



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

The Wisconsin Light

High School Paper Recalled Over Column Saying Gays Should be Shot

La Crosse, WI—A school newspaper column written in tabloid style and targeting Gays and a group known as "freaks" caused Logan High School administrators to recall the April Fool's Day edition of the *Ranger Report*.

School officials also sent the writer, Sam Sorenson, home early Friday, March 29th, and suspended another student, Josh Kampa, for protesting the column while handing out copies after the newspaper had been recalled.

Copying the style of an angry, fictional columnist, the column referred to members of the freaks group as "bleeding heart, subculture, tie-died hair, Grandma's old clothes and smelly old tee-shirt wearin'..." and yearned for the days when "flag-burning pansies" could be shot without too much public disapproval.

"I wrote it excessively and exceedingly sarcastically," Sorenson said Monday, April 1st in describing his editorial column in the newspaper's March 32nd edition.

He explained his barbs at Gays by saying they stemmed from his "strong personal religious convictions" that homosexuality is wrong.

"I found the article offensive," said Kampa, who was suspended Friday for handing out fliers containing the column.

However, he said he also didn't agree with school administrators that the editorial should be censored retroactively.

When almost all copies were recalled because of Sorenson's editorial, Kampa made copies of the column and distributed them.

"A lot of people were hush-hush about it immediately after the paper was taken back," Kampa said. "I thought it should be seen by the student body so they could see what had been written."

Associate Principal Scott Mihalovic declined to comment on the suspension, saying school administrators do not discuss student incidents. He confirmed a student had been suspended for "insubordination."

School is closed for spring vacation until Wednesday, April 10th.

Mihalovic said the school "has a system of

TURN TO NEWSPAPER, PAGE 19

LESBIAN AVENGERS TO CHALLENGE "CHRISTIAN" CAMPAIGN OF DISTORTION



Romance Novelist—Marisa Paredes (Leo) and Immanuel Arias (Poco) star in Pedro Almodovar's "The Flower of My Secret." The director portrays another woman on the verge of a breakdown with this story about a best selling romance novelist who runs out of inspiration when her marriage runs out of gas.

Lesbian Comic, Suzanne Westenhofer, Returning to Madison and Milwaukee

By Sue Burke

Every comedian these days gets a sitcom. How about one for famous Lesbian comedian Suzanne Westenhofer? What would it be like?

"You know, I can't tell you that," she said in a telephone interview from her Los Angeles home, "because we're actually working on it. If you tell, the idea gets out there, and all of a sudden someone makes it before you do. It's sort of an LA thing, sad but true.

"We're working on it, a couple of us, but there's not much to report on, and there won't be for quite a while, I imagine. But you never know with television."

Meanwhile, since January, she has been auditioning for parts in other television shows or movies. Nothing to report there, either.

However, Westenhofer will appear in Madison at the Barrymore Theatre Friday, April 26, and in Milwaukee at the Pabst Theatre Saturday, April 27. Both shows begin at 8:00 p.m.

She's appeared in Wisconsin before. "I love that accent," she said. "You open up your vowels nice and wide. Everybody smiles when they talk."

She tours year-round, despite the weather. She had just returned to LA the day before from Edmonton, Canada, so she had "a lot of useless coins" in her pocket. She hoped the weather in Wisconsin would be nicer than the weather in Alberta. She advised her fans to expect a new hairstyle with bangs.

Westenhofer began her comic career in 1990, just as Lesbians became chic, according to her explanation for her success. She became the first Lesbian to appear on "Evening at the Improv," "Caroline's Comedy Hour" and "Out There on Comedy Central." She was the first Lesbian to have her own HBO special, which was nominated for an ACE award.

Since then she's been on "ABC's Day One," "VH-1's Buster's Comedy Hour," and "Politically Incorrect," among many other appearances.

She emceed the 1993 March on Washington for Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Rights, and the 1995 Los Angeles Gay and Lesbian Center dinner honoring Martina Navratilova and Melissa Etheridge.

In her act, Westenhofer jokes about Navratilova: "I want to lick that vein that sticks out in her arm." At the dinner, Navratilova offered her the chance. Westenhofer claims to have fainted.

On the Rikki Lake show, she was billed as the "Expert Lesbian," and if she gets her own sitcom, Westenhofer will be Gay in that show, too. "That's going to make it a little tougher," she said.

She's used to prejudice.

If a heckler asks her how she became homosexual, she has a response: "First there's the talent competition," she explains, "then the interview swimsuit and evening gown pretty much get rid of the undesirables." She says she got lucky and won.

Madison—The Wisconsin Christians United (WCU), a religious extremist group, is sponsoring appearances of Scott Lively in Madison, Janesville and Wauwatosa on April 11-13.

Lively is the author of *The Pink Swastika*, a book that attempts to show that Hitler and the top Nazis were all Gay.

As reported in the last issue of *Light*, not one reputable scholar in the field of German history accepts the book's contention. The evidence Lively uses to support his thesis is according to scholars, either distorted or drawn from documents that Stalin used to smear Hitler and the Nazis before the Russo-German pact of 1939.

Lively's book as been compared to the *Protocols of the Learned Elders of Zion*, a work fabricated by the Czarist secret police and used as one weapon to persecute the Jews. Lively's work has been judged by activists to be as anti-Gay as the *Protocols* are anti-Semitic.

The Lesbian Avengers will be challenging the bigoted beliefs of Wisconsin Christians United and their guest.

According to the Avengers, WCU will be taking the opportunity of Lively's appearance to voice their own beliefs on the necessity of criminalizing homosexuality.

In WCU's literature, they say that Lesbians, Gay men and Bisexuals should have no rights at all.

The Lesbian Avengers are outraged at the hate-filled nature of these events. In a press release they say, "While we are firm supporters of free speech (and will certainly be exercising this right during our attendance at these lectures), we feel that forums such as this fuel the hate-filled actions we are subjected to on a regular basis."

The Avengers say that they want to make themselves a presence at the Lively lectures, "alerting Wisconsin Christians United and any other individuals with similar viewpoints that such hatred will not be tolerated."

The Avengers will be appearing at the following locations and times:

April 12—7:00 p.m. Trinity Evangelical Church in Madison (401 N. Lawn).

April 13—7:30 a.m. Town and Country Restaurant in Janesville (22 S. River).

April 13—7:00 p.m. Location to be announced.

The Lesbian Avengers are a direct action group committed to the survival and visibility of Lesbians everywhere.

In Step Sold

Milwaukee—As we go to press, phone calls from reliable sources tell us that *In Step Magazine* has been sold and is about to change hands. The change, we are told, will occur on Friday, April 12, 1996.

While the sources do not say what the price paid for the publication was, they say that the successful buyer was Bill Atwell of Wells Inc.

Atwell is the publisher of *Q Voice*, a new publication in magazine format that is aimed primarily at the younger Gay community.

It is known that one of the other bidders for *In Step* included people from Madison. This much is known from a letter sent to *Light* by John Quinlan on Mar. 11th. The letter said in part that Quinlan "along with a couple of potential partners and some other investors" would be submitting a proposal to the *In Step* board of directors later that week.



Comic Suzanne Westenhofer will perform in Madison and Milwaukee April 26th and 27th.

News Briefs

U.S. Judge Declares "Don't Ask" Invalid

San Francisco-AP-A federal judge ruled Friday, March 29th, that the military's "don't ask, don't tell" policy violates the Constitution by discriminating against homosexuals, the second such ruling in the nation. The discharge of a California Army National Guard officer, who disclosed his sexual orientation in a letter to his commanding officer, was ordered under a policy that "impermissibly relies on irrational prejudices against homosexuals as a group," said U.S. District Judge Sandra Brown Armstrong.

She dismissed the government's argument that the policy was necessary to keep military units cohesive, calling it a thinly veiled attempt to justify prejudice.

Armstrong ordered the Guard to reinstate 1st Lt. Andrew Holmes. It was the first time a judge had overturned a discharge under the policy, said Paul Wotman, a lawyer for Holmes. Holmes said he was fighting for "tens of thousands of Gay and Lesbian service members who have served their country with courage and distinction, yet whom the government would willingly toss out because of its collective homophobia."

In June 1993, after President Clinton took office with a promise to eliminate discrimination against gays in the military, Holmes wrote to his commanding officer, saying, "As a matter of conscience, honesty and pride, I am compelled to inform you that I am gay."

Holmes was discharged as a federal officer in October 1994 and as a state National Guard member in January 1995. He did not try to prove that he would refrain from engaging in homosexual conduct, a requirement that Armstrong said was illusory and discriminatory.

Reform Rabbis Approve Same-Sex Marriage

Philadelphia-AP- A group of Reform rabbis has endorsed the legalization of same-sex marriages, but stopped short of recommending that rabbis perform the ceremonies. The 1,750-member Central Conference of American Rabbis is the first major group of Jewish leaders to formally oppose government bans on same-sex marriages.

"As Jews, and specifically in the reform movement, we've always expressed concern for those we feel aren't treated fairly," said Rabbi Robert Klensin of Arnold, Maryland, before an overwhelming voice vote.

Rabbi Simeon J. Maslin, the conference president, said the resolution "is a matter of civil rights. It is certainly not connected to any question of rabbinic officiation." Maslin said the organization expects to vote on single-sex marriage officiation at next year's meeting in Denver.

The Central Conference of American Rabbis voted six years ago to accept gay and lesbian rabbis into its ranks. Reform Judaism is the largest and most liberal of the three branches of American Judaism.

Gay Couple Sues Ithaca for Marriage License

Ithaca, NY-AP-The state's stance on same-sex marriages is being challenged by a Gay couple who were denied a marriage license. Toshav and Phillip Storrs have sued New York State and the Ithaca city clerk, who refused to give them a license. The suit, filed in the state Supreme Court, asks that the state be required to show why the couple shouldn't be issued a marriage license and that the city clerk be ordered to re-evaluate their application. The couple applied for a marriage license in May but were turned down by city clerk Julie Holcomb, who cited state law.

In December, the city affirmed Holcomb's decision based largely on a legal opinion given by the state Health Department, which said city clerks should not issue licenses to same-sex couples.

The Ithaca Common Council unanimously approved a resolution in July urging the state to allow marriages between same-sex partners. Joe Mahoney, a spokesman for state Attorney General Dennis Vacco, said the state has not yet received a copy of the lawsuit and couldn't comment.

Holland Set to Allow Gay Marriages

London, England-According to *The Guardian*, the Netherlands is on the verge of becoming the first country in Europe to allow homosexual marriages. A proposal which the Dutch parliament is expected to adopt later this month has the support of most members of the governing coalition parties and would not only give Gay and Lesbian partners the same legal status and benefit rights as heterosexuals, but would also enable them in effect to adopt children.

The government is trying to head off a row by proposing a social contract which stops short of full adoption but, as in Denmark and Sweden, would give equal social security, pension and legal rights.

The plans have divided parliamentarians in a country where liberal attitudes to drugs have caused it to fall out with other European Union states and where doctors also go much further than those elsewhere in practicing euthanasia on incurably ill patients.

Openly Gay Man Wins Congressional Primary

Washington, D.C.-Victory Fund Congressional candidate Rick Zbur made history on March 26th as the first openly Gay non-incumbent to win a contested primary for the U.S. House of Representatives. Environmental attorney and first-time candidate Zbur won the Democratic Primary for California's 38th Congressional District seat, beating out 1994 Democratic Primary winner and 1992 Primary contender, Peter Matthews. Despite blatant Gay-baiting on Matthews' part, Zbur triumphed with 51.15% of the vote. Zbur will face two-term Republican Congressman Stephen Horn in the November 7th general election.

Religious Right Loses Out in California

Los Angeles-Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund hailed the April 9th decision by the California Supreme Court in "Smith v. Fair Employment and Housing Commission" rejecting a landlord's claim that state civil rights laws violated her rights to free exercise of religion. The court ruled that state laws forbidding housing discrimination based on marital status may be enforced against a landlord who told an unmarried couple that she would not rent them a vacant apartment in the complex she owns but does not live in, based on her belief that sex outside of marriage, and "facilitating" such sex is sinful.

"While this case involved a heterosexual couple, the court's decision is particularly important to Lesbians and Gay men," said Clyde Wadsworth, a cooperating attorney for Lambda. "Similar religious freedom claims have been raised across the country in attempts to justify housing and employment discrimination against Lesbians and Gay men, despite state and local laws forbidding such discrimination. The court's ruling makes clear that the state has no interest in sanctioning housing discrimination, even if purportedly rooted in religion."

Dallas Schools Adopt Pro-Gay Policy

Dallas, TX-AP-Dallas school officials have broadened an anti-harassment policy to protect Gay and Lesbian students. The policy was created in response to racist, sexist and anti-Gay comments of former school trustee Dan Peavy that were recorded last year without his knowledge.

When presented to board members, a similar policy covered only racial, ethnic and religious harassment. But the Intercultural Relations Committee was shown a study showing that a third of all teenagers who commit suicide are Lesbian or Gay.

Dave Gleason, a father representing the Dallas chapter of Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, said many Gay and Lesbian students report that the worst harassment they receive comes from teachers.

Vatican Condemns Same-Sex Marriage

Vatican City-AP-The Vatican has appealed to voters not to support politicians who endorse same-sex marriages, such as the mass wedding ceremony for same-sex couple in San Francisco. Moral theologian Gino Concetti wrote in the Vatican's official newspaper Wednesday that same-sex marriages would "undermine the foundation of the family model upon which human civilization was built."

He recalled that Pope John Paul II denounced in 1994 a European Parliament resolution that declared that Lesbian and Gay couples should be allowed to marry and adopt children. The pope said at the time such a development would legitimize "moral disorder."

"If unions of homosexuals are a moral disorder, neither can they ever be legitimate on the legal or civil level," Concetti wrote in *L'Osservatore Romano*.

Also open for "moral censure" is "the action of that citizen, who, with his choice, favors the election of the candidate who has formally promised to translate into law the homosexual demand," he wrote.

PrideFest Philadelphia Glitters With Names

Philadelphia-Several of the most prominent figures in the Gay and Lesbian community will attend PrideFest Philadelphia the weekend of May 3-5, 1996. The nation's birthplace will play host to Olympic swimmer Bruce Hayes, Human Rights Campaign Executive Director Elizabeth Birch, Congressman Barney Frank, Victor Fund Executive Director David Clarenbach, Log Cabin Republicans Executive Director Rich Tafel and Melinda Paras, Executive Director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force.

Frank, Birch, Paras and Tafel will take part in the first annual Gay and Lesbian Leaders Symposium to be held at PrideFest. The Symposium is being billed as the keystone of the affair and will be broadcast nationwide over National Public Radio.

In addition, Clarenbach will host a round table discussion titled "Campaign '96—Why We Need to Elect Our Own."

Clinton Proposes Modest Rise in AIDS Funding

Washington, D.C.-The Clinton Administration's budget for the federal government in fiscal year 1997 proposes increases totaling \$97 million for HIV/AIDS research, prevention and care—a 3% rise over current levels. Human Rights Campaign Senior Health Policy Advocate, Winnie Stachelberg, praised the increase calling it "reflective of the President's commitment to fighting this epidemic."

The budget would increase research programs in the National Institutes of Health by 2%. Prevention programs at the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) would increase 6%. Treatment and care programs under the Ryan White CARE Act would increase by 4%.

There will be no increase for Housing Opportunities for People With AIDS or for the CDC's breast and cervical cancer screening programs. Lesbians are among the Americans at higher risk for those types of cancers.

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Frisco Gay Males to Get Female Condoms

San Francisco-AP- Despite opposition from activists who say they are not a tested method of preventing AIDS, Gay males are being offered female condoms at the San Francisco Health Department as part of an effort to stop the spread of the disease.

Michael Petrelis, head of Americans for Gay Rights, said Thursday, March 7th, that he was worried that the condoms had not been approved by the Food and Drug Administration for anal sex.

The manufacturer, Pharnacal Co. of Wisconsin, did an initial test on 16 gay couples, but never followed up, he said.

Other activists agreed.

"Is it responsible to be actively encouraging Gay men to use a product that is untested? I would argue that no, we should push for more testing," said Ben Schatz, executive director of the Gay and Lesbian Medical Society.

But health authorities say HIV is often spread by anal sex between gay men, and that the condoms could help prevent transmission.

"We'll distribute them anyway. It's our tradition to make whatever we can available to keep HIV from spreading," said nurse Marcy Fraser of the city health department's AIDS project. "Like needle exchange and other things, we'll do it anyway."

Marketed in a white box with a pink female symbol, the large, lubricated latex pouches are designed for women as a tool against pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections such as HIV.

Navy Blocked From Discharging Sailor

Washington, D.C.-AP-A federal judge has ordered the Navy to temporarily stop plans to discharge a female sailor on the grounds that she is a Lesbian. U.S. District Judge Emmet Sullivan granted Amy Barnes, 20, of Jeffersonville, Ind., a 10-day temporary restraining order Friday, saying there is a "strong likelihood" that she will win a lawsuit she filed accusing the Navy of conducting a "witch hunt" for Lesbian sailors. Barnes contends the Navy violated its "don't ask, don't tell" policy on Gays in the military by launching an investigation of her after hearing rumors that circulated after she rebuffed a male sailor's sexual advances. Under the policy, military officers can begin investigating only after receiving credible information.

Osburn said the judge's order gives Barnes' lawyers and the Navy time to meet on Monday to discuss the court case, possibly working out a schedule that would end the case by June. Both sides plan to file motions asking the judge for summary judgments, he said.

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Editor's Note

"Wisconsin Light" Is On-Line

Wisconsin Light has, they tell me, entered the "brand new age." I'm more than a little tempted to agree with them.

For one thing, I've been "serfing" on the Internet and believe me, it's an exhilarating experience. I can send a letter to my brother in Greece—and hear back from him a half hour later! (After 20 years of total silence between us, it feels good.)

I can talk to someone in Bangkok, take a tour of High Renaissance art on exhibit in the British Museum, check in on an archeological dig in Israel, find out if Keanu Reeves is Gay (no one knows for sure), and check out a number of Gay publications world-wide—and all at one sitting.

Back a number of years ago, when I'd been bitten by the "travel bug," I went out to explore the world. That kind of thing tends to bring your own culture and country into some perspective. You lose your parochialism rather quickly.

I thought I would never have that experience again, but I was wrong.

There are millions of people out there, Gay people, straight people, in every country of the world, on-line. They are Americans, Japanese, Africans, Europeans, Mexicans, East Indians, all kinds. Once again I have found out that our boundaries of nation and religion are mainly secondary, very secondary, to the interests that unite us.

Currently, many of the world's governments (including the U.S.) are trying to regulate this flow. Religious Right Wingers of every stripe are trying to as well. And why not?

They've got to try and get control of this free-flowing information and exchange or their control is done.

Perhaps I'm being a bit Jeffersonian about it, but I firmly believe that once people start talking to one another, it fairly quickly becomes unimportant (relegated to a matter of curiosity) if you're from Milwaukee or Madison or Paris, Jakarta or New Delhi.

