pointing out that white people are ge-

netically inferior.

He is tended to by his white maid and has a wife who organizes charity fashion shows to benefit underprivileged white kids.

Through a chance, brief encounter, Louis' and Thaddeus' lives become inextricably linked. There's a misunderstanding that sets into motion a series of crushing blows for Louis, and his life begins to collapse around him.

One minute he's in the working world on the verge of a promotion, the next he's out of work fending off a heartless landlord threatening eviction. Unable to get a job, he becomes more desperate for cash.

This leads him, improbably, to take Thaddeus hostage, which sets up the bulk of the action, or lack thereof, of the film. Louis rationalizes that it was Thaddeus' fault that he was fired, so Thaddeus should pay him for all the time he's missed on the job.

When this film drags itself listlessly to the finish line, with Kelly Lynch shutting the door on Belafonte, you'll probably be wishing it had been you shutting the theater door on this film.

White Man's Burden isn't totally without merit, however. There are fleeting moments when Nakano hits a racial truism that resonates. For instance, at the end of the charity fashion show, a group of poor white kids is brought on stage so the crowd can feel smugly superior to these little darlings.

There's another time when Belafonte tells Travolta something to the effect of "you're not like the rest, you're articulate." How many times have we heard that subtly condescending remark about people of other races?

But these are true notes lost amid a cacophony of false ones, not the least of which is Travolta's ridiculous urban-ghetto accent. When he declares that he was just "axing" someone a question, it's so ludicrous, it's funny.

The film is rated "R" and is now showing in theatres across the country.

Government Begins Appeal in Cammermeyer Case

Seattle, WA.—The Clinton Administration continued its pursuit of Col. Margarethe Cammermeyer on December 4th in federal court before the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals in Seattle, Washington. The government is urging the court to vacate the decision issued by Judge Zilly on June 1, 1994, declaring that the old policy on Lesbians and Gay men in the military is unconstitutional. Ironically, the government's appeal of Col. Cammermeyer's case has forced her to stay on active duty beyond her retirement date. According to military policy, no soldier is allowed to leave military service while any legal action is pending.



Dykes To Watch Out For



Long Live the Dog—Directed by Michael Hoffman, *Restoration* tells the moving story of a high-spirited young physician played by Robert Downey Jr., (pictured above) who is summoned to the court of England's Merry Monarch, King Charles II (Sam Neill) to care for monarch's dog. When the animal makes a miraculous recovery, the King rewards the surgeon with a mistress (Polly Walker). Ultimately, he falls out of royal favor when he turns his back on the sybaritic life of the court in order to help plague victims in 17th Century London. Peg Ryan and Hugh Grant also star in *Restoration*, which opens at Milwaukee's Oriental Theatre on December 22nd.

Congressional School Hearings Are Expected to Further Agenda of Far Right Wing

Washington, D.C.—The on again, off again Congressional hearings, which many believe will provide a tax-payer funded pulpit for anti-Gay religious extremism, will be held in December. Now called "Parents, Schools and Values," the two day hearings will take place as we go to press, December 5th and 6th, before Rep. Peter Hoekstra's (R-MI) House Economic and Employment Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations.

The controversial hearings, which have twice been rescheduled under a different titles, were the subject of national attention and outcry, when anti-Gay extremist, Lou Sheldon, claimed the hearings were scheduled at his request.

William Bennett, who served as Secretary of Education and Drug Czar during the Reagan Administration, has been named as the lead witness in the hearings. At this writing, no other witness names have been released. Bennett is known for his conservative views and narrow definition of family. For these reasons, advocates expect a stacked panel of "experts" to present their narrow, Far Right agenda.

Attacking Youth

Expected to be raised in these hearings are school services or programs which address prevention of HIV, hate-violence in schools and the high incidence of suicide among Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender youth. Advocates fear that the hearings will attempt to misrepresent community efforts established to address these problems in schools under the guise that such counseling, training and team-building efforts "recruit and promote homosexuality."

"The Radical Right will not rest until they have forced their narrow-minded ideas onto every facet of our society," said Melinda Paras, executive director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF).

Perched in the Back Pocket

Sheldon, director of the extremist Traditional Values Coalition, sparked a national outcry when he claimed in an August fundraising letter that the hearings were scheduled at his request. Sheldon continues to claim credit for the scheduling of the hearings.

Saying that Congress appears to be "perched in the back pocket of the Radical Right," Paras pledge to mail her own back pants pocket to Hoekstra. She called on other activists to do the same.

Sheldon has a long history of irrational, extremist proclamations related to Lesbians and Gays, even suggesting that people with AIDS should be segregated in "cities of refuge" for their own good and the good of society, according to the *Los Angeles Times*.

Law and Policy

These Congressional hearings come at the close of a year that has seen an unending attack on families and perspectives that fall outside of the narrowly defined Right Wing definitions of family and values.

From school boards to the state legislatures, communities have grappled with well-organized Right Wing attacks on family and education.

A new poll released by the Human Rights Campaign (HRC) shows that by more than two to one, parents worry more about their children receiving enough information about AIDS and HIV in school than about homosexuality being presented as acceptable.

According to the survey, 59% of parents said they worry more about "not providing children with enough information to protect themselves from AIDS" than they do about "exposing children to information about homosexuality."

Majorities of Republicans (53%), Independents (66%), and Democrats (65%) agreed as did majorities in every region of the country.

The national survey of 773 registered voters was conducted between November 30th and December 3rd by Democratic Lake Research and the Republican firm of Bailey, Deardourff & Associates. The margin of error for the sample is a +/- 3/1%.

According to NGLTF's figures, of the at least 39 pieces of anti-Gay legislation considered before state legislatures this year, 17, roughly 44%, focused on Gay-related educational policies—mandating only negative references to Gay-related issues and individuals through the educational system.

Advocates argue that these slanted hearings will lead to future policies designed to prevent access to information on homosexuality and to the abolition of programs designed to support the safety, self-esteem and health of young people grappling with issues of sexual orientation and gender-identity.

