



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

The Wisconsin Light

Tom Ament Appoints Gerard Randall as Milwaukee County LBGT Liaison

By Sue Burke

For Gerard Randall, his new task as liaison for Milwaukee County Executive Tom Ament for the Lesbian and Gay community is a "natural extension" of his current job, which is community relations counsel to the county executive.

As liaison, he said, "the most important thing is to be a voice to the exec for some of the concerns the Gay and Lesbian community may have that the county has some ability to affect."

His current job as community relations counsel "deals with community groups that feel the county has a particular role to play," Randall said. These could be community-based organizations such as neighborhood groups, or arts groups or education groups. Issues can include health, welfare, the Sheriff's Department, and recreation.

Most recently, Randall has been working with organizations that will have some responsibility for implementation of the "W-2" state welfare reform program. Last summer he helped diffuse tensions in Washington Park over use of the pool.

"We wanted to make sure everyone was able to use the park safely and happily. I made sure everyone was at least aware of the county exec's desire to make sure the parks were safe, clean, and above all hospitable," he said. "Those are some of the things that crop up from time to time that I might deal with."

The recommendation for a county Lesbian and Gay community liaison, similar to the role Marge Bief plays in Milwaukee Mayor John Norquist's office, came from the Gay-Lesbian Work Group of the County Commission on Aging. Members of the group spent six months studying the needs of Lesbian and Gay senior citizens and how well the county was meeting those needs.

In addition to suggesting the creation of a liaison, the work group also recommended sensitivity training for county employees.

"Tom (Ament) had always been responsible to the Gay and Lesbian community," said Erv Uecker, a member of the work group. He was pleased that Ament assigned Randall to the job within weeks of receiving the recommendation.

Randall invited groups and individuals who have suggestions for how the county could improve its role in their lives to call him at the county executive's office, 278-4211. He said he has done no formal work with the Lesbian and Gay community yet and has no

ARCW/MAP to Be Major PrideFest Sponsor MAPFest Ends With Increased PrideFest Investment

Milwaukee—The AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin (ARCW) made a difficult decision this week that will make PrideFest officials very happy and will be disappointing to some MAPFest loyalists.

Confronting the reality of declining MAPFest attendance in recent years and the increasing cost of MAP's original fundraising event, ARCW chose to end MAPFest's 10 year run and, at the same time, make a major financial and volunteer investment in PrideFest.

The decision will no doubt be an important shot in the arm to PrideFest as it works to build the summer festival for the Les/Bi/Gay/Trans community.

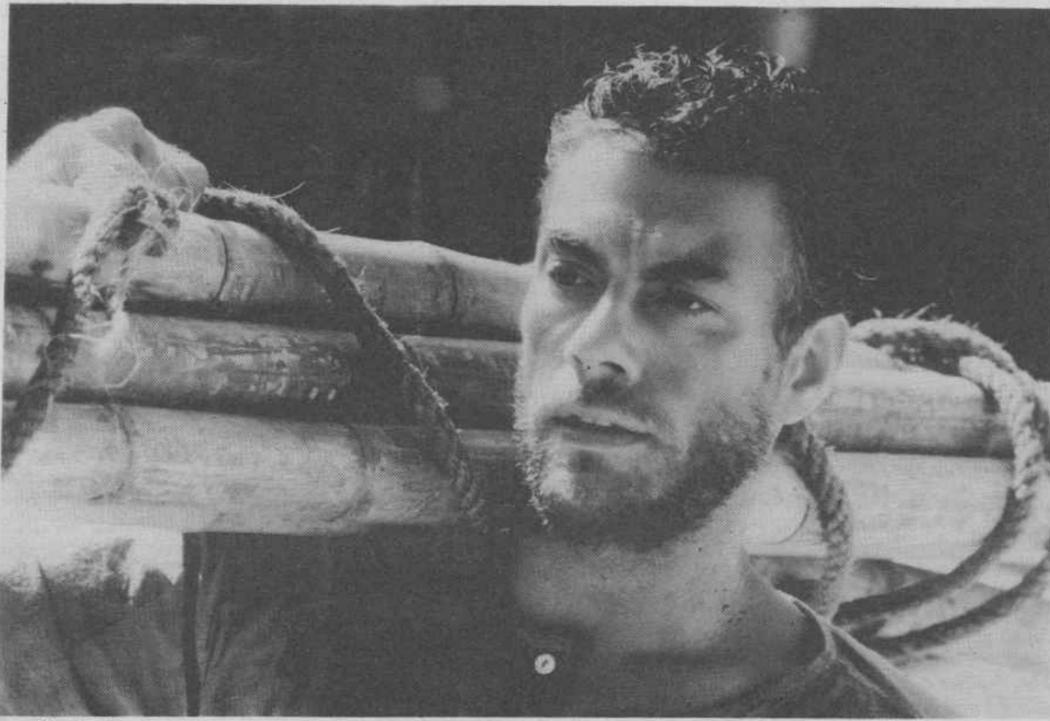
ARCW announced that it will be a "long-term major sponsor" of PrideFest. This year, it will sponsor the PrideFest Laser Light Show and the Harvey Milk Stage. According to ARCW sources, these sponsorships will be a significant increase in its financial investment in PrideFest.

In addition, ARCW and MAP volunteers will be available in greater numbers to help support PrideFest.

"We all loved MAPFest and it served MAP and the community well for 10 years. But times change and PrideFest is now the greatest and most important celebration of our community," said Doug Nelson, ARCW Executive Director.

"We want to help make PrideFest the best in the country," Nelson said. "Our commitment and thanks to the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and

Salk HIV Vaccine Trial Begins ARCW Secures Treatment Vaccine for Wisconsin



Jean-Claude Van Damme stars in and makes his directorial debut with "The Quest," the story of a man who is swept away on an adventure of spiritual awakening. The film is now playing in theatres everywhere.

Milwaukee—For years the AIDS community across the country has anxiously awaited the chance to seriously test vaccines to prevent and treat HIV disease. Everybody's hopes and prayers have focused on an HIV vaccine.

The announcement this week by the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin (ARCW) that it had secured the Salk vaccine for Wisconsin made hope into reality.

On May 1st, screening and enrollment officially began in Wisconsin for the largest clinical trial of a treatment vaccine in the history of the AIDS epidemic. ARCW has been initially awarded 50 slots in the important national trial and early indications are that enrollment will be quick and that Wisconsin may gain more slots.

"Enthusiasm for the vaccine among physicians and the HIV community is extremely high," said ARCW Executive Director Doug Nelson. "We worked hard to get this trial and we are proud to be able to offer it."

Nelson emphasized that the vaccine is a treatment vaccine, not a prevention vaccine. The vaccine is intended to utilize inactive HIV to stimulate a strong immune response that suppresses active HIV. The goal of this treatment vaccine is to delay or prevent progression of HIV infection to AIDS, with a strong, natural immune response to keep HIV under control.

In other words, if you are not now infected with HIV, this vaccine will not prevent you from getting it.

However, if you are HIV-infected, the vaccine is a new treatment that may delay the onset of AIDS.

Dr. Brian Buggy, who chairs ARCW's Wisconsin AIDS Research Consortium, said research on the vaccine approach to slowing disease progression is crucial.

"From a scientific viewpoint this is going to be the largest and the most important vaccine trial in the country," he said. "If a treatment vaccine is going to work, this is the study that will define it."