There is a Gay movement going on all over this world, but it is, I think, a movement that is going to be part—and perhaps already is—of a world that will be both diverse, yet more unified than ever before.

There are differences, deep differences, that divide us, and there will always be differences. But unless I miss my guess, with the passage of time, those chasms are going to be

(to use a word I hate) "bridged."

There is a terror in the Right Wing over this that has thrown them into a frenzy—Stop same-sex marriage!, Make English the "official" language! Etc. Their beloved barriers and boundaries are breaking down. There's a whole new culture growing up out there and they don't have the vehicle—or the guts—to understand it.

But enough of this. **Wisconsin Light** is expanding. While still currently "under construction," when shortly we finish, we will be able to do everything except the actual printing of the paper "in house." Right now, 90% of that is possible.

What wonderful equipment it is. As mysterious in its workings as the machinations of the Byzantine Court, but it works.

For example, we have a new and far more efficient fax machine. No more losing any of the faxes as once was the case.

We are also increasing our press run. We know down to the last copy what the various distribution sites can handle and the need is there. That is why we are expanding our distribution both in Wisconsin and out-of-state.

We have a new e-mail address due to the fact that we were the high bidder at the Make A Promise Silent Auction. That will be through Mix Communications.

However, we are in the process of change-over. For the next couple of days, please use wlight@execpec.com. The change-over is more complicated than I thought.

Wisconsin Light is on-line at Gayuniverse. This is a Gay-owned company based here in Milwaukee. The address is:

<http://www.gayuniverse.com/>

Check them out. They're really great people to do business with.

So there are all those changes and more on the way. Some things however, will not change.

For example, we have no intention of replacing our coverage of AIDS with "crossword puzzles" as one person suggested. We have no intention of "lightening up."

There is one final word.

Jerry and I would like to say thank you to a dear and special friend who saw us through the rough parts of all this computer business and continues to be a "guardian angel." His name must be anonymous, but he is deeply loved.

damaging what appeared to be our first real chance of electing an open Lesbian.

Nevertheless, we felt that to put our heads in the sand in this fashion would have been irresponsible.

Inherent in that suggestion is the implication that we should stop at nothing to elect the first openly Lesbian or Gay public official, that Lesbian and Gay candidates should be held to a lesser standard than heterosexual candidates, and that Lesbians and Gays should never acknowledge that others in the community may have serious flaws.

Log Cabin felt that it was necessary to break the "code of silence" which surrounded the Gatzler campaign for the good of the community. While most people suspect that politicians are dishonest, we possessed clear evidence that this candidate had misled us, and we felt that members of the community should know that they might be misled by her as well.

In addition, we were deeply concerned that Karen would provide a poor role model for the Lesbian and Gay community, and project the wrong image about our community to the larger community.

We have heard Tammy Baldwin state that openly Lesbian and Gay elected officials have to hold themselves to a higher standard than heterosexual elected officials because they are held to a higher standard by the general public. That this is true is an unfortunate reality.

Even the mere appearance of impropriety can be blown out of proportion by those who are hostile and even by those who are supportive.

We ourselves heard liberal, Gay supportive heterosexuals express disdain at the prospect of voting for Karen after the second article appeared—we can only speculate about how non-supportive people felt.

Our heterosexual allies were asking us how we could expect them to vote for Karen, and we ultimately had to respond that we could not expect them to vote for her.

Moreover, several members of our organization had heard rumors indicating that the press report was merely the tip of the iceberg. We felt that Karen's election would actually do more harm than good for the Lesbian and Gay community, and because we care about the community, we felt compelled to speak out.

While others may not believe that our concerns were valid, they should be able to understand that we felt compelled to speak out to protect the community because we believed our concerns to be valid.

While we too want to see an openly Lesbian or Gay elected official in Milwaukee, we find it difficult to believe that it will ever be possible unless the Lesbian and Gay community can unite around a strong candidate with integrity who does not carry excess "baggage".

Our critics have charged that we may have been responsible for Karen's defeat by persuading enough members of the Lesbian and Gay community to vote against her or to stay at home.

However, they forget that if their charge is true, there are many others in the community who shared our concerns. Until these same critics stop expecting everyone in the community to support their "anointed" candidates (be they Gay or heterosexual) regardless of the political views or the character of those candidates, we will never be able to achieve the unity necessary to obtain a seat of our own at the table in Milwaukee.

Letters

Vote for Kim Plache

TO THE EDITOR:

The Racine Senate recall election of George Petak should be of great interest to those of us committed to human rights.

As you know, the Republicans have a one vote majority and are able to block our agenda.

Petak has been a strong anti-choice member of the Legislature and he is opposed to Gay and Lesbian rights.

His Democratic opponent, Kim Plache, a Democratic Assembly member, has been a strong proponent of human rights.

For example, in 1990, Plache courageously wrote a letter to the University of Wisconsin Board of Regents urging that ROTC be removed from UW-Madison because ROTC discriminates against Gays and Lesbians. This was reported in the *Wisconsin State Journal* on February 1, 1990.

Plache, and 15 of her progressive colleagues, called ROTC discrimination—and the UW's condoning of the discrimination—"both appalling and unconscionable."

As a Gay man forced into the closet in the U.S. Navy at Great Lakes, I will be quietly working for Kim's election.

I hope you will do whatever you can to spread the word that Kim is a pro-choice, pro-human rights candidate. We have a chance to make a real progressive change in Wisconsin.

Name Withheld on Request



Deadlines

Copy deadline for the April 25th issue is April 19th.

Ad deadline for the April 25th issue is April 23rd.

Copy deadline for the May 9th issue is May 5th.

Ad deadline for the May 9th issue is May 7th.

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Speaking From the Right

An Open Letter to Our Critics Lesbian and Gay Candidates Must be Held to The Same or Higher Standards as Others

Commentary by James McFarland
and Scott Evertz

It has become apparent that many in the Lesbian and Gay community do not understand Log Cabin's decision to withdraw its endorsement of Karen Gatzler for Alderwoman.

Some have also criticized Log Cabin for sending a press release to the *Wisconsin Light* and the *Milwaukee Journal/Sentinel* (the latter did not carry the story prior to the election) rather than "quietly" withdrawing our endorsement.

While we would have preferred to move on and leave this difficult situation behind, we feel compelled to offer an explanation.

While Karen's responses during an extensive initial interview indicated that she was not a fiscal conservative, we nevertheless chose to endorse her mainly because of our belief in the value of having openly Lesbian and Gay people of integrity elected to public office.

Men and women of integrity like Congressman Steve Gunderson and Representative Tammy Baldwin serve as important role models to Lesbian and Gay youth, encourage others to come out, and show the general population that Lesbians and Gays can serve their communities and their nation with honor.

It should be recognized that we did not withdraw our endorsement after the first *Journal/Sentinel* article stated that prosecutors had alleged that Karen's music company was a shell designed to launder her brother's alleged drug money.

Rather, two of our board members interviewed Karen again and asked if there was anything else that might come out about her involvement in her brother's alleged trafficking of illegal drugs. She said no, and she said nothing about any agreement to testify against her brother.

The *Journal/Sentinel* subsequently reported that at her brother's change of plea

hearing, the Assistant U.S. Attorney stated that Karen was willing to testify that she had driven a shipment of marijuana up from Florida for her brother.

We were, frankly, shell-shocked regarding this revelation because she had told us nothing about this when we had specifically asked about it.

Again, we did not immediately withdraw our endorsement, but we decided to ask for responses to our questions in writing.

We asked specifically why she had failed to inform us of this prosecutor's statement at the plea hearing in our previous interview, and we asked her to provide any corroborating evidence she had to show that the prosecutor was mistaken.

She failed to provide an explanation at all as to why she did not inform us of this plea hearing statement, and she failed to provide any corroborating evidence, acknowledging that it was essentially her word against the word of the prosecutor.

There were several other responses she gave in our first interview with her that we had thought were questionable, but we chose to give her the benefit of the doubt.

After the second interview and the subsequent press report, we could no longer give her the benefit of the doubt.

We chose to withdraw our endorsement because (a) we felt we had been deliberately misled, (b) we are greatly concerned about the impact of illegal drugs and many found morally offensive the notion of supporting someone who was even alleged to have participated in drug trafficking, and (c) we had heard rumors that there might be even more which could come out about this incident after the election, and we were deeply concerned that such a result would be very damaging to the Lesbian and Gay community.

We know that some in the community had the same concerns about Karen and privately hoped that she would not win the election as a result, but chose to say nothing for fear of

Victory Fund Head, David Clarenbach, Meets with President Clinton

Washington, DC—The Executive Director of the Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund, David Clarenbach, met with President Clinton on March 31st and urged him to appeal vigorously to the Gay community to support his re-election.

Clarenbach, a former member of the Wisconsin State Assembly, met with Clinton for 90 minutes to encourage the President's continued strong support for issues of concern to Lesbians and Gay men across the country.

"The Clinton Administration can be proud of the progress in anti-discrimination efforts and significant funding increases in our fight against AIDS," Clarenbach said.

"While there have been disappointments, especially on issues like Gays in the military, we ought not lose sight of what is at stake in this year's Presidential race," Clarenbach said. "Clinton recognizes the diversity in our society as our country's greatest asset, whereas Senator Dole's campaign theme is to divide America, pitting one group against another."

At the meeting, Clinton spoke passionately about his record on social issues, stating it is "a record to build on, not to sit on," Clarenbach reported.

Clarenbach told *Light* that "never" had he seen a man so focused, as Clinton is. He said that Clinton understands the LesBiGay struggle

for equal rights and is "dedicated" to that fight.

Clarenbach said that he urged the President to work "to bring America together, and to stand up to the politics of hate."

Clarenbach praised Clinton's historic endorsement of the federal Gay rights bill, the first sitting President to publicly support job anti-discrimination legislation.

Clarenbach also noted the President's funding increases for AIDS initiatives, particularly in research and treatment for people with HIV infection.

Clarenbach said that he told the President "You enhanced the visibility of our fight against AIDS by making special note of your commitment during the State of the Union address in January. Please continue to include Lesbians and Gay men in the mosaic of American society."

Clarenbach told *Light* that Clinton responded "very firmly" that he intended to do just exactly that.

This was Clarenbach's third meeting with the President since becoming head of the Victory Fund last summer.

The Victory Fund is a non-partisan political action committee that supports openly Gay and Lesbian candidates seeking office in local, state and national campaigns.



David Clarenbach, head of the Victory Fund, shakes hands with Bill Clinton, the President of the United States at a recent meeting between the two at the White House.

ARCW and Log Cabin Lead Efforts to Regulate Viatical Settlements

Milwaukee—On Thursday, March 28th, the Wisconsin State Senate acted decisively to approve SB621, a bill to regulate the selling of life insurance policies, known as viatical settlements. Since the inception of the industry in the late '80's, nearly 90% of the life insurance policies sold were to people with HIV disease and AIDS. The 33-0 vote sets the stage for final action on the bill in the Assembly during the May floor session.

The AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin (ARCW), working closely with the Log Cabin Republicans (LCR) and a diverse group of business interests, created a broad bipartisan group of legislators supporting the legislation. Critical leadership on the legislation came from long-time supporters of the AIDS community, Sen. Peggy Rosenzweig (R-Wauwatosa), Rep. Scott Jensen (R-Waukesha), and Rep. Tammy Baldwin (D-Madison).

"We worked hard with legislators from across the political spectrum to achieve consensus on this bill," said Doug Nelson ARCW's Executive Director. "The Log Cabin Republicans were particularly helpful in lining up the support of many key Republicans as co-sponsors of the bill."

The Assembly bill, authored by Jensen, was co-sponsored by 46 of the 99 members of the Assembly.

"Twenty-two Republicans, joining 24 Democrats as co-sponsors of the Assembly bill demonstrates the significant support we built for this legislation," said Nelson. The Senate bill, authored by Rosenzweig, had ten additional co-sponsors, five from each political party.

"Final passage of the bill in the Senate was due to Sen. Rosenzweig's effective leader-

ship, resulting in last minute scheduling of the bill on the floor calendar just hours after committee approval," Nelson said.

Key Components of the Bill

The legislation provides State licensure of viatical settlement providers and brokers including requiring "above the board operations," background checks and access to financial records of people in the viatical settlement industry.

Consumer protection components include:

- Minimum payout amounts based on the face value of the insurance policy;
- Disclosure of the impact of a settlement on the policyholder's medical assistance or other State assistance and on third party creditors;
- Rescind options to allow for the reversal of the action within a reasonable time period;
- Complete exemption from State taxation to maximize the amount of the viatical settlement available to the person with a terminal illness.

The Senate's action came at the end of a lobbying process that began last summer. Nelson said that with Jensen's leadership, he was confident of a favorable Assembly vote.

Gay Alumni Council to Hold LGBT Graduation Reception

Madison—The Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual Alumni Council of the Wisconsin Alumni Association, the Dean of Students Office, and The Student Organization Office are hosting the third annual LGBT Graduation Reception, Sunday, April 28th, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the Lee Lounge, Wisconsin Center (702 Langdon St.).



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Wet Fun Flavors, Hot Giveaway At BestD Clinic

Milwaukee—There's a bonus to picking up your HIV antibody test results at BestD Clinic. For a limited time and while supplies last, every Lesbian, Gay man, Bisexual, Transgendered or Transsexual person will get a free gift when they come to BestD Clinic for their HIV result.

They will be among the first to try out one of the new "wet fun flavors." The 6.5 ounce bottle of moisturizing lotion comes in eight flavors: tropical fruit, mango-orange, cinnamon, cherry, passion fruit, kiwi strawberry, pina colada and guava-pineapple.

The new product is condom compatible and has a glycerin and water base. Rub it and it gets hot; blow on it and it gets hotter. The use of "wet fun flavors" is only limited by erotic imagination.

To get your free 6.5 ounce of "wet fun flavors" moisturizing lotion:

1. Get an anonymous HIV antibody test at BestD Clinic, 1240 E. Brady Street (Call (414) 272-2144 for an appointment), or at any one of the BestD outreach clinics at your favorite bar or club;
2. Pick up your results at BestD Clinic and ask for your free gift. (This includes an old result that you forgot to pick up.)
3. Have a great time with your sexual partner.

For more information or an appointment, call BestD Clinic at (414) 272-2144.

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CALDO DE PESCADO—Fish soup.....	\$8.50
CAMARON A LA DIABLA—Shrimp cooked with a special red hot sauce, Mexican fries and salad.....	\$12.00
ENCHILADAS DE MAR—3 per order—shrimp, crab and special sauce on top. Served with rice and beans.....	\$9.50
SHRIMP FAJITAS—Grilled shrimp, onions, tomatoes, green chile peppers, sour cream, guacamole, rice and beans.....	\$13.50
MINI COMBINACIONES.....	\$4.75

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Even as Ad Revenues Increase, Many Gay Publications Find it Impossible to Survive

By Keith Clark

The past year or two have not, despite mainstream media reports to the contrary, been especially good to the Gay press in the United States—and all indications seem to suggest that things are headed for an even rougher patch to come.

Newer as well as established papers around the country have gone belly up at an alarming rate recently, and others also are believed to be in at least shaky condition with flat circulations and continuing difficulties locating and securing new advertisers while costs spiral upward.

From smaller, new papers like **Preferred Stock** in Denver, to long-established periodicals like the **San Francisco Sentinel**, **Equal Time** in Minneapolis, and San Diego's **Bravo**, the journalistic graveyard has recently become crowded with ex-publications.

Several other prominent papers also are reportedly up for sale, and several publications have begun cutting back on either their press runs or the number of pages they publish—or both.

Yet, according to a study released late in 1995 by Mulryan/Nash, a media research and consulting firm in Manhattan, advertising revenues in the Gay press increased by more than 16 percent to a record high of \$61.6 million, outstripping ad increases in mainstream magazines and daily newspapers, as well as other target population print media, such as Hispanic and African American publications.

Moreover, the Mulryan/Nash survey of 96 U.S. Gay publications concluded in a veritable dither of optimism: "As Gay newspapers and magazines continue to increase circulation and mainstream businesses discover their effectiveness, page counts and ad revenues should climb steeply."

The two seemingly conflicting pieces of information may not in fact contradict each other, however. New publications are always risky business ventures of course, and even established papers can make miscalculations, mistakes and missteps that can be fatal.

But the noticeable number of Gay papers that have gone bust or are believed to be having troubles in the midst of this reported advertising boomlet can't be explained entirely by editorial blunders.

Money Troubles

Money, of course, is the root of much of this trouble. And one of the biggest sources of all this financial difficulty has been and continues to be the skyrocketing prices of printing itself.

The costs of newsprint rose between 40 and 50 percent in 1995 and are already slated to jump at least another 30 percent in early 1996.

The price increases have been so staggering in fact that late last year the U.S. Justice Department announced it was investigating possible anti-trust price-fixing practices in the newsprint industry.

No matter what the Justice Department may or may not find as a result of its investigation, though, it isn't likely to help Gay and Lesbian publishers present or past in their struggles to make it through

tough times. But paper prices alone don't explain the recent demises and current shakiness of so many publications.

In examining their own mortality, publications like Minneapolis' **Equal Time** and the **San Francisco Sentinel** have pointed to such problems as rising costs, of course.

But they have also acknowledged (implicitly if not always explicitly) some poor fundamental corporate workings as well, such as expanding too rapidly, being unable to collect advertising revenues effectively, and a basic failure to adhere to accepted business methods in analyzing cost-related decisions.

Others, however, have been less forthcoming or clear. When San Diego's **Bravo** folded two years ago, for example, the publisher vaguely alluded to personal tax problems and his decision to return to school.

But as cryptic as the explanation for **Bravo's** demise was, it may in fact point to a major underlying problem our publications often face: Many are inextricably linked to the personal lives of their publishers, rather than set up as fairly independent corporations.

There may be nothing surprising about this, especially considering the fairly small size of most of our newspapers. But this dependence of a publication on the publisher's personal life means some

papers are prone to sudden, unanticipated, lurching changes—not exactly the most advantageous business environment imaginable.

Chris Thomas, publisher of the San Jose, Calif.-based **OutNOW** and its companion **East Bay OutNow** newspaper, puts it this way: "To navigate the economic waters these days requires a business sense, knowing for instance how many pages you can afford to print, how much color you can afford to use."

"And if publishers are just throwing out issues without considering those factors—be it a 6-page newsletter or a 48-page paper in San Francisco with a 4-color cover published by a

bar owner—there's not much forgiveness in the industry anymore. You can't make too many mistakes and expect to stay in business."

Jim Thomas, the managing editor of the St. Louis-based **News-Telegraph**, agrees. "Our publications are just not very well managed, and I think consequently publications all over the country have very shallow financial depth."

Uncertain Future

No one knows exactly where these recent problems in the country's Gay and Lesbian press is leading, of course, but some moves already being experimented with present themselves as possible alternatives:

Less locally-focused papers and more regionally-oriented publications: While the **Gay + Lesbian Times** is clearly a San Diego-based paper, its expansion—both in terms of distribution and reporting—up Southern California to embrace Los Angeles, where it also now has offices, is paralleled by a few other newspapers. The **Texas Triangle** is headquartered in Austin, for example, but it also has an office in Houston where it distributes heavily as well.

