



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

The Wisconsin Light

Saliva Test for HIV Passes Approval Milestone

Washington, D.C.—A saliva test that could be used to confirm infection by the AIDS virus is nearing approval by the Food and Drug Administration, a biotechnology firm said in the last week in December.

Epitope Inc. said in a statement Tuesday, December 26th, that it had received an FDA letter calling the firm's application to market an HIV test using oral fluids "approvable."

An FDA spokesman declined to verify that a letter had been sent to Epitope, but explained that in the normal process of agency action, such a letter was "tantamount to approval, provided the company meets the requests contained in the approvable letter."

Epitope last year received FDA approval to sell an oral specimen HIV test to health care providers. That test uses a treated cotton pad placed between the gum and cheek to collect oral fluid. The pad is then placed into a container with a preservative and sent to a laboratory for an enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay, or ELISA test, which can detect antibodies to HIV.

To confirm the ELISA test, blood samples must be taken from a patient and run through a more sensitive lab test called the Western blot.

The new test Epitope is seeking permission to market would be the Western blot test using oral fluids instead of blood.

Both tests detect antibodies, not the virus itself. HIV, the virus that causes AIDS, usually is not found in saliva.

In its announcement, Epitope said the FDA was asking for additional information and a facilities inspection. The firm said it does not expect any difficulties with any of the FDA requests.

Adolph J. Ferro, president of Epitope, said receipt of the letter was "a significant milestone in our efforts to offer reliable HIV testing without blood or needles."

"The ability to offer an HIV testing system based solely on an oral specimen will result in broader access to HIV testing," Ferro said in the company's statement.

Efforts to reach the company for additional information were unsuccessful Tuesday.

Epitope, of Beaverton, Ore., markets the HIV oral test under the brand name OraSure.

If the new test is approved, it would be distributed through diagnostic clinics and health care professionals.

Epitope's announcement had an immediate effect on its stock. Epitope was the most active stock on the American Stock Exchange and climbed \$4.50 a share to close at \$17.87 1/2.

ARCW's Nelson Elected Vice-Chair of National AIDS Action Council

Washington, D.C.—The country's most powerful AIDS lobby, the AIDS Action Council, elected new national officers at its annual meeting in December, choosing Doug Nelson, Executive Director of the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin (ARCW) as Vice Chair of its Board of Directors.

Nelson, who has served on the AIDS Action Council Board since 1992 and has chaired its Public Policy Committee for three years, is the first officer in the history of the Council from the Midwest.

"It's a surprise, an honor and an opportunity," said Nelson of his election.

"The AIDS advocacy challenge has never been greater," Nelson said. "A leadership position in this organization is a great opportunity to help to advance the national AIDS agenda and assure that the needs of the epidemic throughout the entire country are being met."

Elected Chair of the Council was Los Angeles attorney, David Wexler. Also elected was Lulu Lopez, and AIDS advocate from New York City as second Vice Chair, Jimmy Loyce, Executive Director of AIDS Project Los Angeles as Secretary, and Judy Stanfield of Washington, D.C. as Treasurer.

Nelson will continue to serve as the Executive Director of ARCW, a position he has held since 1988.

CompuServe Follows German Orders and Censors Over 200 News Groups



Racial Oppression—Richard Harris (l) and James Earl Jones star in Darrell James Rood's "Cry, the Beloved Country" which opens January 12th at Milwaukee's Oriental Theatre.

Suspect Says Knowing the Victims Were Lesbians "Made it Easier to Kill"

Portland, OR—Self-confessed killer Robert Acremant says killing two women was "easier" for him because he knew they were Lesbians and "I don't like them."

Acremant, 27, has been charged with the December 4th killings of Roxanne Ellis, 54, and Michelle Abdill, 42, in Medford, Oregon.

In statements published in the *Oregonian* on December 17th and the *San Francisco Examiner* the same day, Acremant is quoted as saying, that he does not feel any remorse for "these people. I don't care for Lesbians. Bisexual women don't bother me a bit. I couldn't help but think that she's (Ellis) 54 years-old and had been dating that woman for 12 years; isn't that sick? That's someone's grandma, for God's sake! Could you imagine my grandma a Lesbian with another woman? I couldn't believe that. It crossed my mind a couple of times—Lesbo grandma, what a thing, huh?"



Michelle Abdill

The *Oregonian* reported on December 18th that Acremant said he asked Ellis "out of curiosity" if she and Abdill were Lesbians, a fact, the article says, he may have already known.

Apparently, the article says, Acremant had spent time looking over county records and had noted that the victims who he knew lived together, were listed as co-owners of a property management firm.

Ellis told Acremant they were a Lesbian couple and that they were open about it. He is quoted as saying, "It kind of made me sick to my stomach that she was someone's grandma," after which he burst into laughter.

The two women were bound in the back of their pickup truck.

"I was looking at them," Acremant is quoted as saying, "and decided, 'The hell with it—I'll shoot them, and I did. Boom, it was done. It didn't faze me a bit. I didn't have a motive. I didn't think about it before I did it.'"

According to the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) and local police, the two

women had received threats in the past. The two women were out and active in the fight to counter Oregon's anti-Gay ballot measures sponsored by religious and political extremists.

Medford is one of the local communities in Oregon where a city-wide anti-Gay measure was passed.

With what some are calling a searing irony, Ellis and Abdill, in 1990, had moved from Colorado Springs, home of Amendment 2.

"They were movers and shakers in our Gay community center in Colorado Springs, said Ellen Gabbert, a good friend of the couple.

The sheer ugliness of the crime has sent shock waves throughout Oregon—and the nation.

"They were incredible role models. They had so much passion and dedication to the entire community, and their deep love for each other was obvious," said Brenda Brown, a 35-



Roxanne Ellis

year-old mental health professional who lives in Ashland, Oregon.

NGLTF has written to Attorney General Janet Reno asking for a full-scale investigation of the case.

"Given the pattern of anti-Gay harassment and violence that occurs in the wake of the Radical Right sponsored anti-Gay initiatives, we are extremely concerned and suspicious about the motive behind the brutal killing of Roxanne Ellis and Michelle Abdill," said Scot Nakagawa, Portland, Oregon-based Field Director for NGLTF.

"Clearly, in Oregon and elsewhere, where anti-Gay initiatives happen, so does violence and discrimination," Nakagawa added.

Acremant has stated that he plans to sell his story of the murders to the "highest bidder."

Editor's Note: PFLAG of the Rogue Valley is seeking donations to memorialize Abdill and Ellis. Checks may be made out to PFLAG, and sent to PFLAG, P.O. Box 13, Ashland, Oregon 97520.

By Kevin S. Kreger

Columbus, OH—CompuServe, the second largest provider of on-line services in the United States, has agreed to German Government demands to remove access to over 200 Internet newsgroups on December 22nd because German law deems these groups indecent.

The newsgroups are one of the older portions of the Internet. This part of the Internet is also referred to as the Usenet and is comprised of special interest areas where individuals with similar interests can send and read email messages. These groups number in the thousands worldwide.

The majority of the groups censored were devoted to topics related to sexuality. Some of these newsgroups provide access to sexually explicit images which could be downloaded and viewed.

Surprisingly, CompuServe also deleted access to several non-sexually related Les-BiGay newsgroups. These include:

(alt.homosexual, alt.politics.homosexuality, alt.politics.sex, alt.support.disabled.sexuality, clari.news.gays, clari.news.sex, and soc.support.youth.Gay-Lesbian-Bi).

Many in the Gay community have been startled by CompuServe's decision. Claiming their hands are tied, officials at CompuServe have written in a press release to the Internet that this action was taken due to "a direct mandate from the prosecutor's office in Germany."

Gay activists have noted that groups such as alt.politics.homosexuality are forums for political discussion and are not indecent or obscene. Other newsgroups, such as soc.support.youth.Gay-Lesbian-Bi, are also regularly moderated so as to prevent obscene or indecent postings.

The clari.news and clari.news.Gays consist of news articles from the Reuters and AP newswires.

CompuServe has claimed that the state of their technology is such that it is not able to block newsgroups selectively.

For the time being there will be no access to the more than 200 censored groups by all of CompuServe's 4 million plus subscribers.

To remedy this problem CompuServe "is investigating ways in which we can restrict user access to selected newsgroups by geographical location."

One of the newsgroups to avoid the censorship blood bath was soc.motss (Members of the same sex), most likely because the title of the newsgroup does not contain the words "sex" or "Gay".

Seasoned Internet users have pointed out that anyone posting to the banned Gay newsgroups should also post to soc.motss effectively circumventing the censorship.

Originally, CompuServe "Feedback" officials on December 22nd stressed the Communication Decency Act (CDA) as a contributing factor in their decision although the act has yet to be made law.

On December 28th, CompuSe provided a press release saying "German government officials, as part of an investigation of illegal material on the Internet, ordered CompuServe to do what was necessary with respect to specified newsgroups in order to comply with German law."

Some German sources said that, however, it was a Bavarian Police investigation that lead CompuServe-Germany, with its HQ based in Munich (Bavaria), to "cooperate" with Bavarian Police and shut down "indecent" services.

In the German computer press, Ulf Moller, another academic source in Hamburg, added that "The Bavarian Police have been shutting down ... BBS's and seizing the operators' hardware for some months."

As far as I know, none of these cases has been decided by court yet."

Out and About in Madison

What a Year It Has Been

By John Quinlan

As I sat down to write my 1995 "year in review" column, vivid memories of about a dozen events filled my mind. And then as I began to mine the memories of good friends, and the text of the year's columns, I began to realize what a truly event-filled year it was.

And so here, in much-abbreviated, stream-of-thought form, is a summary of some (emphasis on some) of the people, organizations, and events who made a difference for our community in 1995. Here goes....

The Year in Local Politics

During the race for Madison School Board, the spotlight shone on the challenges facing Lesbian and Gay youth, staff, and families at the first ever **Candidate Forum on Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Issues**. An SRO crowd of more than 100 people attended, and everyone, including the candidates, left extremely moved by the testimony of two young people, and countless other parents and staff people.

Two months later, however, problems with one progressive candidate's past, and a chronic lack of progressive campaign coordination led to victory for three relatively conservative candidates in the April elections over candidates with a long history of support for our community. In a radio interview shortly after the elections, far right standard bearer **Nancy Miste** continued her ill-informed attacks on the "Gay agenda" in the schools. In an encouraging development, however, colleagues **Ray Allen** and **Mary Jan Rosenak** were quick to distance themselves from those remarks.

Every child deserves to be educated in a harassment-free environment, they noted. Maybe some of the message was heard.

Two openly Gay and Lesbian candidates won election to the Madison Common Council, bringing the total number of openly Lesbian and Gay officials in Madison over the years to 14, a record that's unsurpassed anywhere in the country.

A highlight of **Mike Verveer's** Fourth District campaign was an elaborate Mardi Gras soiree, hosted by former city council member **Hank Lufler**, former county board chair **Dick Wagner**, and Dan's Travel owner **Dan Curd**. Verveer was appointed to the city's powerful Board of Estimates, an impressive coup for a freshman council member.

Judy Olson won a hard-fought campaign in the south isthmus Sixth District, a challenge in what is arguably the most politically active area of the city, by far. Olson's extensive experience in neighborhood organizing, affordable housing advocacy, education and civil rights work led to her appointment to the Organizational Committee, also a coup for a freshman member.

Leaving the Common Council was **Ricardo Gonzalez**, who has generously donated the use of his Cardinal Bar for countless valuable political causes over the years.

Gonzalez had made history several years before as the first Hispanic openly Gay official to be elected to office in this country. For a time, it looked like Gonzalez would be running in this year's county board for the Fourth District seat being vacated by outgoing openly Gay County Supervisor **Mark Pocan**, but Gonzalez withdrew his name in December.

However, United Council of Student Governments President **David Stacy**, an openly Gay candidate who has been a major force in organizing **Action Wisconsin** stands a good chance of winning the seat as an openly Gay candidate. Trying for a second term is one of Madison's favorite political wunderkind, openly Gay Sup. **Scott McCormick** (who earned his wunderkind status by coming within a few votes of victory in a state assembly race at the tender age of 18). McCormick has become an outstanding leader in building bridges with both liberal and conservative colleagues around our issues. Both men have solid records and the potential for good organizations, but face tough multi-candidate primaries in districts with notoriously low voter turnout—definitely races where every volunteer effort will count.

Incidentally, there is a special commemorative frame on the wall of Mark Pocan's apartment that memorializes an ugly event—an event that actually ended up working wonders for calling attention to homophobia and AIDS. A pair of bright blue surgical gloves are expertly mounted between two letters on White House stationery.

One invites Gay and Lesbian officials to the White House, and the other from the President himself, apologizing for the incident when Secret Service agents greeted **Pocan**, **McCormick**, **Rep. Tammy Baldwin**, and others at the White House gates wearing the gloves. The up side, of course, was that the act was so outrageous that the public's sympathy was clearly with the Lesbian and Gay officials, who benefitted from the additional publicity that surrounded the affair.