Dr. Buggy reported that enrollment in the trial will be easiest in communities where there are physician members of the Wisconsin AIDS Research Consortium. These communities include: Milwaukee, Racine/Kenosha, Madison, Green Bay and Eau Claire.

In addition to his work with ARCW's research program, Dr. Buggy is a Clinical Professor of Medicine at the Medical College of Wisconsin and is a Milwaukee-based infectious disease practitioner active in AIDS care.

TURN TO SALK VACCINE, PAGE 23

Wisconsin Finally Wins Hard-Fought Battle for Ryan White CARE Act Funding Equity

Milwaukee—It took two years, it galvanized the AIDS community in the Midwest, and it was the mother of all turf battles!

But, with rapid fire votes in the US House of Representatives and US Senate last week, the highly contentious Ryan White CARE Act was well on its way to the President's desk for signing and Wisconsin AIDS advocates were on cloud nine.

The bill passed the house on a 402 to 4 vote and one day later, passed the Senate unanimously. Washington sources tell **Wisconsin Light** that signing by the President is imminent.

"I can't believe we finally won," said Doug Nelson, Executive Director of the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin (ARCW). "It's a huge victory that will generate more than \$3 million in additional AIDS funding to Wisconsin over the next few years because we persevered in our fight for the principle of equity."

Nelson's elation was almost an understatement given the intense opposition that ARCW encountered from the powerful AIDS communities in San Francisco, New York and other major cities.

It was nearly two years that ARCW created the national Campaign for Fairness to fight the most difficult of fights—a funding formula change to the CARE Act that would equitably distribute AIDS funds which meant a reduction to the largest cities in the country.

"I had no idea that the innocent principle of equity would enrage big city AIDS advocates," Nelson said. "By the same token, I was surprised by how our advocacy galvanized rookie AIDS advocates in smaller communities and states throughout the country who have long been denied fair funding from the CARE Act."

Conference Committee Compromise

For many months the Ryan White CARE Act was stalled in a House/Senate Conference Committee where congressional members were reluctant to make final decisions on the formula battle.

The US Senate had passed the CARE Act with the ARCW-led equity principles well established, and the US House had passed the CARE Act without them, with a formula that

TURN TO RYAN WHITE, PAGE 23

"Light's" New Spotlight Section Makes Its Debut With This Issue

Milwaukee—There is something new in the paper.

The **Wisconsin Light's** new entertainment section, "The Spotlight," makes its debut in this issue.

- The Spotlight, will feature a complete review of entertainment, special events, fund raisers and more!

- Each issue of The Spotlight will include plenty of pictures from your favorite Gay and Lesbian clubs.

- There is a new and larger typeface to separate the Spotlight section from the "hard" news.

- In addition, there will be feature articles on entertainment and recreation in the Les/Bi/Gay/Trans community;

- A calendar you can use;

- Movie and video reviews;

- Listings of special events and shows;

- News from the bars;

- Profiles of people and organizations in our community;

- And a sports round up.

All this and more!

Transgender community is best expressed through a much greater and long-term investment in the success of PrideFest," Nelson said.

MAP will also produce AIDS prevention demonstrations on the stage in the Stonewall Tent and will provide volunteers to work the bar in the Proud Crowd Dance Tent. An ARCW float will be in the Pride Parade and AIDS Walk Wisconsin will again have an official headquarters at PrideFest for the pre-registration of walkers.

Susan Cook, Co-Director of PrideFest, was enthusiastic about ARCW's decision to combine its efforts into PrideFest rather than continue to hold a separate event.

"MAPFest was one way for ARCW and MAP to reach out to the Gay and Lesbian community, but now they can reach out to more people by concentrating on being part of PrideFest," said Cook. "We are always looking for new partnerships and I think this partnership will continue to strengthen in the years to come."

MAPFest began 10 years ago as the first fundraiser to meet the challenges of what was then a new epidemic called AIDS. The volunteers who produced the event for the first time in 1985, loyally continued to work on the event and were joined by many hard working volunteers through the years.

Ronnie Marks, a founder of MAPFest and one of its most hard working volunteers ex-

TURN TO MAPFEST, PAGE 23

News Briefs

Utah Student Leaders Approve Gay Club

Salt Lake City, UT-AP- Student leaders at Westminster College have approved a Gay club. The student senate voted to approve the constitution for Westminster Pride: A Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Club. There were no negative votes and two abstentions. "This is a major step forward for Gay rights. It's nice to see this happen, in light of the state attacking our rights," said Jason Weaver, a freshman who helped organize Westminster's club and also was an organizer of the effort to form a Gay-straight alliance at East High School.

The Salt Lake School Board voted to ban all non-curriculum clubs rather than allow such a club to form, and the Legislature two weeks ago passed a measure to prohibit clubs dealing with human sexuality.

Weaver said the club, which is open to any Westminster student and "other interested parties," already has 12 to 15 unofficial members, a mix of students and faculty. The adviser is Charles Kizzire, an accounts-payable clerk for the college.

The club, which meets every Tuesday, has existed since the school year began but wanted official club status for the sake of legitimacy and to get student activity funding.

Former Lover Files Palimony Suit Against Pianist

Fort Worth, TX-AP- A former lover has sued pianist Van Cliburn for palimony, seeking millions in cash and property and alleging that Cliburn exposed him to the AIDS virus during a 17-year sexual relationship. Thomas E. Zaremba, 48, a former member of the board of the Van Cliburn Foundation, brought the suit in a court in Tarrant County that normally handles divorces.

"This has been absolutely a shocking surprise to me this afternoon," Cliburn, 61, told the Fort Worth Star-Telegram. Cliburn's lawyer, Dee Kelly, said the claims are false and were an attempt at extortion. "Van Cliburn categorically denies the charges," Kelly said.

Zaremba is represented by attorney Mike McCurley, who represented tennis player Martina Navratilova as the defendant in similar litigation four years ago. McCurley said Zaremba met Cliburn in 1968 and the two became lovers in 1977. The lawyer described the relationship as "akin to a common-law marriage" and said it broke up two years ago.

McCurley said Zaremba does not have the AIDS virus and that he had no reason to believe that Cliburn has HIV. But he accused the pianist of having sex with other people who were HIV-positive during his relationship with Zaremba.

Cliburn said he has not been tested for HIV and does not have AIDS.

Zaremba, who teaches mortuary science at Wayne State University in Detroit, declined to comment when reached at his home in a Detroit suburb.

Although the exact total had not been determined, Zaremba will seek "multiple millions" of dollars in cash and property, McCurley said. He contended the pair agreed to share Cliburn's income in exchange for Zaremba providing services as a business and personal consultant, the lawsuit contends.

Cliburn rose to fame in 1958 at 23 when he won the Tchaikovsky International Music Competition in Moscow. He toured for the next 20 years, but suffered from stage fright. He left the stage in 1978 after earning a fortune but returned to touring on a reduced schedule two years later.

Drug Makers Warn Not To Combine AIDS Drugs

Trenton, NJ-AP- Warning AIDS patients not to combine two newly approved drugs, two pharmaceutical companies said they are beginning tests to determine the safest dose of the combination. Saquinavir is made by Hoffmann-La Roche Inc. of Nutley, N.J. which sells it under the brand name Invirase. The Food and Drug Administration approved its sale in December. Ritonavir is made by Abbott Laboratories of North Chicago, Ill., and sold under the brand name Norvir. It was approved in March. Both medicines are protease inhibitors, a new class of drugs that target an enzyme called protease needed in the reproduction of the AIDS virus.

