

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

▼ The Wisconsin Light

Germans Said to be Destroying Files Pertaining to Nazi Persecution of Gays

Milwaukee—Recently, a highly disturbing message went out over the Internet from a professor at the University of Hamburg in Germany.

Professor Norbert Finzsch said that the Hamburg State Archives has decided to destroy up to 90 percent of a large collection of documents pertaining to criminal prosecutions undertaken during the Nazi period.

According to Finzsch, these documents include references to the persecution of Gays and other so-called "forgotten" minorities.

In one of his messages, Finzsch said, "The Hamburg files were one of the very few collections of data on the administration of justice under Hitler that had remained intact.

Finzsch said that the decision to destroy the documents came after a 10 year review of their contents by a special commission. He said also that a large body of the collection has already been destroyed and that there has been no record kept of what was in them.

Gay people were the first minority to be persecuted after Hitler and the Nazis came to power in 1933. Dachau, the first of the concentration camps, built outside Munich, was constructed for Gay people.

Gay men were required to wear the Pink Triangle which was 2-3 centimeters larger than any other such symbol.

Lesbians were required to wear the Black Triangle.

Gay bars in Berlin and elsewhere were burned down around the patrons' heads.

There was Gay resistance to the Nazi persecution. It is known that a cell of the Gay resistance to Hitler existed in Hamburg as it did in many other German cities of the time. The Nazis made every effort to seek out and extinguish these groups. There were members put on trail in Hamburg. How many is not known and never may be known now.

Finzsch said that the destruction of the Hamburg documents means "that a scholarly categorization in terms of degrees of punishment, gender, and class of indicted/convicted persons is impossible."

Finzsch urged Gay activists throughout the world and the U.S. to write to the Mayor of Hamburg calling on him to stop the destruction of the remaining documents.

Letters can be sent to: Anden Ersten Buergermeister, der Freien und Hansestadt Hamburg, Herr Dr. Henning Voscherau, Rathausmarkt 1, D 20095 Hamburg, Federal Republic of Germany.

Recent Study Gives First Evidence that New Class of AIDS Drugs Prolongs Life

Washington, D.C.—For the first time, researchers have compelling evidence that a powerful new class of AIDS drugs prolongs life and reduces complications for people at advanced stages of the disease.

These drugs, called protease inhibitors, attack the AIDS virus in a different way from the medicines that have been on the market for several years.

Until now, scientists' enthusiasm for these medicines has been based on test tube signs that they work, such as a 100- to 1,000-fold reduction in levels of AIDS virus in patients' blood.

Finally, they have reason to think the drugs truly may accomplish what they are intended to do: Help AIDS patients live longer and better.

Encouraging evidence on two of these drugs—Abbott Laboratories' ritonavir and Merck & Co.'s indinavir—were released to researchers at the February Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections.

The news produced a sense of optimism that is rare at AIDS gatherings, where the results of drug experiments are so often disappointing.

"Patients need to know this is promising," said Dr. William Paul, head of the federal Office of AIDS Research. "Scientifically, it is the best we have seen. It's an unfinished story but a very good beginning."

Dr. Jeffrey Kelly, head of the CAIR Center of the Medical College of Wisconsin expressed optimism about the new drug therapies.

"It is another step—a small one—on the road to making AIDS a chronic disease,"

Move Underway to Prohibit Same-Sex Marriage in Wisconsin

Radical Right Seeking to Spread Hate Agenda, Baldwin Says



Men Dancing en pointe—Parodying classical works from "Swan Lake," Paquita," "The Dying Swan," and "Pas Des Odalesques," the internationally famous "Les Ballets Trokadero de Monte Carlo" will return to Milwaukee on March 28th at the Pabst Theatre (See related story, p.9).

New Study Indicates that 7% of Gay and Bisexual Youth are Infected with HIV

Baltimore, MD—AIDS is spreading fast among U.S. Gay males in their teens and early 20s even though they grew up amid widespread awareness in the Gay community of ways to avoid the lethal virus, a study found.

Preliminary results presented Saturday, February 10th from the first national survey of young Gay men showed that 7 percent are infected with HIV, the virus that causes AIDS.

"HIV prevalence is very high among young men who have sex with men, compared with the general population of youths in the U.S.," said Dr. Linda Valleroy of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Her survey found that more than a third of

these young men have had anal sex without condoms in the past six months. This is the primary way HIV spreads among Gay men.

"The prevalence of unprotected anal sex is alarming, given that these young men grew up in an era of HIV awareness," she said.

The study was based on interviews and tests of young men who gather at spots where they can meet and socialize with other Gay men. In the absence of community centers in the Gay community in most places, they are forced to congregate at bars—if they can get in—and street corners. Sex can come easily and it can be dangerous.

Why these young men fail to protect themselves against AIDS is unclear. However, Dr. John M. Karon of the CDC said they may think their chances of getting the virus are low.

"They know the risks, but they assume that only older Gay men are infected," he speculated. "So if they only have sex with young men, they think they're safe."

Dr. Jeffrey Kelly, head of the CAIR Center of the Medical College of Wisconsin, said that what we're seeing is that while the incidences of HIV infection is indeed on the rise among young Gay males, particularly young Gay men of ethnic minorities, new infections for Gay men overall has remained steady over the past few years.

"We've done a pretty good job of HIV prevention among older Gay men, especially white men," Kelly said. "However, we badly need to reach out to younger Gay men and Gay men of color."

So far, the researchers have interviewed 1,781 men aged 15 to 22 in six urban counties: Miami's Dade County, Dallas County and four California counties—Los Angeles, San Francisco, Santa Clara and Alameda.

Valleroy presented the findings at a meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. They include:

HIV infections were found in 5 percent of the young men aged 15 to 19 and 9 percent in those 20 to 22.

Four percent of whites were infected, 7 percent of Hispanics and 11 percent of Blacks.

38 percent reported unprotected anal sex within the previous six months.

The study began after researchers in the San Francisco Bay area surveyed 425 Gay and Bisexual youths in the early 1990s and found that 9 percent were infected.

Dr. Kelly said that in San Francisco, "50% TURN TO AIDS DRUGS, PAGE 13



JEFFREY A. KELLY, PH.D.

Kelly said. He added quickly that this step is "one of the most significant steps to come along in the last couple of years."

Kelly cautioned strongly against anyone thinking that this new class of drugs should make anyone feel complacent about the disease or their own safety.

"These new drugs," he said, "does not mean that AIDS is anywhere near a cure. If

TURN TO AIDS DRUGS, PAGE 13

By John Quinlan

Madison—The political landscape in Wisconsin for Lesbians, Gay men and Bisexuals underwent a drastic transformation on February 12th when State Rep. Dean Kaufert (R-Neenah) announced his intention to introduce legislation prohibiting same-sex marriage in Wisconsin.

While the bill has not yet been drafted, if introduced, Wisconsin would join 19 other states that have legislation pending to prohibit same-sex marriage in anticipation of an impending ruling by the Hawaiian Supreme Court that would legalize same-sex marriages there.

Thus far, Utah has passed such a law and similar bills have made it through at least one house of the legislature in two other states (See article, this issue).

If the Hawaiian court upholds the right of same-sex couples as it is expected to do, the 49 other states will be faced with recognizing marriage licenses issued in the Aloha State. This is because of the "full faith and credit" clause of the U.S. Constitution which requires states to recognize each other's licenses.

Far Right forces have moved to forestall this by trying to get state legislatures to ban same-sex marriages.

On Saturday, February 10th, at a rally in Des Moines, the Christian Coalition announced its intent of seeing such preemptive laws passed in all 50 states (see article this issue).

Here in Wisconsin, the prospect of such a divisive debate strikes many as ironic, given the state's long tradition of leadership in the area of civil rights—which includes being the first "Gay Rights" state in the nation which was passed with bipartisan support in the legislature and signed into law by Republican Governor Lee Dreyfus.

In Wisconsin, under the worst-case scenario, Kaufert's bill would be quickly passed by the Republican controlled legislature and sharply divide the people of the state.

"We must take this bill very seriously, despite its introduction relatively late in the legislative session, said State Rep. Tammy Baldwin (D-Madison).

In the hours following Kaufert's press release, Baldwin and others acted swiftly to call an emergency community meeting in Madison. Despite the short notice, over 40 activists attended.

At the meeting, Baldwin and others expressed some measure of surprise that the bill's introduction had apparently originated with Kaufert, who is one of the Assembly Republicans who is generally recognized as a moderate. By way of example, Baldwin cited his support of a rehabilitative approach in the area of corrections.

In stark contrast to many of his colleagues on both sides of the aisle, Kaufert has shunned politically expedient "lock 'em up and throw away the key" rhetoric, for a more balanced approach.

Kaufert's press release was harsh. "If people in another state decide to support Gay marriages, that's their prerogative. However, those people don't have a right to tell us here in Wisconsin that we have to live by their rules."

Baldwin: Don't Get Swept Up, Let the People Decide

Kaufert's argument that his bill is an attempt to "let the people of Wisconsin decide for themselves," is off-base Baldwin maintains. "In fact, we'd be preempting Wisconsin's chance to debate this issue," she said. "We'd be letting events in Hawaii drive what happens here."

Noting that similar legislation has been in- TURN TO MARRIAGE, PAGE 16

News Briefs

Update on Baboon Bone Marrow Transplant

San Francisco-AP- Baboon bone marrow implanted in an AIDS patient to boost his failing immune system has apparently failed to work, doctors said Wednesday, February 7th.

But the AIDS patient, 38-year-old Jeff Getty, is doing "surprisingly well," perhaps due to chemotherapy, said Dr. Steven Deeks, who performed the transplant at San Francisco General Hospital on December 14th.

Getty, a former University of California policy analyst who turned into an AIDS activist when he discovered he had the disease, said from his Oakland home that he had always known the chances of success were not good.

"When I came into this, I rolled the dice," he said. "I didn't even know if I was going to live through this. Now I'm looking forward to a long summer of sailing."

Bone marrow produces the body's immune system, and the baboon cells were transplanted into Getty because the animals do not become infected with AIDS for reasons biologists still don't understand.

Previous experiments with baboon bone marrow transplants had failed because the bodies of the human patients rejected the foreign cells.

Deeks said Getty's surprising improvement may be as important as the experiment itself.

"There are some hints as to why Jeff is doing better, and this will open up new areas of research," he said, but refused to be more specific.

Paper to Print Same-Sex Engagement Notices

Wilkes-Barre, PA-AP- The Times Leader published its first same-sex engagement announcement, for Philip Mercadante Jr. and Roderick Bliss Jr. of Blakely, on December 31st. Vice President and Editor Allison Walzer says publishing the notice was an example of making The Times Leader accessible to its readers.

"If it does no harm to other people, I bend over backward to make this paper available to the community," Walzer says. "I do realize that reasonable people can disagree about this issue."

The Harrisburg-based Pennsylvania Newspaper Publishers Association says each newspaper can decide to run or refuse such announcements. Feature editors at two of the state's largest papers, The Morning Call in Allentown and the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, say they have never received a request for a same-sex announcement, so no policy about publishing them exists.

Philadelphia Newspapers Inc., which runs The Philadelphia Inquirer and the Daily News, publishes paid wedding and engagement announcements through its advertising department. The papers do accept same-sex notices, according to department policy.

Colorado Senate Approves Hate Crimes Law 02/07/96

Denver, CO-AP- Sending a message that crimes based on sexual orientation, age and physical disability are unacceptable, a Colorado Senate committee on February 7th approved a bill expanding the state's ethnic intimidation law.

The bill simply expands the state's ethnic intimidation law to apply to crimes against a person based on physical or mental disability, age or sexual orientation. Charges range from a Class 1 misdemeanor—which carries a sentence of 16-18 months in prison—to a Class 5 felony—which carries a sentence of 1-3 years in prison and a \$1,000-\$100,000 fine, depending on the crime.

Supporters of the bill cited statistics that showed hate crimes against homosexuals are on the rise, and said a law addressing the issue would help stop the trend.

Will Perkins, chairman of Right Wing Colorado for Family Values—the group that backed anti-Gay Amendment 2, was the only witness to testify against the bill. Nearly a dozen showed up to speak in favor.

Perkins said current law already protects people from harassment and expanding the law only asks the government to be "the thought police."

Poland's New Constitution Includes Gays

Warsaw, Poland- The Parliament of Poland will soon be considering a new permanent constitution drafted by its Constitutional Committee. On April 11, 1995, the Committee proposed the human rights clause of the draft, outlining groups who should not be discriminated against. The proposed clause (Paragraph 2-Article 2) includes the words "sexual orientation." The words have raised the expected furor from the Catholic Church. Former President Lech Walesa was also opposed.

Lambda, a national Gay and Lesbian rights organization in Poland, has been lobbying the government for over two years to get sexual orientation into the new constitution and keep it there. Lambda's documentation of cases of discrimination against Gay people was instrumental in getting the phrase included.

Poland's new President, Aleksander Kwasniewski, seems more accepting and ready to bring Poland into line with the Council of Europe and the Parliament of the European Community, both of which have urged member states to entirely equate Gays with straights in all fields of legislation.

Anti-Gay Rhetoric Escalates in Zimbabwe

Harare, Zimbabwe- Official harassment of Gay men and Lesbians in Zimbabwe has widened to include virulent attacks on the floor of Parliament, according to the International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission. A series of debates in the last few months on "the evil and iniquitous practice of homosexuality and lesbianism" have provided a forum for anti-Gay speeches by a number of legislators from the ruling ZANU PF Party, which follows the lead of State President Robert Mugabe.

Being Gay or Lesbian in Zimbabwe is currently illegal and punishable by a fine. Members of Parliament are calling for the punishment to be increased to caning and flogging and death for both women and men.

St. Camillus AIDS Center Bombed

Bangkok, Thailand- According to the International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission, the St. Camillus Foundation Relief Center, an 18-bed facility in Thailand's Nonthaburi Province was bombed. The Center, founded in 1993, provides counseling and temporary shelter to people living with HIV in a country which has one of the highest incidences of HIV infection in Asia. The Center has been forced to relocate following the bombing and continues to provide badly needed services. The police did no investigation and have offered no protection and, in fact, encouraged the Center to move.

Bipartisan Effort in Congress Seeks to Repeal Dornan Measure in Defense Bill

Washington, D.C.- Despite the urging of the AIDS Action Council, the Human Rights Campaign, the National Association of People with AIDS and numerous other groups, Clinton signed a defense funding bill into law on February 10th a provision of which would expel all service personnel from the military who have tested positive for HIV.

The measure was championed by Rep. Bob Dornan (R-CA), a notorious homophobe.

Clinton said that he opposes that provision but supports the overall bill.

At the time of signature, the White House stated that they believe the provision to be unconstitutional and that the Department of Justice will not seek to defend it in court.

The President also issued an Executive Order designed to prevent the HIV exclusion measure from taking full effect.

A White House aide said the executive order is designed as a stopgap, in case the legislative repeal effort fails. The order would establish full medical benefits for the discharged service members and their family, partial or full disability pay, education benefits, and job training.

Bipartisan Effort

On Capitol Hill, meanwhile, Republicans and Democrats are beginning a bipartisan repeal effort aimed at striking out the HIV discharge requirement.

They have six months to act before the military discharges more than 1,000 uniformed enlistees and officers who carry HIV.

Even before the Presidential ink was dry on the bill, Rep. Peter Torkildsen, (R-Mass.), had filed legislation to repeal the HIV expulsion provision in the Defense Authorization Bill.

Among Wisconsin's House delegation, Congressmen Scott Klug (R-WI) and Gerald Kleczka (D-WI) are among the co-sponsors, according to the Human Rights Campaign.

Congressman Tom Barrett (D-WI) is in Europe and could not be reached, according to his office.

In the Senate, the repeal measure is sponsored by Sens. Edward Kennedy (D-MA) and William Cohen (R-ME) and co-sponsored by Sens. Russ Feingold and Herb Kohl (D-WI), among others, including Sen. Sam Nunn (D-GA), who was one of the leading opponents of lifting the ban on Gays in the military.

Nunn recently recounted a letter from a sergeant with 16 years of service who contracted HIV from a blood transfusion and whose wife and two children would lose dependent health benefits with his discharge.

"The service is my life," the sergeant wrote. "I've given everything I have to it. When this bill passes, I'll be out of the service and out of a job. How am I supposed to support my family?"

"We need to put a human face on these statistics," Nunn said.

The bill currently has 74 co-sponsors in the House and 35 in the Senate.

"If Magic Johnson can play professional basketball after five years with HIV, then a dedicated American should be able to serve his or her country in a noncombat role," Torkildsen said.

Torkildsen was alluding to a letter sent to House Speaker Newt Gingrich and to Senate Majority leader Robert Dole by Earvin "Magic" Johnson.

"I am writing to you on behalf of a group of people that I have never met, but for whom I have the greatest respect and empathy: the 1,049 members of the U.S. military who, like me, just want to do their jobs and provide for their families," the basketball superstar wrote.