"What's frightening is that the totalitarian vision of the Far Right makes mincemeat of the American values of pluralism and respect," said Dr. John D'Emilio, director of the NGLTF Policy Institute.

Editor's Note: Those in favor of the hearings would like to deny the existence of Gay students. I have no doubt that these people know that such denial and the resulting ridicule, have contributed materially to a higher suicide rate among Gay and Lesbian teens.

What then must the recommendations be that come out of Rep. Hoekstra's Committee? Don't counsel students who are identified as suicide threats because they are Lesbian or

Gay? Let them die?

Would proponents of the hearings forbid a current events class teacher from discussing the hearings themselves since they deal with Lesbians and Gay men?

Sheldon has provided Hoekstra a list of those who will testify at the hearings. It was Sheldon who called homosexuality "the most pernicious evil today."

That alone should tell Hoekstra—and everyone else—just what a loose cannon Sheldon is.

Surely, the schools and school children face other problems—weapons, drugs, pregnancy, alcohol abuse—that could be considered a tad pernicious too.



The Bets are On—Joe Pesci (above) stars in Universal Pictures' *Casino* as Nicky Santoro, Ace's hot-tempered best-friend who brings his streetwise muscle to Ace's Las Vegas operation and eventually betrays him. *Casino* is now playing at theatres everywhere.

Vote on Madison Ordinance Drafted in Reaction to Sex in Olin Park is Delayed

Madison—An ordinance drafted in response to complaints about male-male public sex in Olin Park has been sent back to the city attorney's office for at least 60 days. Originally scheduled for a vote before the Common Council on November 7th, the ordinance was referred back to the city attorney by one of its original sponsors, Ald. Tim Bruer.

Critics of the proposed ordinance said that it was poorly conceived, and hastily drafted. The ordinance would have given the police the power to ban a person from all public parks for a wide range of offenses, including public exposure, but also including "use of profanity" or "boisterous behavior."

An arrest or conviction was not required. Given civil liberties concerns about its sweeping language, the Wisconsin ACLU had been approached for its opinion on the ordinance by a newly formed group called Save Our Space (SOS).

On Thursday, October 26th, about two dozen people came to the first meeting of SOS. They came together to launch a coordinated re-

sponse to what members characterized as an often homophobic over-reaction to the situation from city government, the police department and the media around this issue.

While a wide range of opinions about the specific issue of public sex was expressed at the October 26th SOS meeting, there was agreement that the way this issue has played out has resulted in official over-reaction and resulting mistrust between members of the Gay community and the police.

However, several people observed that a recent meeting with Capt. Ellen Schwartz of the police had been very productive and they were encouraged to dialogue.

There was also concern about the sometimes inflammatory nature of the press coverage. Another group was assigned to monitor and work with the media around this issue.

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Cudahy **WARM IN WISCONSIN:** Bi WM, 33, 5'8", 168, brown hair, hazel eyes, 'stache, seeks other guys for friendship and more. Please leave a message. #24275

Milwaukee **YOUNG LOVE:** GBM, 19, HIV-, seeks GWM's, 19-26, for friendship and more. Please leave a message. #24478

Milwaukee **BORN TO PLEASE:** GWM, Italian, mid 40's, well built, hairy chest, seeks others, GWM/GHM/GBM ONLY, 25-45, for total satisfaction. You won't be disappointed. Please leave a message. #8552

Hicks **BIG BROTHER SOUGHT:** Bi WM, 23, farm boy, 5'10", 165, curly blonde hair, innocent blue eyes, seeks other Bi males, 26-35, for wrestling fun and more. Please leave a message. #25228

Kenosha **SEEKING FRIENDS:** GWM, reddish brown hair, 5'6", 140, blue eyes, seeks other guys for friendship and more. Please leave a message. #25276

Milwaukee **GO FOR THE GOLD:** GWM, 29, 6'1", 200, seeks experienced and dominant GWM for first time experience. Please leave me a message! #18042

Milwaukee **DEEP NEED:** GWM, 5'3", 160, brown hair, blue eyes, seeks GWM/GLM, 18-24, for friendship and more. Please leave a message. #18499

Oshkosh **LET THE GOOD TIMES ROLL:** GWM, 39, 6'1", 220, seeks others for fun and more. Please leave a message. #18715

Wisconsin **WINTER'S COMING:** GWM, 20, 5'9", 175, auburn hair, green eyes, submissive, varied interests, seeks local guys, 18-30, for friendship and more. Please leave a message. #19117

Wisconsin **BIG BOY:** GWM, 22, 5'9", 240, brown hair, blue eyes, overweight, seeks others for friendship and more. Please leave a message. #19143

Wisconsin **BI AND BI:** Bi WM, 6'2", 195, married, new to this, seeks other Bi White married guys, 35-45, for discrete adventures. Please leave a message. #19877

Ashland **NORTHLINE COLLEGE:** GWM, 19, college student, 6'2", 190, blonde hair, hazel eyes, varied interests, seeks others for friendship and more. Please leave me a message. #13280

Madison **BOTTOM TO TOP:** GWM, 5'9", 165, 30 something, brown hair, very good looking, aggressively dominant seeks submissive's only for mutual pleasure and excitement. Discretion a must. Call me now! #14481

Madison **DEADHEADS:** GWM, deadhead, long haired couple seeks same. Let's meet and go Phishing! #14493

Appleton **LET'S PARTY:** GWM, long hair, blue eyes, seeks others, 18-22, for good times. Please leave a message. #14769

Wisconsin **TOUR GUIDE NEEDED:** GWM, 27, 6', 210, new to area, varied interests, seeks others for friendship and more. Please leave me a message. #14878

Madison **WILLING TO NEGOTIATE:** GWM, 20, student, good shape, blonde hair, blue eyes, 5'7", 140, seeks in shape and dominant men, 23-35, professional,

open for new ideas. Leave me a message. #15019

Milwaukee **GAM,** 22, 5'5", 120, brown eyes, black hair, very gorgeous, seeks others, 30-35, masculine and well built, for pleasure and relationship. Please leave me a message. #15149