The **News-Telegraph** has offices in St. Louis and in Kansas City, giving it a news and ad base that reaches into Illinois, Nebraska, Kansas and adjacent states in the country's sprawling heartland.

Modified editions targeting nearby local areas: **OutNow** has recently begun publishing somewhat modified versions on alternating weeks, one that is aimed at the San Jose, Calif., area, and an **East Bay OutNow** that targets the Oakland region. While much of the inside of the two editions remains the same, the outside cover pages are changed to reflect the more specific communities served.

Let 'em Die

Another alternative (although not many people like to hear about it) is simply the weeding out of Gay publications that aren't cutting it in a sometimes unforgiving market.

If Cincinnati, or New Orleans, Milwaukee or Salt Lake City, for example, can't support a Gay newspaper sufficiently for it to keep afloat, then so be it; those cities will just have to survive somehow without any local press until market (and cultural/political) forces there change adequately.

But for a press that's rooted, however distantly, in community and political activism, the complete collapse of any of our newspapers—whether in Minneapolis or in Memphis—should be seen at least as a general barometer reading of which way the winds are blowing for the movement and community at large.

So far, the weather map has shown some highly unsettled gusts recently.

Rainbow Community Collective Schedule

The Rainbow Community Collective is a Madison social network that promotes togetherness and community—unifying Lesbians, Gays, Bisexuals, Transgenders and friends in the spirit of fun.

Change in Meeting Time/Place

The Rainbow Community Collective has outgrown the space originally offered to us by The United. In fact, thanks to a tremendous turnout (23 people) at the very first meeting, we had to find new space for our second gathering.

The Collective will now meet at the **Wil-Mart Neighborhood Center** (953 Jenifer Street, Madison) on the second and fourth **Thursday** (not Wednesday) of each month from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

The first half of every meeting is devoted to organization and planning fundraisers and social events; the second is a social hour. We plan two group social activities per month and individual members frequently organize other outings during the month.

Upcoming Activities

The Collective's next get-together is planned for Saturday, April 13th, when they will visit Elvejehm Museum and other art exhibits in Madison and have lunch on State Street.

In May the Collective will be taking a trip to scenic Mineral Point.

Dinner parties, picnics, career night (open forum discussion of workplace issues/Gay-friendly companies), and a plan to "take over" a straight bar for a night are in the offing.

For More Information

Everyone Gay-identified or Gay-friendly is welcome to join the Rainbow Community Collective. Lesbian and Bisexual women and Transgendered people are especially encouraged to attend.

For more information, call Rob at (608) 238-9150 or Lira at (608) 244-1473.

Out and About '96

The Ten Percent Society, UW-Madison's LGBT student organization, proudly presents "Out and About-1996, the annual spring LGBT awareness series of noted speakers, entertainers, and films.

All events are free, open to members of the University community, and accessible to people with disabilities. Child care and ASL interpretation are available upon request. Call (608) 262-7365 at least five days prior to an event to arrange for child care or to reserve an ASL interpreter. Please remember that there is no smoking at any indoor events.

Romanovsky and Phillips—Live, In Concert

Saturday, April 20; 9:00 to 11:00 p.m. at the Masonic Temple Auditorium, 301 Wisconsin Avenue.

Sidewalk Chalk Walk of Pride

To honor our LGBT celebrities. You might be surprised to find your favorite author, star, or musician on the sidewalk of pride.

Monday-Friday, April 22-26, all day. Bascom Hill

Brown Bag Lunch Series

This is a four-part series with the theme of "A Question of Equality" that will chronicle the LGBT struggle from rage to respect since Stonewall (Four-part video).

Monday-Thursday, April 22-25, 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the Memorial Union. (Check "Today in the Union" for room.)

State Rep. Tammy Baldwin

Rep. Baldwin will be speaking on "Until Death Do Us Part: the Future of Same-Sex Marriage in Wisconsin" on Monday, April 22nd, from 8:00 to 10:00 p.m. in the Memorial Union. (Check "Today in the Union" for room.)

Spirituality/Sexuality: Conflict or Harmony?

A panel discussion by LGBT-affirming religious leaders. Tuesday, April 23rd, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. in the Memorial Union. (Check "Today in the Union" for room.)

Blue Jeans Day

Wear blue jeans if you're Queer! Wednesday, April 24th, all day. Everywhere!

LGBT Picnic

Out and About on the Library Mall. Great food, great tunes, great fun. Wednesday, April 24th, 1:00 p.m. to whenever. Library Mall.

Women's Film Night

Hot action by women! *B.D. Women; Coconut/Crime & Cutlass; Greetings from Africa; Sex Fish/Sex Bowl/Fingers & Kisses/Coming Home, Came Out, It Rained, Went Back in Again, and Daughters of Dykes.*

Wednesday, April 24th, 8:00 to 10:00 p.m. in the Memorial Union. (Check "Today in the Union" for room.)

Men's Film Night

Fast moves by men! *The Space Between Our Bodies; Queerdom; The Dead Boys Club; Live to Tell; Twin Cheeks; Who Killed the Homecoming King?; Raising Nicholas; Prague; Boys' Life.*

Thursday, April 25th, 8:00 to 10:00 p.m. in Frederick March Play Circle in the Memorial Union.

Out and About Dance

DJ, cash bar, and this one's FREE! Friday, April 26th, 8:00 p.m. to 12:15 a.m. in the Great Hall of the Memorial Union.

Reception for Graduating LGBT Students

Sunday, April 28th, 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in Lee Lounge, Wisconsin Center

Government Attempts to Censor the Internet Will Bring Harm To all Youth

Commentary by Patricia Nell Warren

As the Communications Decency Act (CDA) lawsuit moves through hearings in Philadelphia (as reported in *Light*, last issue), the Justice Department (DOJ) and many in the media are missing the real issue here.

Even President Clinton is missing it — as he revealed in his recent letter to Senator Exon, in which he expressed public support of CDA-type censorship.

The real issue is not "protecting kids from porn." Parents and schools can already "protect kids from porn" if they use available software.

The real issue is whether or not young people under 18 will be allowed free speech on the Net.

It is about whether minors will have access to all the positive, lifesaving and vital information on the Internet that might be viewed as "controversial" by some.

When even our Democratic President panders for Right Wing votes by supporting CDA censorship, the youth of America have some scary sledding ahead.

So far, the media and the DOJ have ignored several affidavits filed by concerned young people. These kids say they have a problem with the government's plan to censor the Internet. They see clearly that the real issue is not "protecting kids from porn."

Kit O'Connell, 17, a co-creator of "furryMUCKS," tells how a censorship panic locked him out of the very online community that he helped create. Rheana Parrenas, 16, Christine Soto, 18, and Hunter Allen, 17, tell how they will be denied free expression, as well as info on AIDS, safer sex, suicide prevention, prison life, youth activism — all vital to straight and Gay youth alike.

Though we adult plaintiffs have done lots of interviews, the four young people have been ignored. They were neither deposed by the DOJ, or called as witnesses in the hearings. They're "just kids," right?

I agree with the kids. The real purpose of the CDA is not to keep 8-year-olds out of Bianca's Smut Shack. It is to inject direct government scrutiny and law enforcement into the nation's school districts, now going online.

It is to keep minors from using school computers to go out of their communities, even out of their countries, to access online libraries, archives, etc. where they might perchance find books, song lyrics, reference works, that local censors manage to remove from local school and public-library shelves.

It is about destroying the anonymity that young people have always needed in their hungry search for real-life information.

News-watchers who follow the school-district uproars about sex ed, Gay clubs and

other issues, will shortly see the growing district uproars over Internet use.

As more school papers and college radio stations fall under heavy censorship, as parents with narrow views demand to control school policy, the young people themselves are stepped over. Nobody asks what they think, or how they feel, about this burden that is being laid on them. "We know what's best for you, dears."

Yet if the CDA is found constitutional, minors will face the same heavy penalties as adults for violations of the Act. Two years in federal prison and a \$250,000 fine for a 17-year-old boy who hacks into the **Playboy** site? For a girl who uses a school computer to download a gif on safer condom use?

Gee, isn't this a bit excessive? Dan White did only five years for murdering two human beings, one the mayor of San Francisco. How much stiffer will penalties get, in this growing fanaticism to "control kids" and "get tough on crime"?

I have not forgotten being a kid in the 1950s, reading my way through books forbidden by my local high school and the Catholic Church. Hard-core pornography was around, but I wasn't interested in it.

Like most kids of my time, I WAS interested in books that were controversial, boldly questioning. The very existence of the Index of Forbidden Books, and threats of hellfire for reading it, caused this Montana teenager to lose all respect for the censors.

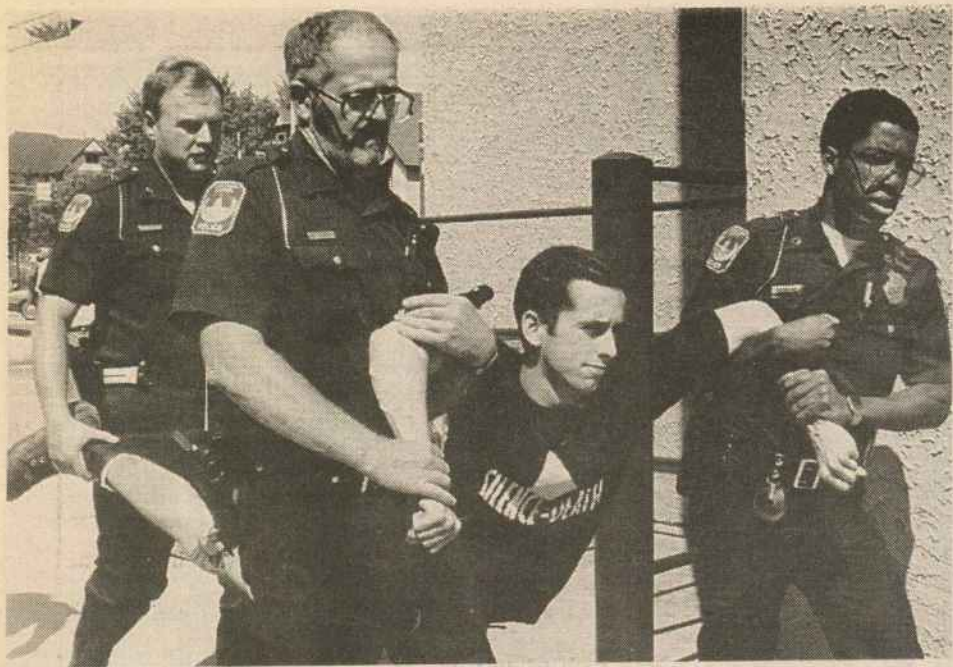
I didn't have to be old enough to vote, to see that censorship is not about protection of youth—it is about control of youth. If the CDA had been around in those days, I might have gone to jail for handing a copy of to a dormitory friend!

Abelard got in trouble with the church, not only because he was a priest writing love letters to a nun, but because he had controversial views.

Today, CDA enforcement will probably not dent the hard-core porno business, which always thrives in times of repression. But the CDA will definitely dent the student's freedom to learn. It will limit the student's access to the equivalent of Abelard's Letters—to the questioning, controversial stuff that is the very life of a dynamic culture. It will definitely dent the minor student's right to speak out on sensitive issues.

Most dangerous of all, enforcement of the CDA will cause the smart kids to lose respect for the government. And they will lose respect for all adults who support this kind of punitive and suffocating law.

Editor's Note: The writer is the author of arguably the most famous Gay book ever written, **Front Runner**.



Dan Savage is taken into custody by Madison police in September, 1991, after he protested the inhumane treatment being accorded prisoners with HIV disease in the Wisconsin penal system.

Dan Savage, Former Madison ACT UP Activist, May be a GOP Delegate

By Randel Shard

Savage love will meet medieval politics when Dan Savage, author of the sex advice column, "Savage Love," goes as a delegate to the Republican convention in King County, Washington.

Savage initially suggested that he might attend the King County GOP convention in drag, but now says he'll probably dress as a man. In full drag, he stands 7 feet, 5 inches tall in spike heels, a foot tall hairpiece and a hat.

In his column he wrote that he hoped to either steer the Republicans to the left or help push them so far to the right that they will be rejected by most voters. Savage, 31, also has a late Sunday talk show on KCMU-FM, a University of Washington station.

Savage was the only voter who registered as a Republican in his precinct during the caucuses. At first, GOP officials said he might have registered incorrectly, but later party officials said he had completed the right forms and is a legitimate delegate.

"I'm not going to walk in there with dynamite strapped to my body or anything," Savage said. "If they try to keep me out, I will show up in drag. If they think there's publicity now, wait till they try to drag a 7 foot, 5 drag queen out. That'll be publicity!"

"I can either come as a boy, and they can play nice, or if they're going to be jerks about it, I'll come as a girl and play dirty."

And Savage knows how to play dirty. He spent a year in Madison, where he said, "I was running ACT UP and dogging Tommy Thompson."

Savage worked on prison issues.

"The Wisconsin prison system had murdered people with HIV in the prison system," Savage said. One prisoner, Donald Woods,

died when guards were moving him from one cell to another.

"They shoved a towel down his throat while they strapped him in," Savage said. "They claimed they had to do it because they feared he'd spit on them and give them AIDS. HIV education for guards was never implemented, so he died."

In another case, a doctor ordered nutritional supplements for a patient in prison, but "he got just an extra peanut butter and jelly sandwich."

"So we delivered a PB&J a day to Tommy's office for a year," Savage said.

"The argument was 'Why do you give a shit? After all, Woods was a rapist.'"

But, Savage said, "If the prison system is free to murder anyone with HIV, who knows what could happen to you?"

"The state has to be held to a high level of accountability when handling someone with medical conditions. Wisconsin doesn't have a death penalty, not even for prisoners with HIV."

"We kicked his (Thompson's) ass and were successful," Savage said. "The papers covered it as long as we were doing glamorous actions."

But, he said, the papers never followed what came after.

"So it appeared that the problem was never solved, but it was," Savage said.

The King County convention is at the end of May.

"Some Republicans want to see that I get sent on to the state. Maybe I'll get elected to be a delegate to the national convention. And come November, I'll vote for Bill Clinton, because I may be a Republican now, but I'm not a moron."

Same-Sex Marriage Continues to be The Hot Button Issue Around the Country

Milwaukee—No matter where you look, in Arkansas, or Idaho, Georgia or Hawaii, same-sex marriage continues to be the hot button issue in state legislatures, on the campuses and in the streets.

In Hawaii, which most observers think will become the first state to legalize same-sex unions, Right Wing opponents are outspending supporters 5-1 in frantic effort to stop what seems to be the inevitable.

As part of this effort, Hawaii's three living former governors have added their voices to those who support a state constitutional amendment banning same-sex marriages.

Democrats John Waihee and George Ariyoshi and Republican William Quinn have all issued statements supporting the position of the anti-same-sex marriage group, Hawaii's Future Today.

The religious extremist group has begun an aggressive lobbying campaign urging the state Senate Judiciary Committee to consider a bill that would put a constitutional ban on gay marriages to Hawaii voters in the fall.

As reported in *Light*, the state House already passed such a measure, but the Senate Judiciary Committee rejected the idea earlier in the session.

Ariyoshi said Hawaii has been at the forefront of expanding civil rights in the United States, and said that tolerance has extended to same-sex relationships. But he added, "It is one thing to tolerate this practice but quite another to involve (Hawaii residents) and seek our approval of this practice."

The constitutional ban is being proposed as a way to offset possible court action later this year legalizing gay marriages in Hawaii.

While ultra-conservative and Religious Right forces view same-sex marriage in a moral light, opponents call it a matter of civil rights.

That point is being emphasized by the Hawaii Equal Rights Marriage Project, the key

mover behind the pro-same-sex marriage campaign.

"Civil rights should never be left to the majority," said Tom Ramsey, co-director of the project. "The point of civil rights is to defend unpopular minorities."

In Arizona

Family values have helped defeat a proposal to ban same-sex marriages in Arizona.

Rep. David Farnsworth, R-Snowflake, attempted to revive a measure that would have denied government recognition of same-sex marriages.

Although Arizona does not issue marriage licenses to same-sex couples, it does recognize marriages performed in other states.

Farnsworth said his proposal would have ensured Arizona isn't forced to recognize same-sex marriages because of a court ruling in another state.

But lawmakers never got a chance to vote on the measure.

Rep. Ken Chevront, D-Phoenix, successfully replaced it with a proposal that would assert the state's policy is to "promote strong families ... and strong family values."

Farnsworth called the substitute proposal a cloak. "The Chevront amendment is a smokescreen and everyone knows it," he said.

In Alaska

With little debate the Alaskan Senate passed a bill that would allow employers to offer greater benefits to married employees and workers who are parents.

Rep. Pete Kelly, a Fairbanks Republican, introduced the bill in response to a decision in a case filed by two University of Alaska employees with same-sex partners.

A Fairbanks judge last year ruled in favor of the employees, finding the university's health-care plan discriminatory. The court gave the university system the option of providing the same benefits for employees' domestic partners as are provided to workers' spouses.

Georgia Governor Zell Miller made his state the fourth in the nation to explicitly prevent same-sex couples from marrying. Miller signed into law a bill similar to ones in Utah and Idaho.

In Kansas, similar legislation is now making its way to the Governor's desk after it was passed by the state Senate in the last week in March.

In other recent marriage legislation developments, Kentucky activists were victorious in having an anti-marriage amendment withdrawn from an unrelated bill.

According to the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF), 8 states currently face legislation intended to ban same-sex marriage. Those states are Alabama, California, Florida, Hawaii, Illinois, Oklahoma, South Carolina and Tennessee.

Anti-marriage measures in 13 states have been withdrawn or defeated.

Along with Arizona and Kentucky, they are Colorado, Iowa, Maryland, Maine, Mississippi, New Mexico, Rhode Island, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia and Wyoming.

Correction

Oshkosh—The UW-Oshkosh AIDS Walk is Sunday, April 14th, not April 16th as stated in their press release and printed in the last issue of *Wisconsin Light*.

As reported, the Walk will begin at 6:00 p.m. behind the University Bookstore on Algoma Boulevard. Everyone is encouraged to attend.

For further information, call Yvette Bode at (414) 424-4873.

A-Choice Welcomes LAMMEF as New Member Agency

Milwaukee—A-Choice, Milwaukee's fastest growing workplace giving federation, is proud to welcome five new member agencies.

Included among the five is the Lesbian Alliance of Metro Milwaukee Education Fund (LAMMEF). LAMMEF's main focus is to educate, advance and promote equal rights for Lesbians and Gay persons of all races and abilities.

The other new member agencies are: Woodland Pattern Book Center, the Foster Care Review Board, the Wisconsin Citizen Education Fund, and the Wisconsin Coalition



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Women With HIV/AIDS Live in Fear, Shame and Isolation, Conference is Told

Washington, D.C.—Across the United States, more and more women are getting AIDS and finding themselves having to cope with it all alone, counselors in New York, Chicago and San Francisco say.