"People are experimenting with the full dose of both drugs, not knowing the danger or what the optimal dosage is," said AIDS activist Jules Levin, founder of the National AIDS Treatment Advocacy Project in New York, on Tuesday.

"There have been some very negative experiences with this combination," he said, including a couple of Philadelphia patients who were hospitalized after bad reactions to the full dose of both drugs.

Hoffmann-LaRoche spokesman Daniel Berman said his company and Abbott have notified dozens of AIDS specialists who worked on human tests of the medicines against combining them until the new tests determine the safe dosage. Preliminary results are to be reported at the 11th International Conference on AIDS in Vancouver July 7-12.

Two weeks after ritonavir was approved, FDA cleared a third protease inhibitor made by Merck & Co. of Whitehouse Station, N.J. Indinavir, selling under the brand name Crixivan, appears to obliterate most of the HIV virus in a patient's blood, although the deadly virus lurks elsewhere in the body.

All three drugs cost several thousand dollars per year.

Dole's Campaign Runs Ad in Gay Paper

Washington, DC-AP- The group running Bob Dole's local campaign for next week's District of Columbia primary has taken out a half-page ad in the **Washington Blade**. The ad urges Republicans for a strong and united Republican Party, vote Bob Dole for president on May 7. The \$425 ad was paid for by the Bob Dole Delegate Committee, which is running Dole's campaign in the nation's capital and operates independently of the main Dole campaign.

"Why not?" said D.C. Republican Committee chairwoman and Dole delegate Julie Finley, who coordinated the advertising campaign. "It's just another publication. It's a newspaper and it has readership and people who read it support Bob Dole."

Dole campaign spokesman Nelson Warfield said the national campaign had no control over the placing of the ad in the **Blade**. "This group isn't controlled by Bob Dole, it's independent of the campaign," Warfield said. "There are probably plenty of **Blade** readers who are fed up with Bill Clinton's broken promises," Warfield said. "And we're not going to second-guess the local group who independently placed these ads."

Blade senior editor Lisa Keen was skeptical. "I suppose if somebody had checked in with the national campaign, they might have had some strong feelings about the placement of the ad," Keen said.

Canada Moves to Approve Gay Rights

Ottawa, Canada-AP- The campaign for Gay civil rights received a boost in Canada's House of Commons when lawmakers gave preliminary approval to a bill that would ban discrimination against Lesbians and Gay men.

The government-sponsored bill passed 178-53 and now goes to a committee for review for a final vote in the House.

Prime Minister Jean Chretien, anticipating a revolt from some members of his Liberal Party, allowed lawmakers to vote their conscience instead of the party line. Twenty-three lawmakers from Chretien's Liberal Party voted against the bill.

The legislation is expected to be approved when it comes up for a final vote in its third reading.

A Good Dose of Money Hides Prejudice

Asheville, NC-AP- A high school band will not be allowed to participate in a parade staged for a movie because the march supports Gay civil rights. The movie comedy **My Fellow Americans**, starring Jack Lemmon and James Garner, will be shot in Asheville and other Western North Carolina locations in May and June. North Buncombe High School officials considered letting the band march before declining.

"Something this controversial... I just felt like it would divide the community," said Principal Rodney Mangum.

The filmmakers initially offered his school's band \$10,000 for a 100-member band, then dropped the offer to \$4,000 for 40 band members, Mangum said. The altered offer, along with mixed reaction from parents, led him to back away from the offer, he said.

The parade scene has been scheduled to be filmed May 20 in downtown Asheville.

Reynolds High School, however, will march in the parade.

"We'll be dressed in regular band uniforms and not in any way, shape or form advocating anything," said David Perkins, president of Reynolds High School's Band Parents Association. Perkins said parents talked about the movie scene and decided to allow the marching band to participate after hearing about all the money. The movie has offered to pay the band \$10,000, or \$100 for each member of a 100-piece marching band, Perkins said. The band group has not yet signed a contract, he said.

Gays Rally in South Carolina

Columbia, SC-AP- The site may not have been South Carolina's Statehouse, but Clinton administration official Roberta Achtenberg stirred up political passions at the Gay and Lesbian Pride March on Saturday, April 27th. Achtenberg, a former assistant secretary at the federal Housing and Urban Development agency, told about 5,000 ralliers that Gays and Lesbians must assert themselves at the ballot box. "If we don't, then the right wing, like a pack of dogs, will chase us home and break down our doors," said Achtenberg.

The Riverfront Park, normally a haven for joggers, strollers and dog walkers, was decorated with vivid colored balloons and booths selling jewelry, buttons, stickers and T-shirts. A North Carolina group was selling shirts with a large stop sign and the slogan "Stop Helms," referring to U.S. Sen. Jesse Helms, R-N.C., re-election campaign this fall.

Members of the North Carolina Mobilization '96 were going through the crowd with voter registration forms.

Also speaking at the rally were Bob Bernstein, author of **Straight Parents/Gay Children**, and Chastity Bono, daughter of 1960s pop stars Sonny and Cher.

For five years, Ms. Bono denied rumors she was a Lesbian until finally announcing it last year in **The Advocate**. She said her father, U.S. Rep. Sonny Bono, (R-CA), was as understanding as could be.

Her mother, she said, was a different story. "That had more to do with her being the last in the family to know than with my decision," Ms. Bono said. "In about a week, she was OK."

Ms. Bono told the crowd her story of losing a lover to AIDS and how she could no longer live behind a curtain by hiding that she was a Lesbian. She urged everyone not to keep their lives secret.

Male Life Expectancy Down in New York

New York, NY-AP- For the first time this century the average life expectancy for males born in New York City has begun to decline, a trend that is blamed mainly on the AIDS epidemic, according to **The New York Times**. It said that city Department of Health figures show that the average male life expectancy was 68 in 1990, after peaking at 68.5 years in 1980. The nationwide life expectancy in 1990 was 71.8 years.

The figure had steadily risen each decade in New York since measurement began in 1901. At that time, the average male life span in the city was 40.6 years.

The decline in life span doesn't mean that New York men are dying younger, but that AIDS has become so pervasive it is affecting the statistical chances of men under 40 to make it to old age. The disease is the city's third largest killer of men, the Times said. Most victims are in their 30's.

Thailand Studying New AIDS Drug

Bangkok, Thailand-AP- Thailand's Food and Drug Administration is considering whether to approve the use of Ritonavir, one of several new drugs to inhibit the growth of HIV, the virus that causes AIDS. Local medical authorities attended a seminar where the drug's maker, Abbott Laboratories of the United States, provided details of research and experiments.

More than 800,000 people in Thailand are suspected to be infected with the HIV virus.

"Even though this medicine, Ritonavir, will not be able to cure AIDS completely, it gives patients a very high hope to have a better quality of life," said Professor Praphan Phanupak, director of the Thai Red Cross Society.

The drug, which has the brand name Norvir, is a so-called protease inhibitor, a relatively new type of medicine to battle HIV. "Protease inhibitors ... block the action of an enzyme involved in the final processing of the AIDS virus," a news release from Abbott Laboratories said. "By blocking protease activity, protease inhibitors prevent production of infectious viral particles."