Holtzman Achieves Victory in Lesbian Parent Visitation Case

In a precedent-setting victory for the rights of Lesbian and Gay families, the **Wisconsin Supreme Court** affirmed for the first time the importance of the bonds formed by Lesbian and Gay parents with their non-biological or non-adoptive children.

By a 4-3 margin, Wisconsin's highest court ruled on June 13 that **Sandra Holtzman**, of Madison, may be legally entitled to visitation rights with the six-year-old son she helped raise with her former partner, **Elsbeth Knott**, who is the child's biological mother. In a long and complicated legal battle that began with the dissolution of the Lesbian couple's decade-long relationship in 1993, Knott had sought to deny Holtzman the right to spend time with the boy.

Knott's attorney had attempted to nullify the ruling through appeals to the federal courts, but at year's end, the U.S. Supreme Court, in declining to review the case, let the decision stand. "This is a first-of-its-kind decision in this country, and it's one that I hope other state courts will look to when faced with situations similar to this," said Holtzman's attorney, **Judith Sperling Newton**, who has argued numerous cases involving Lesbian and Gay family rights. "This is a victory for children in this state. It's the first time in many years that this state has recognized the rights of a child to maintain important relationships in that child's life."

"I'm excited about this case also because it opens the door to a very important dialogue that we have to have in every corner of this state, a dialogue about what constitutes a family," Baldwin added.

Baldwin's Leadership Recognized at "Creating Change"

A highlight of an incredibly busy year for State Rep. **Tammy Baldwin** was the opportunity to give the opening keynote address to over 2000 activists in November at the nation's premiere event for LGB organizing, the annual **Creating Change** conference, in Detroit. Baldwin shared the spotlight with keynoteers **Harry Britt**, the longtime openly Gay San Francisco board member who succeeded **Harvey Milk**, and movement leader and **Virtual Equality** author **Urvashi Vaid**.

It's been a discouraging time to be in the state legislature, but Baldwin continues to emerge as an articulate and well-respected leader who has been an important voice for many whose interests are being ill-served by the current rush to pass regressive legislation. Given this high level of respect, her political star is rising. Political pundits think it likely that Baldwin will be a candidate for Congress in the near future—depending on the circumstances, that run could come as early as 1998.

Rodney Scheel House Dedicated

After many years of groundwork-laying, **The Rodney Scheel House** was dedicated this July in a ceremony filled with joy. People with AIDS and HIV who become residents of the house will be provided with a safe, comfortable and affordable home in an environment conducive to their acquiring the services they need.

Mayor Paul Soglin, **Eve Galanter** (aide to **Sen. Herb Kohl**, who was instrumental in the acquisition of a \$1.2 million federal grant) and other dignitaries spoke of the spirit of cooperation and community unique to Madison that made the project possible. New resident **John McCoy** had people in stitches as he joked about his "pushiness" in becoming the first resident, and then moved the crowd as he spoke of the importance of the hope that the house represents for him. **Rodney Scheel's family and friends** stood beaming and proud as they saw the realization of a house that had been his fondest wish for others less fortunate than himself who are living with AIDS.

10 Year-Old MASN Going Strong Despite Multiple Transitions

Health-related concerns meant that the Madison AIDS Support Network lost **Mary-Alice Mowry** as Executive Director in late February. As MASN's director for three years, Mowry had been instrumental in leading the organization to a new level of stability and credibility in the community. While still recovering, at year's end, Mowry's health was improving considerably, and she is about to embark on a series of exciting consulting opportunities for community organizations.

In the interim, Acting MASN Director **David Clarenbach** guided the agency through a potentially difficult time with style and grace. After a nationwide four month search that produced over 100 candidates, the MASN board hired **Mary Noeldner Turnquist** as its Executive Director in July. Bringing over thirty years of experience in community organizing, non-profit administration and social activism in Wisconsin to the job, Turnquist has hit the ground running as she takes the helm of the 10 year old, \$1.3 million organization.

As often happens in the world of AIDS services, there were many other examples of

turnover at the agency, including the departure of hard-working long-time Volunteer Coordinator **Eve Tai**. Gay community leader **Paul Wesselman** was chosen as the new volunteer coordinator, a position which includes duties as a member of the senior management staff. Wesselman, a longtime MASN volunteer, is a much-sought after public speaker on issues of homophobia and personal empowerment, through his innovative "Stone Soup Seminars."

MASN continued its high profile in the community through a series of extremely successful events including **Sweet Sunday** in the Spring, and **A Red Ribbon Affair** in the Fall. One of the more innovative fundraising devices has been "Cook for a Cause," in conjunction with the Madison Urban Ministry. MASN's **Connie McElrone**, working with her former colleague **Dale Johnson**, produced this eye-popping and mouth-watering compendium of favorite recipes from over 100 Madison celebrities and community leaders. Copies are still available, call MASN at (608) 252-6540.

The United Continues to Serve in a Year of Change

The United made a big splash with a series of events, despite the fact of some difficult board and staff transitions. In the early Spring, the gayla **Olbrich Garden** affair was a smashing success—and a model for future successful events. Revelers could dance the night away to an eclectic mix of music, sample an extensive selection of wines, or nibble from a scrumptious table of appetizers. And if you strove for a quiet moment with your sweetie, you could spirit her or him off to the beautiful **Bolz Conservatory**.

Building on the successes of past years, The United's **Third Annual Community Awards Dinner** was also a major success. Community leaders **Steve Starkey**, **Maria Hanson**, and **Jim Seals** received recognition for their important work as did **The New Harvest Foundation** and **WTSO** radio's groundbreaking commercial radio show for the LGB community, **Sunday Night Out** (The show is now re-christened **Inside Out**, and airs from 5-7 pm on Saturdays.)

For years, there's been talk of throwing some kind of lavish **New Year's Eve Party** for the LGB community, and this year it finally happened in a big way. Almost 1,000 people attended the event at Madison's Civic Center, and were there to ring in the New Year in style. It was a bit warm at times—Civic Center officials hadn't anticipated such a large crowd, and the cooling system wasn't adequate. But as 1996 was ringing in, and

cheers went up and noisemakers sounded, no one seemed to care as the crowd spread out into the cooler climes of the Civic Center lobby.

As mentioned, this was also a difficult time of transition for The United. Longtime director and former board member **Jane VanderBosch** resigned as director on April 18, amid reports that timing and terms of her resignation were in dispute. Regardless of other issues, there was unequivocal recognition of her inestimable contributions to the organization over the years. The board appointed former board treasurer **Sande Janagold** as Acting Director. A hiring committee composed of community volunteers convened, but rather than starting the hiring process right away, it encouraged the board to better clarify the group's mission and priorities before moving ahead. The current goal is to solicit extensive community input, and hire a permanent director by early summer.

David Clarenbach Appointed to Head the Victory Fund

Without question, one of the biggest stories of 1995 was the appointment in June of **David Clarenbach** to be director of the Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund—an organization that exists to support the candidacies of openly Lesbian and Gay candidates. Former State Rep. Clarenbach—the "father" of our state's landmark Gay and Lesbian civil rights bill, AIDS legislation, and hate crimes laws—took on the difficult task of following in the footsteps of much-respected Victory Fund founder **William Weybourn**. The decision was universally lauded by community leaders both locally and nationally—there was no question that Clarenbach, with his years of valuable experience, has what it takes to lead this important organization.

The appointment made news in more ways than one. Though unwaveringly outspoken as an advocate for the Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual rights movement over the years, Clarenbach had always invoked the principles inherent in a basic right to privacy when asked about his own orientation. The announcement of his appointment was simultaneous with his coming out publicly for the first time as a gay man. Given the Victory Fund's mission of encouraging openly Lesbian and Gay candidates, this was not only a courageous step, but an inherently necessary one.

By any measure, it was a powerful statement, in large part because the action went against the grain of an extremely private individual. As was noted in these pages, old habits were hard to break, and in the early going,

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HIV DRUG TRIALS OPEN FOR ENROLLMENT

WISCONSIN COMMUNITY-BASED RESEARCH CONSORTIUM (WCRC)

The WCRC is currently enrolling individuals with HIV disease for participation in one trial of experimental drug therapy. 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 varied doses of Delavirdine (DLV) and Zidovudine (AZT), or placebo and AZT.

ELIGIBILITY:

If you 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.

RITONAVIR EXPANDED ACCESS PROGRAM

An Expanded Access Program is a way to get an investigational drug before it is approved by the Food & Drug Administration (FDA). Before you can obtain the drug, the FDA requires you meet certain conditions.

ELIGIBILITY:

If you are twelve years of age or older, are HIV positive and have a CD4 count of less than or equal to 50 cells/mm³, 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.



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

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Editorial

Words Can Kill

Over and over and over again, ad infinitum, ad nauseum, it has been said that words are just words. They can't do anything.

"We love all you queers, it's your sin that we hate."
 "God hates you, faggots, lezzies, dykes, pansies."
 "You're whores. You're unnatural." "You're evil and you're wicked and you don't belong."
 "AIDS is God's punishment." "You don't deserve special rights." "You don't deserve any rights at all." God wants you dead. It's in the bible!"
 "Pass amendments. Outlaw the homos! They don't deserve jobs."
 "Jeffrey Dahmer is the logical result of being Gay."

But those are nothing but words, right? Those are just simple expressions of religious and political opinion heard on radio talkshows, religious TV stations here and around the country, isn't that so? Just talk.

It is not just talk. Those words and a lot of others just like them create an atmosphere where nuts and hate-filled loonies can actually think of murder as an acceptable act, one completely justified before God and man—as long as the blood spilled is Lesbian or Gay. And those nuts will and do act!

Colorado, Maine, Washington State, Idaho, Ohio, or Wisconsin, words can kill. This is the terrible lesson to be learned from the brutal murders of Michelle Abdill and Roxanne Ellis in Oregon.

No doubt about it, in our opinion, the guy who did it was a complete nut. But the point is, he didn't pick his hatred and bigotry against Lesbians and other Gay people up off the street.

In our opinion, the Right Wing, religious and political, along with every other homophobe and sexist, has an awful burden to bear. They have, by their words, allowed these killings (and so much more violence against us) to happen. At the risk of sounding intemperate, they must shoulder much of the blame.

Wisconsin Light bows its head in memory of Michelle Abdill and Roxanne Ellis. We believe they are now together where no one can hurt them again.

CompuServe Buckles to German Orders

In a massive capitulation to German demands for censorship, the world's leading online service, CompuServe, has suspended access to over 200 Internet newsgroups. We find this as deplorable as it is reprehensible, a throw back to an earlier era in that country of some sixty years ago.

All censorship is stupid and unacceptable, but what we find especially redolent of ignorance is the fact that included in that ban are newsgroups that address Gay, Lesbian or Bisexual issues, with no erotic content at all. CompuServe's assumption seems to be that if the words "Gay," "Lesbian," or "Bisexual" appear, sex must be involved. You can almost hear them say it, "That's all those people are about anyway, isn't it? Sex?"

This is the same kind of utter nonsense that comes across from the Right Wing Religious extremist groups. These people dine out on sex, they're obsessed with it. That's all they talk about and, sadly, they have been allowed to define us by this absurdity.

Being Gay is no more "all about sex," than being heterosexual is "all about sex."

Being Gay is just that, a state of being, an intrinsic part of who a person is. There is a sexual component to it, certainly, but more to the point, being Lesbian or Gay is about love. It is about who a person loves. It's about giving and receiving psychological and emotional satisfaction and fulfillment from a member of the same sex in the same way that someone receives fulfillment from someone of the opposite sex.

Because this is the way it is with us, our love is completely equal on moral and all other grounds, to the love experienced by a heterosexual couple. And it is just as productive.

In all human beings, we believe that sex, properly used, should be an outward, physical expression of a deep interior reality. In heterosexual couples, sex can result in children. In same-sex couples, sex results in two people becoming one.

To assume that all Gay groups are sexually explicit—or have anything to do with sex at all, is asinine.

Acting with very little backbone or integrity, CompuServe has bowed its head to the German government—and, what we find most interesting, CompuServe claims it is not to blame. It was only following orders. Now where have we heard that before!?

Editor's Note

1996? Pardon Me, But I Think We're in For the Same Old Stuff

"Happy New Year!" genial voices called out last night.

Well, yeah, I guess, maybe. While others seem have found the soothsayer's talent lurking in their souls, I'm a lot less sure about what this year will bring.

On firm ground, I can say that this will be a political year, a very political year, with just about every elective office known to the American segment of the human race will be up for grabs. Pardon me, but already I'm bored.

Republicans will blame the Democrats for all sin and corruption, the Democrats will do the same in return. At the risk of being cynical, I've heard it all before—and before. Frankly, it would suit me if both parties adjourned for lunch and never came back into session again.