Although the number of reported cases of AIDS and the virus that causes it has grown dramatically among women in the past decade, many female victims aren't finding support networks.

"They are just incredibly isolated," said the Rev. Leslie Penrose, who works with AIDS victims in Oklahoma City through the United Methodist Community of Hope. "Very rarely do I meet a woman with AIDS who knows another woman with AIDS."

A conference held Tuesday, April 2nd at the University of Tulsa addressed some of the special issues affecting female AIDS victims and their families. Mary Fisher, an HIV-positive mother who delivered a moving speech at the 1992 Republican National Convention, was the featured speaker.

The way the disease affects men and women differs, said several AIDS educators who attended with the conference.

Early symptoms in women often go unrecognized because health care providers do not consider them at risk. They often miss out on the benefits of early care and treatment.

"If we look at the increases, it's audiences that have not been targeted as heavily or audiences thinking it's a Gay male disease, it's a male disease, period, it's a somebody-other-than-me disease," said Darnette Russell-Geren, education coordinator for Regional AIDS Interfaith Network in Tulsa.

Many women also do not consider themselves at risk or recognize the symptoms, she

said. One symptom of HIV in women is recurring yeast infections, which many women treat with over-the-counter products.

Penrose said the disease appears to be expanding the diversity of its victims. She knows HIV-infected women at all socioeconomic levels, from corporate executives to prostitutes.

"The majority contracted it through heterosexual sex with a trusted partner," she said, "many times with a partner who did not know he was HIV infected."

The state Department of Health reported that 17 percent of HIV cases in Oklahoma between January and March 1994 resulted from heterosexual contact. In the same period last year, those cases represented 23 percent of the total.

For female AIDS victims, the disease often brings strong feelings of shame and fear of being deserted by their loved ones, educators say. They may feel betrayed by a trusted partner, and they worry about the impact of the disease on their families and children.

That is one of the reasons women are afraid to talk about the disease in support groups or other public settings, they say.

One Los Angeles woman with AIDS said she decided to attend a support group meeting and was shocked to discover only Gay men there.

"There's no one," said the 33-year-old woman, who declined to give her name because she fears repercussions for her young daughter. "I've never met or talked to a woman who has HIV or AIDS. There's no help for women here."

Penrose said women also are more likely to isolate themselves alone or with their children. And often, they sacrifice their own health to care for their families.

"Over and over again, women care for their children first, their life partner second, then if there is time and money, they care for themselves," she said. "They get sicker, faster."

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Update on the Case That is Being Called "The Roe v. Wade" of Free Speech

By Patricia Nell Warren

Philadelphia, PA—News stories on the Communications Decency Act (CDA) hearings have been sketchy, so I will cut deeper. My take so far:

Evidently the government hopes to convince the courts that federal Internet censorship is not only constitutional and reasonable—but technically and economically no big deal.

The question is, will the judges buy it, as six days of hearings in Philadelphia federal district court go grinding along.

Right now, the Department of Justice and the 3-judge panel are hearing witnesses brought in by the combined attorneys for ACLU/ALA et al. During my 4-hour deposition on March 19th, by a Justice Department attorney, and then the first day of hearings on March 21st, listening to other witnesses, and testifying myself, the DOJ questions were definitely running to technical feasibility.

The DOJ position seems to be:

(1) the CDA is only aimed at hard-core pornography, not at the general run of expression.... so why are all these plaintiffs in such a lather?

(2) it is reasonable for the government to step in and "protect children," since so many parents are inadequate to the job -- too irresponsible or too uneducated to learn how to operate blocking software on their home computers (a view that many parents should find insulting).

On March 21st, the first day of hearings, the courtroom was arrayed with equipment, for the benefit of the three-judge panel, U.S. District Judge Stewart Dalzell, District Judge Ronald Buckwalter and Chief Judge Dolores Sloviter. As the judges were offered a crash course in Internet 101, the courtroom was only half-full, the atmosphere quiet, with a few jokes.

In response to one lawyer's assurance that the judges should feel free to ask any question they wanted, Judge Sloviter responded drily, "This court is not shy." Mainstream media crews straggled in and out of the building all day.

It was not a dramatic setting for a lawsuit that promises to be the Roe vs. Wade of free speech. "Often you get this eye of the storm feeling around an important case," ACLU attorney Chris Hansen told me.

First witness was Scott Bradner of Harvard, one of the Internet's architects, who testified about technicalities for nearly 4 hours, into

the afternoon—responding to questions from the judges and cross-questioning from the Justice Dept. Bradner's testimony made it clear how complex the Net is, and how little it is understood by Congressional supporters of the CDA.

Next up was Ann Duvall, president of SurfWatch, makers of popular blocking software. Duvall gave the judges an actual guided tour of the Net (complete with a couple of unplanned system crashes). She noted that 70 percent of SurfWatch's customers are schools—a hint that school-district uproars about "protecting students" will more and more complicate free-speech on the Net.

Roughly 50 percent of the nation's school districts are now online, with AT&T rushing to help the rest log on.

The DOJ attorney tried hard to bully away Duvall's credibility—a tactic that may not have sat well with the judges, since she came across as a concerned parent who stepped forward to help create a reasonable alternative to government control.

Next was William Stayton, psychologist and Baptist minister, who testified that children are not harmed by exposure to sexual materials that are positive.

Late in the afternoon, the first plaintiffs, Kiyoshi Kuromiya of Critical Path AIDS Project and myself, were called to the witness stand. The DOJ asked Kiyoshi directly if he would comply with the law, and Kiyoshi retorted with great dignity that he didn't see how lifesaving information could possibly be "indecent."

As for me, the government declined cross-questioning—evidently to show the world that they are not after authors and literature. So the judges asked me a few questions about Wildcat Press and the credit-card device on the book-ordering page of the Web site. (Asking visitors to record a credit card number is one of the possible screening devices to weed out minors.)

The DOJ attorneys also declined to open the can of worms of free speech for minors. Three young YouthArts West writers—Rheana Parnas, 16; Hunter Allen, 17, and Christine Soto, 18—filed affidavits expressing their grave concern about minors' right to access positive information on the Net that some may deem "indecent".

They worked diligently with ACLU attorney Ann Beeson, emailing drafts back and forth.

YouthArts is the youth zine co-published by Wildcat Press and John Waiblinger, that is named in the case.

A fourth affidavit was filed by Kit O'Connell, 17, one of the founders of "furryMUCKs." Kit joins a growing number of teenage victims of censorship panic -- he is now barred from participating in the very on-line community that he helped create, by the community's adoption of a rule that all players must be 18!

None of the four young people were deposed by the DOJ, or called to testify.

The broader atmosphere is also telling. Ever since the CDA became law, President Clinton is busy scoring brownie points with voters by arm wrestling TV executives into putting detectable ratings on all shows.

This way, parents and schools can block "objectionable" shows by using the V-chip. With TV moguls so complaint, the government may hope to batter the more cantankerous Internet into similar docility. Purveyors of anything "objectionable" could show themselves in "good faith" compliance with the CDA by posting electronic tags on their sites.

The tags would trigger blocking software on any computer logging in. One could show further "good faith" by reporting oneself to blocking-software manufacturers (this came out during Duvall's testimony) making sure that one's URL was on their X-rated list.

One version of SurfWatch comes pre-blocked for a list of sites that their company has already viewed; the list is periodically updated.

However, these tags would have to top every single "offending" page. As Scott Bradner pointed out, a Net-user can log directly into any subpage, thus evading a screening device on the welcome page.

So far, media coverage has been alarmingly light. With their minds on the election and the economy, many Americans seem to view the CDA as a good thing because it will "protect kids from porn." They see ACLU vs Reno/ALA vs DOJ as a tempest in a teapot that should worry only the computer nerds.

For this reason, I was glad to see "Firing Line" air the major debate at USC the other night.

Next phase of the hearings: the government will call its own witnesses, and we'll get a clearer look at their strategy. Some weeks after the hearings, the 3-judge panel will deliver their opinion. Whoever they find against—the government or ACLU/ALA et al—that party will be appealing.



Jerry Johnson

Festival Time—Bill Meunier (l) and Susan Cook, PrideFest co-chairs, accepted a check for \$5,000 from Tony Rhodes, President of the Cream City Foundation at a special Proud Crowd party held March 31st at Milwaukee's This Is It bar. The Foundation donated the money to help defray expenses at this year's June 7-8-9 PrideFest which will be held at Maier Festival Park (Summerfest grounds) in Milwaukee.

PrideFest Wisconsin Needs Volunteers for June 7-9 Pride Celebration

Milwaukee—While PrideFest is still several weeks away, organizers of what promises to be the most spectacular Pride celebration in Milwaukee's history, are recruiting the volunteers that will be needed at the Henry W. Maier Festival Grounds (Summerfest), on June 7, 8 and 9. Over 400 people will be providing a variety of services, such as food preparation, ticket sales (covered ticket booths this year), assisting stage coordinators, and grounds patrol.

Volunteers will be needed starting Friday morning, June 7th, to help unload the trucks and hook up the equipment.

On Saturday and Sunday, June 8th and 9th, volunteers will be needed shortly before the gates open right through the end of the day.

People who sign up prior to the festival will receive free admission tickets for the day(s) they work, and all volunteers will receive tickets for a complimentary meal at the PrideFest Grill at the end of their work shift.

Organizations Step Forward to Help

As they have done for the past festivals, several organizations will be supplying volunteer teams to help out during the weekend.

The Lesbian Alliance of Metro Milwaukee (LAMM) and the Saturday Softball League (SSBL), will be staffing the four major beer bars on Saturday and Sunday.

LAMM members can call the LAMM office at (414) 264-2600 to sign up on the volunteer roster or to obtain more information.

SSBL members can contact their respective team managers.

Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG) will be staffing the Snack Bar and Pizza Stand which are located in one building.

Members of "The Tribe" and Gay Youth Milwaukee (GYM) will be helping out in the PrideFest Grill.

People who wish to join the PFLAG team can call (414) 299-9198 and leave a message.

Tribe members can speak with Lil or Lauri during the Thursday evening meetings

GYM members can call Michael at (414) 265-8500.

Licensed Bartenders Needed

PrideFest is in need of licensed bartenders to help staff the beer bars. Anyone wishing to donate at least 5 consecutive hours during the festival, and who has a current bartender's license, should contact the PrideFest Volunteer Coordinator, Susan Cook. Licensed bartenders will be assisting LAMM and SSBL.

Volunteer Organizations

To help people become familiar with the task assignments and festival routine, two volunteer orientation sessions will be offered.

Session one will be held on Saturday, May 18th, at 10:00 a.m. at the Bay View Library, 2266 S. Kinnickinnic Avenue.

Session two will be held on Wednesday, May 22nd, at the East Library, 1910 East North Avenue at 7:00 p.m.

Admission passes and job assignment cards will be distributed at the orientations. Volunteers are encouraged to attend one of the sessions. New recruits are welcome to come and register on site.

Other organizations who wish to form volunteer teams should contact PrideFest as soon as possible. For more information on volunteer opportunities for both teams and individual assignments, contact Susan Cook at (414) 482-2788 or write: P.O. Box 07774, Milwaukee, WI 53207.

New Web Sites

PrideFest

<http://www.execpc.com/online/wipridefest.html>

ACT UP New York has announced "its entry to the Web," with a site that features ACT UP history, current action alerts, and links to other chapters in the U.S. and Paris. (<http://www.actupny.org>).

North Carolina Gay & Lesbian Attorneys have put the full text of their "Legal Guide" on the Web, "for use by Gays and Lesbians who have general questions on legal matters" (<http://members.aol.com/ngcala/>).

The April issue of *Oasis*—"the Internet's only monthly resource for Queer and questioning youth"—features profiles, interviews and wide-ranging commentary on everything from Gay proms to coming out in cyberspace (<http://www.outproud.org/oasis/>).

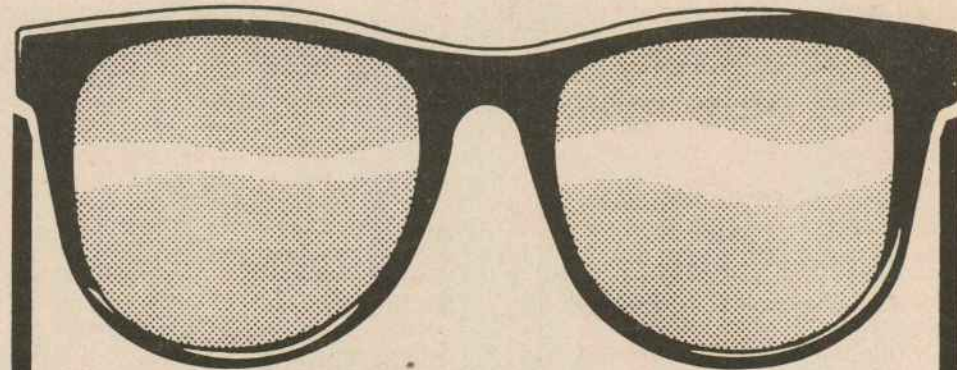
Supreme Court to Rule Soon on Colorado's Amendment 2

Washington, DC—With the clock ticking toward a U.S. Supreme Court ruling on Colorado's anti-Gay Amendment 2, the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) is gearing up for what may be one of the most important decisions by the high court this year.

Court watchers say only about 14 potential announcement days remain during the current session for the Court. The days include: April 15, 16, 17, 22, 23, 24; May 13, 20 and 28; and June 3, 10, 17, and 24.

In conjunction with Equality Colorado and Ground Zero, a grassroots Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender organization based in Colorado Springs, NGLTF has launched a "Supreme Response: A National Day of Action" in anticipation of the ruling. NGLTF is calling on communities nationwide to turn out for either a celebration or demonstration in their local area after the court announces its decision.

NGLTF has already distributed more than 250 "Supreme Response" Action kits.



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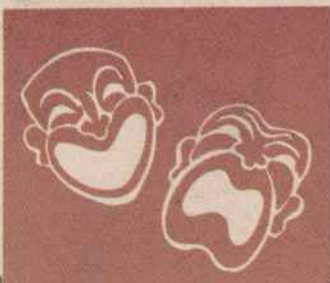
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The Light



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Timeless Classic—Charlotte Gainsbourg stars in the title role of "Jane Eyre." Based on Charlotte Bronte's novel, the love story also stars William Hurt, Joan Plowright and Anna Pequin. The film opens April 19th at Milwaukee's Downer Theatre.

Boulevard Ensemble Closes Season with Moliere's Comedy, 'Tartuffe'

Milwaukee—The Boulevard Ensemble will close its tenth season by presenting Moliere's sparkling comedy, *Tartuffe* for a five week run (April 19th to May 19th) at the Boulevard Theatre, 2252 S. KK in Milwaukee. This brilliant farce of deception and religious hypocrisy will be directed by the Ensemble's Artistic Director, Mark Bucher.

The Ensemble has found that staging the works of this 17th Century French playwright has achieved both full houses and critical acclaim for the Boulevard.

In his own time, Moliere's biting satire and comedic wit made him the bane of the French nobility, the bourgeois class, and the Church. Had it not been for the fact that King Louis XIV liked his work, he probably would have wound up in prison.

As it was, he died on stage. The Sun King, who was in the audience at the time, came on stage and stood over the body to pay the playwright homage.

"We are both actors," the King is reputed to have said. "But he was more amusing than am I."

Previous productions of Moliere comedies (*The Misanthrope*, *The Learned Ladies*) proved so popular with audiences that the Ensemble deemed Moliere the perfect playwright to close their Tenth Anniversary Season.

Audiences will delight in that special Boulevard touch that will update the story of a family's patriarch who comes so much under the spell of Tartuffe, a supposedly saintly man, that he promises both his daughter and worldly goods to the less than holy guest.

Tartuffe will be set in a modern scene: a successful Italian restaurant run by a family that falls prey—or "pray"—to the swindler Tartuffe. Moliere's vibrant and amusing characters will take on new life as waitresses, busboys, dishwashers and the like.

For ticket prices, curtain times and other information, please call (414) 672-6019.

Ninth Annual Milwaukee Earth Day Poetry Celebration to be Part of Earth Day 1996

Milwaukee—The 9th Annual Milwaukee Earth Day Poetry Celebration will be part of Milwaukee's Earth Day 1996 festivities. Poets Daniel Grego, Cristina Herrera, Louisa-Loveridge Gallas, Angela Peckenpaugh, Jeff

Poniewaz, Suzanne Rosenblatt, Sue Silvermarie and Harvey Taylor will be joined by special guest Tony Finlayson, a long-time drummer with the Ko Thi Dance Troupe, the founder of the Spirit Dance Drummers group, and one third of the jazz fusion group Sonic Harvest.

The performance will begin at 8:30 p.m. on Friday, April 19th, at the Coffee House, 631 N. 19th Street (just south of Wisconsin Avenue).

Milwaukee poet and eco-activist Jeff Poniewaz organized Milwaukee's first annual Earth Day Poetry Celebration in April, 1988 out of concern that not much was being done to observe Earth Day during the Reagan years.

Poniewaz had lived in the San Francisco area from mid-1978 to early 1983 and had been part of the substantial eco-poetry scene out there.

After his return to Milwaukee, Poniewaz was happy to see that a number of emerging Milwaukee poets were eloquently articulating environmental concerns as part of their output.

"How exciting if these poets, with their wonderfully various styles of writing and performance presentation, could be brought together in a kaleidoscopic way, with each having ten minutes to sound out their most powerful work in that vein," Poniewaz said that he thought.

Nationally renowned Milwaukee poet Antler, performed with this "Earth Poets" group for its first six years, but now is busying performing his poetry around the country during the couple of weeks surrounding Earth Day.

Marty Burns-Wolf, Foyne Mahaffey and Laura Manthey at Schwartz's Books

Milwaukee—Marty Burns-Wolf of WISN-TV, Foyne Mahaffey and Laura Manthey, will be appearing at Schwartz Bookshop in Shorewood on Sunday, April 28th, at 2:00 p.m. to sign their new collaboration *In Motherwords*. The book offers priceless advice and a dose of hilarity for mothers raising their daughters in an off-beat society.

Burns-Wolf got the idea for the book from doing a feature story on the Wonderbra.

Mahaffey, a single mother and first-grade teacher, writes for several local publications.

Manthey is a thriving graphic designer.

In the book, the three women offer tidbits of wisdom about a plethora of topics including play toys, propaganda, padded bras, and politics. The issues covered range from serious to silly. All are tackled with a refreshingly light punch.

The Bookshop is located at 4093 N. Oakland Avenue. The event is free and open to all. For more information, call (414) 963-3111.



Sweet Dreams—Miss Spider tucks James into a comfy web and assures him that everything will be alright in Walt Disney Pictures new magical musical fantasy-adventure, "James and the Giant Peach."