Milwaukee **LEATHER & LEXOL:** GWM, biker, seeks submissive for leather cleaning. Will Train! Leave me a message. #15223

Green Lake **SINCERE AND HONEST:** GWM, 28, 5'8", 165, body builder, varied interests, seeks GWM, 28-40, semi professional and local, for friendship and more. Please leave a message. #15317

Oshkosh **ANY PORT IN A STORM:** GWM, 39, seeks friendship and more. Please leave a message. #15327

Milwaukee **SERIOUS RELATIONSHIP ONLY:** GBM, college student, 130, 5'8", non smoker/drinker, varied interests, seeks tall and slim GBM, 19-29, only. No Bi's please. Must be non smoker and drinker. No one night responses. #13034

Upper Peninsula **HEAD LOCK ME:** GWM, 34, 5'10", 180, moderately muscled, seeks husky wrestling partners for rough and sweaty workouts. Please leave a message. #10046

Madison **DISCRETE BI DAY:** Bi WM, 25, varied interests, very discrete and honest, seeks other men for discrete encounters and more. Please leave a message. #12072

Oshkosh **FRIENDSHIP FIRST!** GWM, 23, 5'11", blonde hair, hazel eyes, cute, 160, varied interests, good shape, seeks other Non smoking GWM's, 21-24, local preferred, for friendship and more. Please call me! #16127

Appleton **OSHKOSH ENCOUNTERS:** GWM, 6'3", 195, brown hair, blue/green eyes, smoker, very masculine and straight appearing/acting, varied interests, seeks GWM, 30-40, for friendship, companionship and more. Please leave a message. #16286

Wisconsin **MILITARY ORIENTED:** GWM, 27, 5'7", brown hair, blue eyes, ex-Marine, varied interests, seeks other straight acting GWM, 18-27, with similar interests. Please leave a message. #16491

Wisconsin **FOUR OR MORE IN THE FLOOR:** GWM, 26, black hair, brown eyes, 5'10", good shape, hairy and clean cut, seeks Bi or Bi Curious males, under 30 and dominant preferred, who are into group activities. Please leave a message. #16665

Wisconsin **GWM,** 26, 6'2", 180, brown hair and blue eyes, varied interests, seeks others for friendship and lots more. Please leave a message. #16691

Wausau **DISCRETE FRIENDSHIP:** GWM, 5'11", 140, blonde hair, blue eyes, very discrete and professional, seeks others who are very discrete for friendship and more. Please leave a message. #16794

Wisconsin **HARD WORKING PROFESSIONAL:** GWM, 29, 6'2", brown hair, blue eyes, 200, very attractive, good shape, varied interests, seeks others, 25-40, with similar qualities. Please leave a message. #46088

Wisconsin **LEATHER NOVICE:** GWM, 5'8", 150, brown hair, hazel eyes, smooth, well built, very muscular, seeks very dominant men, smooth, slender and muscular preferred, for friendship and much more. #13692

Wisconsin **LONELY AND READY TO START OVER:** GWM, seeks friends in the

local area for exploration and more. Please leave a message. #17185

Madison **MASCULINE ONLY:** GWM, 29, blonde hair, blue eyes, 6', 185, nice body, masculine and straight appearing seeks same, 21-39, for fun and more. Please leave a message. #17406

Wisconsin **I NEED A FRIEND:** Married Bi WM, seeks friends for feeling exploration and more. Please be sincere and leave a message. #17610

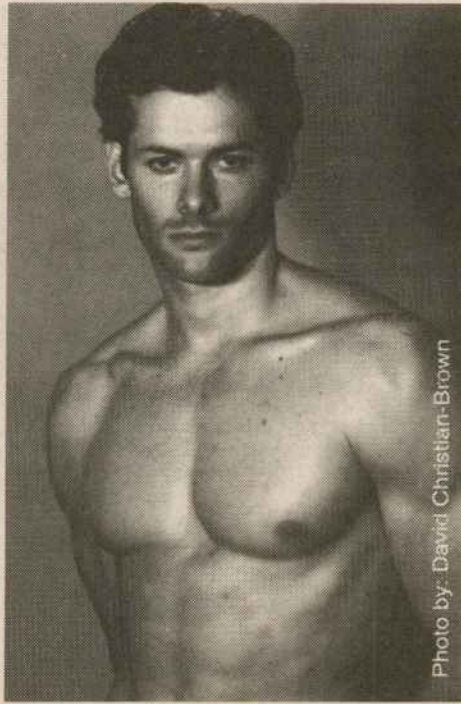


Photo by: David Christian-Brown

Wisconsin **LEATHER LOVER:** GWM, 150, 5'8", muscular, smooth, clean shaven, seeks very dominant Leathermen, smooth and muscular, for friendship and much more. Please leave a message. #13692

Wisconsin **WISCONSIN WINTERS:** GWM, 31, 5'10", 140, blonde hair, blue eyes, varied interests, seeks friends, under 31, for fun and possibly more. Please leave a message. #16794

Wisconsin **RELATIONSHIP ORIENTED:** GWM, 24, 5'4", blonde hair, blue eyes, varied interests, seeks others, 20-27, for friendship and long term relationship. Please leave a message. #17624

Milwaukee **LET'S PLAY DOCTOR:** GBM, 24, 5'11", 140, brown hair and eyes, nurse, variety of interests, seeks others for friendship and more. Please leave a message. #17820

Wisconsin **ALL AMERICAN CREAM:** GWM, 30, 6'2", 200, brown hair, blue eyes, boy next door, seeks same, 25-45, for friendship and more. Please leave a message. #46088

Wisconsin **COCKED AND LOADED:** GWM, 6'2", 170, attractive, seeks GWM's, under 35, for friendship and relationship. Please leave a message. #12577

Wisconsin **DEEP NEED:** GWM, 24, 6', 150, brown hair and eyes, seeks new friends with relationship possibilities. Please leave a message. #12761