So far as I can see, neither of them has one ounce of vision, while none of their leaders has enough charisma to fill a thimble and not leave room for the thumb.

What is particularly tragic in all this, is the fact that some of the best people now in public life are getting out. That says something, but I'm not sure I want to think what.

In the meantime, the bible-thumpers will be hammering away, flailing at reality, obsessed with sex, propounding simple solutions to complex problems that their mythology equips them not at all to understand.

There are times I think what we need is a third party, something new, something exciting, something that would re-unify the center

into one, consensual whole. But then, that's a foolish thought.

We Lesbians and Gays, we who have the most to gain by abandoning conservatism and liberalism and giving all our energies to the achievement of our civil rights, seemingly can't come together.

Instead, we are deeply divided by racism, sexism, class and a whole lot else.

There are young people who mock the old. There are women and men who say we don't need each other, when we so badly and desperately do.

If the country as a whole needs charismatic leadership, people who will show us the best in ourselves, we, in the Gay community, most definitely need people like that.

We need to be told, I think, that we are a great people, fighting for the right to love who we will. We need to be told those things by those who can make us transcend ourselves and really believe it.

As Americans, we need to be told—and made to believe—that we are a great people—not better than anyone else, but great, with much to contribute before history is done with us.

We Gay people need a vision of ourselves, just as we as Americans need a vision to lead us on.

My most sincere hope for 1996 is that all of that will come to pass.

What I fear is that what we're in for is more of the same old stuff.

Letters

Yule Values

TO THE EDITOR:

In this blessed holiday season, let's remember our beloved ancestors. Traditionally, in the time before Christ, households with "family values" would honor their relatives who had passed on by setting out a plate of holiday food (called a spirit offering).

It's important that families today remember our ancestors and respect our common ancient heritage. Christians and Pagans are not necessarily adversarial communities. Many traditions are shared between the Christians' Christmas and the Pagans' Yule, such as our trees and Yule logs.

Did you realize that the angel on your tree originated from the Pagan's traditional use of fairies on

their trees?

We witches use cinnamon sticks, apples, grapes and oranges as ornaments on our Yule trees. These were used in ancient times as well as today among Pagan communities throughout Northern Minnesota and Wisconsin.

Families need to return to traditional values and teach the young people to honor our shared heritage and ancestry because if your children don't respect the ancestors—they won't respect you!

Traditionally, the Christians' Christmas is the celebration of the birth of Christ. For Pagans and Witches, Yule is the celebration of the rebirth of the Mother Earth Goddess. So give credit where credit is due—Witches are the original reason for the season!

Mark Langenfeld
 Duluth, MN

Using a Single Term

TO THE EDITOR:

Kathy Worthington in her commentary of December 7, 1995, asks why can't we use the word "Gay" to mean all of us homosexual men and women, Bisexuals and Transgendered. I can't answer for other groups or even with complete certainty for others like me. As a Transgendered individual, I personally have concerns about a single word that is all-inclusive and I hope to explain why I feel this way.

Presently nine states have civil rights statutes that offer protection against discrimination based on sexual orientation. Of those nine states, only one offers protection for gender queers and in Minnesota, this is because the law was specifically written to be inclusive of Trans-people.

In the other states where only an all-inclusive "sexual orientation" is used, Trans-people are not included. The national Employment Non-Discrimination Act as presently written, will also not cover Trans-people.

When I read the national "Gay" magazines such as *Out* or the *Advocate*, gender queer issues and events are almost never covered. The one exception is Gay drag events.

Although drag is a part of the Gender community, this is a small and stereotyped vision of the gender queer community. The same can be said of the local Gay press. No Gay press covered the discovery of brain structure differences in Trans-people recently reported in *Nature*.

No local or national Gay press covered the recent action at HRCF fundraisers by *It's Time America* over our non-inclusion in ENDA. None of the national or local "Gay" press have a regular columnist from the Gender Freak community. Is it any wonder there is no press coverage of our issues?

Almost none of the national organizations for "Gay" rights have Transgender in their title or mission statement. Nor are most national organizations actively working to assist Trans-people with over turning systematic discrimination.

Almost no national "Gay" rights organization has a Gender Queer on its board of directors. The record with local "Gay" organizations is the same, Action Wisconsin being a glaring exception with a Transgender member.

With no representation locally or nationally, is it any wonder that employers, health care workers, landlords, business owners and insurance companies regularly discriminate with impunity?

Most people are aware of the Michigan Womyn's Music Festival bar of self-identified Lesbian post-surgical Transsexuals from festival grounds. You may not be aware that Trans-people are regularly denied access to "Gay" friendly businesses and events or due to harassment, are made to feel unwelcome.

From personal experience, I have learned to call ahead to verify my welcome to any self-described "Gay" friendly event, organization or business.

Until such time as "Gay" organizations accept gender freaks with equality into their organizations and whenever gender freak civil rights are forwarded with equality with "Gay" rights, I will not see myself in any one word, inclusive of the entire community. Don't forget the Ts.

Jaquelyn Anne Richter
 Fond du Lac

Victory Fund Supports Gotzler for Milwaukee 3rd District Common Council Race

Washington, D.C.—The Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund has recommended a national slate of fifteen openly Gay and Lesbian candidates to its national donor network. Included among the fifteen is Karen Gotzler of Milwaukee. Gotzler is running for the Milwaukee Common Council in the 3rd District.

According to the Victory Fund's executive director, David Clarenbach, all fifteen candidates have undergone rigorous screening to determine their viability as potential public officials.

The Victory Fund is a national donor network that helps qualified openly Gay and Lesbian candidates overcome the obstacles which have historically denied them fair and equal political opportunities.

Since its inception in 1991, the Victory Fund has given more than \$1.3 million to qualified openly Gay candidates.

"Light's" Editor to Participate on WTMJ Panel to Discuss Print Media in 1996

Milwaukee—Wisconsin Light's Editor, Terry Boughner, has been invited to participate in a panel entitled "Inside '96" sponsored by WTMJ Radio, 620 on the AM dial.

The panel of three includes Boughner, Tim Cuprisin and Kathy Cave, and will involve an in-depth discussion of the role of the print media in 1996. The discussion will be broadcast by WTMJ and will take place at the Italian Community Center before a projected audience of 300.

The live broadcast will take place during The Jonathan Green Show from 3:30 to 4:00 p.m.

Deadlines

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

Copy deadline for the February 1st issue is January 26th. The ad deadline for that issue is January 30th.

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

The Wisconsin Light



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Crossroads BBS, First Non-Profit Internet Provider for Wisconsin Gay Community

Milwaukee—Celebrating nearly ten years of continuous service to Milwaukee's LesBiGay community and its first anniversary operating as a not-for-profit corporation, Crossroads BBS has undergone a major equipment and software conversion. As a result, Crossroads will now offer local and Internet newsgroups, world-wide electronic mail via Internet, and world-wide web page services to its users.

Crossroads began in the early 1980's as a one-man operation on a modest computer. The system offered computer users in the Milwaukee area a unique experience with graphic and public software exchanges, on-line electronic chatting between users, and even an electronic match-making service. Crossroads was for many, an introduction to the LesBiGay scene in Milwaukee.

At its peak, Crossroads' membership of users numbered nearly 300, but lack of capital and aging equipment made upgrading features and services impossible. Management of the board transferred at least twice during the past five years, and membership fell sharply in early 1994 to below 100 users when memberships were proposed to be paid only.

Many users had already begun to join service boards like Compuserve, America On Line and Prodigy for a fee, and received superior services, more than Crossroads could provide.

The system operator at the time realized that his working capital and management skills were limited, so in the Fall of 1994, he offered to sell the bulletin board and its assets to a small group of area visionaries. Each of these men would donate time and money to make the system grow and improve the services.

On November 14, 1994, J. Robert "Bob" Moore, Brad Winnie, John Harmon, Mark Hagner and Tony Nichols formed Crossroads BBS, Inc. "Rudy" Hill joined the board of directors in February, 1995, after one of the originals had resigned to pursue other interests.

Careful planning resulted in the installation of high speed modems, more disk drive space, and a reorganization that eventually led to the resignation of the former system operator.

By November, 1995, all the pieces were laid to roll out a whole new plan for Crossroads—the first non-profit Internet service provider to the Milwaukee LesBiGay community.

Where similar services were being offered with little value provided by most Internet suppliers, Crossroads could give its users all the benefits of low cost access to BBS services as in the past, but offer unlimited Internet access also.

By comparison, high value service providers like Compuserve and America On Line charge a connection fee for time spent on-line, whether the user is accessing the Internet or not.

Similarly, Internet-only providers don't offer BBS services like local chatting forums, match-making or special interest groups. Neither of these vendors offer services for as little as \$2 per month.

According to Brad Winnie, Crossroads' Vice President of sales and marketing, these efforts will result in real benefits for the Milwaukee community.

"Already, the community's top periodicals, like Wisconsin Light and In Step have committed to publishing and promoting on our web server. Users in Milwaukee and around the world will be able to keep in touch with the vast array of events and issues facing our users today. We intend to set the standard and to lead the pack in bringing cyberspace to cybergays," Winnie said.

"We are fully committed to making Crossroads a top-flight service in the community. As the 'Premier Gay and Lesbian Bulletin Board' in Wisconsin, these improvements and our strategic plans for the future will ensure our leadership and value to our users," said Rudy Hill, President of the corporation. "Our members asked for many of these features and they'll be getting much more. We must listen more if we are to continue our success."

Preliminary announcements and marketing has resulted in nearly 300 active-users again

on the BBS. In addition to those 300, Crossroads' officers expect more than 75 Internet users to be connected 24 hours per day, and some 25 commercial vendors to be on-line with their services on the world-wide web in the first quarter of 1996.

"The Internet is a utility service, like electricity or the phone," said John Harmon, Vice President of technology and an active Internet user for many years. "Computers will eventually be in every home, connected via telephone or cable company to the Internet to receive e-mail, newsletters, computer videos, and many other things, around the clock. And 'why not?' when it's so easy and cheap."

Reaction from experienced users on Crossroads has been positive to the new features on the system.

One user known as "Kelly," previewed the new software during the holiday season. "This is really great. The high speed modems are tremendous and the Internet newsgroups will give me more access to graphic files and on-line chatting than ever before. . . I can link with other people like me all around the world and not experience the bottlenecks, slowdowns and excessive costs of other services."

Because software is so different from the old system, users must pre-register and verification has been slow during the debugging process in December.

New equipment included a Pentium computer with 10 ports and ethernet connection to the Internet. More than 2-1/2 gigabytes (that's 2-1/2 billion!) of disk space are available for uploading and downloading of files, and there is practically no limit to the number of users who can access Crossroads for BBS or world-wide web purposes from the Internet itself.

The operating system is a derivative of Unix and the BBS software is completely new, sporting windows and menus . . . even on non-Windows personal computers. The system is expected to support as many as 500 users when fully expanded, but networking at the Crossroads communication center offers limitless growth.

The new Crossroads system, code named "Crossroads '96", went "live" with full functionality at midnight on New Year's Eve.

Non-subscribers can access the system up to 10 minutes, twice daily. Subscribers with local electronic mail access and local newsgroup posting on public (non-adult) areas pay \$2 per month (one year in advance), less than the previous subscription rate of \$25-\$30 per year.

Internet e-mail and newsgroup services can be acquired for \$1 more per month or \$36 per year, and Internet browsing access via PPP account is just \$20 per month with no limits, setup charges or additional fees.

Commercial businesses can subscribe to the BBS and WedServer for just \$40 per month.

Internet subscribers must be at least 18 years of age.

Users can call the BBS at (414) 443-1428 (note the NEW number, too!), and obtain an immediate guest account which permits on-line chatting and local newsgroup reading.

Crossroads' volunteer staff will be offering seminars on "surfing" the Internet and building webpages to market regional, state-wide, national and international services. Keep an eye out for future events.



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From Jason

Okay. Listen up. Gay youth are always complaining about the fact that we are ignored and forgotten by the older Gay community. Well, this is your chance to be heard.

Our Voice is for you, the Gay youth. It's your chance to be heard and speak out about what is on your mind. Wisconsin Light has given us the space, but I can't do this by myself. I need to hear from other youth who want to write news stories or book reviews. Movie reviews, music reviews, a short story you wrote or a poem.

In order to take advantage of **Our Voice**, I need you to submit these things.

Send your stuff to me, Jason at Wisconsin Light, 1843 N. Palmer, Milwaukee, WI 53212—or just write to me and we'll talk.

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"Some will call us the Gay-Church—and that's all right. I like to say we are open and affirming to anyone. Only for us, that means Non-Gay people are welcome, too." —Rev. Lew Broyles

M.C.C.—People are Different & God Doesn't Discriminate

As Anti-Gay Initiatives Fail, Right Wing Screams Gays Are Heading for the Altar

Olympia, WA—Gay advocates on Friday, December 29th, cheered the failure of two anti-Gay initiatives, but said "the war still rages" over Gay adoptions, same-gender marriage and mention of Lesbians and Gay men in school curriculum.