Poniewaz teaches "Literature of Ecological Vision" at Woodland Pattern via UWM's off-campus program. Louisa Loveridge-Gallas has performed with singer Claudia Schmidt. Cristina Herrera and Harvey Taylor are active with Artreach. Sue Silvermarie conducts poetry workshops that enable the elderly to crystalize their memories in vivid language. Suzanne Rosenblatt, wife of UWM art profes-

or-sculptor Adolph Rosenblatt, is a visual artist in her own right in addition to being a poet. Angela Peckenpaugh lives in Milwaukee, but teaches in the English department at UW-Whitewater. Daniel Grego, mate of Debra Loewen who leads Wild Space Dance Troupe, is principal at Shalom High School.

A donation of \$3 will assist the work of the Milwaukee Area Greens.

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'Kids in the Hall BRAIN CANDY' is a Silly Bit of Fluff that Smacks of Homophobia

Reviewed by Glenn Bishop

Kids in the Hall BRAIN CANDY has never been a particular favorite comedy program of Glenn's but Glenn takes all his journalistic assignments ever-so seriously and went to an interview with Scott Thompson (as well as a preview of **Kids in the Hall BRAIN CANDY**) with an open mind. Sad to say all for naught.

Imagine Glenn's surprise to learn that Scott Thompson is the leading light of openly Gay comics in America. Forget Suzanne Westenhoefer. Move aside Lea Delaria. (Oops, no one says "Move over" to Lea and lives to tell about it, Glenn is sure.) Then there are Bob Smith and Jaffe Cohen of *Funny Gay Males*. What about the outrageous David Sedaris, whom Glenn has fond memories of meeting last spring at AfterWords Bookstore. Cute, funny and a such a delightful man.

Glenn did not even recognize the ignoble Mr. Thompson at first, being far shorter and pudgier in person than he appears on screen. And so much makeup. Several medium sized local high rises have been built upon lesser amounts of foundation. Such desperate attempts at clinging to long bygone youth certainly seem rather pathetic in Glenn's eyes. Well, enough for first impressions.

Suffice to say there was no interview. Revealing shades of Norma Desmond in **Sunset Boulevard** (only Gloria wore less makeup), Mr. Thompson exploded at Glenn for not being intimately familiar with Mr. Thompson's career.

Another example, according to Mr. Thompson, of the Gay press not recognizing his stellar talents and contributions.

To which Glenn says, "Whatever?!"

And so on to **Kids in the Hall BRAIN CANDY**.

The "Kids in the Hall" have garnered quite a niche as a "cult" comedy act on cable. The group's five members have created the many and varied loony characters they play. Female characters are done in bad straight-boy drag. Throw in the occasional, odd Gay character. There you have it. An acquired taste. You'll either love or hate Kids in the Hall, there's likely to be no middle ground.

Kids in the Hall BRAIN CANDY, in Glenn's meager estimation, has limited prospects for success. At best, **Kids in the Hall BRAIN CANDY** is the perfect summertime drive-in flick, where its bright colors and silly costumes will entertain those too drunk or stoned to be able to follow any film with a plot.

The row of loyal Kids in the Hall fans that sat behind Glenn at the free "word-of-mouth" preview were less than thrilled at the "Kids" first feature. If they had paid \$7.00 a ticket, Glenn isn't sure what mischief they might have gotten up to.

Kids in the Hall BRAIN CANDY is the satirical story of America which becomes addicted to a mind-altering drug, which has only one side-effect, turning people into comatronics. In the central roles are Mark McKinney, who plays a ruthless pharmaceutical magnate, Don Roritor; David Foley, Roritor's quintessential executive "yes man" and Kevin McDonald is the visionary scientist Chris Cooper who actually invents the drug. They, along with Bruce McCulloch and Scott Thompson all play the rest of the many and varied characters that live "in the Hall."

Of particular interest to loyal readers of **Wisconsin Light** is the character of Wally Terzinsky (Scott Thompson), a repressed homosexual.

Wally is initially introduced to the audience as he masturbates to (really cheesy) Gay porn (sic), while his son and daughter, downstairs in the Terzinsky living room, listen in with disgust. Later Wally is arrested in the raid of a surprisingly crowded "tearoom".

Police bring Wally home to his wife naked, to the glee and delight of the neighbors as well as the row of Kids in the Hall fans sitting behind Glenn. Glenn, needless to say, was filled with neither glee nor delight.

The magical and mystical drug sweeping the country will transform Wally overnight from a poor pathetic repressed homosexual to a veritable "King of the Tearoom." By this point in the movie, a couple of the loyal "Kids" fans behind Glenn had had enough of, as one was heard to say, "That faggot shit" and got up and left. Glenn envied their freedom.

Kids in the Hall BRAIN CANDY does have a few mildly diverting moments, Scott Thompson does have a nice turn as sweet old Mrs. Hurdicure and Glenn must admit that he finds David Foley cute as a button. Too bad it wasn't Mr. Foley that Glenn almost interviewed.

Glenn's recommendation: Wait till this turkey is on video. Shouldn't be more than a few months.

Kids in the Hall BRAIN CANDY is now playing at the Prospect Mall and Westown theatres in Milwaukee.

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



Take Your Medicine—German supermodel Clemptor (Scott Thompson, l) and obsessed scientist Chris Cooper (Kevin McDonald) are two of the 40 characters played by the Kids in the Hall comedy.

'Love! Valour! Compassion!' Will be Filmed Without Nathan Lane

Hollywood, CA—It was supposed to be the dream cast. It was supposed to be the dream Gay movie. (Which considering Hollywood's phobia of things homo, would be a nice novelty.) It was supposed to be the original stage cast in the film adaptation of Terrence McNally's prize-winning play **Love! Valour! Compassion!**

But a funny thing happened on the way to getting it made. Nathan Lane (**Birdcage**), the Broadway production's one name actor, has dropped out just weeks before filming was to begin.

Or so rumor has it. "First of all, I didn't drop out of anything," says Lane, who currently stars in **The Birdcage** opposite Robin Williams.

"There was nothing to drop out of. I could go around now and say, 'You know, I'm starring in a remake of **Gone With the Wind**. We're starting in the fall.'"

"Fine Line Cinema had not made any deals. I hadn't signed a contract. They called: 'We are offering everyone scale and we hope you show up sometime in the fall.'"

"But they had no cinematographer and they had no start date and they didn't have a location or a house or a lake. They didn't even have a caterer. And there is such a thing as pre-production!"

Fine Line wanted to film LVC during September and October of last year. When Lane was offered a part in the Hallmark Hall of Fame's production of **The Boys Next Door**, he asked the producers to push the start date back to November, when he would be available.

"I was told that's impossible. I said, 'Are you out of your mind? You go to Pasadena, get a house with a lake, and a cinematographer would help too.' Fine Line Cinema is full of crap. If they were committed and I'm so crucial to it, then five weeks means nothing."

"If I'm not so crucial and they are so committed, then make the movie. It's not 'Buzz! Valour! Compassion! And I'm not Sylvester Stallone.'"

"I don't stop a movie from being made. I don't know how to break it to you. It's not happening. But five weeks!"

"Suddenly, they turn around. It was like kids in the schoolyard. 'Well, we're not going to make the movie now. So screw you.' Then people are upset. I felt like I was the scape-goat."

Whatever. Lane and old friend McNally, reportedly, no longer speak, thanks to the LVC contretemps.

In the meantime, a Fine Line Cinema spokesperson says the company is "still pursuing" the movie version of **Love! Valour! Compassion!** ... without Nathan Lane.

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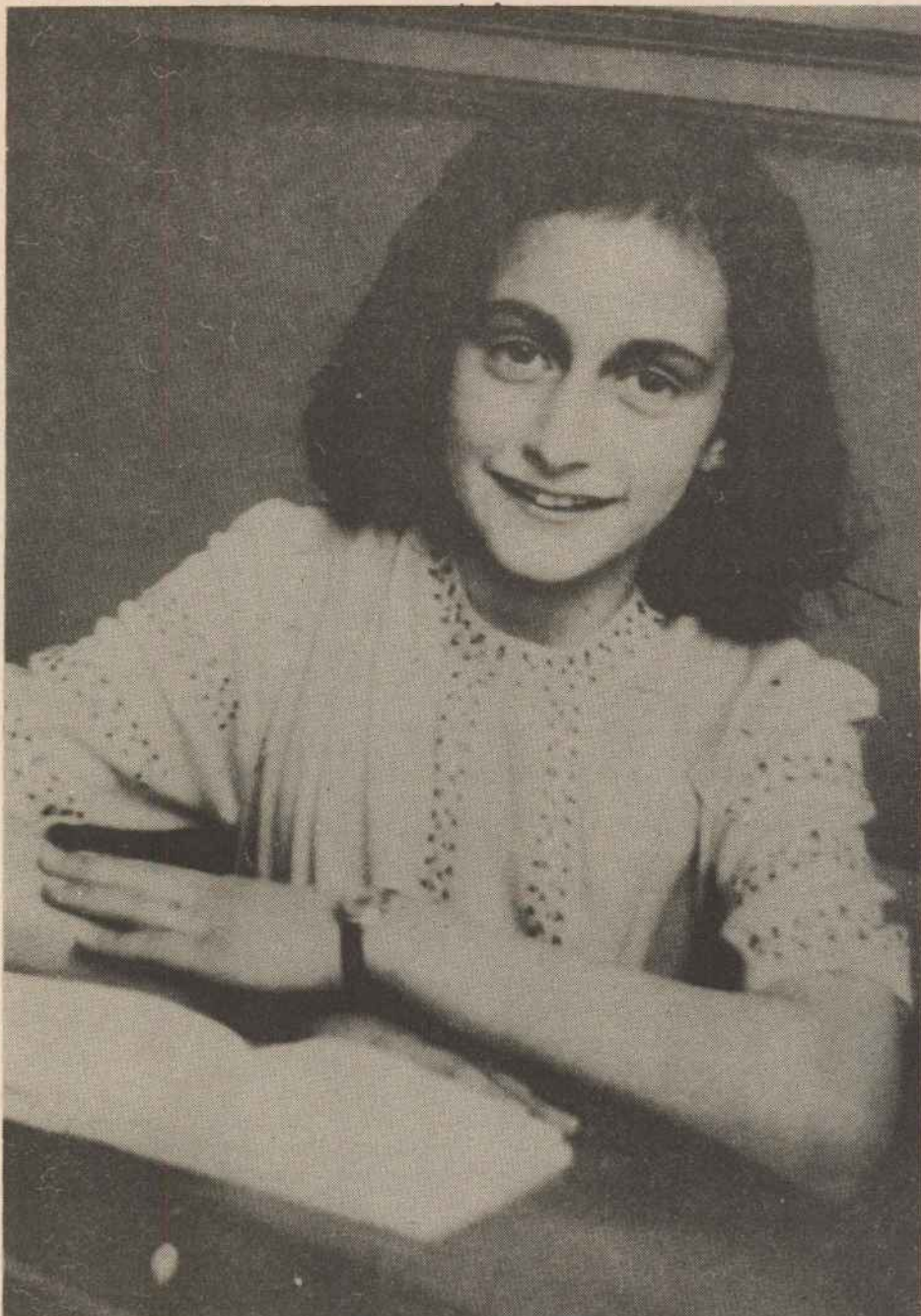
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Anne Frank sitting in front of her diary.

'Anne Frank Remembered' Is a Powerfully Moving Film as Immediate as Today

To comprehend fully the events in the life of Anne Frank, one must listen to the voices of those who were there, of those who remember.

The story of the Frank family began in Germany in the 1920's when, as seen in family photographs, Otto and Edith Frank led a happy life, highlighted by the births of their daughters Margot and Anne.

Though they were German to the core, this Jewish family moved from their Frankfurt apartment in 1931 because their landlord was a member of the Nazi Party, and in 1933, with the collapse of the family bank and the rise to power of Adolf Hitler, the Franks decided to move to the relative safety of Amsterdam, Holland.

Otto set up a small business in Holland selling pectin, a substance used in homemade jam. While there were many Dutch members of the Nazi Party, Holland treated its Jewish refugees very well, and the Franks led a seemingly safe, secure life among other refugees in their Amsterdam neighborhood. In addition, the Frank girls in particular had many close friends, including Laureen Nussbaum, Hanneli Goslar and Jacqueline van Maarsen, who recall their fond memories of Anne.

The family's feelings of security collapsed, however, when in 1940, Hitler's troops conquered Holland and the freedom of the Jews began to be severely restricted. Dictates on where Jews could shop, swim or go to school became a part of everyday life. "Everything that was fun in life was forbidden," recalls Goslar.

Aware of where those restrictions might ultimately lead, Otto spent the year preparing and stocking an annex behind his business office as a hiding place for his family. When, on July 5, 1942, Margot was ordered to report to a German labor camp, the Frank family decided that it was time to disappear.

Leaving behind a false trail indicating that they had escaped to Switzerland, they took up residence in the annex and were soon joined by Otto's business associate Hermann van Pels, his wife Auguste, and son Peter. The families were now totally dependent on Otto's employees, particularly Miep Gies, who visited every day with food and brought news of the outside world to Anne.

In the film, Miep conducts a tour of the Frank family's hiding place and remembers how Anne would wait for her at the end of each of her visits. "She asked me [about] everything that happened outside," recalls Miep, "and I told her the truth. The terrible truth."

While their friends on the outside were being rounded up, the Franks tried to establish a life of normality, and a lonely Anne began

pastoring photos of movie stars on her bedroom walls. She soon began to rely on her diary, which she received as a birthday gift a mere three weeks before going into hiding.

She created imaginary correspondences with her friend Jacqueline and her first cousin in Switzerland, Bernd Elias, who recounts in the film how moved he was to have been included in Anne's thoughts.

Four months into their hiding, Miep's dentist, 54-year-old German refugee Fritz Pfeffer, was invited to join the families in the annex. A disciplinarian, he shared a bedroom with the free-spirited Anne, with whom he had a predictably stormy relationship.

Unbeknownst to Anne, Pfeffer had a son Peter, who was never to see his father again. In *Anne Frank Remembered*, Peter defends his father from Anne's unflattering diary portrait of him and meets for the first time with Miep Gies, to whom he offers emotional thanks for protecting his father.

Inevitably, emotions in the closed quarters began running high. The van Pels family tried unsuccessfully to discipline Anne, and, according to Miep, Mrs. Frank became very depressed.

In 1944, Anne and Peter van Pels developed a strong attraction for each other, but the pressures of confinement soon crushed their romance. As always, there was the ever-present threat of discovery.

On March 29, 1944, Anne heard a radio broadcast from London saying that, after the war, all diaries dealing with the war would be collected. Realizing that her words could someday be read, she began furiously rewriting her entire diary with an eye for future publication. Shortly thereafter, news of D-Day sent spirits soaring in the annex, offering the hope that liberation might soon be near.

That hope was destroyed on August 4, when an anonymous caller tipped off the Nazis that Jews were hiding in the office annex. In a harrowing account, Miep recalls looking up to face a gun-toting Austrian Nazi, who upbraided her saying, "Aren't you ashamed of yourself, helping Jewish baggage? You deserve the worst punishment, and you know what that is."

Though Miep was spared, the Nazis arrested the families and looted the annex. Needing a container to store his booty, the arresting officer dumped the contents of Otto's briefcase, which included Anne's diary, onto the floor. After the prisoners were taken away, Miep returned to the annex and collected the diary.

The eight Jewish prisoners were taken to Gestapo headquarters, where Miep followed in a bold, but desperate, attempt to regain her

TURN TO ANNE FRANK, PAGE 19

Shoreline Dancers to Hold Fourth Annual Country Dance Benefit, Hosted by Just Us

Milwaukee—Mark your calendars for the weekend of April 19-21. Shoreline will be holding their first weekend hoedown. The various events are centered on the fourth annual Country Dance Benefit (formerly Gala) on Saturday evening, April 20th.

The weekend starts off with a fish fry and country dance at Just Us.

Saturday afternoon from 1:00 to 4:00, Kathy Moore and Carol Anderson from the Twin Cities will be giving two-step instruction at Just Us. Then at 7:00 that evening, the fourth annual Country Dance Benefit gets underway.

The Benefit's purpose is to raise funds for the Gay Men and Women's Support Group program at the Counseling Center of Milwaukee.

The dance continues at the War Memorial Ballroom until 12:30 a.m., and then moves on to more dancing at Just Us.

The following day, Just Us and Shoreline will jointly host a brunch and Country Dance from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., which may also include a performance by Sid Spencer.

The Benefit Dance

The Benefit Dance has grown steadily each year and this one promises to be the best yet. Headlining the evening's entertainment will be Oklahoma City recording artist Sid Spencer. Spencer tours the country singing at a variety of Gay and Lesbian events. This will be his first trip to Milwaukee.

In addition to Spencer, there will be six different dance acts performing. Of course, Shoreline will be performing some new line dance suites that they've been working hard

at perfecting.

Borderline from the Twin Cities and the Windy City Spurs from Chicago will also be performing.

All these groups perform precision country line dances, but the variety of choreography and showmanship they each bring makes them unique and entertaining to watch.

Moore and Anderson will be demonstrating their phenomenal style of couple's two-step and waltz, while Milwaukee's own Cream City Squares will be showing the crowd how much fun square dancing can be.

The Rainbow Cloggers, a big crowd pleaser last year, will be back with their high energy clogging.

Besides all the performances, there will be lots of dancing. Shoreline members will be teaching beginning two-step in a separate area from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. and a simple partner dance called a "mixer" will be taught to the whole crowd at 8:30 p.m.

Merchandise booths with a variety of items for sale (including Sid Spencer CDs) will be set up and raffles will be held throughout the evening. Some of the raffle prizes include a night's stay at the Blacksmith Inn in Door County, gift certificates to several stores, and various bottles of wine and other spirits.

If you like cowboys, cowgirls, and country dancing, this is not a weekend you'll want to miss. Tickets are \$10 in advance (\$12 at the door) and available from the Counseling Center, People's Books, AfterWords, Just Us and Shoreline members.



Family Roots—Lily Tomlin (l), Alan Alda and Glenn Fitzgerald star in David O. Russell's new comedy, "Flirting with Disaster."

'Flirting with Disaster' is a Film That Tries But Only Flirts With Comedy

Reviewed by Glenn Bishop

The road that many a critic must travel is often a lonely and a difficult one. For every comic gem like the recent *Fargo* there are countless sophomoric duds like *Kids in the Hall BRAIN CANDY* (please see the accompanying scathing review). Then along comes a film like *Flirting with Disaster*.

On occasion, Glenn has the opportunity to view films at special press screenings yes, just like Siskel and Ebert. Other times Glenn must attend preview screenings with "the masses". Such was the case with *Flirting with Disaster*, a film that "the masses" seemed to enjoy far more than Glenn did.

Fortunately Glenn has learned not to boo at the end of silly little movies that amuse the often violent "masses".

Yes, Glenn is forced to take the lonely road in stating that *Flirting with Disaster* is a silly little movie that tries awfully hard to be hip and happening but which has all the predictable sit-com plot contrivances that has so glutted the primetime TV schedule.

Add to the mix an ensemble of veteran (read has-been) television personalities and all those lumpy old couch potatoes will feel right at home, as if they never even left home. Well, Glenn expects far more from THE CINEMA.