Milwaukee **SENSUAL SPANDEX:** GWM, 27, 6'1", 160, brown hair, hazel eyes, seeks GWM's, 21-45, attractive and in good shape, for submissive spandex pleasure. Groups and couples a plus. Please call. #13226

Milwaukee **LET'S TALK:** GWM, 22, 125, 5'6", blonde hair, blue eyes, musician and artist, seeks other GWM's with similar qualities and interests for fun. Please leave me a message. #13411

Milwaukee **RELATIONSHIP MINDED:** GWM, 38, sincere and romantic, seeks a sincere relationship with GWM, 25-40, hairy a plus. Let me share my life with you. Please leave a message. #13772

Milwaukee **TRAIN ME:** GWM, 34, 150, 5'8", brown hair, hazel eyes, muscular, smooth, seeks discipline from other GWM's with same qualities under 35. Please leave a message. #13692

Milwaukee **LONG TERM COMMITMENT:** GWM, relationship oriented, seeks GWM, 20-30, drug and smoke free, for serious relationship. Please leave a message. #13835

Wisconsin **WHERE ARE YOU?:** GWM, 5'9", 150, seeks other males for fun. Please leave a message. #14216

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 me 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

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

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

Greenbay **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



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relationship, but I'd like to take it slow. (Call Thru) Box# 9300

Mike, SWM, 36, well endowed, happy and healthy, looking for outgoing F, preferably redhead, for good times, leading to serious relationship. (Call Thru) Box# 8556

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

Allen, sexy, bow-legged BM, muscular, 5'9, 160lbs., looking for attractive BM, well-built, in-shape. If you can measure up and hang with the program, call me. (Call Thru) Box# 9110

David, very open minded SWM, youthful 41, well-endowed, good looking, good personality, humorous. Look-

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 feds, 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

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

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

Tony, 29, dirty-blond hair, blue-green/eyes, 6', 185lbs., affectionate, likes the outdoors, running, having good times, movies, and holding and cuddling. ISO M, 27 or younger, descent shape, with similar interests. Box# 9046

WM, 49, in good shape, into bondage, domination, dildo play, and phone sex. If interested, please call. Box# 7418

M, 38, good looking, in-shape, financially secure, stable. Looking for versatile M, 18-25. Apply for position. (Call Thru) Box# 4105

Dark haired, dark eyed M, 31, 6'1, 150lbs., smooth, mustache, looking for hot times with M, 30-45, who likes to have good times. Box# 7424

Rich, 5'11, 190lbs., brown hair, brown eyes, hairy chest, looking to service M and have some fun. Box# 8772

M, looking for good times with hot bottom, well hung stud, nothing to serious. (Call Thru) Box# 9275

Brad, GWM, 36, generous, ex-pro athlete. ISO young GWM, under 26, stud-muffin type, for live-in, companionship. Smooth body, and gymnast build a plus. (Call Thru) Box# 7386

man. I'll make sure you have the time of your life. Box# 0319

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

GWM, 41, 190lbs., looking for dominant, masculine top, for friendship and possible relationship. Open to all new ideas. (Call Thru) Box# 9634

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, medium build, 130lbs., seeking big, strong trucker to break me in. Big and a trim mustache are really hot. Box# 5865

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

Jim, 6'4, 190lbs., versatile, looking for top M, into hot scenes, that are all safe. Especially about discipline and all that. (Call Thru) Box# 0840

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

Bill, DM, 34, 6', 210lbs., brown hair, hazel eyes, intelligent, musician, enjoys sports and music. ISO WF, any age, spontaneous, sensual, romantic, erotic, and exotic. Box# 3423

Larry, 5'9, 150lbs. If you want to have a good time, and some good phone conversations, call me. Box# 3950

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, 35, 5'10, 180lbs., long brown hair, blue eyes, looking for horny F or C with horny F. Would like to get to know you. Box# 7722

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

M, looking for well endowed M to service. (Call Thru) Box# 2891

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

Rick, 5'10, 185lbs., Italian, dark hair, masculine, innocent, interested in learning what it takes to please a man. (Call Thru) Box# 4406

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

Daddy Bill, GWM top, looking for GWM, bottom, to service me. I aim to please. Box# 4921

Ernesto, M, really into meeting some guys that could show me a good time. (Call Thru) Box# 4857

BiWM, 23, 130lbs., seeking older, adult M, 27-35, big,

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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, SWM, 24, college student, healthy, looking for F to try to mutually pleasure each other. If you want to get together for drinks, and fun afterwards, give me a call. Box# 8427

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

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, grn eyes, ISO compatible M's to share my house I just purchased. Box# 9644

This freak is looking for a masculine top freak, to do it anytime, anywhere. You must be freaky. Box# 3588

M, 40, 5'11, 175lbs., looking for Catwoman to take me to her dungeon, or Wonderwoman to rescue me from the bad girls. Box# 1719

Joe, 6', 200lbs. Anybody who likes to hang out, do fun things, and is ultra-sexually active, give me a call. Box# 2400

BiWM, 23, 130lbs., very little experience with M's. ISO older M, 28-38, 170-200lbs., trim mustache and beard, big, rugged build, for very discrete, 1st encounter. Box# 7415

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Steve, 44, bottom ISO tops. Box# 7381

Brett, 5'9, 160, I'm a hairy man, ISO some dick. Box# 8201

Jim, M, 27, 6'1, 210lbs., enjoys fishing, 4-wheeling, and the outdoors. ISO someone to spend quality time with. Box# 1778

Dennis, DWM, 43, looks younger, 5'10, 153lbs., sophisticated, swab, romantic, kind-hearted, clean shaven, well-gifted, looking for classy, intelligent F, 30-45, to be spoiled and pampered. (Call Thru) Box# 8470

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

M, 33, 6', 215lbs., brown hair, blue eyes, enjoys job, has variety of interests, playful, young at heart, looking for

ing for C, as well as F. (Call Thru) Box# 1389

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

SWM, sincere, handsome, with years of experience as being dominant. ISO F with submissive fantasy. They will be explored in safe, discrete manner. All you have to do is call. (Call Thru) Box# 8481