Backers of the two initiatives expressed disappointment that they couldn't raise the necessary 181,667 voter signatures to win a place on the legislative agenda and on the Fall ballot. They complained that the signature requirement is so onerous that only people with money to pay solicitors will ever make it.

Officials of Hands Off Washington, the coalition of opposition groups and individuals, said the failure of the initiatives for the second year in a row should put an end to efforts to restrict the civil rights of Gay people.

But sponsors of both measures said the battle now moves to the Legislature.

Initiative 166 would have barred state or local ordinances that deal with discrimination in housing or employment from including Gay people and would bar schools from teaching about Lesbians and Gay men. Initiative 167 would have banned adoption by Lesbians and Gay men.

Friday, December 29th, was the deadline for submitting initiative signatures. I-166 had more than 100,000 signatures, but sponsors had no money to pay solicitors, said state chairwoman Annetta Small of Bellingham. I-167 backers collected about 40,000 and then stopped counting, said chairman Sam Woodard of Ariel.

"For the second year in a row, this is a victory for the people of the state of Washington," said Hands Off state chairwoman Jan Bianchi, a Seattle lawyer. "The people across the state have said, 'No, we don't tolerate this kind of divisiveness, we don't tolerate this kind of prejudice, we don't tolerate this kind of bigotry.'"

The Rev. John Boonstra, head of the Washington Association of Churches, called failure of the initiatives "an important moral statement ... of enormous political significance."

He added, "The people have said these

measures are harmful, mean-spirited and wrong. People have said they will not be warped by intolerance and fear."

Laurie Jenkins, a state board member from Olympia, said "We have won this battle. The people of this state have seen the ugly face of discrimination and rejected it. ... While we have a long way to go, we have come so very far. Washington is a warmer, safer place to be."

She said the initiatives had the ironic effect of energizing Gays and Lesbians and galvanizing support in the general public.

Bianchi, who presided over a rally at the Capitol, said "I don't think this battle is over. The war still rages out there."

She said she expects to see state legislation to ban adoption by Gays and Lesbians, same-sex marriages or positive treatment of Gay people in school curriculum.

Backers confirmed that is their new strategy. Both said they have no plans for further initiative campaigns, but will turn to the Legislature.

"The battle is never over," Woodard said. "There is a lot of sentiment for this issue out there. We will continue on, going through the Legislature. We have to keep it at the public fore."

"I actually consider them (the failed initiatives) small victories, because we have educated the people of this state. ... It is just not a good environment for children. It is not that homosexuals do not have the right to live as they want, but it is not right to bring children into that lifestyle. It is not how children are made. You do not have a true mother-father situation."

Small said she will turn her attention to the issues of same-gender marriages, as soon will be legal in Hawaii.

Legislation to ban the marriages "will be a preemptive strike," she said in an interview.

"We need to educate the grassroots. We will see a propaganda effort from the Gays. This is clearly a hot issue."

"Homosexual activists are coming out of the bedroom and headed for the altar."

Congressional Hearing on Values in the Schools Was Dominated by Extremism

Washington, D.C.—On December 6th, a House panel concluded its two-day hearings on "Parents, Schools, and Values" with a discordant choir of witnesses presenting a liturgy that attacked local school efforts to protect young people from AIDS, hate violence and suicide.

The taxpayer funded forum before the Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee of the House Economic and Educational Opportunities Committee was originally sought by anti-Gay lobbyist Lou Sheldon of the Traditional Values Coalition to fulfill a campaign promise by House Speaker Newt Gingrich (R-GA).

The Speaker's staff went to great lengths to distance him from Sheldon's religious cant.

"While they certainly might have been worse had there not been a public outcry, these hearings nonetheless provided a taxpayer funded platform for religious political extremists seeking to impose their divisive agenda on everyone," said Human Rights Campaign Political Director Daniel Zingale.

The first day of the hearings, featured testimony by former Secretary of Education William Bennett. Bennett spoke in general terms. As one observer put it, "He was against sin and for virtue."

In the second day's hearings, there was a great deal of talk about whores.

Lou Sheldon set the tone with his own press

conference in a House office building at which he accused the United States government of being "the nation's largest pimp." Referring to the national response to AIDS, Sheldon charged that "The federal government is running a network of whorehouses."

At the hearings themselves, Claire Connelly, who heads the Gay and Lesbian Resources Center of Ventura County, California, and has long sparked controversy for her free-wheeling attacks on AIDS education, submitted some of the more bizarre and baseless testimony.

Among a host of other accusations, Connelly asserted that she returned a small federal AIDS grant to her organizations because it would have turned her group into a "whorehouse."

Connelly was unanimously ousted from her local AIDS funding consortium in 1994.

Other witnesses attacking sex education and AIDS funding included Sandi Martinez of Concerned Women for America; Nancy MacClone, a parent who organized a failed referendum to halt a condom availability policy in Falmouth, Massachusetts; Warren Grantham, who lost his bid for a St. Paul, Minnesota school board seat after opposing school efforts to end harassment of Gay and Lesbian students; and George Dent, a law professor at Case Western Reserve University, who spoke about parent's rights.

Announcements

Lesbian "First Time" Stories Sought

Boston, MA—Alyson Publications is seeking contributions to a new book in which Lesbians will talk about their first sexual experience with another woman. "Early Embraces" will be a collection of true, first-person stories by women from around the world. It should provide an intriguing look at the myriad ways that Lesbians begin the process of exploring their sexuality. The book is scheduled for release in 1996. Deadline for submissions is March 30, 1996. For guidelines, send a stamped, self-addressed envelope to: Early Embraces Guidelines, Alyson Publications, P.O. Box 4371, Los Angeles, CA 90078.

Problem Solving Discussions at PFLAG Meeting

Milwaukee—The January 21st meeting of PFLAG-Milwaukee begins at 6:45 p.m. Difficulties that arise with neighbors, family members or friends concerning our LesBiGay loved ones will be the focal point of the discussion. For the location or for other information, please phone our voice mail at (414) 299-9198.

Milwaukee SAGE Meeting

Milwaukee—On Wednesday, January 10th at 6:30 p.m., at the Eastside Library, 1910 E. North Avenue, SAGE-Milwaukee will present as guest speaker Barbara Lawrence of The Alzheimer's Association of Wisconsin. Her topic will be "Alzheimer's: Dealing with Memory Loss and Dementia." Lawrence will speak about the symptoms of the disease and where to get help as well as discussing the needs of caregivers for Alzheimer's patients. The event is free and everyone is welcome.

Respite Care Workers Needed

Milwaukee—Families who care for loved ones with cerebral palsy, desperately need respite workers. United Cerebral Palsy of Southwestern Wisconsin provides families a place to turn when they need help in finding caregivers. A Respite Care Program allows caregivers an opportunity to receive temporary relief from their daily routine. Over 250 families in the metro Milwaukee area remain on waiting lists. The need for respite workers is critical. If you would like to know more about becoming a respite care worker for a family in need, contact United Cerebral Palsy of Southeastern Wisconsin at (414) 272-4500.

HIV/AIDS Education Conference for Youth

Washington, D.C.—The National Association of People with AIDS (NAPWA), Metro TeenAIDS of Washington, D.C. and the Ryan White Foundation will co-sponsor the 3rd Annual National Youth Conference on HIV/AIDS. The conference will be held in Washington from February 17th to the 19th. The conference is for youth (14 to 25 years-old) and service providers for youth working in the area of HIV/AIDS education and prevention.

Registration and scholarship applications are available by contacting NAPWA at 1413 K Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20006 or by calling (202) 898-0414.

New Fathers Group Starting

Milwaukee—In recognition of the large number of Gay men who have fathered and who parent children, a new support/discussion group is starting on Milwaukee's East Side. This bi-weekly group will provide a friendly atmosphere and supportive environment in which Gay fathers can meet, socialize, explore issues and share individual experiences, strengths and hope with others.

Beginning January 8th, the group will meet on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m. in the meeting facilities on the 2nd floor of the BestD Clinic, 1240 E. Brady Street (use east side entrance door). The group is open to all interested Gay fathers. For more information, call Tim C. at (414) 372-8008.

Changes in Pride Twin Cities

Minneapolis—1-800-PRIDE-YA is the new phone number for Pride Twin Cities. The Pride Committee has also created a new voice mail system in cooperation with Maillogic. The new voice mail allows people to leave messages to specific areas of the Pride Committee rather than just a general box. Look to the future when Pride Twin Cities gets a Web-site.

Want to be a Country Dyke?


Madison—Are you a country dyke (or want to be)? Want to meet other country Lesbians? On Saturday, January 13th, from 1:00 to 6:00 p.m., RDA has its monthly potluck and work/play party. Bring a vegetarian dish to pass, sleds, warm clothes, and stories to tell. Call (608) 437-8018 for location and directions.

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Rob Ambelang Opens New Photo Studio to Serve the Lesbian and Gay Community

Milwaukee—A new photography studio has just opened in Milwaukee to serve the Lesbian, Bisexual and Gay community. The studio, Rob Ambelang, Photography Plus, specializes in portraiture, male art, fantasy, special events and commercial photography.

Other services offered include complete digital imaging including photo restoration and scanning pictures to disk.

The studio is located at 116 E. Pleasant Street on the Fifth Floor East. In addition to the studio, the location will also house a small gallery of fine art photographs entitled "The Male Image."

Hours are by appointment. For information call (414) 263-9992.

Log Cabin Republicans Wage Their Own Version of the GOP Revolution

Denver, CO— Log Cabin Republicans in Colorado and across the nation want to wage their own version of the GOP revolution.

"We don't want to be represented by extremists who handcuff themselves to fences," said Don Herman, acting president of the Colorado chapter of the national organization for Gay Republicans.

"We want to be rational, reasonable and focused on issues."

The group is the model of conservatism—Grand Old Party supporters who want to limit government and slash taxes. With 10,000 members nationwide, they may be hard to miss by old line Republicans.

Herman said the Colorado chapter has only a few dozen members.

"We are Republicans who believe in limited government, a strong defense and in equal opportunity under the law," said Richard Tafel, executive director of Log Cabin Republicans

of Colorado.

The group's name refers to the first Republican President, Abraham Lincoln, and the roots of the movement to abolish slavery.

In 1994, the group raised more than \$200,000 for candidates.

A \$1,000 contribution to the presidential campaign of Sen. Bob Dole brought Log Cabin Republicans international attention. Dole returned the money in August, even though he and his staff had worked with the group before.

Dole's decision cast some doubt on his leadership abilities and on Log Cabin Republicans' role in national politics.

Members say 1996 could be the year the Gay community goes mainstream as it tries to extend its influence across the sociopolitical spectrum. No longer are AIDS funding and anti-discrimination campaigns the only considerations on the Gay community's agenda.

Political changes also are affecting the other end of the political spectrum. The Gay Colorado Stonewall Democrats say they are trying to build coalitions and restructure attitudes toward Gays as well.

"We have to appeal to voters, not confront them or combat them," vice chairman Craig Dietz. "We have to understand where they're coming from. We have to be better at politics."

The Democratic group has mostly been accepted by the mainstream party. But members of Log Cabin say they are still battling for acceptance by both the Republican party and the Gay community itself.

"I've been called more names by Gays up set that I'm a Republican than by straights up set that I'm Gay," Herman said.

High School AIDS Awareness Group Founded by MAP Volunteer

Milwaukee— Andrea Kalish, a volunteer at the Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP) has designed a youth outreach program and founded a new AIDS awareness group to serve Riverside High school. The program is known as the Riverside AIDS Awareness Project (RAAP).

RAAP is to be a student group with an elected president. It will start holding bi-monthly meetings in February.

Kalish, stated that RAAP's goal is to educate members of the school about issues concerning AIDS awareness.

RAAP's other goals include publishing its own newsletter, group attendance at AIDS awareness conventions and educating young people on the topic of human sexuality.

As Presidential Politics Heats Up, the Right Wing Targets Iowa and New Hampshire

Commentary by Dorothy Lohmann

Religious Right political groups know exactly which issue will galvanize their troops in the presidential contests in Iowa and New Hampshire: Gay and Lesbian civil rights. In anticipation of this crucial early balloting, Religious Right leaders have long been strategizing and organizing in both states. They targeted Iowa and New Hampshire to test the volatility of certain issues for the national presidential campaign. Activists in both states zeroed in on Gay civil rights as their "wedge issue."

The first test was won by Right Wing activists in September when sexual orientation became the major campaign issue in the Des Moines, Iowa, school board race. What began as a debate on what to teach children in the local public schools was seized by Right Wing political activists and transformed into a campaign issue for presidential candidates.

As reported in *Light*, the controversy began when a Des Moines public school district committee drafted a proposal to ensure that "issues related to Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual people are thoughtfully infused in the educational program and activities."