Russell's premise for *Flirting with Disaster* is, simply stated, simple. New father Mel Coplin (Ben Stiller) has decided to seek out his natural parents. Things goes wrong. Well, that about sums up the plot.

Eschewing plot, Russell has instead chosen to rely upon a roster of "zany" characters and "outrageously comic" situations. Mom-quest is not limited to Mel but also his cute little wife Nancy (Patricia Arquette) and their little, cute but still-to-be named baby boy.

Enter Tina Kalb (Tea Leoni), a former dancer, now a psychologist from the agency where Mel was adopted. Tina's quest is to videotape the sure-to-be happy reunion.

For the next hour or so, things seem to continually, well, go wrong. To detail the many and varied coincidences, misunderstandings and otherwise zany happenings would cer-

tainly be a disservice to Glenn's loyal readers but suffice to say that there is a happy ending always insight over the horizon.

Readers of *Wisconsin Light* will find the inclusion of Tony (Josh Brolin) and Paul (Richard Jenkins), a bickering Gay couple. Glenn finds it somewhat of a mixed blessing that these two characters are as irritatingly insipid and annoyingly needy as their heterosexual counterparts.

Still Glenn shudders at the thought of the delectable stud puppy Tony (now bisexual) licking Nancy's (Patricia Arquette) armpit. As with Nancy's poor hubby Mel, Glenn finds this a nauseating image, one which is likely to linger an unpleasantly long time.

Flirting with Disaster is not without its pleasures. Chief among them is a preciously neurotic performance by Mary Tyler Moore as Mel's neurotic adopted mother. Lily Tomlin is always a welcome addition but, as usual, is wasted in a brief and contrived role.

Go see *Flirting with Disaster*. You're likely to like it a lot more than Glenn did.

Flirting with Disaster is currently playing at Milwaukee's Oriental Theatre, at the Hilldale Theatre in Madison, and at West Point Theatre in Waukesha.

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

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All In The Family—Earl (Robert Duvall (right) learns about the family he has only recently discovered from Aunt T. (Irma P. Hall), who, although blind, sees with her hands and her heart in the compelling and poignant drama, "A Family Thing."

In the Heart of the Bible-Belt South, Drag Queens Find That They Fit Right In

Montgomery, AL—The South can be a real drag. Just ask Courtney Lamour.

The leggy, blue-eyed blonde has a figure that turns heads. She walks with a sexy prance. No doubt she is the envy of many a woman who wishes she had her looks, her knack for getting attention from the guys.

But what many don't know, or can't tell, is that she is really a he.

Lamour is part of a thriving colony of female impersonators—drag queens—who live in an increasingly tolerant Alabama. Many perform on stage. Others just dress as women all the time. Some do it occasionally.

"If I get all made up with a whole bunch of makeup, then they look at me more," Lamour said in a soft, feminine voice. "But usually when I go out ... they don't even notice me."

Until recent decades, drag shows were oddities of nightclub life in places like New Orleans. They were virtually unheard of in Alabama.

But drag has gotten popular enough that even super conservative Montgomery has a Gay club, HoJons, with amateur drag night on Thursdays.

And like Milwaukee's Club 219 Plus, it also has a regular cast including Tracie Stevens, who likes to impersonate Bette Midler.

(When told that the "Divine Miss. M" would be in Milwaukee in September for the AIDS Walk, Stevens said, "Well, honey, that settles it. There'll be a whole car-load of us going up there.")

Lady Jackie does Dianna Ross and other African-American artists. And they often perform in straight clubs that cater to African-Americans.

Montgomery has two Gay bars with regular drag shows. Tuscaloosa also has two, with a large student crowd from the University of Alabama. And the small town of Dothan also has a Gay bar that features drag shows. Birmingham, Huntsville and Mobile—being the state's biggest cities—have the most Gay bars.

Drag life still has its difficulties, to be sure. Jackie, for example, still gets "clocked" and it's usually by children and older women. Take what happened in a grocery store one time.

"I had one child go running past me and suddenly put on the brakes and turn around and say 'Ah, that's a man,'" Jackie said. "Nobody had been paying attention and suddenly everybody stopped. And then her little brother came and did the same thing, so I went running up and down the grocery aisles."

But the drag queens say times definitely have changed. They no longer fear for their safety in public, despite living in the Deep South.

Kelley Maclane, who now lives in Nashville, Tennessee, was one of the first drag performers in Montgomery. Maclane remembers a time when no one could come to work in drag because Montgomery, like other cities in the Bible Belt, had laws prohibiting men from dressing as women in public.

They no longer fear the police or getting arrested for being in drag.

"In the last five years, maybe two, things have completely changed," said Stevens. "It's gotten more on TV and in the movies. That helps like you would not believe."

Drag queens often are known for their sharp tongue, fierce attitude, glib demeanor and drinking. Alabama drag queens are no exception.

"We put on the attitude, then we put on the wig," said Libertee Belle of Birmingham, one of Alabama's first drag queens, who is still performing at 57.

Many drag queens call each other girls, prefer the pronoun "she" to "he," and regularly go by their drag names. But many also dress as men when they are not on stage and don the drag garb only for the fun and money.

Courtney, who describes herself as a

woman trapped in a man's body, is a woman every day. "She" wears makeup. Carries a purse. Keeps her nails long. Has beautiful long hair. Sits upright with legs crossed, hands clasped over her knee.

Courtney takes the stage to roaring applause, usually dressed in skimpy black leather gear that shows off her figure. The introduction to every performance begins with: "The look and the feel of real ... Courtney Lamour."

Their drag names often are derivatives of their given names. For many, their lifestyle began as a joke or as a way to make money.

"It put me through college," said Libertee

Announcements

LesBiGay Film Night in Racine

Racine, WI—LesBiGay Film Night in Racine—Friday evening, May 10th, at 7:00 p.m. Racine's "We The People" book club is sponsoring a LesBiGay film night. Featured will be parts 2 and 3 of a four-part PBS series "Question of Equality." "Question of Equality" is a documentary of our Gay and Lesbian history. This is Racine's second LesBiGay film night. For location and more information, call Christine at (414) 639-3872. A \$3 donation will be requested to offset the cost of the room.

Investment Planning for Women

Milwaukee—There will be a seminar, Investment Planning for Women, on Saturday, April 20th at 2:00 p.m. in the Shorewood library. The seminar will be conducted by Irene Darden, Financial Advisor for Prudential Securities. For reservations, call (414) 271-7605.

Photography Exhibit

Madison—An exhibition of black and white photographs by Susan Kaye, entitled "Pausing to Breathe," is running through April 30th at the Café Montmartre, 127 E. Mifflin St. in Madison. The opening reception is on Saturday, April 13th at the Café from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Foothold Dance Performance

Milwaukee—Foothold Dance/Performance will present their concert "In View of You" in Ivory Hall at the Lincoln Middle School for the Arts, 820 E. Knapp. Performances are Friday, April 19th and Saturday, April 20th at 8:00 p.m. Admission is \$10 general public, \$8 students, Seniors and Artists.

In View of You is a theatrical dance performance exploring such themes as escapism, nostalgia and relationships. The concert consists primarily of collaborative material by the four artists who comprise Foothold: Sarah Moore, Carolyn Thomas, Joseph Rabensdorf, and Tom Thoreson. For more information, contact Joseph Rabensdorf at (414) 276-2243.

National Women's Music Festival

Indianapolis—Col. Margarethe Cammermeyer, the Chief Nurse of the Washington State National Guard, will be the keynote speaker at the National Women's Music Festival in June. All appearing will be Ronnie Gilbert, a former member of The Weavers, who continues her singing today.

The festival will be June 6-9 on the Indiana University campus in Bloomington, Indiana. It is the country's longest running celebration of women's music and culture. Registrations are now being accepted. Brochures are available at women's bookstores or by writing P.O. Box 1427-PR, Indianapolis, IN 46206-1427. You may also call (317) 927-9355 and leave your name and address. Registration after May 15th must be done on-site at the festival.

Belle, who cares for an elderly woman and does freelance writing when not performing. "It usually starts as a joke or Halloween or when someone pushes us to do it," said Lady Jackie. "Then doing it that one time it turns into a continuous thing."

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Wisconsin

NEW KID IN TOWN GWM, new to area, good looking, 20, 5'10", 145, good shape, seeks others for fun, friendship and more. Please leave a message (Appleton) #33740

NEW KID ON THE BLOCK GWM, 20, 5'10", 145, dark hair and eyes, new to area, good shape, variety of interests, seeks others for fun, friendship and more. Please leave a message. (Appleton) #29399

TAKE A CHANCE ON ME GWM, 23, blonde hair, blue eyes, seeks others for friendship and possibly more. (Appleton) #25732

ARE YOU THE ONE FOR ME? GBM, 20, college student, 130, 5'8", dark features, non smoker, drug/disease free, variety of interests, seeks tall and attractive GBM/GLM, 19-29, dominant, masculine and aggressive preferred, and you must be smoke and alcohol free. Give me a call. (Central) #13034

PING PONG AND DARTS GWM, 22, 6'2", 190, black hair and brown eyes, varied interests, seeks others, 18-30, for fun, friendship and possibly more. Please be self supportive and stable. Call me. (Central) #43085

WILLING AND WAITING Extremely Bi Curious WM, 31, seeks older men, 40's-50's, master preferred, to teach me the joys of serving and discipline. (Central) #48747

THIS IS JJ GWM, 26, very attractive, 6', 190, very muscular, long blonde hair, into just about anything, seeks others for pleasure. I hope to hear from you sometime. (Central) #48341

LET ME RUB YOU DOWN GWM, 23, very attractive, 6'2", 170, long brown hair, blue eyes, into fantasy fulfillment, seeks body builder's for massage only. (Central) #48364

I'M HUMILIATED GWM, submissive, 150, 5'10", brown hair, smooth body, into total nude domination and heavy discipline. If this interests you, pick up that phone and dial. (Central) #48134

BI AND BI Bi WM, good looking, 43, 190, 6'3", retired Navy man, dark hair and eyes, good body, seeks same, 30-55, for fun, pleasure and more. You be masculine, small to average end w/d and HIV-. Give me a call. (Eastern) #16988

I'M READY TO SETTLE DOWN GWM, seeks others, 40-60, for friendship and possibly more. You won't be disappointed. (Eau Claire) #4036

LOOKING FOR YOU! GWM, 28, 5'8", 150, brown hair, green eyes, alot of interests, seeks others, 18-30, for fun and more. Give me a call. (Eau Claire) #49605

ARE YOU OUT THERE? GWM, artist and poet, seeks others into honesty and relationships. Give me a call. (Eau Claire) #49633

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

LOOKING FOR GREEN BAY PACKERS GWM, 27, 5'6", 140, brown hair, blue/green eyes, into alot of things, seeks others, local preferred, for fun and friendship. Call me. (Green Bay) #48286

SUSHI FOR YOUSHI GAM, 18, 5'8", 155, slim, good shape, seeks other GAM/GWM under 25, for fun and friendship. Leave a message (Green Bay) #48403

JUST YOU AND ME GWM, 40's, seeks same, hairy, tall and straight acting preferred, you must be able to handle honesty and monogamy. Leave a message. (Green Bay) #47893

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+, 5'10", 140, brown hair and eyes, versatile, 30, seeks others, HIV+ and between 25-35, local area preferred, for fun and more. Please leave a message. (Green Bay) #28456

LET'S GO FOR A WALK GWM, 33, enjoy music, tennis and movies, seeks others for fun and friendship. Please leave a message. (Green Bay) #13163

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

CHICAGO TRANSPLANT GWM, 6', average build, blonde hair, green eyes, seeks others for fun. I'm anxious to hear from you. (Kenosha) #47356

IN SEARCH OF LEIF ERICKSON GWM, 36, 5'7", masculine, seeks GWM's or Bi Norwegian males only, for fun and more. Don't answer this ad if you don't meet the criteria. (La Crosse) #48861

ME FUR YOU GWM, 35, hairy, teddy bear type, seeks dominant teddy bear for growling and hibernation. Let's have a few encounters then see what happens. Call me. (La Crosse) #47662

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN GAM student, seeks GWM, 25-35, fit and intelligent only, for fun and more. Call me! (Madison) #8873

DADDY LOOKING FOR BOY GWM, 40, daddy type, seeks young son for relationship. Please leave a message. (Madison) #14349

MADISON MISCHIEF GWM, 27, 5'2", 120, brown hair, blue eyes, seeks others, 21-31, for fun and good times. (Madison) #49849

READY TO LEARN GWM, 6'2", 210, 24, brown hair, blue eyes, biker, varied interests, seeks others, 25-60, disease free, dominant only, for teaching and training in the art of Master/Slave relationships. Give me a call. (Madison) #49557

ARE YOU OUT THERE? GWM, 6', 20, 160, blonde hair, green eyes, average build, seeks others for fun, friendship and possibly more. Please give me a call. (Madison) #49231

LEATHER LOVER GWM, 46, 175, 5'7", firm and furry, into body shaving and more, seeks others for friendship and possibly more. Leave me a message. (Madison) #48343

MY NAME IS ERIC GWM, 23, dark blonde hair, blue eyes, 6'2", 230, seeks others for friendship and possibly more. I am a smoker with a wide variety of interests. Call me. (Madison) #48606

ARE YOU READY FOR SOME FUN? GWM, 23, very attractive, 6'2", 170, blonde hair, blue eyes, variety of interests, seeks others for adventure. Get a hold of me soon. (Madison) #47666

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. (Madison) #31168

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

BUDDY BONDING GWM, 23, 6'2", married, attractive, brown hair, blue eyes, attractive, seeks friends to hang out with and possibly more. (Milwaukee) #10354

SPORTS FUN GWM, 25, 6'1", 180, blonde hair, blue eyes, medium build, seeks others, over 25, into tennis, movies and more, for fun and excitement. Give me a call and let's go play. (Milwaukee) #11144

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN GWM, 18, seeks same or older, college students preferred, into dinners, dancing and more. Please leave a message. (Milwaukee) #16130

BEAR HUNTING GWM, 46, 175, 5'7", firm and furry, seeks Bear men into leather and more. Leave me a detailed message for a quick response. (Milwaukee) #6601

THIS IS JIM GWM, aggressive top, seeks submissive bottom guys, under 45, for pleasure. Give me a call. (Milwaukee) #49702

SOMETHING ON THE SIDE GWM, 31, seeks others around my age with a medium build, for extra curricular activities. Leave me a message. (Milwaukee) #48531

ARE YOU OUT THERE? GWM, 33, 175, 5'11", brown hair and eyes, variety of interests, seeks others, 25-35, with similar interests, for fun and friendship. Leave me a message and let's get to know each other. (Milwaukee) #48542

BORN TO PLEASE GWM, handsome and passionate, Italian, late 40's, well built, hairy chest, seeks others, 25-45, for hot fun and excitement. GWM/GHM/GBM a big plus! Leave a message and let's perspire! (Milwaukee) #8552

WORK OUT WITH ME GWM, 34, 180, 5'10", good body, into working out and more, not into bar life, seeks others to share my life with. Let me wrap my big arms and solid chest around you and make you feel comfortable. (Milwaukee) #10046

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

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

TOP ME OFF GWM, masculine, 6'1", 195, 28, bottom, seeks other top men for discreet, safe and clean fun and more. Discretion a must! Please leave a message. (Milwaukee) #26342

MY NAME IS TOM GWM, very affectionate, retired military man, straight acting, 37, 6', 250 lbs of solid muscle, open to anything, seeks TV's and CD's for fun and pleasure. Leave me a message. (Racine) #49168

LET'S PLAY DRESS UP GWM, cross dresser, well endw'd, seeks same for fun. Leave me a detailed message. (Southwest) #48852

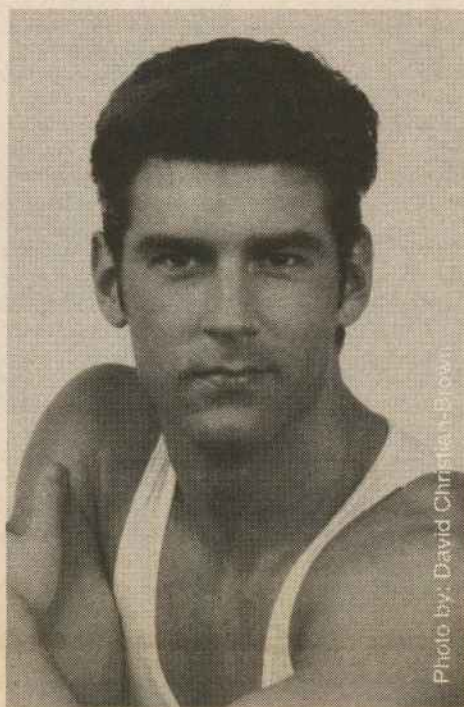
TOP ME OFF GWM, 20, 5'9", 175, brown hair, blue eyes, extremely submissive, seeks extremely dominant men for service. Your satisfaction is guaranteed! (WI) #17473

MY NAME IS CHARLIE GBM, 20, 5'8", 130, dark features, alcohol/drug/bar/smoke free, seeks other aggressive and dominant GBM's, 18-30 and very masculine, for fun and more. You must have the same characteristics as myself. Please call. (WI) #13034

NOTHING I WON'T DO FOR YOU GWM, 30, seeks others who are muscular and/or body builders, over 18, for pleasure and anything you want. Call me today! (Waukesha) #8242

ARE YOU FOR ME? GWM, 35, 6', 155, dark hair and eyes, 'stache, variety of interests, seeks others for friendship with possibility of something more. Leave me a message. (Waukesha) #48652

HI, MY NAME IS CHIP GWM, 28, 200, 6', seeks local guys, 21-35, for fun and more. Please be interested in intimacy. (Western) #49989



YOUNG LOVE GWM, 20, 130, blue eyes, muscular, seeks GWM, 18-23, for fun and more. Call me. (Evanston) #18285

STABLE AND GOOD HEAD GWM, variety of interests, in shape and attractive, seeks others, 20-42, attractive, clean shaven and classy preferred, for a regular dating basis and more. Give me a call as soon as you read this. (Evanston) #5240

LET'S MEAT Bi WM, 22, 6'1", 185, brown hair, green eyes, seeks same, 18-25 and masculine, for fun and more. Leave a message. (Evanston) #49848

I'M ALL YOU NEED GWM, a pretty TV, 5'11", 200, seeks tall and handsome GBM's only, for fun and pleasure. Give me a call. (Evanston) #49473

I AM SPONTANEOUS GAM, 5'7", 141, seeks others, 29-39, slim and adventurous preferred, no smoke or drugs, for fun and more. (Evanston) #49412

ANY INTEREST AT ALL? GWM, 40, 5'10", 130, very slender swimmer's build, dark hair, green eyes, clean shaven and attractive, seeks others, 18-40's, attractive and slender, to teach me how to give and receive massages. I also enjoy watching masculine men taking showers. Leave me a message. (Evanston) #48376