Ritonavir was approved for sale by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration in early March. It was the second protease inhibitor to be approved. The FDA approved Saquinavir, also known as Invirase and made by Hoffman-La Roche, last December. In mid-March, a third protease inhibitor, Crixivan, made by Merck and Co., also received approval.

It is not known when Thailand's FDA will approve Ritonavir. It had been expected to approve Saquinavir this month, but the process has been delayed for technical reasons, a report in the Bangkok Post said.

Crixivan Affordability Increased by Pittsburgh Pharmacy for Cash Patients

Pittsburgh, PA- In response to community concerns regarding cash-paying clients who might have difficulty affording the newly-approved AIDS protease inhibitor, Crixivan, Stadtlanders Pharmacy has suggested use of a discount drug card program operated by Community Prescription Service (CPS).

With this card, people who pay cash for medications receive a deep discount from over 30,000 participating pharmacies, including Stadtlanders. People who use the card when purchasing Crixivan from Stadtlanders Pharmacy will save approximately 20% from the retail price of the drug.

According to Stadtlanders Executive Vice President of Sales and Marketing, Lisa Fischetti, "Stadtlanders adheres to contract pricing with thousands of third-party payors on a national basis.

The CPS discount prescription card entitles cash paying clients to take advantage of a similar contract pricing arrangement." According to Fischetti, over 5,000 people have received Crixivan from Stadtlanders since the temporary distribution program for the medication began four weeks ago.

Beginning Monday, April 29th, Stadtlanders will inform all individuals who are paying cash for Crixivan of the availability of the CPS discount card. The card is available at an annual cost of \$18, payable to CPS.

If the individual chooses to purchase the card to take advantage of these savings, Stadtlanders will take the application for the card on CPS' behalf. Individuals can also get the discount card by calling CPS directly at 1-800-842-0502.

In addition, for individuals without insurance who paid cash for Crixivan prior to April 29th, Stadtlanders has volunteered to retroactively credit their accounts for the discount if they provide Stadtlanders with their CPS card number by May 29th.

Crixivan is a potent inhibitor of the HIV protease enzyme that is critical to the replication of the virus that causes AIDS. Stadtlanders is the primary distributor of the drug as part of a temporary distribution program put in place by Merck & Company, Inc., the manufacturer of Crixivan.

The temporary distribution program is designed to ensure that all patients who begin therapy with Crixivan can continue without interruption, until expanded supplies of the medication are available from new

manufacturing facilities.

If therapy with Crixivan is interrupted, its antiviral activity may be diminished, which may decrease its ability to fight HIV. A centralized inventory and distribution method became the best solution to provide the broadest and quickest access possible.

The temporary program will end as soon as supplies are sufficient to meet demand. At that time, Crixivan will be made available through retail pharmacies, wholesalers, hospitals and other sources.

Stadtlanders Pharmacy is tracking, counting and sending each prescription from its Pennsylvania facility through a confidential and easy-to-use distribution program, as well as monitoring on a month-to-month basis whether patients are continuing on therapy as prescribed.

Stadtlanders is contacting prescribers for refills, and offering patients 24-hour pharmacist availability for urgent medication issues. In addition, it is notifying each customer's regular pharmacy that they have begun therapy with Crixivan, so the regular pharmacy can maintain a complete medication profile for monitoring of side effects and potential drug interactions between Crixivan and other medications obtained through the regular pharmacy.

According to Stadtlanders president and CEO, Gregg Perelman, "It is the support and understanding of the HIV-impacted community, individual patients, community pharmacists, prescribers, insurers...everyone together, that truly is making a program of this special nature possible."

Founded in 1987, Stadtlanders Pharmacy is a nationwide provider of disease-specific pharmaceutical care to individuals living with HIV/AIDS, transplant recipients, and other with specialized or complex medication needs. The company has a very long history of support for the HIV-impacted community, from providing **LIFETIMES2** magazine free of charge to subscribers across the country to want information on living well with HIV, to hosting symposiums on HIV and nutrition. In 1994, Stadtlanders underwrote all costs associated with the mile-long Raise The Rainbow flag, which appeared in the Stonewall 25 March on the United Nations and raised funds to support AIDS services nationwide.

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Speaking From the Right

Frivolous Lawsuits Dominate a Legal System in Desperate Need of Reform

Commentary by Jim McFarland

Where else but in America can a criminal be awarded \$43 million for accosting someone with a weapon, attempting to rob him, and then getting shot by the victim as a result? While Bernhard Goetz will never be a poster boy for the legal reform movement, his case is just yet another example of the abuses of the American legal system.

How about the case in which a criminal broke into someone's house, was shot by the homeowner, and then sued the homeowner?

And everyone has heard about the woman who drove with a cup of McDonald's coffee between her legs.

The plaintiff's attorneys (a/k/a the "ambulance chasers") always pull out trumped up studies to show that there has been no litigation explosion and that the average jury award is not excessive.

(Disraeli once said there are three kinds of lies: lies, damn lies, and statistics).

What they fail to mention, and what most people do not know about, is what happens before a case is even brought before a jury. It is known as the "strike suit" in which a person files a bogus claim against a corporation knowing that the corporation will likely settle in order to avoid the significant legal fees it would incur in winning.

Here are some examples of claims which were filed against my company on properties it holds for investment: a woman was paid \$2858 after she tripped on a stray bark chip on a ramp to her building (this was our fault?); a woman was paid \$528 after she sat on a planter and fell off (planters are for sitting on, right?); a man was paid \$4510 after he slipped on ice in the parking lot (if I was paid that much every time I slipped on ice on the pavement, I wouldn't have to work for a living).

A mother was paid \$99 after she let a garbage can lid slam on her child's hand as she was throwing trash away; a woman was paid \$10,200 after she tripped over a curb at the edge of the parking lot; another woman was paid \$3000 when she tripped over a drainage cover in the parking lot; a woman was paid \$796 when she walked into a planter, not paying attention (enough said); a woman was paid \$538 after she walked out the front door, tripped on a step, and fell down (how dare you put steps in front of an entrance!).

A woman was paid \$190 after she was knocked down by a boy riding a bike (you can't let boys ride bikes in our neighborhood); a man was paid \$281 after he fell and hit his head walking backwards up a hill (enough said!); a woman was paid \$254 after she opened a door over her foot (so one can be rewarded for clumsiness!); and a woman was paid \$2057 after she fell while attempting to stop another dog from biting hers (why didn't we have dog police there?).

Of course, these are only the cases in which the claimant was paid—you should see the claims of those who weren't paid but tried to get money.

One might question whether my company was doing a good job in settling these outrageous claims, but it has generally been recognized as one of the best in loss prevention. The fact is, we would have incurred much more in legal bills had we fought these cases, even though we would have won.

I will never forget the \$5000 our company was forced to pay to a woman alleging she was discriminated against because of her race when she was denied an apartment because of her horrible credit rating. We felt we had no choice, however, because the investigator enforcing the Federal Fair Housing law took her side, claiming that the credit rating companies are racist (although that had never even been alleged in any publication and none of the civil rights organizations I contacted had ever heard of such a charge), and then suggested that he thought she would settle for, say, \$5000.

If that wasn't extortion, I don't know what is. But we knew we would rack up quite a bit more in legal bills if we fought. Sadly, there has been much abuse of the anti-discrimination laws.