Enter Bill Horn, a professional anti-Gay activist from California. Horn is affiliated with a group called The Report, which dedicates itself to fighting against Gays having any civil rights at all.

Horn found an ally in ultra-conservative radio talk-show host Jan Mickelson, who invited Horn on his show several times to rail against Gay people.

The Christian Coalition and other Far Right extremist groups rallied around the issue of "promoting homosexuality in the schools," as it was characterized by Horn and Mickelson.

The ensuing furor ripped the community apart.

While controversy swirled around the Des Moines school board on the issue of teaching tolerance toward Gays, 12-year school board veteran and candidate Jonathan Wilson stood up amidst the hostile environment with his family at his side and publicly declared that he is Gay.

Wilson's sexual orientation became the focus of the school board campaign, and Right Wing activists and politicians found their wedge issue for the 1996 presidential campaign. Republican candidate Phil Gramm weighed in with words of solidarity with anti-Gay factions in Des Moines.

Gramm, in his on-going effort to seduce the Right Wing of his Party, sent a letter to Iowans assuring them that he stands with them in their fight against the "radical homosexual community." The Des Moines school board elections became a litmus test of ideological purity for the most conservative presidential candidates.

Meanwhile, the town of Merrimack, New Hampshire was embroiled in its own ugly anti-Gay controversy, courtesy of the Religious Right.

Merrimack was deeply divided in 1994 when Religious Right extremists nearly succeeded in persuading the Right Wing dominated school board to adopt Creationism as part of the public school curriculum.

In 1995, Right Wing school board Chair, Chris Ager, proposed a public school policy of discrimination against Gays and Lesbians. In August, the board approved the policy which requires Merrimack public schools to purge library books, other educational materials, counseling programs and school services that include any statements or policies that may be construed as "supporting" or "encouraging homosexuality" as a "positive lifestyle alternative."

It is no coincidence that communities in New Hampshire and Iowa are fighting the same battles over school curricula and Gays. These high-profile clashes provide a platform for the Religious Right and a gauge for those who measure their presidential candidates with a

homophobic yardstick.

Christian Coalition Executive Director Ralph Reed did not mention the virulent anti-Gay strategies in the organization's "Contract With The American Family." Yet it is clear that the Religious Right is splintering communities by building fear and hysteria and appealing to voters darker emotions with its wedge issue strategy.

Members of the Christian Coalition regularly receive direct mail from President Pat Robertson replete with hateful rhetoric about Gays and Lesbians.

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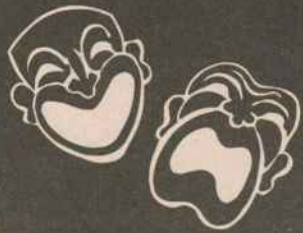
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The Light



LIVELY ARTS



Leslie Cheung and Anita Yuen in 'Chinese Feast'

'The Chinese Feast', a Sumptuous Film Event, Has Milwaukee Premiere at UWM

Review by Barry Walker

It's been proven: When American audiences embrace Asian films, they tend to favor one of two topics—kung fu or food.

The latest film to reach these shores by Tsui Hark, the master director, writer, producer who's leading the on-going explosion of Hong Kong cinema, offers both. **The Chinese Feast** which has its Milwaukee premiere at UWMilwaukee's Union Theatre, features the elaborate preparation of exotic culinary delights presented with the heightened combat and excessive stylization one expects from kung-fu films.

Machine gun editing combined with unforgettable foodstuffs (monkey brains, bear paw flambe, braised elephant trunk) ensure that this ultra-wacky, action-comedy will work simultaneously on your nervous system and digestive tract.

If you have never seen one of Hark's films, you are missing one of the most spectacular pleasures that Asian filmmaking has to offer. Hark has created a body of work that's both wide-ranging and suffused with personality.

The Vietnam-born, Hong Kong-raised, Texas-trained auteur isn't as well known to American film buffs as John Woo, but Woo learned much from Hark.

The Chinese Feast is a perfect example of Hark's work. It takes a stock kung-fu story

(naïve, but willing student who wishes to study with infamous master who's renounced his craft and is reluctant to teach again) and gives it a major twist: The master is a prize-winning chef and the student is a baby-faced gangster in love with a punk chanteuse.

Chui Kong Sun (Leslie Cheung) wants to leave behind the crime life and follow his girlfriend to Canada. To do this, he tries his hand at cooking school so that he will be sent overseas to work in a Canadian-Cantonese hotel.

He fails ridiculously and meets up with a prize-winning chef who tells him to ask for a job at a restaurant of his master (Law Kaying), an old-fashioned guy with a heart condition that's regularly exacerbated by the rebellious antics of his daughter Au Ka Wai (Anita Yuen), who dresses and sings operatic karaoke in the hairdos, makeup and outfits of a '90's Cyndi Lauper.

The climax pits two rival catering gangs against each other, each side armed with knives and spatulas. The results are hilarious and dazzle in a way that only Hong Kong filmmakers can produce.

The Chinese Feast is presented January 25th, 26th and 27th; 7:00 p.m. at the Union Theatre in the UWM Student Union, 2200 E. Kenwood Blvd., Milwaukee. The price is \$3.50 for students and \$4.50 for the general public.

Fest City Singers Present Moving and Memorable Holiday Concert

Review by Geno

The holidays are over, but the melodies linger on.

The Fest City Singers ushered in the traditional holiday festivities with their eleventh annual Christmas Concert, "Many Times, Many Ways, Christmas in Fest City," on a snowy, frosty evening, December 10th. The Westminster Presbyterian Church in its Christmas attire and the fine ensemble singing of the Singers provided all of the warmth needed to put its capacity audience in a holiday mood.

The program presented a triptych of Christmas scenes consisting of familiar and not-so-familiar music under the headings of **The Symbols**, **The Music** and **The Food**. Peter Mortensen, Artistic Director, choreographed movement, tableaux and dance to accompany the singing, his background as performer and choreographer very much in evidence.

The patience and dedication of Peggy Lozier, Music Director, showed in the balanced singing. The clarity of diction—the French of "Bring a Torch, Jeannette Isabella," had the proper accent thanks to Penny McCanles, Singer and language coach. The Women's Ensemble's singing of "Lo, How a Rose Ere Blooming" was just one example of small group harmony.

"A Round for Music" and "Carol of

Friendship" were sung trippingly on the tongue at almost dizzying speed and with contagious fun, yet with not one syllable out of place. The entire program was characterized by simplicity, good humor and in time with their audience.

With perfect timing, at the beginning of **The Food**, section, a tantalizing aroma of food preparations began to accompany the music of the "Wassail Song."

The Fest City Singers, through the years, have made the sharing of Christmas cheer, food and drink, a hallmark of their annual holiday concerts. This year, three kinds of chili enjoyed pride of place, including vegetarian, on the menu.

The church parlor became a scene of a friendly extended family gathering, no one worrying about calories as they sampled the impressive display of delicacies.

Toward the end of the evening, with Peggy Lozier at the piano, an impromptu sing-along began and grew, a fitting close to a memorable concert.

Boulevard Theatre Auditions

Milwaukee—The Boulevard Ensemble is seeking actors and actresses of all ages and ranges for the third production of its 1995-'96 season, Edward Albee's **Seascape**. Auditions for the four-character production will be held at the Boulevard Theater on January 6th and 7th. Auditioners should present a one-minute comic or classical monologue. Audition appointments are required. Call (414) 672-6019 for an appointment.

'Nixon' May Not Be the One, But It's a Fascinating Movie Nonetheless

Review by Terry Boughner

For those of you in the 30+ years, you have to remember Richard M. Nixon as a leading figure in American political life. Like him or hate him, respect him or hold him in utter contempt, like Richard III, he strode across the political stage for near 30 years.

I remember being told as a student, that America had had no tragic figures in the White House, not in the sense that the ancient Greeks would understand the word, anyhow. That was before Nixon. After him, you could talk about tragic flaws and Iago.

Now Oliver Stone has brought to the screen an interpretation of the man and his life in the film **Nixon**, and like the man himself, the nearly three and a half hour movie has been both patted and panned.

I'll say this for it, the film makes fascinating viewing. Anthony Hopkins who plays Nixon has his voice patterns and mannerisms down to a T. If Hopkins is playing the 37th President with the Medieval idea that outward appearances reflect inward reality (as he seems to be doing), we see presented to us a man with a thoroughly shriveled soul—and not a clue as to how it got that way.

They all most closely resemble a bunch of vultures picking away at the body of the government of the United States.

Of course, decent people do prevail in the end, but in the meantime, Stone shows an inside the Beltway D.C. that was a miasma of cynicism and greed.

In many of the reviews I've read, much is made of the fact that Stone mostly avoids getting involved in conspiracy theories a-la JFK. Well, not quite.

There's a lot of valed comment (and sometimes not so valed) about some kind of linkage between the Bay of Pigs, the Kennedy assassination and what they were doing (or thought they were doing) that night in the Watergate. No real specifics; just hints.

There's also a scenario offered, interesting in its possibility, about how the 18 minute gap on the tapes occurred. And, if you've ever wondered who "Deep Throat" might have been, Stone offers a possibility here too, one that makes sense.

(Although a friend of mine who worked in the Nixon White House told me she thought Deep Throat wasn't one person, but several. Who knows?)



37th President—One of the most chronicled public figures of the 20th Century, President Richard Nixon (Anthony Hopkins) dances with his wife, Pat (Joan Allen) in Oliver Stone's "Nixon."

But what I found equally fascinating was the fact all the people around him, at least the most prominent characters such as J. Edgar Hoover, H. R. Haldeman, John Dean—all the President's men—are just as shriveled as he is.

In any case, if you're interested in history or lived through the period and are old enough to remember it, **Nixon** is well worth the time and money spent to see it. It's no masterpiece, but it's intriguing. I like that.

Openly Gay Comic Jason Scott Stuart Coming to Green Bay in January

Milwaukee—Once he was closeted, but now he's out. "I am so Gay right now. I am so Gay and so out I could redecorate this whole room by looking at it," said actor, comic Jason Scott Stuart.

Coming out of the closet made all the difference emotionally for Stuart. It also gave his career a big shot in the arm.

"I'm selling out now in bigger clubs, in bigger numbers than ever before," the 31-year-old comedian says. "I'm competing for roles in a much bigger way now with much more famous people."

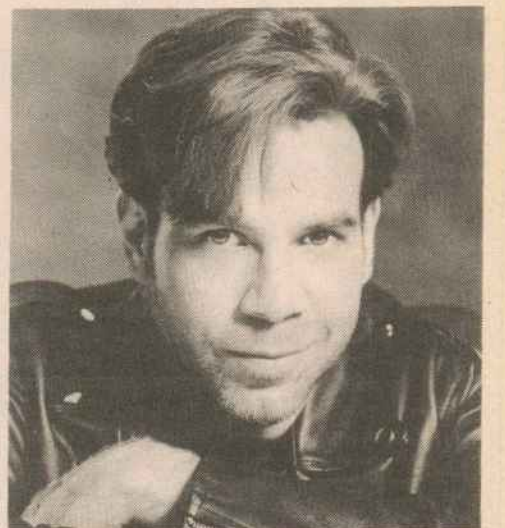
Stuart came out by kissing Geraldo Rivera on his talk show in June, 1993.

Besides, standup touring, he's been on "The John Larroquette Show" and "SeaQuest DSV" and is being considered for movie and Broadway play parts.

Before he left the closet, Stuart spent nine years as a struggling comic who used to joke about what a dork he was and how inept he was with women.

"It was sort of like between being a dork and being Gay," he said. "It's hard to explain lying all the time about your personal feelings."

Generally, Stuart's audiences have no problem with his being Gay. But every once in



Jason Stuart

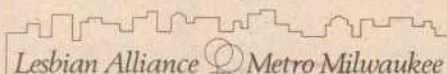
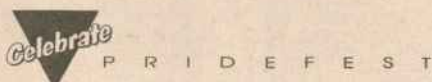
awhile, he says, there's a Jesse Helms-type in the audience who can't seem to figure out why I should have the same rights he has."

Stuart takes particular relish in deflating homophobic fears about Gays recruiting for their ranks.

"What's the selling point? We have no rights and everyone hates us. Please come along and join us!"

Stuart will be the first openly Gay comic to headline **The Funny Bone** in Green Bay, beginning January 17th and running through January 21st. For more information, call (414) 498-2663.

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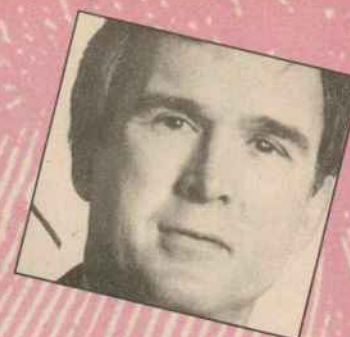
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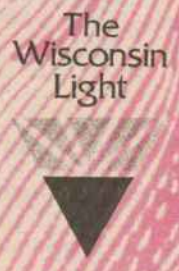
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Comedienne Kate Clinton to Star at ACLU's January 13th Bill of Rights Dinner

By John Quinlan

Milwaukee—Comedienne Kate Clinton has been described as the Lesbian next door, a former school teacher with the kind of reassuring presence that makes you think she'd make a great best friend.