Current rules forbid those with the virus from being deployed overseas or sent into combat, and Dornan argued that places an undue burden on others in uniform.

Dornan said that Gay advocates are leading opposition to his provision, and as many as half the service members with HIV are former drug addicts who got the infection from dirty needles.

"Nobody gets the special treatment that these people get," even as the military is discharging healthy service members to reduce its ranks, Dornan said.

Opponents argued that thousands of service members with other serious ailments also are not allowed to be sent to foreign duty but are not covered by the Dornan amendment.

The HIV provision gives the military six months to discharge the 1,049 military men and women who have tested positive for the virus.

That figure represents less than one-tenth of 1 percent of the active-duty military force of 1.5 million.

Deadlines

Copy deadline for the February 29th issue February 23rd. The ad deadline for that issue is February 27th.

Copy deadline for the March 14th issue is March 8th. The ad deadline for that issue is March 12th.

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Editorial

It Had to Happen

It had to happen. It was only a matter of time. The battle over same-sex marriage had to come to Wisconsin, but not as part of a conspiracy. Conspiracies are hidden. This is a wide-open assault, as the Christian Coalition announced in Des Moines. This may not be the battle that we would have chosen. Some of us want marriage, some of us do not. But how often is it that we get to choose our battles? They are, as this one is, thrust upon us and we must fight. Why? Simply because this may be a battle over same-sex marriage, it is much greater than that. Same-sex marriage is a symbol. It was part of the on-going war against us by the religionists of the extreme Right. (Those these people call themselves "Christians," they are not that at all.) It is part and parcel with the anti-Gay amendments that the Far Right has tried to pass in other states. It is part of what the religionists want to do: deprive us of all rights, make of us second class citizens, and drive us from the political process altogether. We cannot let that happen! We must unite against this hatred, this scurrilous antipathy being hurled against us here and across the nation. We have got to fight back. We have got to show these people that prejudice and bigotry have no place, no place whatsoever in this state. We urge everyone, we urge everyone as strongly as we can to get involved with Action Wisconsin. Offer your help. Do whatever you can. We have got to show the Far Right that we are entitled to all the dignity and all of the rights that come to everyone else. Call Action Wisconsin. Get involved!

Editor's Note

On "Dykes to Watch Out For" and a Number of Other Things

By Terry Boughner

Friday, the paper is out. It is a day I have planned to reserve to myself. Corrections on Chapter 5 of a novel await. But there are more pressing matters, it seems. The phone starts ringing in the a.m. and continues on through Sunday, with only one question, "Where is 'Dykes to Watch Out For'?" My answer becomes a mechanical response. No, we have not stopped carrying the strip. It's just that Alison Bechdel, the creator of Mo and Lois and all the rest, sometimes falls behind in getting it to us. Such was the case last issue. We put the paper to bed (How journalistic of me!), on Tuesday night for shipment to the printer on Wednesday morning. Unfortunately, the latest installment of "Dykes to Watch Out For" only arrived in Thursday's mail. So, that's the explanation. Sorry about that, but I understand. It is truly one of the best, if not the best cartoon strips running, appealing to both Lesbians and Gay men and all others as well. Bechdel's talent lies in the creation of characters that transcend their gender and sexual orientation to speak to the human spirit as a whole. But that's genius for you. Karen Gotzler Our congratulations to Karen Gotzler for coming out on top in the 3rd Aldermanic Dis-

trict Primary race. Both Karen and Steve Rose ran good, solid races that should make our community proud. Now, however, the electorate has spoken. Karen is the one. It is time for all of us, whether we live in the 3rd District or not, to get behind her, to help out in every way that each of us can. Not only is Karen superbly qualified for the position she seeks, she is one of our own. There is no question about it, we need those who are friendly to us. But I maintain as I always have, that one of our own, and only one of our own, can truly know us, truly represent us. For example, I may be as sensitive and concerned as I can be for African-American interests. But I am not an African-American and I have not walked in their shoes. Therefore, I do not think that I can have the same exquisite sensitivity, that same degree of empathy and understanding that an African-American would have. The same holds true, I think, for Lesbian and Gay people. But Karen isn't only one of us, she is a very highly qualified one of us. For those reasons, we should, all of us, support her in her drive for victory. Lookit, Madison elects open Lesbians and Gay men to office all the time. Why can't we do it here in Milwaukee?

Politically Speaking

County Supervisor Elizabeth Coggs-Jones Deserves Better

Commentary by Bill Meunier

You have probably read about the mess at Milwaukee's Social Development Commission (SDC). Barbara Burke-Tatum, lied about her credentials in order to get hired as the

Executive Director of Milwaukee's anti-poverty agency. The SDC, Board Chairwoman, Elizabeth Coggs-Jones, received a report questioning the educational back-ground listed on Burke-Tatum's resume. Coggs-Jones chose not to reveal the negative report unless it was checked out. She contacted an independent third party, an executive search firm that SDC had hired, and asked them to get transcripts from the colleges Burke-Tatum claimed to have attended. The firm asked Burke-Tatum to get her transcripts and give them to SDC, Burke-

Tatum told the search firm she had given her transcripts to SDC. She told Coggs-Jones she gave them to the search firm.

One would think that a firm paid over \$30,000 to check the credentials of job applicants, could have contacted Coggs-Jones to tell her that it didn't have the transcripts and ask if she did.

They knew what the job requirements were and they knew that Burke-Tatum was a finalist for the job. Unfortunately it didn't. Burke-Tatum got the job and the rest is history.

Barbara Burke-Tatum lied her way into a job that she didn't deserve. She not only didn't have the Master's degree she claimed to have, she apparently spent only one semester in college. Barbara Burke-Tatum deserves to be vilified.

The other individual being attacked, former Board Chairwoman Beth Coggs-Jones, does not.

Who among us hasn't been conned a few times in our life? Some people would do well to remember that Burke-Tatum had used the same resume to get other high paying positions. Coggs-Jones wasn't the only person who believed in and trusted her.

From the remarks being made by some, you would think that it was Coggs-Jones who lied. It wasn't. She was just as much a victim SDC was.

I can't help but wonder whether or not the reaction would have been the same if a white man had done what Coggs-Jones did. If she was at fault it was in trusting someone.

I have known Beth Coggs-Jones for some time. And I can think of very few people in public office with the sense of ethics and honesty that she possesses.

Beth has that rare quality of belief that we seldom see in so many of our public officials.

I have seen it and so has anyone who knows her. She looks for the best in people instead of the worst. That may be how she gets through some pretty rough times representing a district that is largely poor and gang ridden.

When I was directing Mid Town Neighborhood Association, Beth used to bring her girl scout troop to our park pavilion for its meetings. I thought it was incredible that a Inner City County Supervisor, would take the time from her the 70 hours a week she put in on her job to work with kids that were't her own.

But she did. Beth Coggs-Jones understood that the real battle against crime doesn't begin and end with platitudes, sound bites and more money for prisons. The real battle begins with finding alternatives to the violence of the streets.

From my office I couldn't help but hear Beth talking about things that matter, honesty, ethics, loyalty and personal responsibility.

No, she never used those words. She used other words that meant the same thing, but were more easily understood by her young charges.

Then there is what Beth has done for us. Several years ago, Beth arranged for us to use the War Memorial Center for a memorial service commemorating Gay and Lesbian war dead.

Ignoring any potential political consequences, Beth came to the service herself and she brought her husband and children with her. They all stood proudly in front of the TV cameras.

She worked hard to pass a County Board resolution proclaiming Pride Week. She would even get the homophobes to leave to increase our chances, but we always lost. Then, a friendly supervisor, Roger Quindel, didn't show up and we lost by one vote.

When we spoke about Quindel's absence, Beth wasn't angry or bitter over Quindel's screw up. "Everybody makes mistakes," she said, "The important thing is that the heart is in the right place."

The last two years, when it was obvious we didn't have the votes, Beth got supportive supervisors to sign a fancy proclamation. She got it framed and read it from the PrideFest stage. It wasn't a small gesture.

As a Black female Supervisor, Beth Coggs-Jones knows how frustrating it is to feel alone. She doesn't want us to feel that frustration.

Right now, Beth Coggs-Jones must feel terribly alone and that is really tragic. If more of our elected officials had her honesty, her dedication and her heart we would all be much better off. As she said "Everybody makes mistakes."

The important thing is that the heart is in the right place."

It's too bad some people can't or won't judge her the same way she has judged them.

Response to Jacquelyn Richter

TO THE EDITOR:

The is in response to Jacquelyn Richter's commentary on "Men in Drag are Neither Entertaining or Funny."

Female impersonators have been used in the theatre since ancient times. The theatre was not considered a suitable place for women to perform. It wasn't until Colonial times that women started to consider the theatre as respectable employment and the audiences likewise.

The word "Drag," which means "dress as a girl" is found in the stage directions of many great and not so great plays throughout history.

More recently, it was (as Ms. Richter refers to them), the stereotypical Drag Queens and hustlers who gave us Stonewall. Without them, there might not be a celebration of Pride this year.

Female impersonators and Drag Queens create a theatrical illusion. Those of us who are professional have worked hard at our craft. We hope our audiences respond favorably to our efforts.

We have helped raise thousands of dollars for Gay concerns and activities.

Can Ms. Richter say the same?

We have seen and met very few transgender people (male to female) who did not look like a man in a dress. The few who truly look the way they wish to be, take the time and effort to use make-up, buy flattering clothes and practice their acquired femininity.

In order to be believable as a Female Impersonator, one must look and act the part. If Ms. Richter is having trouble being accepted and taken seriously, perhaps it is because she does neither.

It has nothing to do with how or what we perform on stage. Simply changing the plumbing fixtures does not constitute a rehab of the whole house.

Contrary to Ms. Richter's views, Female Impersonators and Drag Queens are active in the community. We are not airheads. We too are politically concerned. We have jobs. Some of us have children. We are educated and we pay taxes. Like everyone else, we want a better tomorrow for the next generation.

Ms. Richter, please do not blame the problems you are having on PrideFest simply because they wish to have Female Impersonators perform

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Milwaukee

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Where Does He Stand?

As the Presidential Primaries approach, (and before anyone drops out), we thought it might be good to take a look at the candidates and their stands on selected issues.

Gays in the military

Clinton: "Don't ask, don't tell"
Gramm: Would return to a total ban
Lugar: "Don't ask, don't tell"
Buchanan: Total ban

Alexander: Opposes lifting ban
Dornan: Would return to a total ban
Forbes: "Don't ask, don't tell"
Dole: Opposes lifting ban

Employment Non-Discrimination (ENDA)

Clinton: Supports ENDA
Gramm: Opposes ENDA
Lugar: Opposes ENDA
Buchanan: Opposes ENDA

Alexander: Opposes ENDA
Dornan: Opposes ENDA
Forbes: Opposes ENDA
Dole: Opposes ENDA

Ryan White CARE Bill

Clinton: Supports
Gramm: Supports
Lugar: Supports
Buchanan: No position

Alexander: No position
Dornan: Against Ryan White Bill
Forbes: No position
Dole: Supports

Abortion

Clinton: Pro-Choice
Gramm: Anti-Choice
Lugar: Anti-Choice
Buchanan: Anti-Choice

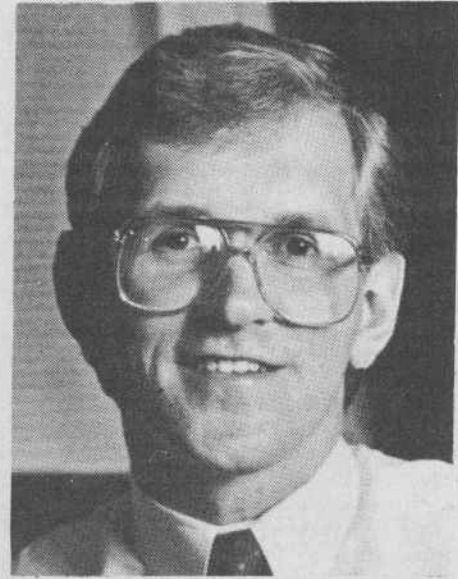
Alexander: Personally opposed; supports rights of states to restrict
Dornan: Anti-Choice
Forbes: Favors right of abortion up to 24 weeks
Dole: Personally opposed; has supported gag rule and constitutional amendment to overturn Roe v. Wade

Sources: AP, Out, Time Magazine, Newsweek

Pressure Mounting on Rep. Gunderson to Back Away From his Pledge to Retire

Milwaukee—There is growing speculation that Rep. Steve Gunderson (R-WI), Congressman from the 3rd Wisconsin Congressional District, might run for re-election after all, according to the *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*.

In February, 1994, at the beginning of his last campaign, Gunderson announced that this would be his last term in office. If he stays with his pledge and retires, he will become one of 34 congressional incumbents who are not running again, and one of two openly Gay members of Congress to leave. The other is Congressman Gerry Studds (D-MA). This would leave Barney Frank (D-MA) as the only openly Gay member of Congress.



REP. STEVE GUNDERSON

In the Thursday, February 8th issue of the *Eau Claire Leader-Telegram*, Gunderson, who has served since 1980, is quoted as saying about running again, "You never say never. Draft movements are seldom serious, substantial or successful... If something developed that I had to respond to, I'd respond to it."

Many observers believe Gunderson has every reason to run again. His Party is in the majority in Congress; his being openly Gay has not affected his popularity in his district;

he is in line to become the chair of the powerful House Agricultural Committee; and he has worked hard to forge new dairy policy and should want to see it to completion.

Doug Knight, chair of the 3rd District's GOP, is quoted as saying that he has received "many calls" from people who want Gunderson to run again.

Knight said he is not leading a draft Gunderson movement, but he is not discouraging one either.

Gunderson's office maintains that nothing has changed. The Congressman will not run again.

David Clarenbach

David Clarenbach, executive director of the Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund, admits that "Losing two out of three openly Gay" members of Congress is not good; that the Lesbian and Gay community "have some ground to make up."

Clarenbach sees that ground being made up in the 1996 Congressional races.

"We have our best shot ever," he said, "at electing our first non-incumbent Gay and Lesbian members of Congress."

Clarenbach was referring to the five openly Lesbian or Gay candidates—four Democrats and one Republican—who are running. Two in particular, both Democrats, Rick Zbur of Long Beach, California, and Dale McCormick of Maine.

In his late March primary, Zbur's chief opponents are Peter Mathews and Republican incumbent Steve Horn, who is supported by the national Log Cabin Republicans.

Rich Tafel, Log Cabin's director, cites Horn's support of Ryan White, among other things, as reason for Log Cabin's support.

Zbur is supported by the Victory Fund. "This is a classic example of the difference between electing one of our own and relying on well-intentioned friends," Clarenbach said.

McCormick, who has a June primary, has also received support from the Victory Fund.

McCormick cut her political teeth on last year's battle against the anti-Gay referendum. Clarenbach said that he is "very optimistic" about her chances to be the first openly Lesbian member of Congress in history.

MAP and BestD Clinic to Cooperate in New OUTreach Program

Milwaukee—The Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP) and the Brady East STD Clinic have agreed to collaborate in a joint venture called "OUTreach." The program will provide HIV prevention education, risk reduction counseling, anonymous HIV counseling and testing, and referrals in Milwaukee's Gay bars and social clubs. There will be three or four monthly OUTreach events with a goal of reaching every Gay bar in the city.

"This is a very important collaboration involving two agencies which are dedicated to

Regional Forum on Hate Crimes to be Held in Duluth-Superior

Duluth, MN—The Twin Ports Lavender Roundtable announces its first regional forum for 1996. The forum, entitled "Hate Crimes, Discrimination and the Law," will be held on Tuesday, February 27th, at 6:30 p.m., in Trepanier Hall, YWCA Annex, in downtown Duluth.

Constance Potter from the Gay and Lesbian Community Action Council Anti-Violence Project will speak on issues of violence and harassment and why these crimes should be reported to local law enforcement, state and local Human Rights Commissions, and the GLCAC.

Representatives and Liaisons to the Twin Ports GLBT Community from both Superior and Duluth Police Department will address these same issues and answer your questions.

Karen Diver, interim spokesperson for the newly formed Duluth Human Rights Commission, will also be present to explain how the commission will function and give an update of its progress.

All interested persons are invited to attend. The forum is free and is open to the general public.

Seek Proud Entertainers

The Duluth-Superior GLBT Pride Committee is seeking entertainers and musicians to perform on the Pride Stage at the 1996 Pride Celebration on Saturday, July 27th. Sound systems and lodging for the weekend will be provided if needed.

Contact the Duluth-Superior GLBT Pride Committee at P.O. Box 3198, Duluth, MN 55803, or call Keith Haugen, Events and Entertainment Coordinator, at (218) 724-6961.

helping the Gay community," said Andy Bagnall, Manager of Gay OUTreach at MAP. "By working together, we'll be working together, we'll be able to offer a complete prevention package."

The nine month trial will be jointly administered, according to Ross Walker, president of BestD.

"BestD is run by an all-volunteer staff, with clinical hours held during evening hours," Walker said. "We plan to start OUTreach in early March, doubling up with our volunteers and MAP staff."