C, early 40's, he's straight, she's possibly Bi, N/S, no drugs, enjoy nudity, and whatever else goes with it. ISO C to have fun with. Box# 1635

Mark, GBM, 28, 6'1, 190lbs., interesting, can go either way, but bottom is what he likes. You won't be disappointed. (Call Thru) Box# 2396

Robert, 5'10, 145, brn hr/eyes, excellent shapete, American-Indian, Black, Italian, ISO G/ BiWM, who enjoys good company. Box# 8839

Eric, BM, attr., handsome, nice body, ISO muscular, well-endowed male, attr., disease free, clean, still in the closet a plus. Box# 1449

WBiM, 38, disease free, enjoys having fun, makes a real good bottom. ISO WM, overly endowed, cut, and disease free. Box# 8621

Brian, 38, 6'2, 210lbs., brown hair, brown eyes, good body, hairy chest/legs, looking for masculine guys who love the outdoors, playing, groups, and having good times. Box# 9776

Rob, 6', 170, GWM, always horny but never desperate, ISO other 40 and under. Box# 9697

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

David, loves to suck, 5'6, 160lbs., healthy, wants to get together one on one or with a group. (Call Thru) Box# 9389

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

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

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

Hot GMC, 33 and 45, looking to meet other monogamous C, 28-45, for hot, safe fun. Box# 2574

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

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

Very large, muscular WM, 44, 6'3, 245lbs., ISO much smaller built M, martial artist, wrestler, for fantasy combat or good natured horse play. (Call Thru) Box# 2840

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

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

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5530
College student, early 20's, 6', 185lbs., works out, clean shaven, likes basketball, biking, dining out, and opera. ISO someone to spend time with, develop a friendship, and more. Box# 7973

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

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

BM, 34, 6', 215lbs., well built in right places, well-endowed bottom. ISO well-endowed top M, 25-55, to give me a good time, who's looking to take control. Race/unimportant, size is. Box# 6041

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

Rick, GWM, 35, 5'8, 130lbs., submissive, bottom, attractive, slim. ISO aggressive GWM, 20-35, boot and cycle type guy, into wild hot, tame, or rough times. (Call Thru) Box# 5415

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 feds. (Call Thru) Box# 4213

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

Peter, GWM, 34, very oral, looking to hook-up with hot M, 20's-30's, any race. Just lie back and enjoy some hot head. No reciprocation. (Call Thru) Box# 1877

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

Aggressive top, very capable, likes to get in the saddle, and stay there a long time. Give me a call. (Call Thru) Box# 1321

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

Mark, if you're into hot fun, and good times, and love to play, I'm into you. Box# 0320

Kevin, if you're looking for a good, hot, fun time, I'm your

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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

Mike, GBM, 39, looking for GBM, 30-45, well-endowed, thick, top, for fun and excitement. Box# 1187

Survival/Revival, MAP's Third Ward Resale Shop, Celebrates One-Year Anniversary

Milwaukee—Early in the development of the Milwaukee AIDS Project's (MAP) Survival/Revival Resale shop, someone came up with a list of the top ten things an interested person could do to help establish the business.

At the top of the list was "Recruit a carpenter to work on the renovations" and at the bottom of the list was "Donate the shirt off your back, now!"

In between was the tongue-in-cheek request to "donate your Rolex watch and all the furniture in your living room for resale."

As Survival/Revival celebrates one full year of business, manager Kathy Fortier is still gladly welcoming donations of shirts and furniture and wishing for donations of Rolexes.

On World AIDS Day, December 1st, 1995, staff and volunteers invited the public to an anniversary celebration highlighted by birthday cake, coffee, and store-wide sale prices.

The mission of the business, located at 246 E. Chicago Street in Milwaukee's Historic Third Ward, is to earn funds to support all the program areas of MAP; to provide needed household items and clothing to men, women and children living with HIV/AIDS; and to create jobs and volunteer opportunities for the individuals MAP serves and the people who support MAP.

In the last year, Survival/Revival has benefited from a variety of knowledgeable help. A Wisconsin Department of Development Business Development Initiative grant provided financial assistance. Laughlin/Constable advertising agency created an eye-catching logo and advertisement series.

Volunteers have given absolutely essential help in many forms. A volunteer committee helped the store produce its first ever fundraiser September 30th, a combination "dance-fashion show-shopping evening" called "Street Beat". More than \$2,000 was raised that night alone.

At the present time, about 15 or 20 volunteers work in the store each week. "We could use more volunteers," said Fortier, "since we're open six days a week, and we need four volunteers a day."

Most people who volunteer here have a real dedication to the whole AIDS issue. They either know someone who is HIV positive or are politically conscious and want to help raise money to find a cure.

Fortier feels strongly that the resale shop is an effective way to interact with the public and educate them about HIV and AIDS.

"Survival/Revival is a lens through which the public can see the good work of MAP," she said. "Most members of the public don't have an opportunity or reason to go to the agency, but if they stop in here, we can tell them about its work and they can contribute to it through donating items and/or buying items."

All volunteers are trained to answer questions from the public about HIV and AIDS. Shoppers and donors might gain a little knowledge, get some questions answered, while they're in the store.

One of these volunteers is Maureen Taylor, a woman originally from England who formerly managed a fabric store in the Chicago area. "The people I work with at Survival/Revival are all terrific," she commented, "and I enjoy meeting students and everyone who shops here. The Third Ward has become quite the 'place to be'...we have lots of out-of-towners stopping in. Some people are looking for bargains, and we see a number of dealers who stop in regularly to see what we have. Good furniture is a hot seller year-round. At this time of year, warm sweaters, coats and socks are selling well, as are holiday decorations."

While Taylor likes to shop for little toys for her grandchildren or household items for her grown children, she's amazed at the number of items which are donated and sold each week. "Everything is constantly changing. It's never boring, with people coming in and out. Time goes so fast when I'm in the shop that I only know that it's time to go when I get hungry." Taylor works a four-hour shift on Tuesdays. "I'm a resale/auction type person," she shared. "I've been known to go into the shop on days I'm not volunteering!"