And yet, beneath that calm exterior, lies a razor-sharp political wit. Clinton notes that she's been performing her political humor since 1981, "the same year that Ronald Reagan began performing his."

Since then, she's gone on to national fame as one of the first "out" Lesbian comedienne, produced six comedy albums, and toured nationwide in "Impure Thoughts," a critically acclaimed one-woman show.

Outside the realm of stand-up comedy and theater, she has been a highly articulate and prolific writer, including her role as a political columnist for *The Progressive Magazine*, and as the author of an upcoming book.

Kate Clinton's distinctive style of comedy will be on display at the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of Wisconsin's annual Bill of Rights Dinner at Milwaukee's Pfister Hotel, 424 E. Wisconsin Ave., on Saturday evening, January 13th. A social hour begins at 6:00 p.m., with dinner at 7:00 p.m.

The cost of the dinner is \$50—phone reservations will be accepted at (414) 272-4032 until noon on Friday, January 12th. MasterCard and Visa are accepted; people making reservations can also pay by check on the night of the event. Van transportation is available from Madison by calling John at (608) 257-3744.



Kate Clinton

ACLU Looks Back on a Year of Accomplishment

A short awards ceremony will precede Kate Clinton's performance. Being honored is Madison attorney Percy Julian, Jr., who has made history with his work in the area of civil rights law.

Also being honored are the plaintiffs in a landmark insurance discrimination suit that settled here earlier this year for more than \$16 million—a national record.

The attorneys of the ACLU, working in cooperation with the NAACP and other community organizations, brought well-documented evidence of alleged widespread discrimination solely on the basis of race on the part of American Family Insurance into federal court. As a result, the company chose to reach this settlement, which has resulted in substantial compensation to people in affected areas—and hundreds of thousands of additional dollars for the organizations that serve these Milwaukee neighborhoods.

"Civil libertarians have this reputation of being a bit too serious for own good, so humor has always had an important place at these dinners," says ACLU Executive Director Chris Ahmuty. In the past, nationally-known headliners have included Chicago's Second City, PBS's Mark Russell, and last year, native Milwaukeean Will Durst.

Clinton: Critically Acclaimed and Loved by Audiences Nationwide

"Clinton's amiable presence and endless energy lightens your heart—when it's not making your stomach hurt so much from laughing so hard," wrote a reviewer in southern California's *Back Stage West* this summer. Writing in *Variety*, another reviewer noted that "Clinton is a very good comedian; her material is sharp, intelligent and funny, and her delivery is low-key, but precise and effective."

A former English teacher, she uses language with admirable precision, and laments its current abuse. "When," she asks pointedly, "did 'family' turn from a noun into an adjective?"

After leaving her job as a high school English teacher 14 years ago, old habits died hard. "If somebody is not paying attention in the audience," she notes with a chuckle, "I've been known to turn to the person and say, 'Would you like to share what you were talking about?'"

"Being a teacher is the same as being a comic," she adds. "You work the room. You learn to deal with the hecklers. You plan a show. And you try things to get laughs."

She is a highly-skilled story teller, and many of her routines are a complicated weave

of politics and everyday experiences. But she's not evolved beyond knowing when to place a few succinctly delivered one-liners.

On the Contract with America: "I thought it was called the Constitution." Revealing one of the better kept secrets of the Gay community: "the pink triangle is really a sign meaning 'slow moving Gay people.'"

On the Gays in the military controversy: "There's nothing new here—'don't ask, don't tell' is exactly how my family operated," she quips. "And it works just about as well now as it did then. It's like putting a screen door on the closet."

On the study linking hypothalamus size in Gay men to their sexual orientation, a study which did not include lesbians: "They claimed they couldn't find any Lesbian brains. I think I've been to that bar—it's in Long Beach."

"No Relation to Bill," But a Master of the One-Liner

On occasion, Ms. Clinton has been tempted to change her name to something less associated with our current president. Disillusionment over his flip-flops—like the "don't ask, don't tell" policy which she believes has been disastrous—has caused her to take that second look.

For a time, she quips, she had toyed with the idea of changing her name to "Hillary Clinton." Today, she advocates a more radical approach. "For two years it's been kind of sad to be called Clinton; I was thinking of maybe changing my name to Reno, maybe Elders."

Part of her skill is in finding the simple threads that weave through complicated subjects, like the interconnectedness of all civil liberties battles.

"Every civil rights movement has a bathroom moment," she says. "The women's movement had its bathroom moment, when we couldn't pass the Equal Rights Amendment because people were afraid that we'd have to have same-sex bathrooms. And with Gays in the military, the initial coverage was about guys in the showers."

"That was when I first thought that this was a bathroom movement," she says, making a tongue in cheek observation about the Lesbian and Gay rights movement's new-found legitimacy. "We are truly a civil rights movement now—because porcelain is always involved."

Reflections On Being a Feminist and a Stand-up Comedian

Clinton's ground-breaking role as one of the nation's first "out" comics is one which she embraces readily. However, make no mistake about it, she observes, her political humor includes something for everyone.

"In the last five years there has been enormous change," she says. "People know that there are Gay and Lesbian people in this world. Politically, some people may get upset about it, but culturally, they're quite used to it."

Since the early years, when her fans were primarily Lesbian or Gay, her audiences have become increasingly diverse. Expectations are also changing. "When I first started," she says, "people said, 'Could you do more about politics and less about being a Lesbian?' Now I go places and they say, 'Can you talk more about being a Lesbian and less about being political?'"

Despite widespread talk about "Lesbian chic" and other indications of increasing pop cultural acceptance, though, Clinton is extremely skeptical. "They say we've now got a seat at the table. Hmmm. So where's my knife?"

In many ways, she believes that the greatest challenges in breaking into stand-up comedy—a field still overwhelmingly dominated by white heterosexual men—have come because she is a woman. Her experiences echo those of openly Lesbian colleague Lea DeLaria, who was quoted recently in *Variety*.

"I still have to be two or three times as funny," observed DeLaria, who recently taped a special for HBO. "Not because I'm Gay, but because I'm a woman."

In fact, some of the initial skepticism about Clinton's choice of a career came from friends on the left. "I am a Gay comic and a feminist, and being known as a feminist was the hardest part for some people to accept," she says.

"They couldn't believe that I could say I was a feminist and a stand-up comedian in the same breath."

Clinton believes that this is now changing, and that often serious-minded civil rights advocates are beginning to realize the liberating power of humor in times like these.

"What's so great about comedy is I write a line and I think it's funny, and then someone else hears it in a completely different way," she says. "You realize that people are laughing for all different reasons, which is kind of an interesting utopian moment when all these different opinions can be one."

A native of upstate New York, Clinton has lived for the past three years in Provincetown, Massachusetts with her partner Urvashi Vaid. Vaid is a former director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, and a former staff attorney for the national ACLU. She is also the author of the just-published *Virtual*

Equality, a ground-breaking book that argues for an approach to Gay and Lesbian liberation that encompasses the broader movement for social justice.

Vaid's new book makes clear the instrumental role that Clinton often plays behind the scenes in advancing Lesbian and Gay rights and in doing other important work. Together they constitute one of the most prominent "power couples" in the Lesbian and Gay rights movement—if that's a term that can be applied to two women working on the cutting edge of social change.

Through its Lesbian and Gay Rights Project, and countless other activities, the ACLU is also on the cutting edge of the battle to advance the civil rights of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and transgendered peoples, both

locally and nationally. Last year, there was a significant turnout from the Lesbian and Gay community on the occasion of the presentation of a special award to openly Lesbian state legislator Tammy Baldwin.

Baldwin and other community leaders are encouraging community members from throughout the state to turn out in large numbers again this year.

This article's author is an openly Gay member of the Board of Trustees of the ACLU of Wisconsin. The quotes used in this article are compiled from interviews that originally appeared in the Los Angeles Times, the New York Times, Variety, the Chicago Sun-Times, the Toronto Sun, the Philadelphia Gay News, and The Progressive Magazine.

Publication of Milwaukee Poet's Work Raises Furor in Wichita

Wichita, KS—Western Kansas is not known as a particularly fertile land for small literary magazines, but the *Chiron Review* somehow scraped by in the small Stafford County town of St. John for the past 13 years with a small, but dedicated list of subscribers and good reviews from poetry critics.

Following the publication of a Gay poet from Milwaukee named Antler, however, the magazine is without a printer, its editor is without a day job, and the *Chiron Review's* long and unlikely run may be over.

"There is a strong possibility that it won't be viable," said Michael Hathaway, the editor and almost everything else for the quarterly magazine. "The magazine breaks even, it doesn't make a profit at all."

Breaking even is about the most a literary magazine like the *Chiron Review* can hope for, but Hathaway said he may not be able to achieve even that modest goal because the *Great Bend Tribune*, his longtime employer and the magazine's longtime printer, will no longer produce the magazine. Hathaway said the *Tribune's* publisher made the decision because of complaints by local residents about Antler's poetry and Hathaway then chose to quit with complaints about the publisher.

"I was working at the *Tribune*, and was society editor there since March. Before that, I had worked there off and on as typesetter for 14 years," Hathaway said. "But I left over the dispute over the magazine. I felt like he was censoring me, and I couldn't tolerate it. I didn't want to be there if he was going to do that."

The threat to the magazine's existence is a blow to Hathaway, who founded it in 1982 as an 18-year-old high school graduate because he was "fascinated with printing and publishing, fascinated by poetry, and had everything available to make a magazine."

Working the entire time in St. John and Great Bend—"I'd really like to stay here," he



Antler

said, "because I've tried to move away before and I always end up coming back"—readers find the magazine through directories or such tony bookstores as City Lights in San Francisco and Watermark in Wichita.

Although he never realized his ambition to win a wide readership, Hathaway did win kudos from such publications as *Small Magazine Review*, and in 1994, the special collections department of the Yale University library bought the magazine's archives.

"They were interested because we were a small press that had lived so long," Hathaway said. "The average life of a small magazine is 18 months. They were impressed with the writing, and had subscribed for three years before making the purchase."

The *Chiron Review* publishes material by contributors ranging from poet like Antler who are often published in better-known magazines, to complete unknowns. Subject matter ranges widely over a great array of subjects.

The problem with Antler, Hathaway said, "is he's a Gay poet and he doesn't hide it at all. What he did was, he juxtaposed Christianity with Gay love, and that was just way too much for Great Bend."

Washington's Lambda Rising Bookstore Soars into Cyberspace

Washington, D.C.—Lambda Rising, the world's leading Gay and Lesbian bookstore, broke the cyberspace barrier in mid-1995 when the company opened a bookstore on America On Line (AOL), the nation's largest online computer service with over 3.8 million members. This was the culmination of years of work on the part of Lambda Rising's Founder and President L. Page "Deacon" Maccubbin. Maccubbin had spent two years negotiating a contract with representatives from AOL to make the vision a reality.

"The store has been a huge success right from the moment it opened," Maccubbin said.

Shoppers enter Lambda Rising Online by typing in the appropriate keyword "GAYBOOKS" when the log on to AOL. That puts them on the main screen for the online bookstore which gives them access to all of the bookstore's online departments.

From this point, they can write Lambda

Danceworks Rings in New Year Premiering Ed Burgess' 'New Age My Ass'

Milwaukee—"New Age My Ass," a solo work by Ed Burgess, rings in the new year and the Danceworks' Spring Season.

A theatrical blend of movement, satirical role playing and social criticism, "New Age My Ass" takes the form of a schizophrenic nightmare. Irreverent and cynical, "New Age My Ass's" characters include, among others, a pop singer, a psychotherapist, and a yoga instructor. The piece takes a humorous look at the difficult balance between wellness and neurosis and at those who are not quite sure how to recognize either in themselves.

"New Age My Ass" will be performed on Friday and Saturday, January 26th and 27th at 7:30 p.m. in the Wehr Theater at Alverno College, 3401 S. 39th Street in Milwaukee. Tickets are \$12 for general admission and \$8 for students and seniors.

For more information, call (414) 481-2010.

Rising's online staff, exchange messages with other book, movie and music fans, sit in on live discussions with other shoppers and authors, or browse Lambda Rising's selection of merchandise.

The Rainbow Café is a special area, a place where up to 48 people can gather at the same time for informative discussions about books, movies and music. The Café is also the site for special online author conferences.

Two such conferences are held each week featuring such authors and performers as Kate Bornstein, Bruce Benderson, Laura Hoffman, Leroy Aarons, and comedian Suzanne Westenhofer.

In addition to Lambda Rising Online, AOL offers a Gay and Lesbian Community Forum which is the largest and most active of its type anywhere. That area features thousands of messages and downloadable files as well as direct links to the web, a Gay travel service, Bisexual and Transgender forums and many other features.