In addition to the convenience of on-site testing and counseling, bar patrons will also be able to engage in one on one non-judgmental safe sex conversations with OUTreach staff. The goal of the conversations is to help reduce the patrons' risk of contracting HIV.

One of the major focuses of the OUTreach staff is to promote the positive variety of safer sexual activities rather than focus on the negative aspects of HIV prevention and education.

"You can get free condoms, free lub, free education, and free HIV testing, all in the same place on the same night," said Bagnall. "You couldn't ask for a better deal."

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On-Line Chat Room Murder Triggers Internet Debate on Privacy

Milwaukee—News accounts of the killing of an America Online (AOL) subscriber, allegedly by another he met in a Gay chat room, have been posted in various places within AOL and on the Internet since the January 4th slaying.

AOL complied with a search warrant demanding the e-mail files of those involved, sparking on-line debate about privacy in electronic communication.

Some of the debate has devolved into Gay-bashing and that has drawn nasty retorts.

But many postings are serious, thought-provoking comments on computer privacy. Many are listed under the Internet Newsgroup heading, "Real Life Murder via AOL!"

Several messages include stern warnings to avoid writing anything incriminating or embarrassing.

Some samples follow.
From "GreyCloak7":

"Don't say anything on the Internet that you wouldn't tell to your worst enemy."

"Stop whining about privacy, there is none. ... The last bastion of privacy is to keep your

Proud Crowd Campaign Is On its Way to Exceeding its Goal

Milwaukee—The 1996 Proud Crowd Campaign has set a new record and is well on its way to topping its goal of \$10,000 in pledges. The old record of \$5,675

As of February 11th, PrideFest had garnered just over \$8,000 in pledges. More than half of the pledges have already been paid.

The campaign will run through the end of February. It is PrideFest's annual fund raiser to help cover its pre-festival expenses.

This year's campaign is especially important, because the move to the Summerfest grounds has nearly doubled the amount of funds PrideFest needs to raise in advance of its June celebration.

Proud Crowd members are listed in ads run in *Wisconsin Light* and *In Step*. There are three levels of pledges. Basic membership is \$25 for individuals or \$40 for couples to receive a t-shirt.

Contributing Membership is \$50 for individuals, \$70 for couples for a sweatshirt. Sponsoring members pledge \$75 for individuals and \$100 for couples for a sweatshirt and rainbow flag.

All Proud Crowd members will receive an invitation to the Proud Crowd Party at This Is It and free admission to Pride Fest on Saturday, June 8th. This year's shirt is a stunning design that will not be sold by anyone, anywhere.

The four inch high circular design will be embroidered using the colors of the Rainbow Flag.

The top half of the circle reads "Wisconsin Pride," this year's theme "Carry the Torch" will be embroidered on the bottom. A white triangle with '96 inside of it will be in the center of the circle.

In a joint statement, PrideFest Co-Directors Bill Meunier and Susan Cook said "The support extended to PrideFest is almost overwhelming. All of us are grateful to everyone for the support they have shown. The support we are seeing for the Proud Crowd Campaign shows how far we have come as an organization and how far our community has come as well." "Of course" they add, "The Proud Crowd always has room for more members."

You could put this year's campaign over the top. To make a pledge call (414) 272-FEST.

mouth shut and put nothing in writing. It'll take 'em another 10 years to finally get the tech(nology) to listen to your thoughts. Enjoy your last 9 years of freedom!"

From "F.W. Groth":
"Some judges have first amendment problems with such (search) warrants. This case will probably go a long way toward establishing precedent."

"...The old rule applies, on the net or in your office. Don't be saying anything you don't want someone else to read. Somewhere there is an archive. Where there is an archive, there is someone who can read from it."

From "StarOwl":
"Um...do most major cities keep copies of its inhabitants' mail and/or phone call transcripts? I don't think so..."

From an AOL subscriber:
"I'm not a criminal, but I also don't want my sexual preferences, religious beliefs or my politics in a police file."

In response to a query from "Gumby":
"Does anyone find this extremely alarming?" that AOL retains e-mail for 5 days after it is read—a Peter Brennan wrote:

"Yes, very. Avoid AOL like the plague. A lot of unanswered questions here indicate a far higher level of participant surveillance than I had thought possible or feasible."

A response from a David Cassel, apparently affiliated with a college:

"Not in the least bit. Here, the student workers have master passwords, and can log into someone's account and read mail. This is legal because the courts have ruled that there is no expectation of privacy."



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Lesbian Drags Tennessee Kicking and Screaming into the 20th Century

Nashville, TN—The Tennessee Court of Appeals said Friday, January 26th, a state law making sex between persons of the same sex a crime violates the right to privacy.

The three-judge panel of the court unanimously ruled the law is unconstitutional but said it cannot stop pending or threatened criminal prosecutions for violations of state criminal laws. The panel denied a request for an injunction against enforcement of the law.

The state had appealed a ruling by Davidson County Circuit Judge Walter E. Kurtz in a lawsuit filed by Penny Campbell and others who said they had violated the law in the past and feared prosecution.

The attorney for the plaintiffs said the ruling leaves the issue muddied.

“Technically it means that people can still be arrested and prosecuted, but people who are arrested will have a darn good defense because this opinion says the law is unconstitutional,” said Abby Rubinfeld, attorney for Campbell and the other plaintiffs.

She said she hopes the state attorney general

will appeal to the state Supreme Court so the issue can be clarified. A spokeswoman for Attorney General Charles Burson said he had just gotten the opinion and had not made a decision yet.

In practice, Rubinfeld said her guess is that police and prosecutors won't make arrests under the law. She said most of the people charged under the law are actually arrested for “sort of quasi-public sexual activity.”

“Most of the people charged under this law could be arrested for disorderly conduct or something else,” she said.

She said she wasn't aware of anyone who had been arrested in their home and charged under this law.

The appeals court upheld Kurtz's ruling that private sexual activity between consenting adults of the same sex was protected by the state constitutional right to privacy and that the state had failed to show a compelling reason to prohibit such behavior.

“We conclude that our citizens' fundamental right to privacy (“the right to be let alone”) encompasses the right of the plaintiffs to engage in consensual, private, non-commercial, sexual conduct, because that activity “involv(es) intimate questions of personal and family concern,” Presiding Judge W. Frank Crawford wrote for the majority.

The right to privacy should not be diminished or given less constitutional protection when the adults engaging in a private activity are of the same gender, the panel said.

“This court has previously observed: “This Court does not sit as moral arbiters making judgments on what is acceptable social behavior,” Crawford wrote.

In a partial dissent, Judge Ben E. Cantrell argued that since the plaintiffs who originally challenged the law had never been prosecuted, the court should have upheld the state's motion to dismiss the lawsuit.

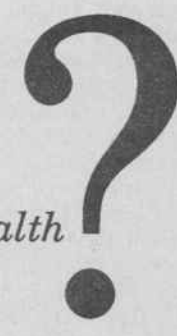
However, he agreed with the majority on the issue of privacy.

Friend of the court briefs were filed by the American Civil Liberties Union, The American Psychological Association, The National Association of Social Workers and LAMBDA Legal Defense Fund, among others.

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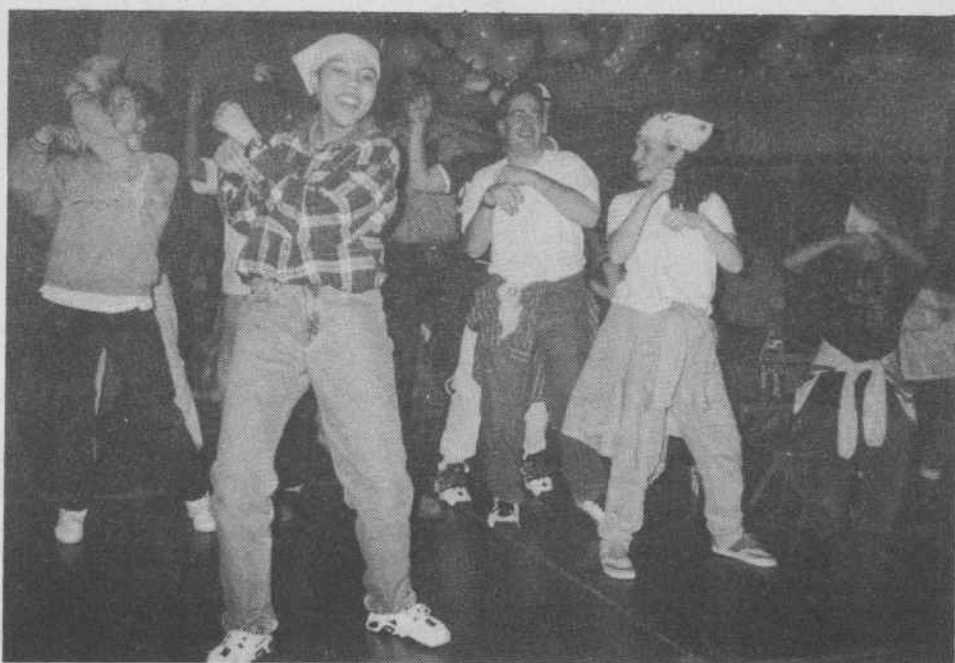
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Dancin' For AIDS—While many Milwaukeeans shivered in their homes Saturday, February 3rd, 600 dancers kept warm at the MECCA Convention Center. The third annual fundraising dance extravaganza raised \$40,118 for the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin.

Speaking From the Right

Why do We Need the Log Cabin Republicans?

Commentary by Curtis Lamon

Now that the elections are only eight months away, our community needs to look at our past voting pattern and question its results. Our leadership's blind devotion to the Democratic Party has left us with very little political clout.

Our future depends on building coalitions with both parties and electing representatives who will protect our rights and govern responsibly.

The Log Cabin Republicans and its local clubs have been working hard to build relationships within the Republican Party.

This has not been an easy task. For the last 25 years, our community has been condemning the Republican Party and its leaders. Many in the party do not understand our issues or who we are.

LCR members have been meeting with party members to educate them. We have worked openly on campaigns and have gained many friends all over the country.

For too long our community has alienated itself from the rest of society. We have considered ourselves victims and the only issues we will concern ourselves with are "gay issues." LCR has not only supported gay issues but other issues that face our society. LCR has worked on legislation concerning tax reform, crime, judicial reform, education, welfare reform and health care. These efforts have given LCR credibility and political clout.

Log Cabin Condemns Right Wing Involvement in Iowa Caucuses

Des Moines, IA—More than 1,000 Right Wing religionists gathered in Des Moines to launch what has been described as the first of a nation-wide series of assaults against Gay people Saturday, February 10th.

The rally, which one observer characterized as a "feeding frenzy of hate" demanded that GOP presidential candidates oppose same-sex marriages.

"Tonight we begin to raise our voices and we raise them with the might of our numbers," said Bill Horn, an anti-Gay, Right Wing extremist.

According to the Human Rights Campaign (HRC) and other sources, Horn is in the pay of the Christian Coalition which, in turn is part of Pat Robertson's religious empire.

Log Cabin Republicans, the nation's largest Gay Republican organization, heartily condemned the rally.

"The extreme Right has cleverly picked a non-issue to rally around," said Richard Tafel, executive director of Log Cabin Republicans. "The real goal here is to bash Gays and Lesbians like they did in 1992 in Houston, which damaged the Republican Party. Any candidate who wants to win in November will be making a disastrous mistake" in supporting Right Wing aims.

The Right Wing religionists are an important force in Republican politics in Iowa, and they demonstrated that clout with support from some of the major GOP presidential contenders.

Commentator Pat Buchanan, who has made strong showings in key early tests, warned the crowd against "the false god of Gay rights" and said conservatives in Des Moines already have made their point by ousting an openly Gay member of the city's school board.

Buchanan was referring to the electoral defeat of an openly Gay member of the school board. As reported in *Light*, the defeat was organized by Horn and backed by Christian Coalition money, according to AP reports.

Drawing rousing cheers, Buchanan saluted "the cultural warriors of Fort Des Moines."

The Democrats have had control of the government for the past thirty years, yet they have not passed any meaningful basic rights legislation for gays and lesbians. LCR believes that protecting the dignity of the individual should be the highest aim of government.

Preserving individual rights against government intrusion is the best guarantee of equal opportunity for gay or lesbian individuals. LCR is communicating openly and honestly with the Republican party on basic human rights issues.

Employment, marriage and other basic rights are the most challenging issues we face. Both parties and society are not yet ready to support these rights.

The Gay community must take responsibility for its future. We all need to become involved in the political process. Contact your representatives and ask them about issues that are important to you.

Get involved with candidates who share your issues. Do not rely on one source of information, there are many views other than the Gay press. Most of all, we must make educated decisions and vote.

Log Cabin Club of Wisconsin welcomes new members. If you would like to join, or receive more information, contact us at: P.O. Box 199, Milwaukee, WI 53201. Phone: (414)276-5428. Email address: CLamon58@aol.com.

Candidate Alan Keyes denounced contenders who focus on economic issues, saying the Republican Party can build on its gains only by paying more attention to social and family issues.

Senate Majority leader Bob Dole, considered the front-runner for Monday's precinct caucuses did not attend but sent organizers a letter of support saying that cutting the out-of-wedlock birth rate must be a priority.

"To achieve this goal, government at all levels must work to support and promote the institution of marriage that unites husband and wife," Dole said in his letter.

The event, supported by Colorado for Family Values (CFV), was billed as the opening round of an effort to block legalization of same-sex marriages. Organizers of the Religious Right have said that an effort will be made in all 50 states to push laws banning same-sex marriages.

In a press release, Log Cabin reported that CFV has unveiled a new video entitled "The Ultimate Target of the Gay Agenda."

In addition to Buchanan, Phil Gramm and Alan Keyes addressed the anti-Gay rally. All three publicly signed a "Marriage Protection Resolution" which pledges them to work against same-sex marriage.

According to HRC, Lamar Alexander, Bob Dornan and Steve Forbes also signed the pledge.

"You would have thought that candidates like Bob Dole would have learned by now that pandering to the most extreme Right groups and bashing Gays will only come back to hurt you," Tafel said. "Steve Forbes knows that bashing Gays is totally contrary to a message of hope, growth and opportunity and he's missing an opportunity. The only way for any candidate to benefit is to be the one candidate that refuses to pander to this vicious, anti-Gay group."

About 250 protesters lined the streets outside the fundamentalist church where the rally was held, accusing participants of Gay-bashing.

Youth Column

Coming Out Is a Long-Term Process, Not a One-Time Event

By J. Alan

Although it is not generally in one's best interests to start an article with an apology, I will anyhow. As those who consistently read my articles can tell, I have changed my name. I apologize for any confusion this may cause.

Also, I needed some "me" time, and so there wasn't an article in January. Sorry. However, I'm back, and so we can get on with the ever-running saga of Coming Out.

In spite of my absence in print, there were several letters sent in January. That is perseverance. This is good. That's what we need to discuss.

Sadly, the infamous Generation X is not known for unbending work ethic. It is, however, known for its unique emphasis on the short term and also for a general lack of priorities. Unfortunately, as part of our common perspective, we do not always recognize this characteristic as it operates within ourselves—particularly when we are in the process of Coming Out.

We must realize that Coming Out is a goal. It, by nature, requires a well-thought out, individual plan. Coming Out requires perseverance. This is a must because Coming Out is a long-term process. For every few steps one may take forwards, expect one backwards.

I'll give you a very tangible example. My name. I have intentionally drawn attention to the fact that it has changed in this article.

As it has been stated, (perhaps in every column of mine, or everyone else's, for that matter), Coming Out requires sacrifice. Each

individual must decide what one is and is not willing to sacrifice.

As for myself, parting with anonymity was not a problem. Saying "screw you" to my school was not a problem. In fact, most things weren't a problem.

However, I am unwilling at this point in time, to sacrifice my relations with my family, for whatever they may indeed be worth.

That's why I changed my name. I gave in. Perhaps that was one of my personal steps backward.

My point is not to ask the world's forgiveness for a personal decision that I may not agree with. My true goal, however, is to show that no person is perfect and, when one is Coming Out, to show that Coming Out does not produce a Utopian end result.

Everyone will make their own mistakes and everyone will set their own standards.

Although Coming Out is a many splendored and well-deserved right-of-passage, it is never easy for anyone. One could Come Out at 16, 18, 48, whatever, and 20 years from now one could still be making painful decisions. It's the game of life.

As was mentioned, everyone must set their own standards. Aim high, aim out. Shoot for the happiness you deserve. However, above everything else, remember that happiness is rightfully yours and now you have to go and get it.

I can be reached for comment at: 2585 N. Cramer St., Apt. 301, Milwaukee, WI 53211.

Lesbian, Gay & Bisexual Awareness Week

Spring, 1996 * UW-Milwaukee Union
Monday, February 19
Multi-Culturalism & Oppression

Guest Speaker:

Dr. Jamie Washington

3:00 p.m.