"We've accomplished more than we ever thought possible in our first year of operation," said Fortier. "Our sales volume has slowly but surely increased each month. We feel positive the store will continue to be a huge success. Most of our customers have heard about us through word-of-mouth, which will grow. We receive very strong support in the Gay and Lesbian community, and we greatly appreciate the donation of ad space in the Gay/Lesbian press. Besides art dealers, antique and record collectors, we see many students looking for hip or cheap clothing. Budget-conscious people also love to shop here. We look forward to increasing our sales in our second year."

People who want to donate to Survival/Revival can bring items during regular business hours: Tuesday through Friday 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Sunday from noon to 5:00 p.m. The store can use clothing, accessories, household goods, furniture, small appliances,

books, records, CDs, comic books, toys, games, sporting goods, tools, seasonal decorations, picture frames, artwork and furniture. Pick-up can be arranged for large items. Call 291-2856 to make arrangements or to get information on volunteer opportunities.

Since We Need a Word that Includes All of Us, Why Not Use 'Gay'?

Commentary by Kathy Worthington

For four years I was the Editor of a Utah publication for Lesbians, and for three years my partner Sara was the Assistant Editor. Because of our work with the publication, we received and read a wide range of LesBiGay publications from across the country.

We've been to women's festivals, the March on Washington, Stonewall 25 and the Gay Games. We've had plenty of time and plenty of reasons to get used to the popular use of the word "Queer"...a word that some homosexual/Bisexual/Transgender/Drag people in the U.S. have taken to using as an all inclusive term that means all of us.

In our travels, in our work and as activists, we've heard the word "Queer" used again and again and again and again.

You'd think that by now Sara and I would be comfortable with "Queer"—and we are, sort of. Queer is shorter and easier to write or say than Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual/Transgender. But we almost never used "Queer" in our publication, we don't use it in conversation, and we really have no desire to.

We think there are many, many homosexual/Bisexual and Transgendered Americans who feel the same way.

Proponents of the word "Queer" have a point, however, this Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgendered, Drag stuff can get pretty long, unwieldy and tiresome. "Queer" is so short.

Gay is shorter. And sweeter. Nicer. And more comfortable.

Most Lesbians get comfortable with the word "Gay" before they get comfortable with the word "Lesbian." "I'm Gay." It's so easy to say, easy to hear. Even many straight people can hear it and not flinch, which is not something you can say about the word "Queer." A huge percentage of Gays and Lesbians are quite comfortable saying they're Gay; some of us are even proud to say it, happy to say it.

GAY. I think it sounds and feels comfortable and free. Out and proud. For my first forty years, queer was a bad, nasty, insulting word.

Four years haven't managed to erase all of that.

GAY. We've taken a word that originally meant happy and used it in place of homosexual until everyone accepts it as meaning that. Surely we can take that same happy word and make it include Bisexuals, Transgendered people and anyone else who wants to be included.

This is written by a woman, a Lesbian...and my partner, also a Lesbian, agrees. We're activists, feminists and Lesbians, yet we think it's just fine for us and other people to say the word "Gay" and mean all of us: homosexual men and women, Bisexuals and Transgendered people.

If we, two womyn, two Lesbians in our forties, think it's OK for publications, speakers, and writers to simply say "Gay" to mean all of us, then perhaps there are other women out there who agree.

This doesn't mean that we have to give up all the other terms. People can continue to use "Queer" and two newer terms: "LesBiGay" and "TransLesBiGay." And, of course, we can continue to say Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual/Transgender. But let's use Gay. The Gay community. Gay publications. Gay activists. It's short, sweet and easy. Say it to mean the whole community. If we can take a word and make it ours, change its meaning, affect the way it's used, why not the word GAY?

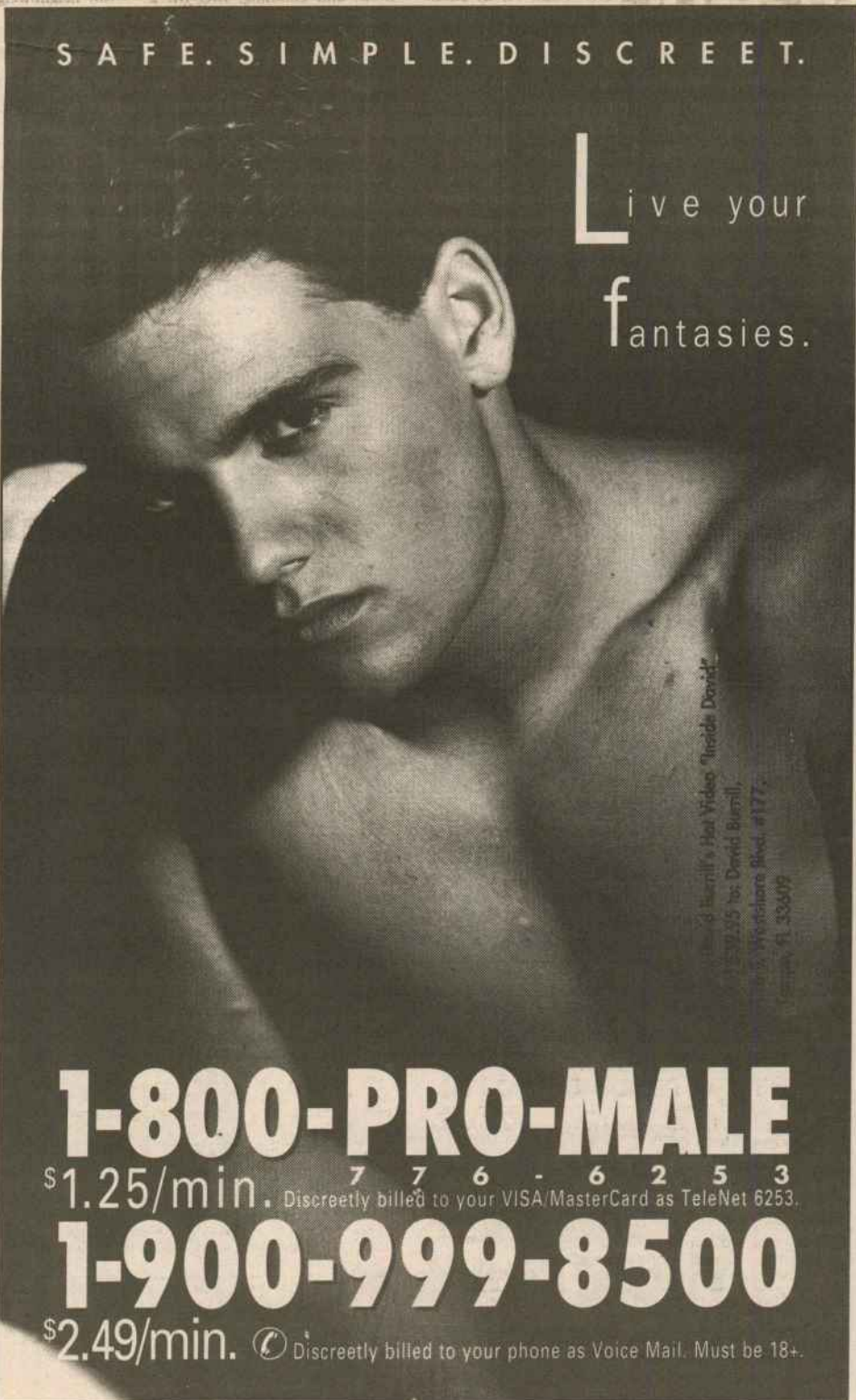
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Social Work Case Manager