It has come to the point now where there are actually many people out there who make their living bringing claims against businesses. Of course, the attorneys who represent these people get anywhere from one-third to one-half of the settlement as their fee.

It is no wonder then that the plaintiffs' bar has fought tooth and nail against any reform of the legal system. And because the leadership of the Democrat Party is in the pocket of the plaintiffs' bar, they stymied all attempts to reform the legal system when they were in control of the state legislature.

Now that the Republicans control the state legislature, some limited reforms have been adopted, but even a Republican Congress could do no more than pass limited product

liability reform (due to filibusters by Senate Democrats), and President Clinton vetoed even that.

There are two major causes of lawsuit abuse today: (1) Americans are not willing to take responsibility for their own mistakes, and always need to find someone else to blame, and (2) juries and liberal judges have increasingly turned to the judiciary system as a means to redistribute wealth.

It is bad enough when elected legislatures choose to abuse governmental power in the name of "redistribution of wealth". It is downright obscene when unelected judges and juries do the same. But instead of redistributing wealth, these judges and juries are merely increasing costs for consumers and costing workers their livelihoods, as companies are either forced to increase prices to cover the cost of skyrocketing liability insurance, or go out of business, laying off their employees.

The only people who are really benefiting from this situation are the plaintiffs' attorneys.

TURN TO LAWSUITS, PAGE 23

Letters

Pornography Is Not Linked to Violence

TO THE EDITOR:

It seems that any bigot with a discredited opinion can get published in the *Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel* these Days. Contrary to the opinions of people trying to control what everyone else can read and see, there is in fact no established link between adult materials and violence. More than one government study has discredited this empty theory. Yet, the *Journal* prints these falsehoods and refuses to print the truth.

The perpetrators of violence against women and children do not need to be set off by an adult magazine or movie. It is well established that sexual violence is not about sex, it is about power and control. More often than not, it is about men who are control freaks and who have no control in the real world except over their own families. Adult videos with any violent content at all have long ago disappeared from the adult marketplace. In fact, virtually all the violence against women and most against children is carried out by your "average" heterosexual male. Many are likely to be considered upstanding citizens and church goers in their communities. Trying to blame the high levels of domestic violence in the home, and the vast majority of child molestation that takes place within the home on pornographic materials is a total fiction.

I certainly see no evidence that Gay adult materials cause Gay males to sexually or physically assault other males or to assault lesbians. Obviously if there was a link between violence and pornography, it would show up here too. It doesn't. Face it, heterosexual males are, in large part, immersed in a culture of violence. Taking away their dirty magazines or movies isn't going to make one bit of difference.

If those who want to control what you and I can see in the privacy of our homes did get what they wanted, they would not be satisfied. If they were correct about a link between pornography and violence and wholly succeeded in their quest, the sexual offender could just as easily be set off by a bikini on the beach or an underwear advertisement in your local newspaper. What will they be out to ban next?

What else needs to be outlawed to protect us from ourselves? These bigots are worst than any big brother. It is especially ironic that most of the radical right who support such agendas are supposed to believe in individual freedom and less government. They certainly believe in more government when it comes to forcing their religious and moral views upon others.

The simple fact of the matter is that pornography serves important public purposes. Look at the sales and rental figures for adult videos, sales figures for adult magazines, and other indicators. Unless 25% of the population consists of sexual perverts, a great number of very average people purchase and rent this material. Although they probably would not admit it, many married couples enjoy adult entertainment to spice up their marriages and revive sexual interest. This helps to keep the partners interested and keeps the marriage together which benefits society.

Adult materials give many adults a valuable form of release. Face it, there are a lot of single people who are not in relationships, church supported or otherwise. There are a lot of single people who for various reasons do not have regular sexual outlets, and a significant number who have no outlets. Adult materials provide a very significant relief valve. Adult materials also provide an alternative to unsafe sexual practices, reducing the transmission of HIV and other sexually transmitted diseases. Of course, the bigots will tell you "don't touch yourself there!" Oh yes, they have always had a thing about that. Don't fool yourself, they still do.

There is a saying that if a minority group can control what the majority does in their own bedrooms, then controlling everything else comes easy. Banning adult videos, outlawing adult shops, removing books

from libraries, and using the law to enforce religious based belief systems has nothing to do with "protecting" anyone, it is all about power and control.

If the religious and radical right cared about any of us, there are lots of things they could do to make all of our lives better. Instead of worrying about what adult movies we watch or books we read, or who we love, they could do something about cleaning up the real messes in life. Of course, doing something truly meaningful is work, and not nearly as much fun as complaining, nor is it nearly as good for raising money.

You can hardly blame pornography for domestic violence, youth crimes, unwed mothers, the high divorce rate, gangs, organized crime, drugs, school dropouts, unemployment and underemployment, or unrealistic expectations.

It is so easy for the radical right to blame all of society's problems on pornography, gays and lesbians, abortion, or teenagers seeing dirty pictures on the Internet. These are all emotional targets to take our minds off the real facts. These things are simply ploys to manipulate those who don't know any better. They have only one real game, power and control.

The radical right hides behind the Bible, and window dresses their hate with the love of Jesus. They use the good things of religion and faith to cloak their real agenda and to try to convince you and I to swallow it whole, unthinking and uncomprehending. They know you won't remember that Adolph Hitler was big on "family values" too!

And those of you who have no use for adult materials, keep in mind that is only their first step. When they get around to taking away what you do care about, there will be no one else left to stand up for you.

To paraphrase history, "When they came for the Jews, I did not stand up because I was not a Jew; when they came for the homosexuals I did not stand up because I was not a homosexual; when they came for the communists, I did not stand up because...; when they came for the trade unionists...and when they came for me, there was no one left to stand up."

Dan F. Schram
Milwaukee, WI

Tired of Innuendoes

TO THE EDITOR:

I haven't heard that many rumors, innuendoes, allegations, and nelly hysterics since my twelve-year-old slumber party.

Not mentioned in the McFarland/Evertz commentary are Karen Gotzler's qualifications and enormous contributions to the 3rd District, the City of Milwaukee, and the Gay/Lesbian/Bi (g/l/b) community, by which we have all greatly benefitted. She has probably started, chaired or volunteered for every g/l/b organization in the city. Gotzler's leadership, character and integrity are not in question.

Nor is there any real question why Log Cabin reneged on Gotzler's endorsement and went public. Considering the Log Cabin has publicly begged the Dole campaign to take their contribution money, they are pathetically trying to show what good little troopers they are for the Republican Party. I can well imagine they were "shell-shocked" after Gotzler declined to participate in the Log Cabin's inquisition.

One of the fascinating aspects of their letter is the use of hand-wringing phrases such as, "difficult situation," "Morally offensive," "code of silence," "good of the community," "unfortunate reality," and their speaking out "to protect the community" — all classic terms used by bigots to oppress minorities.

Has there been too much sap-sucking going on at the ol' log cabin? Log Cabin's willingness to give credence to the smear tactics used against Gotzler will probably keep g/l/b elected officials in the city, county and state from coming out. Their paternalistic claptrap will also encourage future candidates to either stay at home or stay in the closet.

The question that has me stumped: Why did Log Cabin endorse Karen Gotzler in the first place?