Fireside Lounge

Free

Topics to be discussed will include ways in which Gays, Lesbians and Bisexuals are discriminated against and why. Dr. Washington is the founder of New Visions, a multicultural organizational firm. He is currently serving as the Assistant to the Vice President for Student Affairs at the University of Maryland in Baltimore.



Wednesday, February 21
Comedian Gail Hand

7:30 p.m.

Fireside Lounge

Free

Highlights of the program include: Myths about Gays; Bisexuality on campus; Recognizing your own homophobia; dating; and others. Gail is a professional comedian, actress and writer appearing at colleges across the country.



Thursday, February 22

Living the Dream

1:00 p.m. * Milwaukee Room * FREE

Living the Dream: A slide show on the history of the Gay and Lesbian community of Milwaukee, presented by Attorney Steven Brondino and Jamakaya, the current editor of *In Step Magazine*.

Information Fair

10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. * Union Concourse

The Fair will include a variety of information from local groups serving the Gay community.

Friday, February 23

Get Out There and Dance!

7:00 p.m.-Midnight * Ballroom * \$4 Cover

Non-alcoholic dance and social open to all UWM students and everyone 19 years of age and older. Professional DJ with high tech sound and light show.

For more information, call (414) 229-6555

The Light



LIVELY ARTS

Late Night Theatre X Presents Joseph Rabensdorf in 'Hat Matter'

Milwaukee—The acclaimed Late Night Series at Theatre X will present Joseph Rabensdorf in his latest work, "Hat Matter," with special guests, Carolyn Thomas and Sarah Moore. These three performers will deliver an eccentric showcase of Performance Art, Poetry and Dance at the Studio Theatre in the Broadway Theatre Complex, 158 N. Broadway in Milwaukee's Historic Third Ward.

"Hat Matter" by Joseph Rabensdorf, is a series of performance pieces that incorporate poetry, dance, characterization and costume (hats). The work addresses the personae we show to those around us; our personalities and how they are perceived. As each hat is donned, a new personality trait, or character, emerges and expresses itself. Rabensdorf says of his most recent work, "If they think I'm gonna just put on a hat and spit out a poem,

they have another think coming."

"Parts Inside the List" by Sarah Moore, is a work-in-progress—a continuation of her solo "In and Out of the Party Hat." In a sadder and more gentle piece, Sarah continues her solo about relationships and the fragile, yet strong, human spirit.

"Sounds Like," by Carolyn Thomas, is a dance piece that is meant to expose how the body yearns to find a physical life through different sound patterns and sources. Carolyn develops abstract characters and personalities that evolve and change throughout the work.

Performance dates for Late Night Theatre X are Friday, February 16th and Saturday, February 17th at 10:00 p.m., immediately following the current Theatre X production of "The Line." For more information, call (414) 276-2243.

'White Squall' is a Film full of Male Pulchritude, But Old Hat Nonetheless

Reviewed by Glenn Bishop

When Glenn is sent on assignment by Wisconsin Light to review yet another of today's most fabulous motion pictures, Glenn usually seeks to avoid any exposure to pre-release studio hype. In the case of *White Squall*, many of Glenn's friends thought it quite amusing that Glenn was unaware that this is a picture with a virtual all-male cast who spent the majority of the film in shorts and sneakers and very little else.

Not watching much television also meant that Glenn thought that little Scott Wolf was merely a Tom Cruise knock-off and not the wet-dream star of one of television's hottest teenage angst drama's, "Party of Five".

usually seems to want to be aboard.

No three-hour tour, the *Ocean Academy* is a year long sea-faring adventure with plenty of stops along the way to get drunk and pick up prostitutes.

Glenn imagines that the prostitutes were a necessity since there was absolutely no privacy for any of the boys to ... well, you know.

Enigmatic skipper Christopher Sheldon (Jeff Bridges) runs a tight ship, where discipline is all. If this means publicly humiliating a teen with acrophobia into mast-climbing (with rather wet consequences), so be it.

So too when angry, self-destructive Frank Beaumont (Jeremy Sisto) recklessly shoots a dolphin, Sheldon immediately boots the boy



All Aboard—Members of the Ocean Academy face the challenge of their lives when a freak weather condition shakes their ship in "White Squall."

No, *White Squall* is not the sort of film in which Jeff Stryker might make an unannounced cameo appearance, but rather an ocean-bound rite of passage opus. True, there is certainly more than enough beefcake (calfcake?!) in *White Squall* to please even the most jaded Gay male viewer.

Despite some extraordinarily striking homoerotic glances between crew and Captain, at least in Glenn's opinion, homosexuality gets nary a mention.

First, Glenn does want to state right from the start that *White Squall* is a highly entertaining and often a most exciting film. That acclaimed *Alien*-director Ridley Scott has based *White Squall* on a true story has made many of the film's scenes even more riveting for Glenn.

Still, it would take a reviewer with far more integrity and perhaps a bit more discretion than Glenn not to suggest that *White Squall* could quite appropriately be sub-titled, "Dead Boater's Society". With hunky Jeff (Oh Captain, my Captain!) Bridges in the Robin Williams' part, *White Squall* shares many similar plot devices with *Dead Poet's Society*.

White Squall begins with Chuck Gieg (Scott Wolf), along with twelve other high school youths joining the crew of the "Albatross", a floating prep school. The *Ocean Academy* is a highly selective educational institution for unruly youth of the rich and dysfunctional. Actually, of all of the boys only young Gieg ac-

off the boat.

With Chuck Gieg as the glue, this disparate group of boys soon quite predictably melds into a winning team. In a joyous scene reminiscent of *Golding's classic Lord of the Flies*, the boys land on a deserted island and race up to the summit of a volcano crater. (Glenn has to wonder who conveniently thought to remember to bring face paint.)

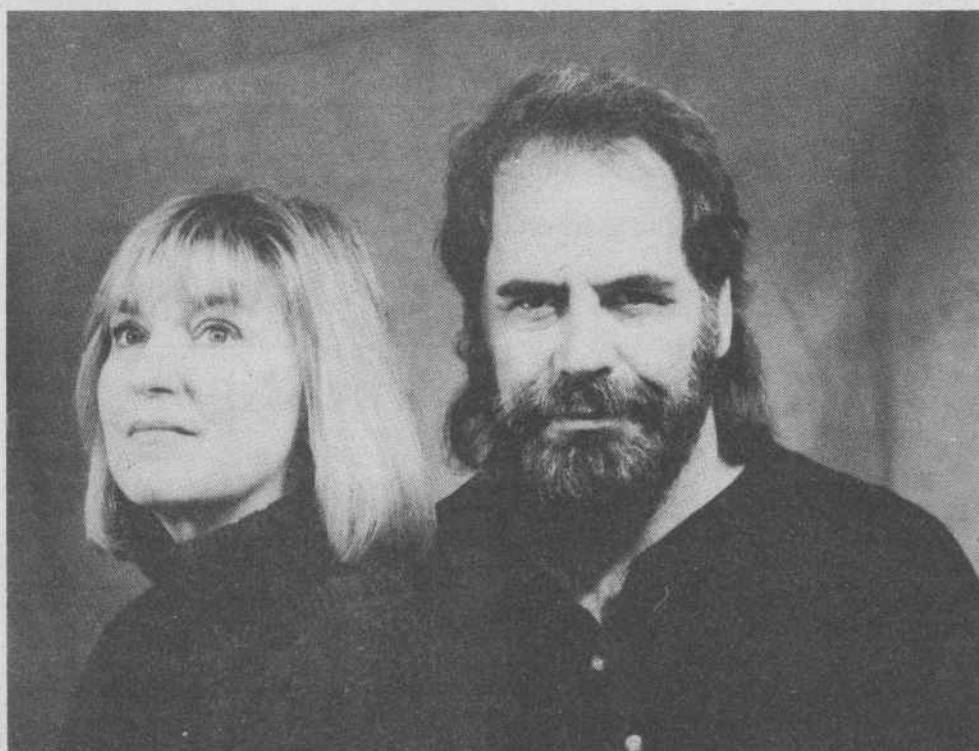
Then when homeward bound, a freak of nature, an exceedingly rare weather condition known as a "white squall" strikes the "Albatross". The crew must face the most difficult challenge of their young lives.

As in any Ridley Scott film, *White Squall* is always visually compelling. The landscape and seascapes are magical, the underwater shots striking and the boys, happily, uniformly gorgeous.

Without any doubt *White Squall* is Chuck Gieg's own, intensely personal story. Using Gieg's own journals, Todd Robinson and director Scott have quite apparently most faithfully brought Gieg's adventure to the screen. Yet Glenn must ask: Is there really anything new here?

If at the film's end, the urge to cry out "Oh Captain, my Captain" takes hold, don't worry about it. As Glenn found out, the cinema is dark and you can always sneak out after everyone else has left.

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



Pulitzer Prize-winner—Michelle Waide-I (as Nancy) and Jon than Curvin (as Charlie) star in "Seascape," a subtle and witty comedy by Edward Albee. The play opens at Milwaukee's Boulevard Theatre on February 16th for a run through March 10th.

Pam Brown is Directing Edward Albee's 'Seascape' at Boulevard Ensemble

By Terry Boughner

Pamela Brown, arguably one of the finest actresses on the Milwaukee stage, is making her directorial debut at the Boulevard Theatre with Edward Albee's Pulitzer Prize-winning play *Seascape*. Recently, she took time out from a rehearsal to sit down and chat about the play.

She is a native Wisconsinite, she says, born and raised in Racine. She left there to go to school in Boston. She had always wanted to do theatre work, to act, and it was in Bean Town that she got her chance, taking some classes and doing some shows.

But, she says, it was only when she came back to Wisconsin, to Milwaukee, in 1986, that she really "trod the boards."

"I did a little community theatre," she says, "and then I met Mark."

She is referring to Mark Bucher, who founded and heads up the Boulevard Theatre.

She is attracted to Albee, she says, because of her love of his play *Virginia Wolff*—"which I would love to be in someday," she hastens to add. What she finds in him is a fascination for his interest in couples, plus his dedication to life and those who choose to live it to the max, instead of just existing.

"I'm really enticed by Albee's complexity," she says, adding that he is Gay, which, perhaps, explains part of his focus on the twistings and turnings of life.

For those not familiar with it, *Seascape* involves the interaction between two couple; one human—male-female—and one, a lizard couple. In the end, they come to terms with each other.

In the process, she notes, Albee explores the intricacies of relationships: how you can love

someone and want to kill them sometimes too. It is this kind of thing that is play after play that Albee has written.

Does she see any comparison to "real life", to the meeting of a Gay couple and a straight one—given that Albee is Gay?

"Yes! The thing," she answers with enthusiasm, "is that there are so many meanings, so many levels of meaning in the play, which is what makes the work the fascinating thing that it is."

"It's about being different, it's about evolution, about having different tastes, about having different lifestyles—and learning that each has something to give to the other."

"It's also about the fact that you can't really maintain the status quo forever. Things change, they're in flux. You have to learn to live with that."

In *Seascape*, both the human couple and the lizard couple change and adjust to each other, but neither gives up being who and what they are.

In that way, she says, *Seascape* is a very positive play, full of hope. The adjustments are made and life goes on.

Pam Brown is a brilliant actress, who brings to the stage a rare presence. There is no doubt that she will be equally successful as a director. This is a must-see play.

Seascape opens on February 16th at the Boulevard Theatre, 2252 S. Kinnickinnic Avenue in Milwaukee's South Side, and runs through March 10th.

Performances are Thursdays at 7:30 p.m., Fridays and Saturdays at 8:00 p.m. and certain times on Sundays. For ticket and other information, call (414) 672-6019.

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“Richard III” is a Film of Fabulous Settings and Superb Acting, Truly a Film to See

Reviewed by Glenn Bishop

1995 shaped up as the year Hollywood re-discovered Jane Austen. With *Othello* and Ian McKellen's *Richard III* already vying for the anglophile audience across America, perhaps 1996 will prove to be the Bard's.

Although Glenn did not actually meet deadline with an *Othello* review, Glenn found Kenneth Branagh & Co. mesmerizing in this robust and passionate period love story, complete with Shakespeare's delightfully tragic ending.

Richard III is another Shakespeare, historical, bloody to be sure but containing a dizzying array of characters and enough political intrigue to make Richard Nixon and Watergate look like an inept episode of *Romper Room*.

McKellen and director Richard Loncraine have the unenviable task of bringing to the screen Shakespeare's greatest villain, the man who would be King.

With typical stage production often over three and a half hours, *Richard III* is a sort of one-night mini-series. So many characters, so many sub-plots.

To make *Richard III* assessable for those who have never discovered the PBS station in town, McKellen has brought the action into the 1930's. A long and bloody civil war has divided the nation, ending with the death of reigning King Henry as well as son and heir, Prince Edward. A new royal family emerges as Edward, Richard's eldest brother claims the crown. The gala coronation of King Edward (John Wood) and his American-bride Elizabeth (Annette Bening) opens the film.

Big band music, the haze of cigarette smoke and neo-Nazi imagery dominate McKellen's tale of the deformed younger brother who is all false flattery, deceptive loyalty and murderous treachery. With grotesquely honest

asides to the audience every rung of the ladder, Richard climbs his way to the top, killing his enemies and claiming their lives and their wives.

McKellen here reprises his much-acclaimed portrayal of Richard and is nothing short of sensational. His Richard is no parody of villainy but evil incarnate. An early scene in the morgue immediately sets the tone for the film.

Richard woos and wins the heart of Lady Anne (Kristin Scott Thomas), the widow of the man Richard killed to place Edward on the throne. The scene is so frightening precisely because those in the audience are as likely to be susceptible to Richard's charms as lady Anne, even if we, like Lady Anne really ought to know better.

McKellen's star-turn is not diminished by the stellar cast that surrounds him. Nigel Hawthorne is eloquent and doomed as Richard's sweetly duped, tragically manipulated brother Clarence. As the oh-so bitter mother of a monster, two-time Academy Award winner Maggie Smith chews up and spits out her curses to Richard with a delightful, venomous glee. Poor John Wood has little to do as King Edward except to look like Thomas Mann's pathetic hero Aschenbach at the end of *Death in Venice*.

Hunky Dominic West adds a much needed decorative element as Richard's adversary Richmond.

Superb acting, fabulous settings and a truly spectacular ending makes *Richard III* a Shakespeare work likely to charm even the mallrats.

So what's wrong? Maybe nothing really. Perhaps only an odd feeling Glenn had upon leaving the cinema of having just witnessed the Cliff's Notes version of the play.

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



Shakespeare vs. Nazi—Ian McKellen (l-r), Kate Steavenson-Payne, John Wood, Matthew Groom, Annette Bening, Nigel Hawthorne, and Maggie Smith star in Shakespeare's compelling updated tale of power and political intrigue, "Richard III," which is now playing at Milwaukee's Oriental Theatre.

‘Les Ballets Trockadero De Monte Carlo’ Returns to Milwaukee March 28

All-Male Ensemble to Perform at Pabst Theatre

Founded in 1974 by a group of Ballet enthusiasts for the purpose of presenting a playful, entertaining view of traditional, classical ballet in parody form and *en travesti* **LES BALLETS TROCKADERO DE MONTE CARLO** first performed in the late-late shows in Off-Off Broadway lofts. The TROCKS, as they are affectionately known, quickly garnered a major critical essay by Arlene Croce in *The New Yorker* and combined with reviews in *The New York Times* and *The Village Voice* established the Company as an artistic and popular success. By mid-1975, the TROCKS' inspired blend of their loving knowledge of dance, their comic approach, and the astounding fact that men can, indeed, dance *en pointe* without falling flat on their faces, was being noted beyond New York. Articles and notices in publications such as *Variety*, *Oui*, *The London Daily Telegraph*, as well as a Richard Avedon photo essay in *Vogue*, made the Company nationally and internationally known.

The 1975-76 season was a year of growth and full professionalization. The Company found management, qualified for the National Endowment for the Arts Touring Program, and hired a full-time teacher and ballet mistress to oversee daily classes and rehearsals; also, in this season, they made their first extended tours of the United States and Canada—packing, unpacking, and repacking tutus and drops, and stocking giant sized toe shoes by the case. Running for planes and chartered buses all became routine parts of life.

Since those beginnings, the TROCKS have established themselves as a major dance phenomenon throughout the world. They have participated in dance festivals in New York, Spoleto (Italy), Holland, Vienna, and Paris. There have been television appearances as varied as a Shirley MacLaine special, the "Dick Cavett Show," "What's My Line?," "Real People," "On-Stage America," and with Kermit and Miss Piggy on their show "Muppet Babies." A television special was filmed at the famous Olympia Theatre in Paris and has been shown throughout Europe and North America. Other foreign appearances have included their own solo specials on national networks in Japan and Germany, as well as a French television special with Julia Migenes. The TROCKS' active touring schedule has included four tours of South America and Mexico, including six weeks at the Metropolitan Theater in Buenos Aires, a tour of Australia, eleven tours of Europe, including Russia in 1994, ten across Canada, and eleven of Japan, with a stop in Hong Kong in 1992. These tours have been popular and critical successes. In the United States, the Company has become a regular part of the college and university circuit as well as being part of the dance presentations in cities throughout 48 of the 50 states and the District of Columbia. These appearances have included the Palace and City Center in New York City, and engagements with the symphony orchestras of Atlanta, Baltimore, Buffalo, Denver, Kansas City, Rochester and Utah.