Playwrights Studio Theater to Hold Readings of Short Plays at UWM

Milwaukee—Playwrights Studio Theater will produce staged readings of short plays by local theater critics on Monday, January 15th at 7:00 p.m. at the UWM Fireside Lounge in the Student Union, 2200 E. Kenwood Boulevard.

The plays are: *The Panel's Best* by longtime Milwaukee *Sentinel* critic Jay Joslyn, now with the *Shepherd Express* and *Footlights Magazine*; *Everywoman* by Milwaukee *Magazine's* Bruce Murphy; and *Breakfast at Coventry* by Kathy Doll, wife of City Edition critic David Doll. *Breakfast at Coventry* stars David Doll.

Other celebrity readings will be a new comedy by ComedySportz's Dick Chudnow and *Kids by WOKY's* Dick James.

Admission is free, but a donation is appreciated. A silent auction will be available.

Jeff Pomtow

New Report Shows Gay Press Faces Attacks In U.S. and World-Wide

New York, NY— In Greece, the editor of a Gay and Lesbian magazine was sentenced to prison. In Lithuania, authorities quashed distribution of a Gay newspaper. In Virginia, county officials barred a Gay paper from libraries, while in Wisconsin, extremists in a small town tried to do the same thing.

These are among 21 incidents of harassment, censorship and abuse directed at Gay publications and journalists in 14 countries that the Committee to Protect Journalists describes in a report released Tuesday, October 18.

"In societies as politically and culturally disparate as Canada, Russia and Zimbabwe, censorship is applied selectively against Gay and Lesbian periodicals," executive director William A. Orme Jr. writes in **Double Jeopardy: Homophobic Attacks on the Press, 1990-1995**.

"The targets of harassment range from individual reporters from mass-circulation publications who are attacked because of their sexual identity to the publishers and editors of periodicals aimed at the Gay community," Orme said.

The report's "representative sampling of homophobic attacks on the press," includes:

On July 23, 1995, the director of Bulgarian National Television banned programs depicting "violence, homosexuality, prostitution, gambling and drug addiction" to protect "national interests and raise the professional and artistic levels of the programs."

In 1991, Irene Petroupolou, the editor of **Amphi**, a Lesbian and Gay magazine based in Athens, was fined and sentenced to five months in prison for indecent speech—an editor's note she placed in the classified section asking heterosexual men to stop responding to personal ads from Lesbians because they "have nothing in common in bed." The sentence was overturned on appeal and she served no time.

In 1993, Lithuanian officials banned the Gay

newspaper **Naglis** from all but seven of the country's more than 500 authorized distribution points. The publishers decided to change it to a mixed-readership publication.

In September 1993, the board of supervisors of Fairfax County, Va., ordered the library board to remove the **Washington Blade**, a Gay weekly, from its 22 branches or face dissolution. Threatened with a lawsuit, the supervisors directed the board to develop "a means by which free publications that may be harmful to children are made inaccessible to them."

In Wisconsin, in 1993, certain citizens of Hales Corners, a Milwaukee suburb, tried to get the Lesbian and Gay newspaper, **Wisconsin Light** removed from the town's library shelves.

The newspaper had been in the library for two years and no objection had been raised.

After debate and picketing by a Right Wing religious group, the newspaper stayed in the library, but was made inaccessible to children.

There have also been incidences where guards at Milwaukee's City Hall reported that those delivering a Right Wing Christian publication, threw **Light** away.

A guard reported that when he challenged the distributor, the man replied that he had been instructed to throw the paper out.

"These abuses are commonly viewed as a Gay rights issue, but we as journalists should recognize that they are also freedom of the press cases," said Orme. "If reporters are persecuted because authorities disapprove of their sexual orientation, or if publications are seized in an attempt to restrict coverage of the Gay community, this is an infringement on every journalist's right to report the news without fear of reprisal or censorship."

The Committee to Protect Journalists was founded in 1981 to promote freedom of the press by protesting attacks on journalists worldwide.

Right Wing Religious Hate Monger Seeks to Destroy Texas Gay Publication

Austin, TX—Austin businesses say they will not bend to a Fundamentalist Christian group that promises to step up pressure against them to pull their advertising from an Austin-based Gay publication.

Wyatt Roberts, head of the Right Wing American Family Association of Texas, said on Thursday, December 28th, that he will announce the names of advertisers in the **Texas Triangle** on his weekly radio show and will "inform the public in other ways" that the businesses are advertising in a "homosexual" publication.

"If I walk into a business and make a purchase, and that purchase is used to support a philosophy I disagree with, I should know that," he said.

Roberts said the family association mailed some 50 letters to advertisers on December 19th, giving them 10 days to reply.

"We just wanted to make them aware that we were planning to take some action, and wanted to hear from them," he said.

The written deadline has made some advertisers nervous. Kay Longcope, editor and publisher of the newspaper, told the **Austin American-Statesman**.

Longcope said Roberts wants her clients to fear demonstrations in front of their stores. Such protests by association members hit an Austin car dealer, which recently renewed its advertising with **The Triangle**.

Other advertisers say also that they will continue their relationship with the 3-year-old Gay paper no matter what the Family Association does.

"We regret to inform you that Texas Mortgage Corp. will continue to advertise in any publications the corporation chooses." Tony Eddols, president of Tower Mortgage Corp., wrote in a sharply worded response to the Right Wing religious leader.

William Sanson, manager of Tower Mortgage, said his company also will honor its one-year contract with the **Triangle**.

"They're trying to dictate where our funds should go and the kind of potential clients we should reach," he snapped.

Missy Morgan, manager of the Denmart furniture store, said if Roberts does not like the **Texas Triangle**, he should stop reading it.

"The only way he can get away with these outrageous things is if we let him," said Morgan, who received one of Roberts' letters.

Robert Meecham, head of advertising at Prior Mart, said that "If the religious lunatics

TURN TO NEWSPAPER, PAGE 15

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Madison **DEADHEADS:** GWM, deadhead, long haired couple, 40, brown hair, blue eyes, 121, HIV-, the other is 145, brown hair and eyes, 35, HIV-, seeks the same, 25-40, for experience sharing and more. Let's meet and go phishing. Call us! ☎14493

Madison **BOY LOOKING FOR A DADDY:** GWM, 29, smooth and attractive, seeks others guys, 50+ and who are versatile, for fun, friendship and much more. Please leave a message. ☎27325

Wisconsin **FRIEND SEEKER:** GWM, attractive, 23, 6'2", 170, long brown hair, blue eyes, seeks others for friendship. Please leave a message. ☎27772

Wisconsin **LOOKING FOR YOUNG GUYS:** Bi WM, 31, seeks others, 18-20, swimmer's build, for fun and pleasure. Please leave a message. ☎28388

Greenbay **GREAT IN GREEN BAY:** GWM, 24, 6'1", 205, average build, dark hair and eyes, varied interests, seeks others, 18-22, local area preferred, for fun and more. Please leave a message. ☎28413

Greenbay **LOOKING FOR LOVE:** GWM, HIV+, 5'10", 140, brown hair and eyes, versatile, 30, seeks others, HIV+ and between 25-35, local area preferred, for fun and more. Please leave a message. ☎28456

Appleton **TAKE A CHANCE ON ME:** GWM, 23, blonde hair, blue eyes, seeks others for friendship and possibly more. Please leave a message. ☎25732

Madison **TOP ME OFF:** GWM, masculine, 6'1", 195, 28, bottom, seeks other top men for discrete, safe and clean fun and more. Discretion a must! Please leave a message. ☎26342

Milwaukee **SEEKING NEW MASTER:** GWM, 5'9", 35, good looking, hairy, very submissive, seeks dominant and masculine master for ongoing relationship. Please leave me a message. Total service and worship is yours! ☎22206

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

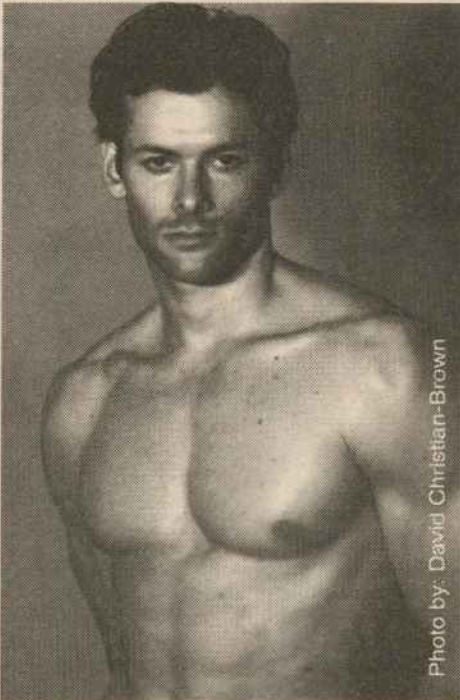


Photo by: David Christian-Brown

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

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

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



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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 en-

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 gymnasium build a plus. (Call Thru) Box# 7386

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

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

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

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

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

M, looking for M, to kick back, relax, and let someone take care of him. Box# 9070

22 year old, BM, 6'1, 150lbs., looking for M, 20-35. Preferably BM. Box#

8530

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 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, 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

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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

dowed, good looking, good personality, humorous. Looking 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

Teaching the Values of Respect, Tolerance and Family in Our Country's Schools

By Anne Simon

We all wear different hats. I am a teacher, a daughter, a mother and a wife. I am a friend, a sister, and a Jew.

At school, I also have many roles. I am a disciplinarian, counselor, helper and teacher. I have always wanted to be a teacher. Like countless little girls, I would play school with my friends, only I always had to be THE teacher.

For the past five years, I have been a learning center teacher at a suburban public school in Sudbury, Massachusetts. Lincoln-Sudbury Regional High School prides itself as having, as a core value, respecting human differences.

However, on one November day during my first year, I learned that not all students were respectful of human differences. On that day, two young women decided to show the school their new found love by holding hands in the halls, something that different sex couples do all the time.

As they were walking to class, some students started teasing them, calling them names, and shouting at them. I went out to investigate and saw a circle of kids surrounding something. I broke through the circle and found the two girls clinging to each other, not out of love, but out of fear. I quickly got the two girls into my office and called for the housemaster.

Our core value of respecting human differences was clearly not working and those two girls sobbing in my office was proof to me and to our administration. We set about trying to make our school a safer and more tolerant place.

We invited speakers and learned that one out of every three Gay teens attempts suicide during adolescence.

We determined that we should poll the student body to determine the amount of harassment that was taking place in the school.

In February of 1993, we asked students a number of questions including "How often have you heard homophobic remarks at your school?"

A staggering 98% replied that they had heard them.

When asked "Would you be upset or afraid if people thought you were Gay, Lesbian or Bisexual?" 64% said yes.

From the survey, we determined that there was a need for a place where students could get together to discuss homophobia and ways to end it. This club became our Gay-Straight Alliance and it meets just like any other club.

Teachers often tell students to write from their personal experiences. I, too, speak about this topic from my personal experience. My sister is a Lesbian. Emily came out to me when I was in high school. Suddenly, my world fell apart. I will never forget the fights,

the discussions and the trauma my family went through. Had there been a place like our Gay-Straight Alliance, I would have been able to talk to other students. I would have known what faculty I could talk to, I would have felt safe enough to learn.

I will teach my daughter that it is important to respect human differences. In day care, I have included a picture of my sister and her partner in my daughter's family tree. I want her to be proud of her family and for others to see the love that her aunt has for her.

At Lincoln-Sudbury's graduation last June, a parent came up to me. She said, "You don't know me, but I'm Michael's mother." Michael was a member of the Gay-Straight Alliance and came out to his family during high school. "I just want to thank you for being so kind to my son. Without your and other's support, I don't know if he would have made it through Lincoln-Sudbury."

From that mother's mouth, I heard the words that all teachers long to hear: that they had made a difference in a student's life.

I hope that when my daughter is graduating from high school, that there is no need for a Gay-Straight Alliance because our hard work of teaching tolerance and respect for difference will be the norm and that all schools are a safe place to learn for all students regardless of their sexual orientation.

Editor's Note: The author is a Special Education Teacher at Lincoln-Sudbury and a National Board Member of The Gay, Lesbian, and Straight Teachers Network.

a big way in June, more and more, July has become time to celebrate in Madison. After a few years of sporadically celebrated megamarches, the GALVANize March for Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Rights has now been safely ensconced as an annual tradition. This year, the march was bigger and better than last year, and a firm foundation has been successfully laid for a march at the same time this year and every year. These marches have not been as big or event-filled as the big 1989 and 1991 marches—but who cares. GALVANize leaders are doing it the right way—building on success a year at a time.

That same weekend, the UW-Madison Gay and Lesbian Alumni Association held a most pleasant brunch affair and awards ceremony. This vibrant three-year-old organization—the first of its kind in the nation—honored two distinguished alumnae, former student activist and Los Angeles-based attorney, Rick Villansenor, and Carrie Barrett, former student activist and co-owner of Chicago's People Like Us bookstore.