Kimberly Floyd
Milwaukee

GOP and Ryan White

TO THE EDITOR:

Republicans have been the targets of considerable criticism during this session of Congress, especially from AIDS activists and AIDS organizations; but three significant and positive developments have occurred in the last two weeks that belie negative characterizations.

It is time to give credit where credit is due, and it is time to recognize some of the contributions this Republican led Congress has made on HIV-related issues.

First, substantial increases in Ryan White CARE Act Programs were passed as part of the Balanced Budget Downpayment Act II. Appropriations for each of the Ryan White programs was increased over FY 1995 levels, with a total increase across the board of close to 17%. In addition to Ryan White programs, funds were appropriated for AIDS Education and Training Centers and AIDS dental services.

In a budget year that included consistent and marked belt-tightening for many government programs, these funding increases for programs that support people with HIV disease and HIV education programs are positive developments of considerable note.

Also as part of the Balanced Budget Downpayment Act II, the Congress repealed a provision in the Defense Authorization bill, that had been signed by the President, that required that HIV-positive military personnel be discharged from service.

The repeal of this provision was a bipartisan effort, to be sure, but it was championed by many Republican members. The success of the repeal effort is cause for celebration. What should not be lost, however, is the fact that the weeks of debate over this ill-advised dis-

charge provision also provided important opportunities for education and for elected officials to work closely with community, veteran, professional, and medical organizations.

Finally, the reauthorization of the Ryan White CARE Act should be completed this week. Many AIDS activists had been concerned that reauthorization was hopelessly stalled in conference committee. In the end, this reauthorization was held up, not by partisan issues, but by debates over the formulas to be used to disburse funds.

The successful completion of reauthorization insures that valuable HIV care and education programs will continue to be available for Americans affected by HIV disease for at least the next five years.

Just look at what a republican led Congress has done. It has shown compassion, concern, and commitment to fighting the HIV epidemic and to preserving the quality of life of American citizens affected by HIV disease.

Rep. Steve Gunderson (R-WI)
Washington, D.C.

Deadlines

Copy deadline for the May 23rd issue (*the Pride Issue*) is May 17th.

Ad deadline for the May 23rd issue is May 21st.

Copy deadline for the June 6th issue is May 31st.

Ad deadline for the June 6th issue is June 4th.

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Jerry Johnson

Demonstrating—ACT UP Milwaukee held a rally/press conference outside Milwaukee's City Hall on April 25th. Shown above are several of the 15 demonstrators demanding municipal funding for needle exchange.

PrideFest '96, June 7,8,9 Gears Up to Be the Biggest And Best Celebration Ever

Milwaukee—PrideFest '96 is gearing up for its best festival ever. The ninth annual celebration is marking its first year at Henry W. Maier Festival Park (Summerfest grounds).

PrideFest kicks off at 6:00 p.m. on Friday evening, June 7th, with a dedication and ribbon cutting ceremony. That night, the festival welcomes nationally known singers-comedians-political satirists, Romanovsky and Phillips to PrideFest's Alyn Hess Stage (Miller Main Stage).

PrideFest continues on Saturday with an excellent line-up of entertainers including a Broadway review by internationally famed producer-director Dale Gutzman.

Gutzman is famous for his shows at the Pabst and other Milwaukee stages. He has taken his troupe to Thailand several times and was received with wild acclaim.

Appearing also will be actor, comedian Jason Stuart, recording artist Jeff Krassner and dance music sensation Gillette.

Other acts scheduled to appear include Don't Records recording artist The Yell Leaders, the Cream City Chorus, the Fest City Singers, Lesbian comedian Tracey Rose from Illinois, Chicago's Theatre Q performing troupe, and fireworks by the Bartolottas accented with a Laser Light Show.

On Sunday, June 9th, PrideFest starts with an interfaith service at 10:30 a.m., followed by the Pride Parade at noon, the ceremonial Wedding at 6:30 p.m., plus a six hour country line up starting at 1:30 p.m. with Nashville's Jeff Miller, comedian John Berg, and the BJ Daniels Revue which includes the best in female impersonators and performers from around Wisconsin.

Additionally, PrideFest will host a volleyball tournament and a Classic car show on Saturday, June 8th.

These are only a sampling of the outstanding entertainment PrideFest has to offer this year. The festival is still securing some more performers for this year's entertainment and will release that information as it becomes available.

Madison-Based Radio Show "Inside Out" to Broadcast PrideFest Live June 8th

Madison—One of the many "firsts" at this year's PrideFest, will be the live broadcast of the Madison-based radio show "Inside Out." is a two year old program focusing on the issues and concerns of the LesBiGay community, as well as highlighting LesBiGay culture. The program airs from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. Saturdays on Madison-based WTSO-AM 1070.

In the weeks prior to PrideFest, "Inside Out" will carry a heavy schedule of features and interviews informing the Madison community of the new and exciting events that will mark the festival's move to the Mayor Henry W. Maier Festival Grounds (Summerfest grounds).

On June 8th, the program will travel to Milwaukee for a first time ever remote broadcast, "Live" from the festival grounds. During the course of the program, hosts Brian Tyler, Dayne Versteegen, Paul Wesselmann and Diana Summers, will interview PrideFest corporate sponsors, artists and performers, and friends and neighbors from around the nation, attending the event.

This first ever "live" radio broadcast electronically links the Madison and Milwaukee LesBiGay communities in an exciting new way and assists in making the festival a statewide event. Both the PrideFest Council and the producers of "Inside Out" are excited by the opportunity the broadcast represents.

available.

Admission Deals

PrideFest has announced new admission deals for this year's festival.

A one-day ticket to PrideFest will cost \$4. Advance three-day passes are going for only \$8, a \$4 saving for festival fans.

Members of the Proud Crowd can also wear their official 1996 PrideFest T-shirt and get FREE admission to the festival until 2:30 p.m. both Saturday and Sunday.

New this year is the addition of the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel Press Card admission. Use your Press Card on Sunday to get free admission from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Three-day advance tickets are available by mail by sending \$8 to "PrideFest Ticket," P.O. Box 93852, Milwaukee, WI 53203.

For additional information, call (414) 272-FEST.

Get in the Parade!

PrideFest is calling for anyone who wants to participate in this year's Pride Parade to submit an application no later than June 1st.

To register, send a letter to: Pride Parade, 1221 E. Brady St., Milwaukee, WI 53202.

The Parade is scheduled for Sunday, June 9th at noon with a pre-parade rally on the PrideFest grounds at 11:30 a.m.

Rep. Gunderson to be in Milwaukee on June 7th Attending Challenging Party VIII

Milwaukee—Congressman Steve Gunderson's (R-WI) office has confirmed that he will be in Milwaukee on Friday evening, June 7th, the opening day of PrideFest. Gunderson is the only openly Gay Republican member of the House. With him will be his partner, Rob.

Gunderson and his partner will be in Milwaukee to attend Challenging Party VIII. According to the group's flyer, the Congressman will be discussing the politics of coming out in Washington. He and his partner will also be giving "insights" into their forthcoming book.

Each year, the Challenging Party is organized by a group called "Challengers," a group of Lesbians and Gay men. The purpose of the party is to give attendees an opportunity to contribute to pre-chosen service organizations based on funding needs for programs that are "specifically directed to our community." Attendance requires a minimum donation of \$250.

This year's recipients of the Challenging Party's benefactions are: the Milwaukee AIDS Project, the Lesbian Alliance of Metro Milwaukee Education Fund, and the Human Rights League.