The 1995-96 season promises to be an exciting 21st anniversary. After a week long run at the *Danny Kaye Playhouse* in New York City, performances are scheduled in the USA (San Francisco, Los Angeles, Escondido (CA), Boise (ID), Milwaukee (WI), Stony Brook, Purchase (NY), West Long Branch (NJ), and Reading (PA), and Canada (Montreal, Ottawa). The Company will be returning to London for a week long engagement at *Saddler's Wells Theater*, will tour Taiwan, and for the twelfth time will travel to Japan for what has become their annual extended summer tour of that country. The Company continues to appear in benefits across the country for local Aids organizations and has given, or participated in, special benefit performances for Rochester City Ballet, and Connecticut Ballet Theater, *DRA (Dancer's Responding to Aids; part of Broadway Cares/Equity Fights Aids)* as well as the Gay & Lesbian Community Center in New York City. Plans for continued tours across the United States and Canada, an extensive European tour, and summertime in Japan are in the works for the 1996/97 season.

The original concept of **LES BALLETS TROCKADERO DE MONTE CARLO** has not changed since its inception. It is a Company of professional male dancers performing the full range of the ballet and modern dance repertoire, including classical and original works in faithful renditions of the manners and conceits of those dance styles. The comedy is achieved by incorporating and exaggerating the foibles, accidents, and underlying incongruities of serious dance. The fact that men dance all the parts—heavy bodies delicately balancing on toes as swans, sylphs, water sprites, romantic princesses, angst-ridden Victorian ladies—enhances rather than mocks the spirit of dance as an art form, delighting and amusing the most knowledgeable, as well as novices, in the audiences. For the future, there are plans for new works in the repertoire; new cities, states, and countries to perform in; and for the continuation of the Trocks' original purpose: to bring the pleasure of dance to the widest possible audience. They will, as they have done for twenty years, "Keep on Trockin'."

“Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo” will perform at the Pabst Theatre, 144 E. Wells St., Milwaukee 53202 on March 28 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$25, \$20, \$15. Mail orders are accepted or charge by calling (414) 286-3663.



Unraveling City Hall Fabric—Al Pacino-r-is New York City Mayor John Pappas and John Cusack is his trusted deputy, Kevin Calhoun in Hard Becker's film "City Hall," which is playing at theatres everywhere.

Rebel Alliance Theatre to Produce Larry Kramer's ‘The Normal Heart’

Oshkosh—The Rebel Alliance Theatre Company will produce *The Normal Heart*, playwright Larry Kramer's piece about the advent of the AIDS crisis, February 14-17 and 21-24 at the Rebel Alliance Theatre, 445 N. Main Street in Oshkosh. Curtain is at 8:00 p.m.

Set in New York City's Gay community in the early 1980's, *The Normal Heart* shows the story of one Gay man's struggle to bring the AIDS crisis to the forefront, earn government recognition, and begin medical research.

Featured in the production are Steven Frank as Ned Weeks, an AIDS activist; Julie Ann Morgan as Dr. Emma Brookner, a prominent research physician in the early days of the crisis; and Dan Beyerl as Felix Turner, Weeks' lover and a writer for the *New York Times*.

Due to its strong language and adult subject matter, no one under the age of 15 will be admitted without an accompanying adult.

Tickets may be purchased at the door. For more information, call (414) 426-8580.



Back to Nature—William (Mark Rylance) is grateful for Matty's (Kristin Scott Thomas) help with his research in "Angels and Insects," a tangled web of mystery, seduction and deceit which is coming soon to Milwaukee's Downer Theatre.



Cult Icon—Martial Arts legend, Jackie Chan, holds on to a runaway hovercraft in his new film, "Rumble in the Bronx." Chan does his own stunts in the film which opens at theatres everywhere February 23rd.

Milwaukee Takes Step Toward Broadway With Half Price Tickets

Milwaukee—The surge of theatre companies in and around Milwaukee has moved the city one step closer to the heavyweight performing arts districts of New York, Los Angeles, London and Chicago. Now, Half Price Tickets leaps another rung by ensuring that plays, concerts and musicals can reach a larger audience.

"The importance of playing to sold out houses can't be discounted," said Don Hoffman, Director of Operations and co-owner of the new Half Price Tickets. "Every other major city uses an outlet like Half Price Tickets for two reasons: It helps the theatres sell out and it makes the performing arts more affordable to the general public."

The new company will begin operations in early March. The outlet will be located in downtown Milwaukee at the Grand Avenue Mall on Third Street and Wisconsin Avenue. The shop will serve as a box office for the discounted tickets as well as providing some telephone box office support for the smaller companies which choose to employ the service.

How it Works

Any performing arts group is invited to be

represented by Half Price Tickets. Up to two weeks before a show opens or during a run, the organization will release a number of tickets to the outlet to be sold at a discount. Not all seats will be half priced, but all will offer

Greg Louganis, Olympic Champion to Sign Books at AfterWords in March

Milwaukee—On Monday, March 25th at 7:00 p.m., Olympic champion and AIDS-activist Greg Louganis will be making his only Milwaukee appearance at AfterWords Bookstore & Espresso Bar.

Louganis's Milwaukee appearance at AfterWords is one stop on a nationwide 10-city book tour promoting the paperback release of his New York Times best-selling autobiography, *Breaking the Surface* (Plume \$12.95).

When *Breaking the Surface* was released in hardcover a year ago March, it became an instant success and somewhat of a publishing phenomenon. No one was prepared for the tremendous outpouring of love and support which greeted it.

Louganis's revelation that he has AIDS stunned an America which had adored him as a shining light of the U.S. Olympic diving team, the consummate athlete who overcame tremendous adversity to win a 1988 Olympic gold medal.

His powerful, unflinchingly honest memoir, *Breaking the Surface* (which Louganis wrote with Eric Marcus) is now available in a trade paperback edition enhanced by a new epilogue by Louganis detailing his experiences following the publication of the book.

Breaking the Surface is the moving story of a man whose athletic success also involved the challenge of breaking free of a lifetime of silence and isolation.

Despite his artistry on the diving board, Louganis struggled with late-detected dyslexia, prejudice because of his dark skin coloring, and anguish over his sexual orientation, which Greg long felt compelled to hide.

Here, Greg reveals the whole story of his life—from a childhood marked by loneliness and self-esteem problems, to the seemingly glorious days of the Olympics, to difficulties with personal relationships and substance abuse, to his present day battle with AIDS.

By possessing the courage to speak out on AIDS, in his book and on various national talk shows, including Barbara Walters, Louganis has sought to raise awareness about AIDS and AIDS-prevention and on domestic violence.

For further information concerning Greg Louganis's appearance at AfterWords, please call (414) 963-9089.

substantial discounts.

Half Price Tickets will advertise the shows it represents in major publications and on the radio. Its downtown Milwaukee location will also house flyers, brochures and posters of the performing arts groups who are members.

Hoffman looked to Steven C. Marcus of Marcus Promotions, and Joe Nolan, Senior Vice President of Investments at Robert W. Baird & Co., for support in setting up the new venture. Both quickly joined and the three became partners.

Marcus sees the outlet as an extension of services he already is offering to more than 35 local performing arts groups through the Footlights Playbill.

"The services of Half Price Tickets will be offered to all of my clients from dance to music to theatre to opera," Marcus said.

Marcus added that the outlet hopes to represent major players, while helping smaller groups get their names out and sell seats.

In addition to financial backing from the partners, the Grand Avenue Mall has made the formation possible by offering a generous deal

on the downtown location.

Tickets can be mailed to clients, picked up at the ticket booth, or sent to their places of business by a delivery service. While many of the small performing arts groups aren't able to take charges, their tickets can be purchased this way through Half Price Tickets.

AfterWords Calendar

Friday, February 23rd—BESTD Clinic Outreach -- Free Anonymous HIV Testing 7:30 pm - 10:30 pm No appointments needed

Monday, March 11th—AfterWords Book Club *Rat Bohemia* by Sarah Schulman (Dutton HC \$19.95) 7:30pm

Monday, March 25th—Author Appearance—Greg Louganis *Breaking the Surface* 7:00pm

AfterWords New Books

Lesbian Fiction

Breaking Point: A Jordan Myles Mystery, Martina Navratilova & Liz Nickles Villard, HC-----\$23.00

Gay Fiction

The Man of the House, Stephen McCauley Simon & Schuster HC----- \$22.00

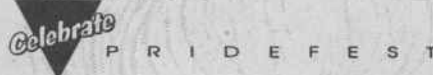
Lesbian Non-Fiction

Art Objects: Essays on Ecstasy & Effrontery Jeanette Winterson Knopf HC----- \$21.00

Gay Non-Fiction

Not Like Other Boys: Growing Up Gay: A Mother and Son Look Back Marlene Fanta Shyer & Christopher Shyer Houghton Mifflin HC----- \$21.95

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Wisconsin

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

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

LET'S MEAT. GWM, Italian, 24, 190, 5'11", brown hair and eyes, shaved head, goatee, seeks others, 21-30, crazy and attractive, for fun, friendship and possibly more. Please leave a message. (Eau Claire) #33747

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. (Green Bay) #28413

LOOKING FOR LOVE. GWM, HIV+, 30, seeks others, HIV+ and between 25-35, local area preferred, for fun and more. Please leave a message. (Green Bay) #28456

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. (Green Lake) #15317

COLD IN GREENBAY. GWM, 24, 6', long brown hair, brown eyes, lots of interests, seeks others for friendship and possibly more. Please leave a message. (Greenbay) #25766

LOOKING FOR MR. RIGHT. GWM, 22, 6'2", 190, black hair, brown eyes, clean shaven, interested in playing pool, darts and swimming, seeks others, 20-35, into fire place cuddling, friendship and more. Let's get together and see what happens (Johnson Creek) #43085

OLD FASHIONED ROMANCE. GWM, 29, 5'11", 150, non smoker/drinker, brown hair, blue eyes, medium build, varied interests, seeks others for long term friendship and more with similar interests. Please leave a message. (Kenosha) #16009

CUB SANDWICH. GWM, 26, 260, 6'1", red hair, blue eyes, seeks other bear men for hibernation, cuddling and more. Please leave a message. (Madison) #33656

LET'S HAVE FUN. GWM, 5'11", 170, clean cut, varied interests, seeks others for fun and more. Please leave a message. (Madison) #27668

SAFE/SANE/FUN. GWM, new to area, seeks others into safe and clean action. Please leave a message. (Madison) #31168

DISCRETE BI DAY. Bi WM, 25, varied interests, very discrete and honest, seeks other men for discrete encounters and more. Please leave a message. (Madison) #12072

MASCULINE ONLY. GWM, 29, blonde hair, blue eyes, 6', 185, nice body, masculine and straight appearing seeks same, 21-39, for fun and more. (Madison) #17406

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! (Madison) #14481

DEADHEADS. GWM, deadhead, long haired couple seeks same. Let's meet and go phishing. (Madison) #14493

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. (Madison) #15019

CASUAL FUN. GWM, 5'8", 145, 28, brown hair, green eyes, seeks others, 'stached, medium build and well endw'd, who are top's and are experienced in satisfying bottom boys. You must be masculine and dominant and ready to be pleased. Please leave a message (Milwaukee) #33954

BLACK AND WHITE. GBM, 20, 5'8", 130, seeks tall, attractive and slim GBM's/GHM's, masculine and 20-30, for fun, pleasure and more. Non Smoker's only! Please leave a message. (Milwaukee) #13034

LOOKING FOR YOUNG GUYS. Bi WM, 31, seeks others, 18-20, swimmer's build, for fun and pleasure. (Milwaukee) #28388

FOUR OR MORE IN THE FLOOR. GWM, 26, black hair, brown eyes, 5'10", good shape, hairy and clean cut, seeks Bi or Bi Curious males, under 30 and dominant preferred, who are into group activities. Please leave a message. (Milwaukee) #16665

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. (Milwaukee) #46088

LONELY AND READY TO START OVER. GWM, seeks friends in the local area for exploration and more. Please leave a message. (Milwaukee) #17185

TOUR GUIDE NEEDED. GWM, 27, 6', 210, new to area, varied interests, seeks others for friendship and more. Please leave me a message. (Milwaukee) #14878

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. (Milwaukee) #13034

LEATHER & LEXOL. GWM, biker, seeks submissive for leather cleaning. Will Train! Leave me a message. (Milwaukee) #15223

ANY PORT IN A STORM. GWM, 39, seeks friendship and more. Please leave a message. (Oshkosh) #15327

MASCULINE AND WELL BUILT. 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. (Milwaukee) #15149

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! (Oshkosh) #16127

HEAD LOCK ME. GWM, 34, 5'10", 180, moderately muscled, seeks husky wrestling partners for rough and sweaty workouts. Please leave a message. (Upper Peninsula) #10046

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. (Wausau) #16794

LEVI/LEATHER LUST. GWM, 24, 6', 185, seeks bearded and 'stached guys, 25-40, daddies, bear's, biker's and Leather top men preferred, for long term relationship. Please leave a message. (Wisconsin) #29464

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

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. (Wisconsin) #16491

FRIENDS OR MORE. GWM, 26, 6'2", 180, brown hair and blue eyes, varied interests, seeks others for friendship and lots more. (Wisconsin) #16691

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. (Wisconsin) #13692

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. (Wisconsin) #13692

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. (Wisconsin) #16794

I NEED A FRIEND. Married Bi WM, seeks friends for feeling exploration and more. Please be sincere and leave a message. #17610

Illinois
HUGH GRANT LOOK ALIKE. GWM, 24, 6', blonde hair, green eyes, clean shaven, toned, professional, seeks others who are smoke/drug/HIV free, toned and built, for friendship and more. Please leave a message. (Cahumburg) #16728

YOUNG ONLY. GHM, 19, 5'9", 140, seeks others, 18-22 only, masculine and attractive, for fun and more. No fat's, fem's or anyone over 22. Please leave a message. (Chicago) #29976

READY TO RUMBLE. GWM, 52, brown hair, blue eyes, 200, clean shaven and smooth, seeks GWM's for wrestling and other body contact sports. Please leave a message. (Chicago) #25163

BLACK ON BLACK. GBM, seeks other GBM's only, 24-28, for pleasure and fun. Please have varied interests and be sincere. Leave a message. (Chicago) #16172

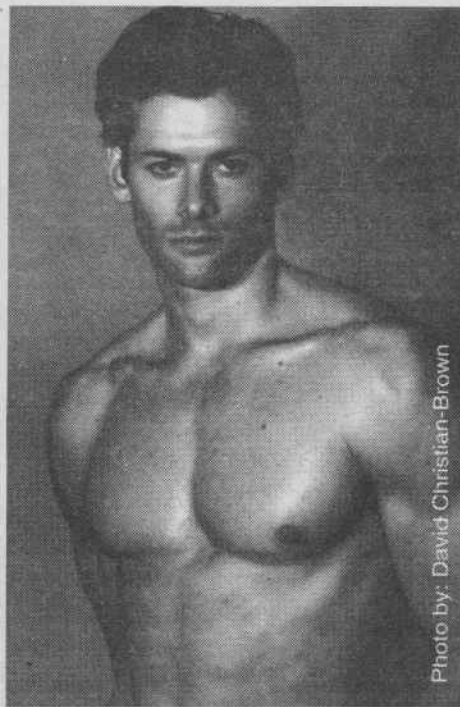


Photo by: David Christian-Brown

I LOVE LUCY RERUNS. GWM, 33, 5'7", 230, stocky and goodlooking, blue eyes, goatee/'stache, lots of interests, seeks others, 27-40, more dominant than I, interested in more than one night. Please leave a message. (Chicago) #11681

DISCOVER ME. GWM, seeks serious and masculine men for friendship and more. Please leave a message. (Chicago) #15330

FAT AND FEMININE. GWM, 50, overweight, feminine TV, seeks overweight sissies or masculine men. Please leave me a message. (Chicago) #15730

LAKE FRONT ROMANTIC WALKS. GWM, 31, 5'9", 171, reddish brown hair, brown eyes, moderately hairy, seeks others, under 35, for fun, friendship and possibly more. Please leave a message. (Chicago area) #26444

LIBERAL ARTS ENTHUSIAST. GWM, 18, 5'11", green eyes, blonde hair, 150, variety of interests, seeks others, 18-21, GWM's and local preferred, for friendship and possibly more. Please leave a message. (Chicago Suburbs) #44464

PIPELINE TO PLEASURE. GWM, 35, brown hair and eyes, hairy and well endw'd, seeks GBM/GWM, under 35, for fun and excitement. Leave a message in my box if this interests you. (Elgin) #47872