The Magic Picnic, sponsored by the Hotel Washington, grew bigger and more inclusive again this year—raising thousands of dollars for community organizations. A notable change over the years, as one long-time community member noted, was that women no longer feel excluded from the festivities, an important fact given it's presence as the centerpiece of a newly-evolving mid-July LGB rights weekend.

Other Traditions and Transitions at Year's End

The organizers behind Apple Island, Madison's premiere location for women's community events, lost their location because of problems in negotiating a new lease at their old E. Washington location, and the search continues for a new space.

Celebrating its 10th fun-filled year, "I Got this Way from Kissing Girls," a.k.a., the Lesbian Variety Show marked its anniversary in style. Of course, not that I can report on it firsthand, because, as you all know, *men are still excluded from participating* (emphasis and heavy sarcasm intended). In a resurrection of a perennial debate, a concert goer's boyfriend complained to Isthmus that he was excluded. Actually, organizer Falcon River politely explained to the young man the reasons that women's only space were important, and he reluctantly complied.

Come on guy. Get a life. And let's hope that 1996 is "The Year When the Privileged White Heterosexual Men Who've Had it Pretty Cushy All Along Finally Get a Clue." (Don't hold your breath.)

It's the kind of story that would have outraged perennial Madison activist Michael Biernbaum, who died of cancer-related complications in mid-November. A Madison-based biochemist who moved to Madison in the early 1970's, Biernbaum's example as a feminist man was an example to countless individuals. He was instrumental in establishing Men Stopping Rape, the Men's Center, and the Men's Child Care Cooperative.

It was that last project that really blew people's minds at the time—the whole idea of men, many of them Gay, actually taking responsibility for childcare so that women could go to support groups and other programming, was a pretty radical concept. All kinds of trust issues had to be overcome, but Biernbaum persevered. He went on to become the driving force behind Changing Men magazine, which allowed further dissemination of the strangely radical notion that men had a stake in feminism as a means of advancing their own growth.

But what a sense you received that day, of the ripples of joy and inspiration that go out from the life's energy of life-loving individuals like Michael Biernbaum and his former partner, nationally-renowned artist Dicky Lee Stafford, who preceded him in death.... He did truly pioneering work. The effect of his legacy, of activism and of love, will live in on here in Madison, and in many distant corners of the world, for many years to come.

A Time to Look Ahead

The year 1995 was a time of great growth and happiness, but also, for many of us, of crisis and loss. The scourge of AIDS continues, and Madison and Wisconsin continue to feel its increasing effects. For a variety of reasons, good people become sick, or burnt out, or simply lacking in hope, for a time, for a variety of reasons. One of the most powerful things, though, about Madison's LGB community is that we truly are a community—and are there for each other in times both good and bad.

It may be just the passage of another day, but the new year has always held great promise for me as a time of taking stock of things, but more importantly, as a time of new beginnings. New Year's Day marked a special anniversary for me—the 10th anniversary of my "coming out." (More reflections on that in the next issue of the Light, along with a look at developments on campus, and a look back at some of the interesting guests who appeared on the LGB radio show Sunday Night Out, now called Inside Out.)

Best wishes for the New Year!

Want to give feedback? Have story ideas? Contact John Quinlan at (608) 257-3744 or send e-mail to JQuinlan@aol.com.

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Jan. 18; Feb. 1; Feb. 15; Feb. 29; Mar. 14; Mar. 28

Personals

Milwaukee area—New Year to end denial. Bi, m/w/m, 36, 185, 5'10", seeks one, slim, discreet, similarly smooth, muscular nature boy, workouts, massage, cuddling, your place. Or just a friend to talk, fish, play chess. Photo with torso appreciated. Reply: Wisconsin Light, Box 301, 1843 N. Palmer, Milwaukee 53212.

Young Gay man from Czech Republic is visiting the U.S. and would like to find friends. Please write: Henry Nowak, P.O. Box 182, Joliet, IL 60434-0182.

Small Endowed and Short-Statured? You're Not Alone. Send SASE to: Formaco, Inc., 207 E. Ohio, #317, Dep 8, Chicago, IL 60611

Phone Encounters

Have you been seeking my advice for \$3.99/minute? Professional esoteric counselor will give you honest and direct answers. Tarot consultation. Phone Sunday-Thursday, 3:00-9:00 p.m. Red Mill Psychic Services (414) 894-3225. MasterCard/Visa. Rates: 15 min/\$25 or 30 min/\$45

Real Estate

Bar For Sale

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

Travel

GAY RESORTS, TOURS AND CRUISES: PUERTO VALLARTA, an all-inclusive Gay/Lesbian resort vacation on Apr. 14-21. TROPICAL AND EXOTIC ASIA TOUR—Bali, Bangkok, Hong Kong, and Boracay Island on May 18-June 1. GREECE AND MEDITERRANEAN CRUISE on Aug. 9-16, and Aug 16-23. Other Gay travel destinations available. JP TRAVEL 800-511-2800

NEWSPAPER

Continued from Page 11

don't want to shop here, so be it. They're so obsessed with sex, it's insane."

Longcope said **The Triangle** could be perceived as vulnerable to Roberts' perceived threat because the newspaper relies heavily on mainstream advertising.

Roberts excused himself by saying that he is not trying to run the **Texas Triangle** out of business. He just wants people to know how businesses spend their money, he said.

"(Consumers) should know that through their purchases, they are subsidizing the homosexual agenda," he said.

One advertiser that was left off the mailing list was St. Mary's Cathedral. Roberts said the Catholic church's ad is a different case.

"Obviously if they are advertising in a homosexual newspaper, their goal is to lead these people to Christ, and that's fine with me," he said.

MADISON

Continued from Page 2

there were concerns about the mixed messages being sent—"it's an extremely powerful thing for a public official to come out" on the one hand, and "privacy is the bottom line, and in the greater scheme of things, it really doesn't make that big a difference," on the other hand.

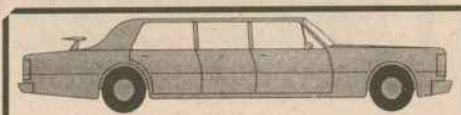
Making the message more complicated was the fact that Clarenbach had also been involved in deeply committed, loving relationships with women, including his wife, from whom he had only recently legally separated. Clarenbach said that he did not define as "Bisexual" because that was a label people couldn't accept, but his coming out as "Gay" led to some measure of confusion and an inadvertent undervaluing of some of his significant relationships.

Unfortunately, for a time anyway, the issue became blown out of proportion, arguably, at least in part, because Clarenbach failed to understand why it was so overwhelmingly important to clarify given his new position—after a while, he stopped answering questions about his own life journey. Articles in the **Advocate** and **OUT! Magazine** noted his accomplishments, but came down on him for concerns about mixed messages. (As the author of the much-distilled, twenty plus revisions **OUT** article, I felt horrible that the pared-back article that resulted from space constraints did little to illuminate his history of accomplishment.)

One of my best and most fervently held hopes for 1996 is that this issue can be put behind us, and that a new focus can be put on the important work of the Victory Fund itself.

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Dykes To Watch Out For



Report From The Hill

Don't Reject Bill Clinton. He's the Best that We're Probably Going to Get

Commentary by Hastings Wyman Jr.
 "Be bold, be bold—but not too bold," wrote Danish author Isak Dinesen.

Sometimes one wonders if Bill Clinton only heard the last part of the message. He's sort of with us one day (favoring Gays in the military, criticizing anti-Gay referenda), but not the next (accepting the Nunn "compromise" that keeps military Gays closeted, declining to oppose anti-Gay laws before the Supreme Court).

Even last Summer's visit to the White House by Gay leaders was spoiled by the Secret Service wearing rubber gloves—hardly the president's fault, but an indication that his troops aren't getting the message.

Anger and betrayal are the two most commonly expressed sentiments in the Gay community over Clinton's on again, off again stance on Gay issues. The other sentiment is a threat to retaliate at the polls—perhaps by supporting a liberal alternative, or even by not voting.

While Gays are understandably disappointed at the president's mixed record on our issues, we should not be too bold—or at least not reckless—in our response. The truth is, there's little likelihood that some liberal on a white horse will gallop across the political landscape and do better by us.

Politicians—at least not the successful ones—don't like to get too far out ahead of the

electorate. What the opinion polls show is that a majority of the public doesn't want to focus on our issues.

Most voters don't support proposals to protect our rights, although they don't like measures that appear to persecute us either. This attitude can be a blessing to Gay people, in that in this time of conservative resurgence, powerful national leaders who care little about us see it in their interest not to look like anti-Gay oppressors.

However, this same attitude makes it difficult for Gays to try to win high-visibility political victories. There's not enough public support—or enough fervor behind the support that exists—for many measures that could help Gay people against discrimination.

For example, it is widely perceived in political circles that the White House incurred serious losses in the Gays in the military controversy. Numerous losses for the Gay side in referenda that rescind state or local laws that apply to Gay people have added to the political truism—that advocating equal rights for Gays is not politically advantageous.

Moreover, the power of the Religious Right and its allies to bring pressure on Congress contrasts with a lessened—though not ineffective—lobbying power on our side. The scales are tipped further against us because many of our straight allies are moderates by nature and

seldom telephone the call-in shows or write members of Congress.

The Gay movement is not without resources, of course. Homophile money makes a substantial impact on national politics—contributions made by Gay-related PACs were the Democratic presidential campaign's fourth largest source of PAC funds in 1992. And in some bailiwicks—urban congressional districts or in cosmopolitan states like New York and California—Gay votes are numerous enough to matter.

But on balance, the political heft of the Gay movement does not equal that of its foes, at least in the short term. As a result, while we may resent the self-preservation instincts of office holders, no political figure in either party with a decent chance of winning the presidency is likely to go further out on the Gay limb than Clinton has already done.

Given this state of affairs, Clinton, who may be more pragmatic than liberal, but is still liberal, will stand by us as long as the cost isn't too high. He'll issue helpful executive orders on employment discrimination in federal departments and agencies because he believes in them and because his opponents can't really make an issue of such actions.

He'll invite our leaders to the White House—the Far Righters might complain, but mainstream conservatives can't attack Clinton's hospitality without sounding like bigots, which the public doesn't like.

But President Clinton and most of his fellow Democratic politicians aren't going to risk losing elections to stand by their pro-Gay beliefs. That doesn't mean Clinton and company are awful. It does mean that that's what you usually get in a democratic system—the terrible system, as Winston Churchill noted, but better than all the others.

So what are the options of those of us who believe that we Gay people have—in the words of the Supreme Court—"as much claim to unqualified social acceptance as heterosexuals"?

We can join a leftist revolt against Clinton—such as the one Jesse Jackson keeps threatening. We can consider the Republican alternative. We can sit on our hands—or at least our pocketbooks—contributing to state and local candidates that offer us something, but not to Clinton or other presidential candidates. Or we can end up in Clinton's corner, backing him as the best—if not ideal—alternative.

In my judgement, it is not in the interests of Gay people for Gay leaders to join any sort of anti-Clinton effort at this early juncture.

A left-wing challenge to Clinton—either for the nomination or as an independent candidacy in the general election—has serious limitations for Gays. Given the current national trends, there is little likelihood that Jackson or his ideological twin could win the White House.

The main result of such an insurgency would be to weaken the president, whose re-election prospects are already iffy.

In 1980, the result of Ted Kennedy's candidacy for the Democratic nomination was to hurt President Jimmy Carter. Similarly, in 1992, Ross Perot's independent bid hurt President George Bush. So, if the Gay goal is to defeat Clinton, joining a challenge would make sense, but that may well not be a sensible goal.

Which leads us to the Republicans. The best the nation's conservative party is likely to offer on Gay issues is silence, which might be enough for Gay Republicans who disagree with Clinton on non-Gay issues. But such neglect—benign or otherwise—would hardly appeal to more liberal Gays, or to "single issue" Gay voters.

Moreover, there is a possibility that there will be a much more menacing Republican posture, one that would turn off even 25 percent or more of Gay voters estimated to be

GOPers. If that comes to pass, come November, 1996, Bill Clinton could look good.

Finally, there's the abstinence strategy. Gay voters and contributors could simply sit out the '96 contest, concentrating on other electoral contests.

In 1992, the Gay community established itself as a major player in national politics. We have had some serious setbacks since. But we're down, not out. Younger voters are moving our way. Even some of our opponents are toning down their rhetoric. We need to remember that we're in this for the long haul and hang in there.

Gay people are likely to be best served by waiting to see what next year's primaries and conventions bring. Then, if on balance, there's a logical choice—even choices—the Gay community should get in there and pitch.

In the meantime, be bold—but not reckless.

Editor's Note: We welcome Hastings Wyman as a regular columnist to the paper. His columns on Gay issues in American politics appears across the country.

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