Challenging Party VIII will be held on the penthouse floor of the Astor Hotel in Milwaukee. For that reason, and because the Party is being held during PrideFest weekend, the title of the event is "Penthouse Pride."

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BestD Clinic Hosts a Coffee Sponsored by the Community Election Coalition

Milwaukee -- A nice crowd attended the "Community Coffee" held Thursday, April 25, 1996 at the BestD Clinic. Those who were there had an opportunity to talk with the public officials that showed up to meet with members of the community.

Representatives came from organizations that make up the "Community Election Coalition" that sponsored this event. Action Wisconsin, the Human Rights League, the Lesbian Alliance of Metro Milwaukee, Lesbians of Color/Women of Color and Sherman Park Rainbow Association, as well as other organizations such as Ujima and Log Cabin Club, all attended this event and are thankful to BestD Clinic for hosting it.

Thanks needs to go out to the only four officials who took the time to attend: County Supervisors T. Anthony Zielinski, Elizabeth Coggins-Jones, and Dorothy Dean; also thanks

6th District Alderwoman Marlene Johnson, despite the fact that the meeting was held in the 3rd Aldermanic District.

This was the first time as a community that the Community Election Coalition held a thank you/congratulations gathering for elected officials and it gave them a great opportunity to let the elected officials know that our community is out there and organized. Let's hope that we continue to do this after each election.



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Gunning for Gays: Gay Men and Lesbians on Right-Wing Militia's Hit List

by Sue Burke

"Homosexuals are a tool to weaken America," explained George Matousek, who expects United Nations troops to swarm over his home state of Michigan any minute now. When Gays are finally allowed in the military, he went on to tell the **Metro Times of Michigan**, straight men will flee, leaving behind "women and homos, people who can't fight their way out of a paper bag." UN troops will just saunter in.

This is the convoluted, conspiratorial logic coming out of the militia movement, a fast-growing and secretive phenomenon with 15,000 to 100,000 members in at least 40 states, according to most observers.

It is the movement that sees sinister black helicopters hovering over every bush, jack-booted federal thugs at every door, secret barcodes on paper money so government agencies can scan your house and know how much money you have, a huge secret troop base under Detroit ready for the final takeover by the one-world government, and computer chips implanted in peoples' butts to allow the government sufficient purview over our activities to render us virtual slaves.

And if you are Gay or Lesbian, you are part of that all-controlling government conspiracy, even if you do not realize it.

Militias are private armies, pure and simple, with arms caches that astound and terrify law enforcement officers. Militia members are afraid enough to kill and are training for combat. Would-be inheritors of the 1776 American Revolution, militias fuse together gun rights promoters, tax protesters, survivalists, extreme libertarians, anti-abortionists, pre-existing racists and anti-Semites, jury nullification activists, English-only supporters, "Wise Use" anti-environmentalists, millennialists, far right Christians, and state and county rights advocates.

"We're ready to look the federal government in the eye," says Samuel Sherwood, founder of the US Militia Association, based in Blackfoot, Idaho. "We want a bloodless revolution, but if the bureaucrats won't listen, we'll give them civil war to think about."

According to Scott Nakagawa, a National Gay and Lesbian Task Force organizer in Portland, Oregon, and an expert on militias, Sherwood has said the following about President Bill Clinton: "In his term, he will have killed more babies than Hitler, put more homosexuals in government than Sodom and Gomorrah, had the schools teach your children it is right, and forced you to accept it."

Several strands of beliefs weave through militias, making generalizations impossible, but 85 percent are right-wing Christians, according to Skip Porteus of the Institute for First Amendment Studies in Great Barrington, Massachusetts.

Right-wing Christians have long promulgated the fear that Gays have an "agenda" to take over society. They believe "that's why Gays want to get into schools," Porteus says, "because they recruit, they don't reproduce, which you and I know is absurd."

Some militia organizers, like the Reverend Pete Peters of Colorado, even call for the execution of all Gay people. "Death Penalty for Homosexuals is Prescribed in the Bible," reads the title of a pamphlet published by Peters. The pamphlet calls on Christians to enforce the Bible as civil law.

Another Peters pamphlet blames "Jewish controlled Hollywood" for making heroes out of "queer-looking" sissies and claims white America is being destroyed by "integration, interracial marriage, affirmative action, abortion, faggot queers, etc."

Although the chief target for all militia members is the allegedly godless, oppressive federal government, especially its law enforcement officers, Gays and Lesbians should get no comfort by being lower on the list of bulls-eyes.

"The problem is this," says Chip Berlet, an analyst at the Cambridge, Massachusetts-based Political Research Associates, "that targets likely to end up in a confrontation with the militias are not just state and local and federal officials—which I think are the primary targets—but abortion providers and Jews and Gays and Lesbians. Anyone who a militia member happens to believe is in a targeted stereotyped group that is part of the conspiracy is at risk."

Paranoia, Inc.

The militia movement started well before Waco siege disaster on April 19, 1993, although the death of 85 Branch Davidians that day kicked the movement into high gear. The attention drawn to militias by the bombing in Oklahoma City on April 19, 1995, which killed 168 people, revved up the militias even more. Where it is headed is not clear, but we know where it has been.

Long-time observers of the Right like Porteus and Berlet, and groups like the Southern Poverty Law Center, the Center for Democratic Renewal, and the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, were warning about militias before the bombing.

These groups worry because they see old

foes, including the Ku Klux Klan, roaming through the shadows of militias. But even open elements of the militia movement, like the "mainstream" Christian Coalition, headed by the Reverend Pat Robertson, hold bizarre, dangerous views.

Televangelist Robertson ran against George Bush for the Republican nomination for President in 1988. Although Robertson did not win, his followers collected three million signatures on petitions supporting him. With those names and a \$64,000 donation of seed money from the Republican Senatorial Campaign Committee, Robertson founded the Christian Coalition in October 1989. It now has 1.6 million members, an annual budget of \$25 million and a dominant voice in up to eighteen of the fifty state Republican parties.

Robertson is the same man who once said the Equal Rights Amendment would encourage women to practice witchcraft and become Lesbians. Only what he is saying these days is even crazier.

In his 1991 Conspiracy primer, **The New World Order**, a sort of bible for some militia groups, Robertson uses Isaiah 2:2-4 to prove that "God's people" should run the world in place of its current leaders: "drunkards, drug dealers, communists, atheists, New Age worshippers of Satan, oppressive dictators, greedy money changers, revolutionary assassins, adulterers, and homosexuals."

And who are these "greedy money changers", which form a central part of the conspiracy? Although Robertson does not directly implicate Jews, his source material, neatly laid out in his bibliography, blames Jews entirely. Robertson draws on the very same poison—the same documents—that Nazi Germany used to justify the Holocaust.

That kind of anti-Semitism is typical of the paranoid Right, along with the most vicious racism in America.

Another guidebook for militias is William L. Pierce's 1978 novel **The Turner Diaries**. It gruesomely describes a successful terrorist campaign by a racist organization rebelling against the "Cohen Act," which, in the novel, outlawed gun ownership by private citizens. Turner himself is depicted as destroying the Pentagon with a nuclear warhead in a suicide mission.