NOT LOOKING FOR PRETTY BOYS. GWM, 35, 5'10", 155, brown hair and eyes, seeks GWM/GBM, same age, for fun, friendship and more. No blonde's or body builder's! (Elgin) #31961

BLACK MALE ME. GWM, 34, 150, brown hair and eyes, seeks GBM's, masculine and well endw'd, for fun and more. Please leave a message. (Elgin) #30416

RELATIONSHIP ONLY. GBM, 6'5", 265, body builder, goatee, varied interests, seeks others, 18-35, for fun, friendship and more. Serious replies only. (Elmhurst) #28687

ROLE PLAYING. GWM, 33, 6', 170, seeks same, 21-32, for fantasy fulfillment. Please have an active imagination for Batman and Robin action. Call me and let's talk! Only serious responses will be answered. (Evanston) #10435

KRAMER LOOKS. GWM, 6', 170, brown eyes, 'stache, attractive, very new to this lifestyle, seeks GHM's to add spice to my life. Please be adventurous and patient. (Evanston) #45050

PARTY DUDE. GHM, 20, 145, thin, 5'9", seeks same or GWM's, top men preferred, for parties and more. Let's meet soon! (Evanston) #34177

I KNOW WHAT I WANT! GBM, 6', 195, football player's build, seeks GBM/GLM, dominant only with varied interests, for fun,

friendship and much more. Please be versatile and well endw'd for immediate response. (Evanston) #34333

FRIEND SEEKER. GWM, 43, 6', 180, brown hair, blue eyes, seeks others for friendship and more. Please leave a message. (Evanston) #30633

LOOKING FOR SOMETHING. GBM, 21, 5'9", 180, varied interests, seeks others, 18-25, for fun, friendship and more. Please leave a message. (Evanston) #28654

TIRED OF BAR SCENE. GWM, 6'2", 190, shy, varied interests, non smoker, 27, seeks other GBM's, 25-35, for fun, friendship and more. Please leave a message. (Evanston) #26009

MASCULINE MEN ONLY! GHM, 5'9", 140, seeks GWM/GHM, dominant and aggressive, masculine only, for pleasure and more. Please leave a message. (Evanston) #17999

LET'S MEAT SOON. GWM, 28, 6'2", 165, very attractive, blue eyes, brown hair, 'stached and moderately hairy, seeks others in the local area for friendship and more. Smoker's OK. Please leave a message. (Evanston) #18845

BIG SEEKS SMALL. GWM, 30, 6'4", 220, seeks others, 18-25, very small, for fun and pleasure. Please leave a message. (Evanston) #19693

ART LOVER. GWM, 18, 5'11", 150, green eyes, brown hair, varied interests, seeks other GWM's with similar qualities, 18-20 but older considered, for friendship and more. (Evanston) #44464

NEW AND INEXPERIENCED. GWM, brown hair, blue eyes, 155, very new to this, seeks others for experience training. Please leave a message. (Grands Lake) #21003

ANY PORT IN A STORM. GBM, 34, seeks any and all men with varied interests. Let's talk! (Hazelcrest) #47691

LET'S CHAT. GWM, 41, 130, 5'6", blue eyes, blonde hair, varied interests, seeks others for friendship and more. Please leave a message. (Madison) #21699

TOP ME OFF. GWM, 5'7", 230, salt and pepper hair, moderately hairy, stocky, 34, bottom, attractive, seeks top guys, 25-40, attractive and adventurous, for fun, friendship and more. Please leave a message. (Oak Park) #11681

STOCKY AND BUILT. GWM, 33, 5'7", 230, moderately hairy, salt and pepper hair, blue eyes, 'stache/goatee, seeks others, 25-40, comfortable and secure, for fun, friendship and more. Please leave a message. (Oak Park) #11681

COLD WINTERS NEED WARM COVERS. GWM, 27, 6'1", 175, blonde hair, hazel eyes, school teacher, varied interests, seeks others, 22-35, for fun, friendship and more. (Park Forest) #28393

LET'S GET TOGETHER. GWM, 28, brown hair and eyes, good build, hairy, varied interests, seeks others for fun, friendship and more. (Park Ridge) #27997

Minnesota

SATISFACTION GUARANTEED. This GWM is seeking one or more aggressive, masculine and furry G/Bi/or Other males for fun times! (Apple Valley) #10427

RELATIONSHIP ORIENTED. GWM, 21, professional, 6'4, brown hair, green eyes, seeks others for fun, friendship and more. Please leave a message. (Duluth) #27451

ON GOLDEN BLONDE. GWM, 6'2, 180, blonde hair, good shape, seeks others into working out, good sense of humor, for friendship and possibly more. Please leave a message. (Grand Forks) #38400

HAZEL EYES, HAIRY CHEST! GWM, 5'5", 133, good shape, hazel eyes, hairy chest, well endw'd, varied interests, seeks others for fun and more. Please leave a message. (Hopkins) #23990

BEAR SEEKING BEARS. GWM, 41, brown hair, blue eyes, beard, hairy chest, seeks others who are beefy, stocky and hairy. Please leave a message. (Mancato) #14639

MANLY MEETINGS. GWM, 25, 6', 165, blonde hair, blue eyes, attractive, seeks other Bi or GWM, masculine, built and discrete, under 30, for friendship and more. Please leave a message. (Mancato) #20931

GO FOR IT! GWM, 38, 5'8", 175, dark hair and eyes, slightly hairy, seeks a masculine and aggressive top man who knows what he wants and how to take it. Call me! (Minneapolis) #47912

LET'S RUMBLE. GWM, 32, out doors man, landscaper, seeks well built and endw'd guys who know how to have fun. Leave a message if this sounds good to you. (Minneapolis) #47934

THIS IS STEVE. GWM, 6'2", 200, physically fit, safe and clean, seeks others, with similar qualities, for learning experiences. I'm really excited about hearing from you! (Minneapolis) #47791

CUSTOMER SERVICE WITH A SMILE. GWM, nice body, good looking, very submissive, seeks well endw'd and dominant males for complete service. Mastermind me and make me work. Call me. (Minneapolis) #21219

BOTTOM'S UP. GWM, 6'2, 175, 27, submissive, jock, blonde hair, brown eyes, clean shaven, seeks masculine and aggressive men, well endw'd, 20-30, for pleasure and more. Please leave a message. (Minneapolis) #15370

BOY NEXT DOOR. GWM, attractive, 33, 5'7", 125, slim and small build, seeks others for friendship and more. Please leave a message. (Minnesota) #19124

DISCRETE SLAVES SOUGHT. GWM, 34, married, 6'1", 250, daddy bear, bearded and tattooed, biker Leather Master, seeks slaves/boy toys, 18-30, into Leather/Levi's/Leather/Uniforms and more. Please leave a message. (Rochester) #24733

SWEAT DREAMS. GWM, 5'10", 175, 28, seeks local men, attractive, masculine and athletic, for sweaty adventures. Please leave a message. (Sioux Falls) #16561

TWO FOR YOU. GWM couple, 25 and 28, seeks hot and aggressive bottom guys, 18-35, for mutual pleasure. Call us soon and we will respond immediately. (Southern) #47936

LET ME TOP YOU OFF. Bi WM, top, 23, seeks other guys, 18-35, bottom's, who are into intense pleasure and fun. Please leave a message. (Southern) #24954

SKI BUDDIES WANTED! GWM, 30, seeks ski buddies to pal around with. Don't let financial difficulties discourage you. We'll have fun. Please leave me a message. (Southwest) #23525

FARMHAND STORIES. GWM, farmer, blonde hair, blue eyes, 38, 6', 170, seeks others, local preferred, for fun, friendship and more. Please leave a message. (Southwestern) #31230

YELLOW HANKY FUN! GWM, 29, seeks guys under 30 for yellow hanky adventures and other experiences. Please leave me a message. (St. Paul) #24213

CUSTOMER SERVICE GUARANTEED. GWM, bottom, seeks other males, 18-45, very dominant, for friendship and much more. Please leave a message. (St. Paul) #19213

SOCIAL DRINKER. GBM, 125, 32, varied interests, smoker, seeks other males for fun and more. Please leave a message. (St. Paul) #15578

North Dakota

NORTH DAKOTA NAUGHTY BOY. GWM, 26, 175, brown hair, blue eyes, seeks others, 20-25, for friendship and more. Please leave a message. (Bismarck) #16890



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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
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, mascu-

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Discrete bottom, 5'10, brown hair, likes to suck, looking for top. Well-endowed a plus. (Call Thru) Box# 0675

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

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

BM, 28, 6', 180lbs. If you're a BM, at least 200lbs., I'm the one for you. No fats, fems, or positives. (Call Thru) Box# 5973

Dave, 31, 6'1, 180lbs., light brown hair, brown eyes, good looking, good body, masculine, looking for another hot M. Box# 5943

Jeff, 28, 170lbs., brown hair, brown eyes, smooth, 7cut, clean shaven, looking to hook up. Box# 5672

John, looking for gorgeous BM in good condition. Give me a call. (Call Thru) Box# 5751

Joe, smoker, social drinker, enjoys partying. ISO honest, true M, to show me around the world. Box# 5545

Al, 29, light brown hair, blue eyes, clean shaven, muscular, looking for WM, 25-35. Call me if interested in friendship or possible relationship. (Call Thru) Box# 5135

Ron, 6'2, blonde hair, blue eyes, looking for a lady who wants all the TLC she can handle. Box# 4946

M, 19, 6', 185lbs., well tanned, dirty blonde hair, green eyes, a little hairy, looking for a hot M who would love to get together. Box# 4826

Jeff, looking for F who likes to talk about you know what. Let's have fun. (Call Thru) Box# 4767

Mike, M, 22, financially secure, 6', 200lbs., very well built, looking for M, any race, to show me how to have a good time. (Call Thru) Box# 4558

Jim, 32, 130lbs., blonde hair, blue eyes, bottom, looking for top to have good times. (Call Thru) Box# 4439

Al, 29, looking for guys, 25-35. Give me a call. (Call Thru) Box# 4365

Attractive GWM, 29, 5'10, 170lbs., well built, versatile, looking for attractive M, under 40, who wants to get into some good hot times. (Call Thru) Box# 4152

Rob, BiWM, 31, 5'8, 160lbs., brown hair, blue eyes, good looking, looking for BiM/GM, for safe, discrete, same time next week relationship, under 45, who's masculine/straight acting. Box# 3811

Steve, 35, blue eyes, brownish-blond hair, 135lbs., bottom, looking for someone for good times. (Call Thru) Box# 3144

Hot pappa type, top, beard, hairy, works out, 9inches, looking for love. Box# 2912

Mike, 5'9, 145lbs., dark hair, green eyes, smooth, tan, bottom, likes going to the beach, looking for top for different things. Box# 3474

Attractive GWM, 5'10, 170lbs., brown hair, blue eyes, mustache, very good looking, versatile, discrete, looking for attractive M, under 40, to get into some really hot times. (Call Thru) Box# 2726

Nathan, 26, tall, good looking, and very attractive guy, looking for someone nice. Give me a call. (Call Thru) Box# 2700

Male stud, 29, pretty hot and into everything, so give me a call. Box# 2582

3 languages, enjoys reading, outdoors, sports. ISO F interested in friendship, relationship, or just making new friends. (Call Thru) Box# 1875

If there are any young ladies out there that like putting through the harbor and enjoy the water and sunshine, give me a jingle. Box# 1313

WM, 23, 5'6, 155lbs., blonde hair, blue eyes, athletic build, looking for older F for discrete pleasure and fun times. Box# 1817

Stewart, willing to try most anything, looking for F, 18-40, to have some good fun and pleasures. If you want to get it on and have good times, call me. Box# 1142

M, enjoys wild sex with Couples. Hope to hear from you soon. (Call Thru) Box# 2483

Tony, body builder, very masculine, 5'8, muscular, brown hair, brown eyes, athletic, bottom, looking for aggressive M who is comfortable being a top. Box# 1377

Hunky, hairy novice slave, looking for experienced master for use and abuse. Thank you sir. Box# 1762

Derek, BM, 26, 6', 230lbs., muscular, top, looking for anyone feminine, bottom, who's very very oral, and loves to please his partner. Box# 1184

Madison Chuck, 50, 170lbs., daddy, looking for son, 18-25, swimmers build, clean shaven, masculine. If you like the son role, and want to take care of daddy, call me. (Call Thru) Box# 2347

Mike, 23, 5'8, 185lbs., blonde hair, blue eyes, looking for a cowboy who wants to have fun and maybe have their bull rode. (Call Thru) Box# 2313

Travis, GBM, caribbean, 26, recent grad, looking for nice caring individual to share life with me. Any race. (Call Thru) Box# 2241

Busy MC, looking for W/Asian F, up to 30, who would like to relocate to the country, and be part of family, manage household, and enjoy country living. Not for employment. Box# 1573

Randy, 30, 5'9, 148lbs., 28waist, looking for someone, 30 or younger, to get together. (Call Thru) Box# 1474

Rod, 28, 5'10, light brown hair, body builder, hairy, into really big fat guys. ISO big guys, with big guys. If you want someone to worship you, call me. (Call Thru) Box# 3988

Mark, 38, 6', brown hair, brown eyes, top, HIV+, seeking someone special. Box# 2049

Bob, interested and ready, and can handle alot of fun. Give me a call. Box# 1595

Terry, African American M, 28, 5'7, 150lbs., brown eyes, grad student, looking for dominant, masculine African American M, 25-35, 5'9+, independent, honest, to experience friendship and more. (Call Thru) Box# 0052

Steve, BM, 35, 5'8, 180lbs., straight, curious, looking for very feminine M, any race, beautiful to look at and wonderful to hold. Drag queens welcome. Box# 0196

Michael, 21, 5'8, 200lbs., dark brown hair, brown eyes, into all kinds of different things. ISO M, 18-30, who's an aggressive top. (Call Thru) Box# 1280

GWM, 36, great looking, smooth, muscular, mostly bottom, looking for clean shaven top, buff, muscle-bound jock, 21-38, for body worship and more. Box# 1851

Steven, GWM, 32, 5'8, good looking, brown hair, brown eyes, mustache, Italian, great body, into safe sex. ISO attractive GWM, similar interests, for friendship/possible relationship. Belives in honesty and lifetime commitments. Box# 1726

M, 5'8, 145lbs., black hair, brown eyes, bottom, looking for BM or older man. Box# 1606

Dave, GWM, 23, 6'1, 189lbs., clean cut, military type, looking for hairy chested M, 6'2+. Honesty is important. Box# 3231

Sam, 5'4, 160lbs., cuddly little teddy bear, looking for something casual, not to intense. Let's cuddle tonight. Box# 3728

Charles, GWM, 35, 5'10, 185lbs., brown hair, blue eyes, mustache, moderately hairy chest. ISO GWM, 25-45, for caring, romantic, monogamous relationship. Mustache/hairy chest a plus. Box# 3920

D.J., good looking, pierced, long hair, looking for M to share latex and spandex feeddishes with. Young stud, 18-25. I know you're out there. (Call Thru) Box# 3986

Dan and Jack, GW Couple, looking for M or Couple to have some hot times with. (Call Thru) Box# 4129

Terry, looking for masculine M into leather, with good mind and a good body. (Call Thru) Box# 6641

Jeff, GBM, likes singing, dancing, writing poetry, and listening to soft music. If you're looking for love, I'm the one. Box# 7281

Frank, HIS M, 25, 6', 190lbs., black hair, brown eyes, looking for very muscular GWM, 20-40, for hot sexual times. Versatile. Box# 8039

Ray, GWM, 55, 250lbs., bottom, HIV-, brown hair, brown eyes, mustache, clean/discrete. ISO top M, 35-55, any race, clean/discrete, HIV-. Hairy body/beard a plus. Construction/trucker/fireman preferred. (Call Thru) Box# 8052

BiM, top, 36, 6'2, 178lbs., great shape, Native American/Irish/French/Black, looking for BiWM, masculine, 18-35, for fun and good times. Prefer same build. Box# 8585

GBM, 23, athletic, looking for GBM, 22-35, athletic, straight acting, with a good head on his shoulders. Box# 8723

GWM, looking for GBM, 18-30, for fun. Box# 8744

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Men Seeking Men

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

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

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

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

This freak is looking for a masculine top freak, to do it anytime, anywhere. You must be freaky. Box# 3588

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

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

M, 33, 6', 215lbs., brown hair, blue eyes, enjoys job, has variety of interests, playful, young at heart, looking for 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

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

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

Eric, BM, attr., handsome, nice body, ISO muscular, well-endowed male, attr., disease free, clean, still in the closet a plus. Box# 1449

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

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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

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

line. For exotic massages, wrestling and companionship. Box# 3066

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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, dido play, and phone sex. If interested, please call. Box# 7418

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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# 0355

Peter, 6'1, curly brown hair, 165lbs., beard, swimmer,

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Same-Sex Marriage Expected to Generate \$4 Billion in Revenue for Hawaii

Milwaukee—With all the other issues of the day to talk about, presidential hopefuls Pat Buchanan and Sen. Phil Gramm take time from their schedules stampeding through Iowa to publicly sign a pledge against same-sex marriage. In a speech, Buchanan says that what someone does in their bedroom doesn't entitle them to "special rights," among which he includes same-sex marriage.