The Milwaukee AIDS Project, a service agency of the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin, is seeking a Social Work Case Manager to work with individuals who are living with HIV/AIDS. Responsibilities include assessment, service plan development, ongoing monitoring and evaluation, reassessment, service coordination, problem solving and advocacy. Candidates should have a BSW and at least three years of experience working with people living with a life challenging disease. Interested individuals should submit a letter summarizing qualifications and salary requirements with a resume to: Kimberly Tenerelli, AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin, P.O. Box 92487, Milwaukee, WI 53202.

Benefits Specialist

The Milwaukee AIDS Project, a service agency of the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin, is seeking a Benefits Specialist to advocate on behalf of people living with HIV disease and AIDS. The candidate must display a clear understanding of eligibility criteria and interactive components of various benefits programs. The Benefits Specialist should be able to counsel the client on each of the major benefit programs including Social Security (SSD and SSI), T-19 and disenrollment, Medicare, AFDC, Food Stamps, Drug Reimbursement, COBRA and HIRSP. The Benefits Specialist will provide direct assistance in completing filing and monitoring of all applications.

The Benefits Specialist will counsel the client on all phases of the application and appeal process for Social Security. This includes assessing the client's disability status, the potential for a successful application, advocating for presumptive disability where appropriate, ability to assess denials and file timely appeals, recognize issues upon denial and, if appropriate, develop the case for further appeal.

Candidate should have a Bachelor's Degree, extensive experience in benefits planning, at least three years of experience in the coordination of benefits for persons living with life challenging diseases and the ability to network effectively within the benefit and entitlement service delivery network. Interested individuals should submit a letter summarizing qualifications and salary requirements with a resume to: Kimberly Tenerelli, AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin, P.O. Box 92487, Milwaukee, WI 53202. Equal Opportunity Employer.

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New Jersey Judge Upholds Boy Scouts' Ban on Gays by Misreading the Bible

Trenton, NJ—The Boy Scouts of America's (BSA) ban on Gays has been challenged a handful of times and has always been upheld.

So when Superior Court Judge Patrick J. McGann in Freehold ruled that the Monmouth Council of the Boy Scouts did not violate state anti-discrimination laws when it expelled Eagle Scout James Dale in 1990 after learning Dale was Gay, it was really no surprise.

What was surprising was McGann's language in the ruling released Wednesday, November 8th but filed November 3.

"It was shocking to read such harsh anti-Gay language coming from a judge in writing," said Dale's attorney, Evan Wolfson, on Thursday.

But Richard W. Walker, the Boy Scouts of America national spokesman in Irving, Texas, said "I didn't get that feeling at all" when he read the 50-page ruling. Walker called the ruling "well-reasoned."

In the ruling, McGann wrote: "Men who do those criminal and immoral acts cannot be held out as role models. BSA knows that."

The judge said the Boy Scouts of America is a private organization and has a constitutional right to decide who can belong. The Scouts' Gay ban has been challenged several times but always upheld, Walker said.

Wolfson, a senior attorney with the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund in New York, said he is considering an appeal but would not discuss whether the judge's language would be one of the grounds.

McGann was on the bench most of Thursday and did not immediately return a telephone call from The Associated Press seeking comment.

In his legal analysis, McGann cited the Bible: "Sodomy is derived from the name of the biblical city, Sodom, which, with the nearby city of Gomorrah, was destroyed by fire and brimstone rained down by the Lord because of the sexual depravity (active homosexuality) of their male inhabitants."

As most biblical scholars agree, the myth of Sodom does not refer to homosexuality at all. McGann showed what one observer called "a lamentable ignorance" of Scripture in reading its meaning as he did.

McGann went on to write that "all religions deem the act of sodomy a serious moral wrong," and that until 1979, it was considered a criminal act in New Jersey.

Again, McGann showed his ignorance. All religions do not consider homosexuality to be evil, the observer said.

"It is unthinkable that in a society where there was universal governmental condemnation of the act of sodomy as a crime, that the BSA could or would tolerate active homosexuality if discovered in any of its members," he wrote. "The criminal law has changed. The moral law as to the act of sodomy—has not."

Dale, 25, formerly of Middletown, said "it was upsetting that a judge would rule this way. It seems obvious that he might not be ruling on the basis of the case, which is discrimina-

tion," said Dale, a fund-raiser for Phoenix House in Manhattan, a drug rehabilitation center.