SINCERE AND HONEST GM, 5'8", 157, dark features, clean shaven, black hair, brown eyes, professional and masculine, seeks GHM/GWM, masculine and attractive, for friendship and possibly more. I can travel to other areas as well. Call me! (Evanston) #47986

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

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

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

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. Please leave a message. (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. Please leave a message. (Park Ridge) #27997

WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR? GWM, 35, 5'9", 165, brown hair, blue eyes, school custodian, seeks same, 22-30, for fun, friendship and more. I hope to hear from you soon. (Peotone) #48952

BLACK TO BLACK GBM, career oriented, 5'11", 160, HIV+, seeks same in a GBM, over 6' and top preferred, for a relationship. Give me a call. (Westmont) #18058

Minnesota

ANYTHING ONCE GWM, new to this, 5'7", 1780, brown hair, hazel eyes, clean shaven, seeks fairly dominant men to help me through my learning difficulties. Please call me. (Bloomington) #1952

MEAT ME IN MINNESOTA GWM, 43, blonde hair, good body, gentle, safe and kind, seeks others, 25-45, for regular meetings and other things. Please respond soon! (Brooklyn Park) #48353

LET'S HANG GWM, 32, athletic and in good shape, into alot of things, seeks others for fun, friendship and just regular hanging out. Get in touch with me. (Minneapolis) #17446

READY AND WAITING GWM, 24, EMT, stubborn and strong willed, into alot of things including country music and rodeos, seeks same, 22-32, for a long term relationship. Give me a call. (Minneapolis) #17535

FRIENDSHIP FIRST GWM, 5'9", 135, red hair, blue eyes, clean shaven, seeks other guys, slender and masculine, for friendship and more. Call me. (Minneapolis) #9504

OLDER MEN A PLUS! GWM, 22, 6', black hair, brown eyes, 195, stocky, seeks older guys, 30's-40's, for mutual fun and more. Call me soon. (Minneapolis) #11941

INTO CAMPING AND HIKING GWM, 27, 5'6", 145, sandy blonde hair, blue eyes, drug/disease free, varied interests, seeks others, 18-35, for fun, friendship and possibly more. Call me. (Minneapolis) #15115

I'M WAITING FOR YOU GBM, very attractive, 6', 175, dark features, varied interests, seeks GAM/GWM, under 30, for fun, romance and more. (Minneapolis) #6406

ALL CAN APPLY GWM, 30, 5'11", 170, fit, seeks others, 29-39, slim and adventurous preferred, no smoke or drugs, for fun and more. Call me soon. (Minneapolis) #5300

LEATHER LOVE GWM, submissive, 35, tall and thin, seeks dominant men to take charge. Call me. (Minneapolis) #49828

I'M READY IF YOU ARE Bi Curious WM, 33, seeks others to talk to about learning experiences. (Minneapolis) #33344

CAN YOU LOOK AT ME? GWM, 28, brown hair and eyes, 6'1", 230, heavy set, clean shaven, seeks others into long term relationships. Call me. (Minneapolis) #49841

LOOKING FOR BABY FAT GWM, 42, 6', 170, dark hair and eyes, bald, beard and 'stache, seeks others, 18-30, for Daddy/Boy service. Give me a call for more information. (Minneapolis) #49842

WHATEVER IT TAKES GWM, seeks others, 30-50, for cooking, romance and lots more. Give me a call. (Minneapolis) #49845

BLACK IN WHITE GBM, new to area, 32, good looking, seeks GWM, 18-40, submissive and masculine, for romps and more. Call me. (Minneapolis) #49986

CALL ME NOW! GWM, 36, beard, 6', 225, large frame, safe/sane and disease free, long black hair in a pony, top leather man, into everything, seeks others, 18-40, straight acting and serious, that are tired of reading about fantasies. Let me help you fulfill yours. Give me call. (Minneapolis) #49657

SERVICE AT YOUR COMMAND GWM, mid 30's, submissive, seeks dominant and well endw'd top men, who know what they want and know how to take it. Give me a call. (Minneapolis) #49672

PAIN TURNS ME ON GWM, 33, 5'8", extremely submissive bottom, into all leather action, seeks very experienced top into everything and more. Leave me a message (Minneapolis) #49583

I'M A CHUBBY SEEKING A CHASER GWM, over weight, blonde hair, green eyes, 'stache, hairy chest, variety of interests, great personality, new to area, seeks others who are into big boys. Give me a call if you're into big men. (Minneapolis) #48866

LET'S MEAT SOON Bi WM, 23, 6'2", 200, blonde hair, blue eyes, bottom, seeks top men for fun and more. You must be safe and discreet, straight acting and drug/disease free. Please respond soon. (Minneapolis) #47791

LOOKING FOR BOTH WORLDS WM, 45, 5'8", 155, long dark hair, 'stache, semi muscular, seeks TV's, TS's, pre or post op's preferred, for a unique relationship. Leave me a message. (Minneapolis) #48137

YOURS FOR THE TAKING GWM, submissive, seeks GBM's, dominant and well endw'd, to train me for their own satisfaction. Call me soon. (Minneapolis) #48317

EXPAND MY HORIZONS WM, 39, straight, seeks others to teach me what I have been missing. Please leave a discreet and detailed message. (Minneapolis) #48470



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ABC to Make TV Movie on Sharon Bottoms Case

Richmond, VA—Valerie Bertinelli and Vanessa Redgrave will star in an ABC television movie about a Lesbian who lost custody of her son to her mother, the network has announced.

Bertinelli will portray Sharon Bottoms, who is trying to regain custody of her 4-year-old son, Tyler Doustou, from her mother, Kay Bottoms. Redgrave will play Kay Bottoms in "For the Love of Tyler," ABC said.

The network said other roles have not been cast. The movie is to start filming in March in Austin, Texas. No air date has been announced.

Kay Bottoms sued for custody of Tyler in February 1993, citing her daughter's live-in Lesbian relationship with April Wade. The grandmother was granted custody of the boy but Sharon Bottoms was given visitation rights.

Sharon Bottoms appealed, and last April the Virginia Supreme Court ruled in Kay Bottoms' favor after finding that Sharon Bottoms' relationship with Wade could bring "social condemnation" on Tyler.

Sharon Bottoms' lawyers will be back in Henrico County Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court to argue that the boy should be returned to his mother. They contend that Sharon Bottoms' living conditions have improved since 1993 while Kay Bottoms' have deteriorated.

The two women also are feuding over the visitation agreement.

Sharon Bottoms contends that her mother has not allowed her to see Tyler on scheduled visitation days. Kay Bottoms has alleged that her daughter violated the court order by keeping the boy overnight in the apartment Sharon Bottoms and April Wade share.

Wade declined to talk about the movie.

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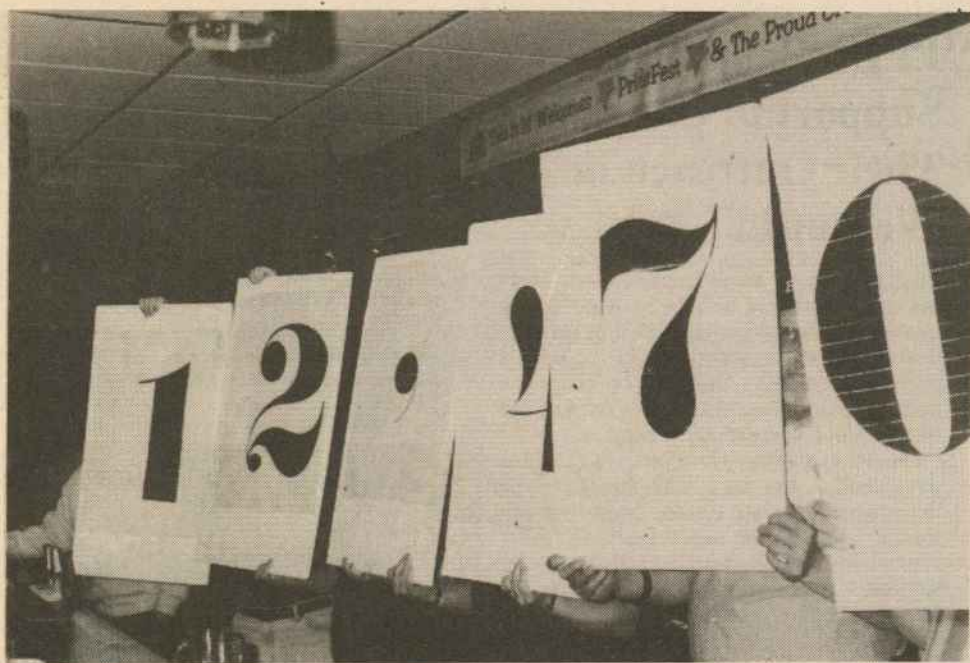
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Standing Proud—at a Proud Crowd party at This Is It, several volunteers held signs spelling out \$12,470, the amount that had been raised through March 31st for the Proud Crowd fundraiser for this year's June 7-8-9 PrideFest. Names can still be submitted for a minimum of \$25 each to PrideFest. To date over 300 persons have signed up. For further information call PrideFest at (414) 272-FEST.

Two Women Get Apparently Valid Marriage License in Huntsville, Alabama

Huntsville, AL—State Sen. Bill Armistead says the issuance of a marriage license to two women will help his efforts to pass a bill banning same-sex marriages.

"The public will realize there are people out there with such perverted minds they would try to marry a person of the same sex," said Armistead, (R-Columbiana).

Dee Harrison and Kathy Denise Zenter decided to get married after hearing that there is no Alabama law prohibiting such unions.

They paid \$25 at the probate judge's office Wednesday, March 6th, and walked out with the license.

The clerk who issued the license, Muriel Knowling, said Harrison looked like a man and filled out the marriage license section reserved for the groom.

"I was not aware they were two women," Knowling said.

Actually, Harrison used to be a man. The 46-year-old cab driver had a sex-change operation in 1986.

Harrison said she was not trying to hide anything. Her driver's license, she noted, says "F" for female.

Even if the clerk had realized Harrison was a woman, it's not clear whether the couple could have been stopped. There apparently is no law currently on the books that bans same-sex marriages in Alabama—a fact the county probate judge was surprised to

find out.

"If anybody had asked me about it," Probate Judge Frank Riddick said, "I would have said it was illegal."

The attorney general's office issued a non-binding advisory opinion in 1983 that said it was not legal for same-sex couples to marry, Attorney General Jeff Sessions said.

"The historic status of marriage has been reserved to the union of a man and a woman," Sessions said. "Anything else is a mere association, in my opinion."

Before finding out there was no Alabama law banning same-sex weddings, the couple said they were thinking about getting married in Hawaii. The Legislature in Hawaii is considering measures that could make it the first state to sanction such weddings.

"I think my love for Kathy is significant enough that it should be noticed and sanctified, certified and recognized by the state," Harrison said.

"That's probably why some straight people get married," Harrison countered. "Quite frankly, I am marrying this woman because I love her and I want the world to know."

Armistead said he would not budge. "God created man and woman," he said. "And I'm not sure we can undo what God did, no matter how much surgery or medicine someone has."

Promise Keepers Promise to Work to Make the World Safe for Christian Men

Washington, D.C.—The Colorado-based evangelical Christian group Promise Keepers have been sponsoring rallies around the country, including recently in Milwaukee. These rallies typically attract men in their thousands.

Just who are the Promise Keepers and what do they stand for?

The movement bills itself as an opportunity for Christian men to live their lives by biblical values and to affirm their commitments to God, families and other men. The methods by which to do this, however, are distinctly anti-Gay and anti-woman.

Promise Keepers' founder Bill McCartney is the former football coach at the University of Colorado. He gained notoriety a decade ago for a battle with the ACLU over leading his team in prayer before games.

In 1989, McCartney publicly dismissed accusations that two of his players had perpetrated date rape by saying, "rape by definition is a violent act. And so I don't think that's what we're talking about here, although that's what the charges are."

Later that year, McCartney delivered a speech to the anti-abortion group Operation Rescue and referred to abortion as "a second civil war."

McCartney ignited further controversy in 1992 when he used the University of Colorado as a platform to espouse his anti-Gay views. McCartney lent his name and University of Colorado affiliation to the advisory board and fundraising appeals of Colorado for Family Values, the group that sponsored Amendment 2—a measure which would ban civil rights laws that protect Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual people from discrimination.

At that time, McCartney said that "homosexuality is an abomination of Almighty God," that Gay people are "a group of people who don't reproduce, yet want to be compared to people who do reproduce," and that "a lifestyle [homosexuality] doesn't entitle anyone to special rights."

In defending his comments and activism, McCartney has said he has a "responsibility" to denounce Gay and Lesbian people and to

oppose civil rights. "It really isn't even a case of having a choice," he said. "It's a responsibility; it's inherent in the Christian faith. I didn't do any more than quote Scripture." McCartney has also stated that he believes homosexuality is "curable."

The Promise Keepers' position statement on homosexuality reads, "homosexuality violates God's creative design for a husband and a wife and...is a sin."

Meanwhile, the Promise Keepers' guiding premise is for men to reclaim the "leadership" of their family. In one passage in the Seven Promises of a Promise Keeper, one author explains how men must take back from women the role of leading the family.

"Don't misunderstand what I'm saying here. I'm not suggesting that you ask for your role back, I'm urging you to take it back...If you're going to lead, you must lead. Be sensitive. Listen. Treat the lady gently and lovingly. But lead!"

"The rhetoric and reality of Promise Keepers are miles apart," said Kerry Lobel, deputy director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF).

"There's a real need for some men to feel more connected to family and community. The rhetoric of Promise Keepers fills that need," Lobel said. "However, the reality is that the organization scapegoats women and Gay people, blaming them for the collapse of family and community. The organization asserts that male superiority and anti-Gay policies will solve the alienation that some men feel in a changing world. That's homophobia and sexism, plain and simple."

"Certainly, everyone would support men who want to become more involved with family and community," said Sue Anderson, an NGLTF board member and executive director of Equality Colorado (the organization that battled Amendment 2). "But in Colorado, we've seen Promise Keepers and Bill McCartney attack our families and communities. The hypocrisy of this movement is very dangerous. It draws people in who have certain emotional needs, and then exploits them in divisive ways."

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Announcements

Lambda Car Club

Chicago—On April 14th, Sunday afternoon, at 2:00 p.m., the Lake Michigan Region will have its first-ever "Beginning the Season" car show and membership drive at the Innexile Lounge, 5758 W. 65th St., on the South Side of Chicago. For more information, call Dan at (312) 465-5307.

Gay Youth HIV Conference

Milwaukee—The Wisconsin AIDS/HIV Program, Sinai Samaritan Medical Center and St. Luke's Family Practice Program in Milwaukee, together with a team of youth advisors, are planning a May 3rd conference to focus on the issue of youth and HIV infection. "Diverse and Resilient" will address the needs of youth-serving professionals so they can better educate Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual young people about HIV/AIDS prevention.

Professional teams from elementary schools, high schools and teen centers, as well as youth counselors, psychologists and other people who work with Wisconsin's youth are encouraged to attend.

Registration deadline is April 26th. The conference will be held in Milwaukee. For more information or to request registration materials, call Dana Lemmer at (414) 649-7701.

Feingold Travels to Milwaukee County

Washington, D.C.—U.S. Senator Russ Feingold will hold his 38th Listening Session of 1996 on Saturday, April 13th when he travels to Milwaukee County. His Milwaukee Listening Session will be held in Meeting Room 2 of the Kosciuszko Community Center, 2201 S. 7th St. at 1:00 p.m. The meeting will last up to an hour and fifteen minutes. Congressman Jerry Kleczka will join Sen. Feingold at the Listening Session.

Madison Gay and Lesbian Resource Center

Madison—The Madison Gay and Lesbian Resource Center is seeking energetic women and men who care about the future of Madison's Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual community to serve on the board. Board members are asked to commit to volunteering approximately 3-5 hours a week on community projects and to attend board meetings every month. Individuals are being sought with experience in volunteer coordination, library management, marketing and fundraising, and board secretary.

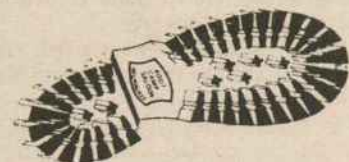
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St. Camillus AIDS

Ministry

Milwaukee—St. Camillus HIV/AIDS Ministry announces the formation of a support group for women infected and affected by HIV/AIDS. The first meeting will be Saturday, April 20th from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. in the Garrity Library at the St. Camillus Health Center, 10101 W. Wisconsin Ave., Milwaukee. Childcare will be provided.

The April 20th meeting will be facilitated by Kathryn O'Connor Kuhn, M.Div., Coordinator of Supportive Services for St. Camillus HIV/AIDS Ministry. The purpose of the group will be to provide a safe place where confidential conversation can take place and connections can be made. For more information or to register, please call Kathryn O'Connor Kuhn at (414) 259-4664.



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Gay Teens Hope to Help Peers With St. Louis Radio Call-In Show

St. Louis— The teen-ager squirms in her chair and nervously adjusts her headset as Bette Midler's version of "The Rose" winds down.

"You start, OK," the 18-year-old says to her co-host.

He nods and leans toward the microphone. "Hello out there. My name is Adam Rosen, and I have with me Mike and Shauna. This is The GAY 90's segment. And I'd like to welcome all of our new listeners out there."

With those simple words, the first teen radio talk show in St. Louis, and possibly in the nation, focusing on issues of interest to Gay and Lesbian youths is on the air.

But being media trendsetters isn't the three teen-agers' goal. Conversation and education are the point.

"The more talk there is, hopefully the less fear there will be," says Adam. "It's also important for youths to have a forum where they can talk about what it's like to be Gay or Lesbian."

GAY 90's—which stands for Growing American Youth—went on the air last October and is heard the first and third Fridays of each month as a 20-minute segment of "Out and Open," an adult Gay talk show on community radio station KDHX-FM.

Adam, 17, is the only one who uses his full name. Shauna hides her last name because she receives college financial aid from the military, "which doesn't like homosexuals," she says.

Mike, 18, initially didn't use his last name because he had not told his family that he is Gay. He told his mother in December, after a newspaper reporter asked if she could write about the three. He prefers not to use his last name now because he is still getting used to "being out to the whole city."

They discuss everything from discrimination to how to tell your family you are Lesbian or Gay.

On this particular night, the topic is suicide among Gay and Lesbian teen-agers. A study by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services found Gay youth two to three times more likely to attempt suicide than their heterosexual peers.

"If you're young and Gay out there, and you have thought about suicide, we hope you are listening," says Adam.

The first caller identifies himself as "Cameron."

"Hi, Shauna. I just wanted to say that everybody thinks about suicide," he says. "So you're not crazy if you think about it. But you should find someone to talk to about it."

Then there's "Sean."

"My family is very Christian, and it was unheard of in my family to be Gay," he says. "I tried to kill myself. I had just graduated

from high school, and all my friends were leaving. I felt very alone. So, I tried to overdose on pills.

"It was a very stupid thing, and I wouldn't suggest it," he says. "But I just wanted to say that coming out is a really big step, and it's not always a good thing."