At the same time, in Hawaii, where same-sex marriage is expected to become legal, the Religious Right is described in *XY Magazine* (a new publication for Lesbian and Gay youth) to be in a frenzy trying to stop it. They probably won't succeed. Even Robert Knight, cultural director of the ultra-Right Family Research Council, thinks same-sex marriage is coming.

"I think the Hawaii Supreme Court will probably trash the definition of marriage and say homosexuals can marry, thus creating a constitutional crisis."

Knight was referring to the "full faith and credit" clause of the U.S. constitution which says states have to recognize each others licenses.

University of Hawaii constitutional law professor Jon Van Dyke told the Senate committee that the chances of the state prevailing in the case as it stands are almost nil.

Outside the Religious Right, many in Hawaii see the coming of same-sex marriage as a financial windfall.

According to Professor Jennifer Gerada Brown of the Quinnipiac College of Law in Hawaii, same-sex marriage is expected to generate up to \$4 billion in state revenues from couples getting married and honeymooning in the Aloha State. That would mean an end to Hawaii's budget deficit and lower taxes, two things not to be despised.

The \$4 billion gain includes an offset loss from Right Wing Christian tourists who would no longer want to visit.

Financial rewards aside, there are those in Hawaii who are still trying to avoid biting the bullet.

The Senate is going ahead with legislation to create domestic partnerships for both Gay and heterosexual couples who live together, Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Rey Graulty said.

It's the only realistic way to avoid same-sex marriages from being imposed on Hawaii by the courts, he said. "I'm convinced that if we do nothing, same-sex marriages will be the law in our state."

A comprehensive domestic partnership bill now being drafted will be heard by the Judiciary Committee on Feb. 22, Graulty said.

A domestic partnership system will give gay and unmarried couples living together equal treatment in the financial and legal benefits that are afforded to married couples, he said.

Graulty's House counterpart, Judiciary Committee Chairman Terrance Tom, has bottled up all same-sex marriage and domestic partnership legislation.

House Speaker Joseph Souki said on February 5th that the House is willing to await the results of the court case on the same-sex issue.

The House might reconsider that position when it understands the poor chances the state has in prevailing in the same-sex marriage court case that goes to trial in July, Graulty said.

However, he said a comprehensive domestic partnership law would have a 95 percent chance of being sufficient to show the court that the state was providing equal treatment to gay couples.

Graulty said one feature of the Senate's domestic partnership bill will be a one-year residency requirement.

For the bill to be acceptable to Hawaii's conservative religious community, it would have to have a residential requirement to keep Hawaii from being flooded by out-of-state residents seeking domestic partnerships, he said.

Even domestic partnership is too much for the Roman Church.

The executive director of the Hawaii Catholic Conference, the Rev. Marc Alexander considers the bill just another way of allowing same-sex marriage, which the church also opposes.

In Other States

While other states such as Utah, are rushing to pass laws forbidding the recognition of same sex marriages done in other states, Washington State is taking a different tack if one man has his way.

The state would legally recognize same-sex marriages under a proposed ballot initiative filed in response to a bill in the Legislature that would ban such unions.

Zakmichael Tazmon of Seattle outlined his proposed initiative in documents filed with the state February 5th. He must gather the signatures of 181,667 registered voters by July 5 to get his proposal on the November ballot.

The initiative reads: "A marriage shall be recognized as a legal marriage when the parties are persons of a different or of the same gender. Any marriage that is valid in another jurisdiction shall be recognized as a valid

marriage in this state."

Rep. Bill Thompson, (R-Everett), filed the bill out of concern that Hawaii courts may legalize such marriages as early as this summer.

If that happens, Thompson said last week, Gay couples in Washington could get married in Hawaii and return home expecting the same privileges afforded heterosexual married couples, such as health benefits and inheritance rights.

The Republican-led House is expected to pass the bill, following its approval last week by the Law and Justice Committee. Senate approval is unlikely and Gov. Mike Lowry has promised to veto such a bill if it reaches his desk.

"It's like a freight train coming at us from Hawaii," said Bob Larimer Jr. of Vancouver, director of the ultra conservative Washington for Traditional Values.

Rhode Island

A bill to limit the state's recognition of out-of-state marriages is not aimed at Gay couples, but at those who would dictate Rhode Island's social policy, according to its sponsor.

"What it really is, is a states rights bill," said Rep. Robert Flaherty, (D-Warwick). "This state and every state should have a right to set its own social policy."

Polygamy used to be legal in Utah, Flaherty said, and some states still have differing rules about relatives marrying one another.

"We shouldn't be jockeyed into accepting someone else's social philosophy until we have a debate," he said.

The bill would allow Rhode Island to recognize a marriage from another state only if the marriage "comports with and meets all conditions and requirements" of state law.

Marriages between partners of the same sex are not legal in Rhode Island.

Sen. Will Fitzpatrick, who is Gay, was prepared to testify against the measure, which he said would prevent official recognition of Rhode Island gay couples who go to Hawaii to get married.

"Considering that the state of Hawaii is expected to legalize same-sex unions in the next year, this is quite clearly an anti-gay bill," said Fitzpatrick, (D-Cranston).

In Iowa

Conservatives in the Iowa House want to keep the state from having to recognize same-sex marriages, but Democrats who control the state Senate say they probably wouldn't approve any such proposal.

"I think just from a consensus feeling around here, that wouldn't be a top priority. And also, we wouldn't have the votes to do it," Senate Majority Leader Wally Horn, (D-Cedar Rapids), said Thursday, February 8th.

Two Republicans, Reps. Steve Grubbs and Charles Hurlley, are pushing a bill that would deny recognition in Iowa of same-sex marriages that take place in other states.

House leaders say a same-sex marriage proposal is not one of their priorities, but that doesn't mean it won't be debated.

Horn said the legislation would have little chance in the Senate.

"I have to assume that that's something we would not do at this time," he said.

In California

California's Republican-controlled Assembly voted 41-31 on Wednesday, February 7th to block the state from recognizing same-sex marriages. The bill goes next to the Senate. The debate left the Legislature's only openly Gay member teary-eyed.

"Whenever a society wants to demonize a particular group it prohibits them from marrying," said Assemblywoman Sheila Kuehl, referring to laws that once barred slaves and interracial couples from marrying. Kuehl is a Lesbian and former actress who played Zelda on TV's "Dobie Gillis."

And on Thursday, a committee in Idaho's legislature introduced a bill that would make same-sex marriages performed in another state invalid in Idaho.

Lawmakers said they introduced the bills when it became apparent that Hawaii's courts or Legislature might make same-sex marriages legal, and thereby grant gay couples the social, legal and financial benefits afforded married heterosexuals.

In Colorado

A bill introduced in the Colorado House that would ban same-sex marriages was condemned by the American Civil Liberties Un-

ion, which said it could be found unconstitutional.

The measure was proposed by Rep. Marilyn Musgrave, (R-Fort Collins), and 15 Republican co-sponsors. It is similar to legislation introduced in at least 14 other states.

"I do not feel that Colorado should be forced to recognize same-sex marriages," Musgrave said. "I feel that we're being proactive if we address this issue now instead of later on after some state, perhaps Hawaii, would recognize (same-sex marriages)."

Jim Joy, state ACLU director, and Sue Anderson, director of Equality Colorado, condemned the measure Thursday.

"This bill would leave people legally married in another state in limbo and would lead to endless litigation," Joy warned. "Thirty-five years ago, interracial couples were fighting for their right to marry. Couples would get married in one state and then be arrested when they passed into another."

Joy said the U.S. Supreme Court struck down such prohibitions among the states in 1967.

Musgrave, said "tremendous implications" attend recognition of such marriages.

"There's a huge economic impact when you're talking about inheritance, insurance and all sorts of issues," she said.

AIDS DRUGS

Continued from Page 1

you're not infected, you must continue to do everything possible to stay that way."

In a presentation Thursday, February 1st, Dr. John Leonard of Abbot showed that ritonavir cuts the death rate in half—at least temporarily—when given in late stages of AIDS.

Ritonavir or dummy pills were randomly given to 1,090 AIDS patients at 67 hospitals in the United States, Canada, Europe and Australia. All of them had ominously low levels of helper T cells, the main target of the AIDS virus in the bloodstream.

The patients continued to receive whatever AIDS drugs they had already been taking and were followed for seven months. By that time, 13 percent of the patients getting ritonavir had died or gone on to develop new AIDS-related illnesses, compared with 27 percent in the comparison group.

The death rate was 4.8 percent in the ritonavir patients and 8.4 percent in the comparison group.

About 15 percent of patients on ritonavir dropped out of the study, and the most common side effect was vomiting and nausea.

However, Leonard said some of the patients said they felt better, gained weight and even cleared up AIDS-associated skin cancer.

"There is no question this is an important step forward," said Dr. Anthony Fauci, head of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases.

"This does not mean that AIDS is anywhere near a cure. If you're uninfected, you must do everything you can to stay that way."

Dr. Jeffrey Kelly

Showing that any AIDS medicine prolongs life has been extremely difficult. Studies a decade ago with AZT, the first AIDS drug, suggested improved survival, but this was disputed by later research.

Abbott applied to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration in December for permission to sell ritonavir, and the company hopes to have the medicine on the market in March.

Earlier in the week, researchers showed that both the Abbott and Merck drugs dramatically reduced levels of virus in the blood when combined with other standard AIDS medicines, such as AZT and 3TC.

Merck's indinavir cut virus levels so low they could not be detected in 90 percent of patients using the most sensitive tests for viral genes. Abbott went a step further and tried to grow virus in cultures using blood taken from treated patients. They concluded the virus was completely gone in 25 percent of them.

"This is a new milestone for determining progress in AIDS," said Dr. Andre Pernet, Abbott's research director. "It's very important for the first time to be able to say patients are blood negative."

As impressive as this sounds, researchers cautioned that the virus may still be lurking elsewhere in the patients' bodies, such as their lymph nodes or brains.

Some researchers believe it may make sense to start patients on a combination of protease inhibitors and other drugs as soon as they know they are infected, rather than holding therapy until the virus has caused considerable damage.

"The dream is to start patients early when they have very low viral loads," said Pernet. "If you can suppress it without mutation long enough to let the infected cells be replaced by healthy cells, then you could cure it, although that has not been proved yet."

Kelly cautioned that this is only "speculation" at this point. "There is no cure in sight," he said again.

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Symbolic Same-Sex Weddings Expected to Raise Big Bucks for San Francisco

San Francisco—As Valentine's Day 1996, approaches an expected 3,000 same-sex couples will soon be able to say "I do" in a symbolic civil wedding performed by the county clerk.

Under the plan, which takes effect March 21st, same-sex couples who register as domestic partners will pay \$30 to have the ceremony, though the union will carry no legal weight.

The proposal creates a "civil ceremony to solemnize the existence of a domestic partnership," Supervisor Carole Migden said Tuesday, January 23rd. "It's a very San Francisco sort of thing."

The San Francisco Board of Supervisors voted 8-0 Monday, January 29th for an ordinance that allows same-sex couples who register for domestic partnerships to then "solemnize" their relationship with a civil ceremony performed by a county clerk.

Migden, who introduced the ordinance, said many same-sex couples will have the civil ceremonies performed quickly after they are authorized on March 21.

According to Migden, the measure will create an equal opportunity for committed couples who choose to pledge their faith and devotion to one another at a time in which society can only benefit from the expansion of the definition of family."

The observance would serve only to solemnize a series of rights the city has granted gay couples since its domestic partnership law took effect on Valentine's Day in 1991. Under that ordinance, San Francisco allows same-sex couples who register to have visitation rights in hospitals, shared health plans for city employees and bereavement leave for city employees when a domestic partner dies.

Private employers are not required to grant the same benefits.

Only couples registered as domestic partners in San Francisco will be eligible. At least 3,000 unmarried couples, most of them gay, already have filed for that designation.

One of those couples is Lori Guidos and Cheryl Deaner, who registered together two years ago then had an elaborate wedding ceremony of their own. While they do not intend to have another wedding, they applauded the board's vote.

"I think it's a wonderful, symbolic gesture," Deaner said.

"It shows the way mores are changing in this country. And when society changes in general, eventually the law changes, too," she added. "And that's what's needed — family civil rights."

Lou Sheldon, a Right Wing extremist, of the Washington, D.C.-based Traditional Values Coalition, on the other hand, said the effort to recognize same-sex marriages is just a "fad." He said the fact that only 3,000 couples have registered for domestic partnerships shows that type of commitment does not have a large backing.

"It's not unusual that San Francisco does the freak thing," Sheldon said. "I think basically what you have here is a dysfunctional behavior being recognized by the Board of Supervisors in a ceremonial manner."

The only two other cities that offer civil ceremonies to domestic partners are Madison, Wisconsin, and New York City.

Laws that would ban same-gender marriage are either pending or active in South Dakota, Alaska, Washington state and Colorado. Maine was considering one, but its sponsor withdrew the proposal because it became so controversial, he said.

Utah does not recognize same-sex marriages.

San Francisco has a large Lesbian and Gay population, sometimes estimated at 10 percent or more of the 730,000 residents, attracted by

the city and its liberal political bent.

San Francisco's effort to recognize long-term same-sex partnerships is at odds with a state effort to prohibit their recognition in California. The state Assembly is scheduled to look at a bill on January 30th that would prohibit California from recognizing same-sex marriages, whether performed inside the state or outside — for example in Hawaii, where same-sex marriages could be legalized next year.

Adding the symbolic marriage ceremony is expected to double or triple the number of couples registering as domestic partners, according to a memo by Assistant County Clerk Nancy Alfaro. The county clerk traditionally performs civil marriages.

If half the couples already registered have a ceremony, that would generate \$45,960, according to Alfaro. And she estimates new couples registering could add another \$41,500 this year.

Volunteers would perform the ceremonies, and processing would cost an estimated \$3,000, according to the county clerk's office.

"A large number of taxpayers have asked for this service from our department," said Alfaro. "Implementing ceremonies would resolve any access and fairness issues."

In 1994, the California Legislature passed a bill that would have set up a statewide registry of unmarried domestic partners, but Gov. Pete Wilson vetoed it.

Cheryl Deaner at the Alternative Family Project in San Francisco said the proposal seemed like an idea whose time has come.

"Although this won't really remedy any legal discrimination, it is a step forward," she said.

The Media, Transsexuals and Drag Queens

Commentary by Angela Asmodeus

The media has always been one to expose the worst of any group. They portray people who live out in the country as being nothing but a bunch of dumb, rowdy drunks, and that all bikers are nothing but trouble. What they've done with Black females is deplorable.

So, seeing a drag TV on TV (sounds redundant), isn't some conspiracy pointed at just transgendered people. They're out to ruin everyone, sounds fair.

In fact, I'm kind of glad to see an occasional cross-dresser on TV. It tells the public, "Yes, we DO exist, and we're not going away!"

Years ago, the NEVER wrote in a part for a cross-dresser. It is nice to see that discrimination is gone. Sure, sometimes they poke fun at us, but these are the type of people who poke fun at anybody who's different.

I have no problem with a simple mind being amused. If somebody wants to get physical about it, well in my case, it's not easy to survive attacking me. It becomes a hate crime, which involves more than just a slap on the wrist.

The main problem with society dealing with us is, nothing in life prepared them for how to treat people like us. It's a simple one word philosophy: "respect."

Look how they used to treat alcoholics. People made fun of them. They would get thrown in jail, etc. How long did it take society to realize that alcoholism is a disease, not a choice?

I read about how in the 1950's, Gay men were thrown in jail just for being Gay! The public is still ignorant of the fact that people are born Gay. It is not a chosen lifestyle. It is a way of life.

The same is true for transsexuals. We were born this way. Sure, you can fight it and be

miserable because you deny yourself your true nature. Some of us wind up committing suicide because the stress overcomes rational thought.

People who have a problem with homosexuality or transsexuality have a problem, period. They are probably miserable with themselves, and make fun of others to make themselves feel better.

(They may even be that way themselves, but are too cowardly to admit it, and can't stand somebody with the guts to be themselves.)

Your normal heterosexual has the attitude, "Oh, okay, they're that way. As long as they don't force it on ME, I don't have a problem with it." This is a normal and healthy attitude.

Some of them are afraid that we may try to convert them to homosexuality or transsexuality. This is impossible. Like I say, it is something that you're born with.

People who fear conversion are subconsciously unsure of themselves. Some of them accuse transsexuals of "having a choice." Yeah, right.

I love crossing my legs the wrong way when I'm tucked and suddenly feel the pain of one of my testicles being crushed, like it got caught in a vice. Like this is supposed to be some sort of orgasm?

I love being treated like a sub-human by

some bimbo cashier who can't even add, let alone think.

I love being made fun of by some testosterone, over-dosed jock who has a history of date rape and torturing small animals.