Dale, who was in Boy Scouts for more than 12 years, said he is living his life the way the Boy Scouts taught him, by helping people.

"I'm practicing what I was taught in Boy Scouts," he said. "I'm standing by what I believe in and helping the community. I believe in the Boy Scouts and their programs, but not in their discrimination policies."

Dale, who now lives in Manhattan, said it's ironic to him that his first two Boy Scout troops folded because of lack of adult leadership.

"To think that someone as qualified as myself, an exemplary scout, can't be an assistant scoutmaster when adults are needed is ridiculous," he said.

But Walker said Dale had no business being a scout.

"We believe the person (Dale) knew very well in advance what our values are," Walker said. "This person was trying to change the BSA when these values have been very, very successful over the last 85 years. If you say Boy Scout today, people automatically think community service and citizenship."

McGann, considered by his peers to be an extreme religious conservative, came under criticism in 1992 when he issued an injunction against a woman preventing her from getting an abortion after the man who impregnated her petitioned the court.

The injunction was later lifted by an appeals court and the woman was allowed to get an abortion.

Gay Leaders at Creating Change Conference Announce Push for Same-Sex Marriage

Detroit, MI—Gay and Lesbian leaders said Saturday, November 11, that they plan a major push to legalize same-gender marriages, despite a hostile political climate and some disagreement within their own ranks.

"The bottom line is, we don't have a choice about the timing," said Amelia Craig, an attorney and executive director of Gay and Lesbian Advocates and Defenders in Boston.

Approximately 2,000 Gay and Lesbian activists from around the country, had gathered in Detroit for the Creating Change Conference, an annual affair sponsored by the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF).

The issue of same-sex marriage is expected to be thrust into the news again next year when a trial is scheduled in Hawaii over whether the state has a compelling interest to keep same-sex couples from marrying.

Craig said legal experts agree that chances are good the court will rule against the state. That would make Hawaii the first in the union to recognize Gay and Lesbian marriages.

Recent published studies done by independent researchers show that same-sex marriages will prove to be an economic boom to the Aloha State.

Gay and Lesbian operated resorts and B&B's report that they have been swamped with reservations by same-sex couples in anticipation of a favorable ruling by the Hawaiian court.

They are likely to be won by arguing that denial of state-recognized marriage to gays and lesbians constitutes sex discrimination, Craig said.

"In the same way it would be race discrimination to deny me a marriage license to marry an African-American man, it would be gender discrimination to deny me a marriage license to marry another woman."

NGLTF's think tank, the NGLTF Policy Institute, released a handbook Saturday for Gay and Lesbian activists campaigning for same-gender marriage. The handbook, titled **To Have and to Hold**, includes tips on influencing news coverage of the issue and ways to lobby lawmakers and fight legislation to prohibit same-sex marriages.

At the same time, the Religious Right is in a frenzy over the issue.

"The marriage issue is clearly in the crosshairs of the radical right," Melinda Paras, executive director of the task force, writes in the handbook. "The radical right is aware that public opinion polls show weak support for same-gender marriages."

A recent survey taken by the Lambda Legal Defense Fund showed that one third of the nation's voters are in favor of allowing same-sex marriages.

The poll found that 33% of voters believed that two people of the same sex should be able to get married if they love each other, while 63% disagreed.

Young voters, those with higher incomes and those with better education, were more likely to be in favor of equal marriage rights, the survey found.

"A large number of Americans already understand that the choice of marriage partners should belong to the individual, not the government," said Wolfson. "These numbers express widespread understanding that love and commitment are the true definitions of marriage, and that freedom to marry should not be proscribed along racial, religious or sexual orientation lines."

John D'Emilio, director of the NGLTF Policy Institute and a professor at the University

of North Carolina, acknowledged there is disagreement among Gays and Lesbians over whether the issue should be pursued in today's conservative political climate.

"There is disagreement. And yet, at the same time, it is clear that the denial of our right to marriage—if that is what we as individuals choose—definitely represents discrimination," he said.

The group says denial of legal marriage prevents Gay and Lesbian couples from filing joint tax returns, from obtaining joint insurance policies, from automatic inheritance and right of survivorship, and from securing some workplace benefits.

"The case is coming down," Craig said. "The issue is not whether or not to deal with it, but how to deal with it."

Before the trial, the Hawaii Legislature is expected to consider recommendations from a state commission that is studying the issue. And the case already has generated a response in other states.

Utah earlier this year passed a law denying legal recognition of same-sex marriages, while a similar attempt in South Dakota failed. An Alaska lawmaker failed in his attempt to close a loophole that could allow them there.

A court challenge similar to the one in Hawaii also is pending in Alaska, Craig said.

If same-gender marriages are legalized in Hawaii, other states will have to face the issue as Gay and Lesbian residents return home with Hawaiian marriage certificates.

"There are going to be many legal battles about whether or not the other 49 states have to recognize Hawaii marriages," Craig said.

Authorities on the U.S. Constitution opine that states may have little choice in the matter due to the Reciprocity Clause which requires states to honor the laws of other states in the Union.

For example, a Wisconsin drivers license must be honored in Illinois or any of the other states.

But court battles that are expected will not be argued on the Reciprocity Clause alone.

TELEVISION

Continued from Page 12

reaches "close to home." Prior to production, AIDS FILMS and ITVS convened a summit of HIV/AIDS community members and care providers from all over the country.

Each was asked "what was needed most?", a question that resulted in the guiding principles of the series.

AIDS FILMS and ITVS want to complete that circle begun in an exchange of ideas and suggestions. To this end, **Positive** will be accompanied by a landmark outreach effort, one involving national and regional organizations, local groups and support agencies, public TV stations and viewers—ensuring that the series will not be just a broadcast event, but a tool for change.

Recently, ITVS received a \$100,000 grant from The Ford Foundation to support a major campaign designed to reach beyond the TV screen into people's homes.

Positive: Life with HIV is a presentation of ITVS, with major funding provided by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting.

Preview cassettes are available by contacting Jim Gordon at (212) 787-2544.

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