Mike fields this one: "One important step

is to try to let your parents know that you are still the same person, because I know many of them go through feeling that all the sudden you're a different person."

After the caller hangs up, Adam asks Mike if he's ever attempted suicide.

"I went through a time when I was very depressed, and I felt like I was the only one," Mike answers. "I never tried suicide, but I thought about it."

Adam turns to Shauna, who confesses that two years ago she overdosed on sleeping pills.

"I was really scared about coming out and feared everyone already knew," she says.

They giggle nervously throughout the segment. Sometimes they ramble. And sometimes they pause a bit longer than they should, creating dead air.

Amy Doll, who runs the control board during the segment, occasionally holds up notes, reminding them to ask for the caller's name or to give the station's telephone number.

"They're listeners, not viewers," Doll admonishes during a break.

It was Doll and her co-host of the "Out and Open" show who came up with the idea for the segment.

"Everybody deserves a voice," she says. "Most people criticize St. Louis for being conservative and stuffy, but this is the first call-in talk radio show in the country where Gay and Lesbian teen-agers focus on issues that are important to teen-agers."

They may very well be pioneers. Although no agency tracks such things, Raul Ramirez, news director at KQED-FM in San Francisco and president of the National Lesbian and Gay Journalist Association, says he can't recall such a program ever being done by teen-agers.

Dennis Cronin-Doyle, general station manager of KDHX, says public response has been positive. He's even thinking of airing the show weekly and going to 30 minutes or an hour, instead of 20 minutes.

"I'm sure it's not an easy thing for them to do," he says. "I do get a few goofball calls and letters, regarding our Gay and Lesbian projects. But if we don't provide a forum, no one else will."

Sure enough, just as the GAY 90's is wrapping up, "Jason" calls.

"My question is this, why is that people who believe in molesting children and having sex with animals get their own radio show?" he asks.

Doll jumps in on this one.

"I think that's a little far out, Jason," she shoots back. "It doesn't even compare."

Mike breaks in: "I think one reason it doesn't compare is because child molesters psychologically exploit children, and homosexuality does not exploit people."

Adam's father—Dean Rosen, a psychologist—congratulates them after the show.

Rosen says he worries about his son's safety. That's why he asks that neither his address nor his son's high school be publicized.

"I'm very proud of him," Dean Rosen says. "He's trying to make a difference. I don't know that I would have had his courage."

PFLAG Needs Your Support to Carry On Their Outreach in Wisconsin

Milwaukee—Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG) Milwaukee is continually expanding its outreach program. With increasing frequency they are called upon to provide information that will be of help to parents, families and friends of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgendered persons.

PFLAG members have taken part in numerous panels in area churches, colleges throughout Wisconsin and, most recently, members took part in two workshops at the 4th Annual Midwest Bisexual, Lesbian and Gay College Conference held February 23-25 at Beloit College.

PFLAG also had an information table at UWM on Gay Awareness Day on February 22

and they were part of the Inservice held at Milwaukee Public Schools for "Making Schools a Safe Place."

National PFLAG has authored a number of pamphlets and brochures, issue papers on youth, a book list, all of which are positive sources of information for parents and all interested parties. All of this is done without asking even a minimal fee to cover costs.

PFLAG Milwaukee says that is where the readers of Wisconsin Light come in.

If each reader contributed just \$1 a piece, their outreach program, PFLAG says, "would know no bounds. Their message about PFLAG's caring family of loved ones would be heard throughout the state."

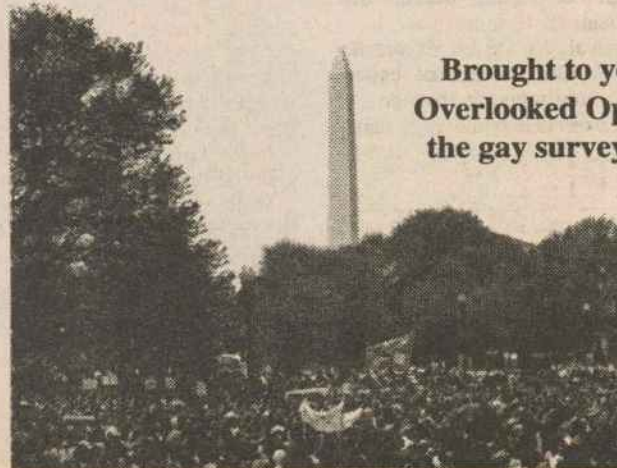
PFLAG needs your help. Please send a contribution to: PFLAG Milwaukee, P.O. Box 21853, Milwaukee, WI 53221-0853.

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Navy Honors at Retirement a Gay Sailor It Once Tried to Discharge

Oak Harbor, WA—A petty officer who made Navy and legal history with his announcement that he is Gay has retired after 15 years of military service.

Keith Meinhold, 33, said his decision not to re-enlist had nothing to do with his status as an openly Gay sailor.

"The decision was difficult for me," Meinhold said. "Emotionally in my heart I really wanted to stay in the Navy, but my head tells me that it's time to start a second career."

He pledged to continue his fight for the rights of Gay servicemen and women.

"I've been in for three years after making my statement," Meinhold told the Seattle Post-Intelligencer on Tuesday, March 26th. "I don't see what another 4-5 years would prove, since my case was resolved."

The Navy lost two federal court decisions in its efforts to oust Meinhold from the service. He was eventually allowed to continue to serve as an air warfare specialist crewman on the P-3C Orion patrol aircraft.

Meinhold's squadron transferred from Moffet Field, Calif., to Whidbey Island Naval Air Station two years ago.

After he made his sexual orientation public in 1993, the Defense Department enacted its "don't ask, don't tell" policy on Gay service members.

The Navy honored Meinhold at an hour-long ceremony Wednesday, March 27th attended by his squadron and about 40 guests, said base spokesman Howard Thomas.

Service members can opt for retirement after 15 years' service, which will allow Meinhold to embark on other projects, one of which is a nationwide speaking tour next month for the Servicemembers' Legal Defense

Network (SLDN), a nonprofit organization that supports Gay and Lesbian military personnel.

In stark contrast to the Navy's acceptance of Meinhold's valorous service, a report released in February by SLDN found that the military continues to witch hunt and harass Lesbian and Gay servicemembers at alarming rates.

The discharge of 722 Gay servicemembers in 1995, represented a 21% increase over 1994 figures, and a four-year high.

Of particular concern, the report found that "harassment has skyrocketed" against suspected Lesbian and Gay servicemembers, especially in the Navy. SLDN documented 127 violations of "Don't Harass" in direct violation of the military's "don't ask, don't tell" policy.

Meinhold revealed on national television in 1992 that he is Gay. He was discharged under old military regulations that treated declarations of homosexuality as grounds for discharge.

A three-judge panel of the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals unanimously upheld a federal court judge's decision to reinstate Meinhold. But the 9th Circuit overturned the judge's nationwide order banning military discrimination based on sexual orientation.

The 9th Circuit said the case should be resolved by simply forbidding the Navy to discharge Meinhold solely because of his statement, which expressed no desire to engage in prohibited sexual conduct.

ANNE FRANK
Continued from Page 12

friends' freedom. Her efforts were in vain, and walking out of Gestapo headquarters after two years of hiding the families, Miep recalls, "I felt the curtain of this play was fallen for me."

After four days in the Gestapo cellar, the prisoners were loaded onto a train headed for Westerbork transit camp in northern Holland. In footage produced for the commandant of Westerbork and seen in the film, prisoners are shown exercising and performing in a cabaret, even as weekly transports were leaving Westerbork, bringing Jewish prisoners to the death camps.

Anne Frank Remembered brings together three prisoners--Rachel van Amerongen-Frankfoorder, Sal de Liema, and his wife Rose--who recall their experiences with the Frank family as they return to the camp for the first time in 50 years. "This was the end. It all started here," notes Sal de Liema as he looks out at Westerbork. "This is like a big cemetery."

On September 3, the final Auschwitz transport left Westerbork carrying all eight prisoners from the secret annex. The film recreates such a harrowing trip, with shots taken through the inside slats of a wartime German steam train as it passes through the countryside.

According to carefully kept records at the death camp, 549 Jews on board, including all children under 15, were immediately sent to the gas chambers upon their arrival at Auschwitz. Of the remaining Jews, including the Franks and the others from the annex, the men were separated from their female loved ones. Hermann van Pels rapidly became despondent and was gassed a few weeks after his arrival. Sal de Liema recalls being befriended by Otto, whom he called "Papa Frank," and how together they developed small mental exercises (such as remem-

bering the opening of Beethoven's 9th symphony) which allowed them to keep their sanity amidst the horrors that surrounded them.

Meanwhile, Anne, Margot, Mrs. Frank and Mrs. van Pels were placed in one of the women's blocks at Auschwitz-Birkenau, where Mrs. Frank bonded as never before with her daughters.

Bloeme Evers-Emden, a former classmate of Margot's who was also at Auschwitz, recalls that an opportunity arose for the women to be sent to the relative safety of another work camp. At the time, however, Anne was afflicted with scabies and unable to travel, so Mrs. Frank and Margot chose to remain at Auschwitz with her, thereby forfeiting a transfer that might have saved their lives.

On October 28, Margot and Anne were sent to the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp in Germany and never saw their mother again. Disease and starvation were everyday killers in Bergen-Belsen in the last months of the war. The Frank sisters found themselves in beds right next to the door of their barracks, constantly feeling the vicious wind of those winter months each time someone needed to go in or out. Like all of the other prisoners, their health rapidly deteriorated.

Believing that both her father and mother were dead (Mrs. Frank indeed died in Auschwitz-Birkenau in January, 1945), Anne seemed to lose her natural optimism, according to Hanneli Goslar, with whom Anne had an unexpected reunion across a barbed-wire fence in Bergen-Belsen. Shortly thereafter, Anne and Margot, already weak and sick, succumbed to the deadly typhus virus that was sweeping through the camp. Both died within days of each other in late February or early March, 1945.

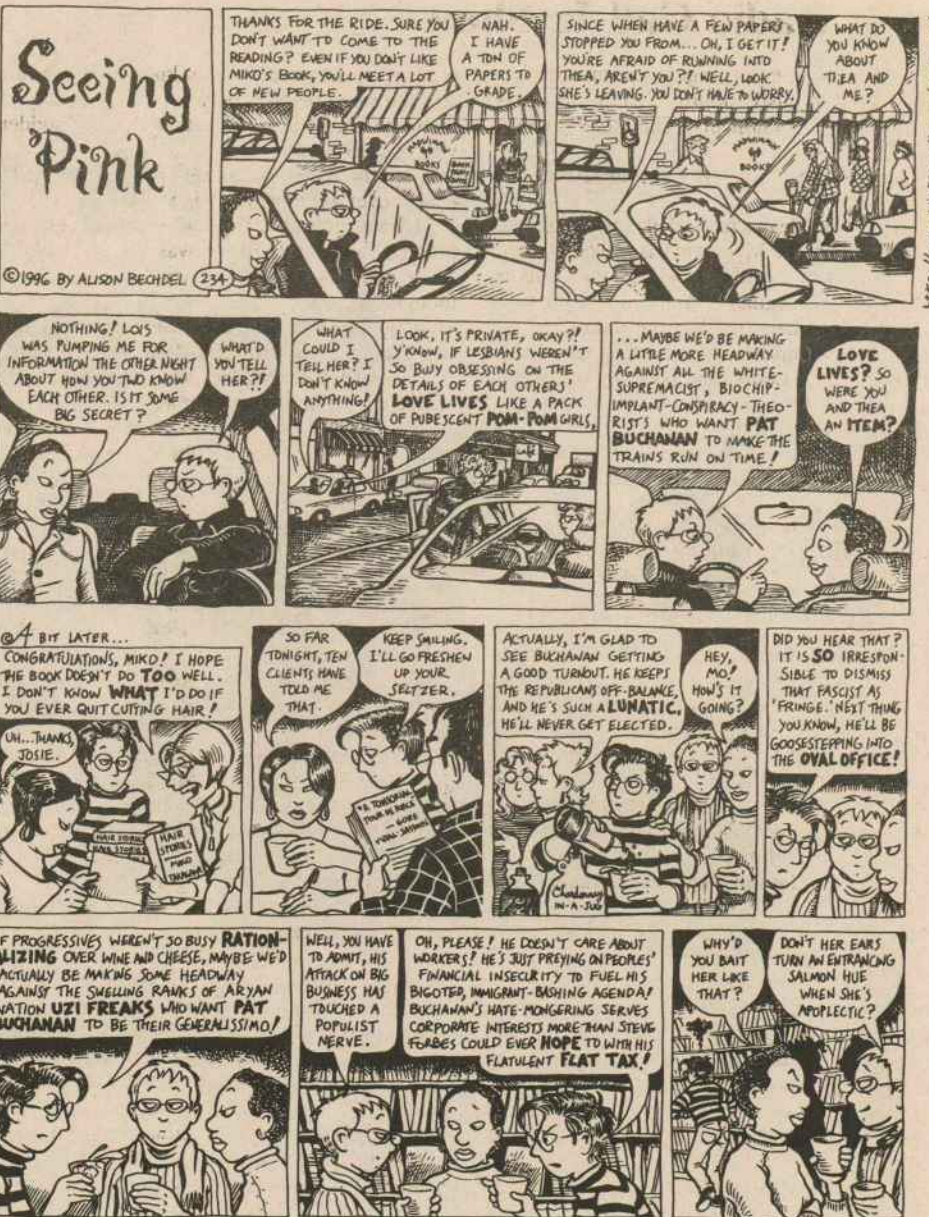
The men's camp at Auschwitz was liberated on January 27, 1945. Fritz Pfeffer, however, had been taken to another camp and died on December 20, 1944. Peter van Pels was sent on a death march from Auschwitz just before it was liberated, and though he survived the march, he died in Mauthausen in Austria on May 5, just three days before Americans liberated the camp. His mother was finally transported to an unknown camp where she died in the spring of 1945.

Otto Frank, barely alive, was discovered by the Russian army that liberated Auschwitz. Upon recovering, he began to search for his family, as shown in the letters that have only recently been discovered and have never before been seen or heard by the public.

En route home to Amsterdam, he learned of his wife's death, but it was not until some time after returning home that he discovered the facts of Margot and Anne's death from Janny Brandes-Brilleslijper, who was with the Frank sisters at Bergen-Belsen. In *Anne Frank Remembered*, Janny recalls the emotional moment when she broke the sad news to Otto.

Miep, who had kept Anne's diary a secret from Otto in case Anne should return, recalls how she presented him with his daughter's writings upon news of her death. Otto felt that it should be published, and while his initial attempts were unsuccessful, the diary

Dykes To Watch Out For



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finally appeared in 1947 under the title "The Backhouse." By the early 1950's, Anne's diary had been translated and read all over the world, and in 1955, a *The Diary of Anne Frank* stage production titled opened on Broadway and was later adapted into an Oscar-winning film. Through her father's efforts, Anne's famous wish ("I want to go on living even after my death") had indeed come true.

Otto continued to keep his daughter's message alive, even in the face of neo-Nazi attempts to label the diary as a hoax. It was not until after Otto's death in 1980 that the diary was scientifically proven to be irrefutably authentic. There is now no question that the voice of Anne Frank is real, and her courage stands as a warning to all those who would discriminate on the basis of color, culture or creed.

Anne Frank Remembered concludes with film footage of a wedding that took place on an Amsterdam street in June, 1941. The unknown cameraman suddenly turns his lens up towards the many neighbors watching the happy couple from their windows. There, in the only known moving footage of her, is a

happy Anne Frank, not yet knowing what her destiny would be. Less than three years later in the secret annex, she would find it.

Anne Frank Remembered won the Oscar for Best Documentary. The film opens April 12th at Milwaukee's Downer Theatre.

NEWSPAPER
Continued from Page 1

checks and balances" designed to catch articles that might be offensive.

"Unfortunately, this article made it through," he added.

Mihalovic called the editorial "a major mistake" and said he will issue an apology.

"We hope to move forward in educating our students regarding tolerance," he added.

Mihalovic said he called in the newspaper's adviser and editor as soon as the editorial came to his attention Friday morning.

"It was decided to have as many of them (copies) as possible recalled, understanding the damage was done," Mihalovic said. "We will see to it the same mistake is not made again."

A Church Cannot be Homophobic and Call Itself the Body of Christ, Bishop Says

Maplewood, NJ-- A friend of the Rev. Barry Stopfel recently warned him to "watch my packages and lock the car," in case of a bomb or other danger from his detractors.

Seems like strange advice to offer the rector of St. George's Episcopal Church here in Maplewood. But some consider the 48-year-old cleric a pariah because Stopfel is an openly Gay man--and they are letting him know exactly how they feel in hate mail. *The Star-Ledger* of Newark reported in February 18th edition.

"It's the usual stuff, 'scourge of God,' 'crime against nature,'" Stopfel said of the hate letters.

But Stopfel's problems go much further. His ordination in 1990 as a deacon by now-retired Bishop Walter Righter has come under intense church scrutiny.

Righter's decision to ordain Stopfel, some Episcopal Church bishops say, was heresy. A nine-bishop court will convene in Wilmington, Delaware, February 27th to decide whether Righter violated church doctrine. If they decide he did, he will face a church trial in May.

Righter is only the second bishop of the Episcopal Church in the last 200 years to be charged with heresy. And he has become the focal point of a conflict some say is about discipline and order within the church, but which Righter believes is about power.

The Episcopal Church does allow ordination of married heterosexuals, celibate single heterosexuals and celibate homosexuals. But Righter knew Stopfel was a non-celibate Gay man when he ordained him as a deacon, church officials say. Stopfel was ordained a priest in 1991 by Newark Bishop John S. Spong, but church officials have not charged Spong with heresy.

The upcoming court hearing has thrust Stopfel into the spotlight, which has made him uncomfortable.

"It's not easy being an icon," he told *The Star-Ledger*. "It has put a tremendous stress on my relationship."

Stopfel's longtime partner is Will Lecki, a hospice chaplain.

"It's hard for him to stand back and see me in what he sees as a harmful situation," Stopfel said. "By going public about this, we've had to let people know who we are and where we live."

Stopfel also said there's the added stress of acting "like the perfect Gay couple." The intense attention, he added, has made it difficult for him to keep his parish on an even keel.

"The good part is that 30 percent of this parish is Gay or Lesbian," Stopfel said. "They understand."

Both Righter and Spong are standing by their decision to ordain Stopfel.

"I made this decision," Righter told the newspaper. "I stand by it and I will fight for it, because it is the right thing to do."

Spong denounced the church officials charging Righter with heresy, calling their tactics hysterical.

"Barry Stopfel is in a loving, monogamous relationship and in all other ways suitable for ordination," Spong said. "To suggest otherwise is a vicious lie."

Spong said if Righter is found guilty of heresy, it will severely hurt all Episcopalians.

"If this evil action succeeds, the church as we know it will surely die," Spong said. "A church cannot be exclusive, racist, chauvinist or homophobic and still be the body of Christ."

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Miller Brewing Company applauds and supports these volunteers and local AIDS organizations for their efforts to help those living with this disease.

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