Like the time some twit called my man sick for going out with me. I asked him what his problem was. He said that I didn't have a vagina. Like that's the only part of a woman that matters? I told him that neither does his blow-up doll. He did nothing and said nothing back.

I personally thank the drag queens. Without them, I probably would not have had the guts to come out in the first place. They have been my friends and mentors and they play a significant role in the Gay community.

Drag queens and transsexuals are definitely a different category, although they seem to be alike. We both put up with crap from the ignorant.

We should not allow ourselves to be separated from each other. That is a tactic the Right Wing likes to use. They try to divide us so they can say, "Look at that. They're so scatter-brained they can't even get along with each other."

Personally, I don't intend on biding my time on the wayside, letting the fascist Right Wing trample my dignity and raping me of my civil rights.

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A Chicago Neighborhood of Diversity Welcomes Women Entrepreneurs

Chicago—The Swedes say valkommen; the Persians, khosh amadeed; the Spanish, bienvenidos; the Japanese, yo okaso irashai mase.

And they're saying it to women entrepreneurs in Andersonville's North Clark Street, a street of dreams for women in a potpourri of Chicago's ethnic neighborhoods.

The North Side community, a mecca for cultural and ethnic diversity, has opened its arms to sexual diversity—businesses owned and operated by women, some Lesbians, some straight.

Go on a shopping spree at women-owned stores, and you'll find pet supplies, imported dolls, jewelry, pottery, an American Indian skin painting, lesbian erotica, Swedish pastries, Christmas decorations.

You can take your pet to the vet, see a play or sip cappuccino while planning an overseas trip. You can take home a rented movie—maybe *Thelma and Louise*.

Women have set up shop amid an eclectic serving of ethnic restaurants, grocery stores and "Valkommen" banners that line about a mile-long stretch of North Clark.

"Women are making incredible strides in this neighborhood," said Angela Turley, co-owner of Studio 90, a boutique offering artists' handmade creations, including clothing designed by Turley and co-owner Jill Hilgenberg.

Andersonville has about 200 businesses and Alderwoman Mary Ann Smith, the neighborhood's fourth female City Council member since 1971, says about 70 percent of them are owned or managed by women.

One popular spot is the feminist bookstore Women & Children First—not far from the Spanish Speaking Bookstore.

Co-owners Linda Bubon and Ann Christophersen, lured by the tolerant atmosphere and low rents, moved the bookstore here in 1990 from pricey Lincoln Park.

Women & Children regularly brings in authors like Amy Tan and Gloria Steinem for autograph signings, and offers story hours for young children. Its books appeal to women of

all sexual orientations, from novels by Tan, Sarah Paretsky and Anne Rice to books on cooking, motherhood and homosexuality. It has a sizeable collection of books by and about Lesbians.

"I think it's important that we let people know this is a welcoming place for lesbians," said Bubon.

"A lot of different people live with each other, not only in terms of tolerating each other but also liking the mix," said Christophersen.

But customers also include people like grandmother Rita Roth, who attends a monthly women's book discussion group at the store.

"I try to support women entrepreneurs," she said.

A few doors away at WomanWild, owners Nancy Perrone and Janet Soule offers gifts made solely by women artists—pottery, stained glass, jewelry, candles and more.

"There are a lot of Lesbian and Gay businesses here," said Perrone. "We are part of that diversity."

The upscale gallery's name comes from Lesbian feminist writer Sonia Johnson's *Wildfire*—a reference, Perrone said, to "the creative energy in women."

Named after farmer John Anderson, the four-square-mile neighborhood about five miles from downtown was settled by Swedes moving north after the Chicago fire in 1871. About 25 years ago, several Middle Eastern businesses began locating there. Today, both ethnic groups are prominent, along with Japanese, Italian and Filipino eateries.

The Landmark, a cooperative of 18 shops—all but one owned by women—helped pave the way for women entrepreneurs when it opened in 1987. That same night two other women-owned businesses opened nearby.

The history of the artsy Kopi—A Traveler's Cafe, is a story in itself. It opened in 1991 after two women on a backpacking trip in Southeast Asia met a third woman from Andersonville.

The trio decided to open a coffeehouse with a travel theme where people could buy maps and travel books, find destination points on globes, and check the time in faraway places like Timbuktu by glancing at wall clocks.

They took out a \$12,000 loan, named the business Kopi—coffee in Indonesia—and paid off the loan in six months.

"The whole idea behind Kopi is we don't see sexual preference, race, culture or religion," said Rhonda Welbel, one of the two remaining owners. "We look at this neighborhood as open to everyone."

Says Landmark building owner Jan Baxter: "There is something in the water that grows strong women."

Others say Andersonville is so welcoming to women because of its Scandinavian roots and multi-ethnic history.

Announcements

Gemini Gender Group

Milwaukee—The Gemini Gender Group is an organization and support group serving the gender community. Meetings take place on the second Saturday of every month. Contact our Hotline for more information at: (414) 297-9328.

Andrew Miller-Rhoads to Appear in Madison

Madison—Andrew Miller-Rhoads will be appearing at Madison's Brave Hearts Theatre in "An Angel's Kiss," a monologue/dance performance piece about angels, sex, the fear of intimacy and Dusty Springfield.

"An Angel's Kiss" will appear at the Brave Hearts Theatre, 1988 Atwood Ave. in Madison. Showtime is 8:00 p.m. from Feb. 29th to Mar. 2nd and Mar. 7th to 9th. Admission is \$6. For more information or advance reservations, call (608) 249-9299. Due to the nature of the material, this performance is not recommended for children.

St. Camillus AIDS Ministry Retreat

Milwaukee—The St. Camillus AIDS Ministry presents "Embracing the Mystery: HIV/AIDS and the Spiritual Life." This retreat, from Mar. 29th to Mar. 31st has been designed to help participants re-frame their often negative experiences of living with HIV disease. It is open to anyone living with HIV/AIDS. No fee is required, but enrollment is limited. For more information or to make a reservation, call (414) 259-4664.

Mil-Maids XI

Madison—Mil-Maids XI will be held in Madison on April 20th. For information or application for the bowling, pool or dart tournaments, call Jeff Pintor at (608) 241-8716. Hotel accommodations must be booked at the host hotel by March 1st. Midway Motor Lodge—1-800-528-1234 or (608) 244-2424.

Gay Men's Discussion Group

Milwaukee—The Gay Men's Discussion Group will discuss "Gay Images in the Media" on February 25th, 6:00-8:00 p.m. Greg Porter and Tom Zigan will facilitate the discussion. Pre-registration is not required and the cost is a \$3 donation. The Group meets at the Counseling Center of Milwaukee, 2038 N. Bartlett Ave. in Milwaukee. Call (414) 271-2565 for more information.

"Here we have people from every corner of the world," said Swedish immigrant Kurt Mathiasson, owner of Svea Restaurant.

Even businessmen whose native lands have yet to embrace sexual equality seem comfortable with their female counterparts.

"It's America, and it's the land of liberty," said Reza Toulabi, the Persian owner of the popular Reza's Restaurant.

Packed on weekends with customers of

every ethnic origin, Reza's also welcomes a Persian women's discussion group every few months. About 50 to 60 Persian women meet there to talk about the society; they talk about anything," Toulabi said.

CLASSIFIEDS

Accommodations

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

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Organizations

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

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

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Gd!kg, easygoing, dark-haired, moustached guy in bike jacket & 501's coming to Milwaukee in March. Can some smooth, friendly guy 21-40, any race, in jeans, tee or sweatshirt & great smile show me around? Dinner together too? Reply: "Wisconsin Light," #401, 1843 N. Palmer St., Milwaukee, WI 53212 c

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OSCAR



MADISON

Only this isn't the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion and it's definitely not L.A. It's the Oscars as only LesBiGay Madison could present them. Yes, it's the first annual Oscar Madison Academy Awards Show at the Barrymore Theater on Madison's fashionable near east side come Monday, March 25th.

The price is not so upscale \$10 for the main event or \$25 for the pre-event reception, and it's all for a couple of exceptional causes. Proceeds will go to the Rodney Scheel House and the New Harvest Foundation.

A special VIP reception begins at 5:30 p.m., featuring the finest in food and wine. And then at 7:00 p.m., the Barrymore's doors will swing open for the main event. For an hour, and then during each commercial break, you'll be treated to a wide variety of the finest entertainment our community has to offer.

At 8:00 p.m., Madisonians will be magically transported to southern California via the big TV screen for the big event itself. Join in on the whistling and catcalls for Jodie Foster and Tom Cruise.

Don't have a thing to wear? Don't worry. As is usual in Madison—whatever feels right, wear it. If you've always wanted to go in Marilyn Monroe drag or to piece together a

Keanu Reeves photo mask—got for it. Live a little.

Door prizes will be offered in abundance. And if you brush up on those favorite lines from your favorite movie, you'll be wowing your sweetie with your cinematic acumen during the movie trivia contest.

For more information about the event, contact Scott Christenson at (608) 244-0289 or Scott Thornton at (608) 255-5969. Tickets are available at book and video stores and bistros around town, or call the Barrymore box office at (608) 241-8864.

MARRIAGE

Continued from Page 1

roduced in 9 other states in the past 20 days, Baldwin is well-aware that there is a well-orchestrated national drive on by the Radical Right to get such laws on the books, as confirmed by the Christian Coalition.

"We shouldn't let Wisconsin become swept up in this effort to advance the Radical Right's larger agenda," Baldwin said. "Wisconsin deserves better. The bill's introduction this late in the session when there's little time to thoughtfully consider its implications, means allowing external political event to undermine our legislative process."

Baldwin continued. "We've seen this rhetoric before, in other state legislatures, and in the Republican presidential primary. And let's call it what it is—this is not about Gay marriage. It's about stirring up hatred and fear for the sake of political expediency."

"It's not at all about giving Wisconsin a voice. If this measure advances, it means polluting Wisconsin with the Radical Right's national hate agenda. And by any measure, that's not what's best for the state or its people."

State-Wide Organizing Efforts
Action Wisconsin will be leading efforts to turn back the proposed legislation, embarking on a broad-based strategy grounded in the alliances formed over the past 15 years.

Action Wisconsin's president, Juliet Brodie, said that the organization's five regional divisions will each play an important role in responding to the Far Right's assault.

The Madison regional chapter of Action Wisconsin was well-represented at the February 12th meeting.

In addition to Madison, the Milwaukee and Fox Valley (Kaufert's home district), will play crucial roles.

For more information on how you can get involved, contact Action Wisconsin at P.O. Box 342, Madison, WI 53701-0342, or call (608) 231-1099.

E-mail: ActWis@aol.com
To contact your state legislator, call the Legislative Hotline at 1-800-362-9472.

Madison Fire Chief Faces Campaign of Harassment From Fire Fighter

Analysis by John Quinlan

Madison—In recent weeks, Madison's first female fire chief, Debra Amesqua, has been no stranger to controversy. Ever since the announcement of her hiring, she has been the subject of a campaign of anonymous innuendo and unfounded assertions implying that she was hired for reasons that have nothing to do with her qualifications.

In recent days, that smear campaign has taken on blatantly homophobic undertones. And now Madison fire fighter Ronnie Greer has been caught distributing anti-Gay leaflets while on the job, and is facing disciplinary actions.

While Greer claims that distributing the pamphlets is something he's entitled to do under his First Amendment rights, fire department officials point out that this just isn't so when he does it while on city time in a manner that creates a hostile work environment for other fire fighters. As of press time, city officials were contemplating what action to take against Greer.

A well-established "good old boys network" within the Madison fire department seems to be making a loud and long last stand in an ongoing battle to discredit the new chief.

In the current climate of backlash against affirmative action, both homophobia and sexism have been invoked as weapons. While they speak for only a minority of their colleagues, a handful of male fire fighters have been outspoken in their criticisms of Amesqua in ways that have bordered on insubordination.

For example, an anonymous caller to an early morning talk radio program identified himself as a fire fighter, and proceeded to Gaybait Amesqua, just days after her hiring.

"It's pretty obvious why they hired her," he said. "She's a woman, she's a Native American, she's a Well, heh, heh, heh, I won't say it. You know what I mean."

Fifteen years ago, Madison fire department officials fought tooth and nail to keep women out of the department. That fight resulted in a history-making lawsuit that was won by women who became Madison's first female fire fighters.

Not surprisingly, a significant number of Lesbians have joined the force over the years. This was an echo of a process that had begun at the Madison Police Department several years before. The result has been that Madison has, arguably, one of the largest contingents of openly Lesbian fire fighters and police officers of any city in the country.

Despite this, recent events have made it clear that many in the department view the advent of women in real positions of power as a significant threat. And homophobia-based harassment has often been invoked as a weapon against these women, regardless of their actual sexual orientation. Greer, a former school board candidate and elder at the predominantly African-American Mount Zion Baptist Church, is merely the most visible of those critics.

The local media have been less than sophisticated in their reporting of the entire affair. For the most part, they have taken a so-called even handed "he says, she says" approach when it comes to reporting the story, ignoring the questionable veracity of the statements being made by Amesqua's critics, and showing no initiative in attempting to show the not-so-subtly hidden motivations underlying those criticisms.

The problem has exacerbated existing tensions between the Gay and Lesbian community and the leadership of Madison's predominantly African-American churches.

In my own experience as someone who has

Maryland Governor Backs Gay Civil Rights Bill

Annapolis, MD—AP-Governor Parris Glendening's office said on January 26th that the governor has thrown his support behind legislation prohibiting the discrimination of Gays and Lesbians in Maryland. This is the first time such a bill has had the governor's support. Under the proposed bill, discrimination in employment, housing or access to public accommodations such as hotels and restaurants based on a person's sexual orientation would be prohibited. The legislation would designate Gays and Lesbians as a group protected from discrimination under state law. The bill will have the benefit of the governor's staff and resources to lobby for its passage.

YOUTH

Continued from Page 1

of Gay men are HIV positive."

In Milwaukee, he said, it's 20%.

"Sadly, we are finding that the high prevalence in the Bay Area in 1992 and 1993 also occurred in these sites in 1994 and 1995," Valleroy said.

Whether HIV transmission is increasing or decreasing among these age groups is still unclear.

Other information presented at a recent AIDS conference in Washington hints that the virus may be growing less common among the young in general.

That data, collected in New York state, showed a sharp drop in new infections among both pregnant women and teen-agers treated at venereal disease clinics.

The young men's study is still collecting data and will be expanded soon to Baltimore and perhaps other cities.

Overall, experts, like Dr. Kelly, believe that HIV spread has slowed dramatically among

worked extensively in the area of civil rights in Madison, I have seen multiple examples of the particularly vitriolic forms that sexism and homophobia can take in certain sectors of Madison's African-American community.

Conversely, of course, I can cite ample examples of racism and classism present within the Lesbian and Gay community.

And yet I still hear the often naively expressed sentiment that this simply can't be so—that it's impossible to understand how a person who faces one oppression can be judgmental toward someone else who faces another oppression. If only it were true.

However, all such cynicism aside, for every example of situations I can recall when members of the African-American and Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual communities have been at odds, there is another less visible, but equally significant, example of a situation when people from those communities have pulled together.

I remember well a day ten years ago, for example, when Tammy Baldwin and I were sitting around the table at a meeting of the local Rainbow Coalition. The subject was membership recruitment. Several of us had just finished speaking about the need to continue our efforts at outreach into several underrepresented cultural and ethnic minority communities.

As we were about to move on to other subjects, an African-American community leader by the name of Charlestine Daniels raised her hand. "We mustn't forget our Lesbian and Gay brothers and sisters," she said, and proceeded to go into an eloquent and moving ten minute monologue about all of the reasons why our participation under the Rainbow was so vitally important.

Over the years since then, that experience has been repeated many times for me. African-American friends have been there for me in a big way, and I'd like to think that I've been there in a big way for them, too.

The same has been true of so many of my female friends, who have to overcome harassment and blatant discrimination in so many realms of their lives. It doesn't happen with everybody, but in my own life, I've been blessed by a diversity of friends who do see the interconnectedness of the fight for the rights of all people.

Newly installed fire chief Debra Amesqua faces an especially daunting challenge right now. Everything I have heard about her qualifications and her philosophy of life says to me that Madison is extremely fortunate to have a person of her caliber at the helm.

She deserves to be able to step out from under the shadow of this manufactured controversy—and she deserves to have the media begin reporting on her work without always attaching the stigmatizing label of "controversial" in front of her name. And she will only get that chance if all of us speak out against the backlash that has manifested itself in the kinds of blatant displays of prejudice that people assumed couldn't exist in the so-called utopia known as Madison.

Some good things have come as a result of the Greer hate literature incidents. Community leaders of all races are beginning to speak out against Greer's message. Links are being made with this incident, and the distribution of KKK literature that had occurred a few weeks earlier. Yes, people are beginning to speak out.

But each of us must ask—what have I done? And can I do more? For, unless we confront those questions, and work hard to be there for each other in significant ways, Madison will be a place that none of us will want to live in.

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