Pierce, who holds a doctorate in physics from the University of Colorado and who founded the neo-Nazi National Alliance in 1969, describes in the epilogue of his book the final victory of whites over non-whites, in which "a combination of chemical, biological and radiological means" sterilizes 16 million square miles of the Earth's surface, mostly in Asia.

"The primary purpose of sexual activity is the upbreeding of the race," claimed Pierce in the August, 1992 **National Vanguard**, a newspaper Pierce publishes. "Homosexuality is a disease, a perversion of the most pathological sort," he says, which, like bestiality, contraception and interracial sex, will degrade the race—the white race, of course.

Also influencing some militia groups is a small, fifty-year-old religion called "Christian Identity." Michael Barkun, a professor at the University of North Carolina who has studied the faith, says it has about 20,000 to 30,000 adherents with about 100,000 total people associated with it in some way.

Christian Identity, Barkun explains, has three main beliefs: that white "Aryans" are the true descendants of the tribes of Israel and thus are here to do God's work; that Jews are the devil's spawn, the result of a mating of

Satan and Eve; and that the world is on the verge of a final struggle between good (white Aryans) and evil (Jews and their fellow "mud people").

John Trochmann, one of the founders of the Militia of Montana, has denied that he or most militia members are racist to television news reporters and at the June 15, 1995 hearings on militias chaired by US Senator Arlen Specter (R-PA).

At the Specter hearing, Senator Max Baucus (D-MT) showed a document Trochmann had filed at the Sanders County Courthouse on January 26, 1992, in which Trochmann used the Dred Scott decision to show that only the "white race" has constitutional rights.

A White Man Scorned...

In fact, anti-government sentiments seem to motivate the bulk of militias' rank and file, not overt homophobia, racism and anti-Semitism. The average member worries most about state and local rights that seem to have been usurped by the federal government, says NGLTF's Nakagawa.

He said the militia movement attracts people who feel buffeted by a powerful government and a cruel economy. Some are small-business owners frustrated by government regulations, and others are white heterosexual men who, like most Americans, have seen a real loss in their standard of living and range of options. Indeed, young male workers with only a high school education lost thirty percent of their real income between 1973 and 1993, according to US Census Bureau statistics.

At the same time, the federal government has defined and parceled out equality since the 1960s, and gains among women as the result of feminism and gains by minorities of all sorts are blamed for the plight of white males.

"The right-wing movement as a whole phenomenon is a reaction primarily to the civil rights movement," Nakagawa says. It is also a response to the peace movement, feminism, Gay and Lesbian visibility and even the New Deal and the Great Society.

"So the point of entry into these militias is often not an appeal to white supremacy," he says. "But the appeal is made, and made continuously over the course of organizing people who become susceptible to the message because nobody else is reaching out to them..."

Militias are so popular in eastern Oregon, says Nakagawa, "that people who are on our side are forced to negotiate" with militia members, allowing militia believers to capture the debate on issues from welfare to feminism.

Wacko About Waco

"Waco was the shot heard 'round the world," Texas Constitutional Militia organizer John Roland told **USA Today** in January, 1995. "It woke us up to a very corrupt beast."

And even militia critics believe the government did wrong at Waco.

"The government has made a whole lot of mistakes both in how they handled Waco and then dealt with the aftermath," says Chip Berlet. "But there certainly was not some thousand-year-old conspiracy behind Waco. It was just government misconduct."

Conspiracies can be easily spread, however, and "behind every conspiracy theory is a grain of truth," Berlet says. "What happens is that charlatans get hold of it, and they build it into this big, seamless conspiracy that goes throughout history."

Anyone looking for conspiracies can go on the Internet and check out the newsgroups talk.politics.guns or alt.conspiracy to see the latest. There, anyone with a computer might be able to get the text of **The Protocols of the Elders of Zion**, a famous old anti-Semitic tract, or to discuss whether US Attorney

General Janet Reno is a Lesbian, a murderer, or both.

"I feel that the biggest difference between her and J. Edgar Hoover is Hoover looked better in a dress," groused Tommy Usher (hacker@ns.secis.com) on alt.conspiracy.

US Representative Helen Chenoweth (R-ID), Congress' "poster child for militias," who campaigned for the November, 1994 election saying the only endangered species was the "white Anglo-Saxon male," has said the decision to protect the Northern spotted owl is leading to a "breakdown in state sovereignty and possibly leading to a one-world government."

In February 1995, she wrote to the Assistant Agriculture Secretary Jim Lyons to complain that "black helicopters" were being used by federal rangers to enforce the Endangered Species Act.

Chenoweth was the only statewide candidate who supported Proposition 1 on Idaho's November, 1994 ballot. This referendum, narrowly defeated by Idaho voters, would have denied Gays and Lesbians "minority status," prohibited same-sex marriages and prevented school lessons that approved of homosexuality.

Behind Proposition 1 was the Idaho Citizens Alliance. The organization's debate manual for the campaign said that Gays and Lesbians are "spawn of the devil" bent on destroying families.

Gay men, it added, are mostly masochists who "enjoy getting beaten up by homophobes and Christians."

Despite its monumental paranoia, the militia movement appears to have constructed a few conspiracies of its own. Reverend Peters organized a 1992 meeting in Estes Park, Colorado, attended by 150 leaders of far-right groups.

Behind closed doors, Richard Butler, fuhrer of the Idaho-based white supremacist Aryan Nations, and Louis R. Beam, Jr., former Grand Dragon emeritus of the Realm of Texas Ku Klux Klan and "ambassador-at-large" of the Aryan Nations, suggested building a militia movement with a national network of activists and resources organized in such a way that they could claim the movement has no leaders, which would shield it from prosecution.

"This is critical because many of the militia's activities are criminally treasonous," says Loretta J. Ross, research director for the Center for Democratic Renewal.

"They are attempting to form a citizen's army to overthrow the United States government." She accuses them of using phony financial schemes and of possibly gun running to finance their movement.

At the Specter hearing, John Bohlman, a young and nervous Musselshell County, MT, county attorney, testified about how John Trochmann, in the January 24, 1995 Militia of Montana's newsletter **Taking Aim**, told how to set up replacement county governments and how to use bogus money orders to fund these activities, which members of other militias already have done.

Local law enforcement officers are outgunned, Bohlman said. "I am concerned that militias with spawn lawbreakers who will be immune to prosecution due to actual violent resistance by the lawbreakers' militia associates or due to the threat of violence readily projected by MOM (Militia of Montana) and the North American Militia."

The militias' violent rhetoric "bounces around" among unknown individuals in the same way violent anti-abortion rhetoric reverberated through sympathetic crowds, Noah Chandler of the Center for Democratic Renewal warns, "and then all of a sudden there's a shooting."

Worse yet, the ideas are spreading. Tony Horwitz, a Wall Street Journal reporter working on a book about the South, finds militia-type conspiratorial notions being spouted in all sorts of venues in the South.

"What this suggests is not only that anti-governmental extremism represents a vast subculture, but that it comes in many guises, and usually not in jungle fatigues," he says. "This makes extremism easy to miss, or at least easy to dismiss."

Chip Berlet compares the situation to the Weimar Republic. "You see the rise of a large group of disaffected middle-class and working-class people with a strong sense of grievance. None of the major parties speak for them," he says. "Ultimately, some people, persuaded by these scapegoating arguments, conclude that the swiftest solution is to eliminate the scapegoats."

The militia movement won't go away, he adds, "until we find out why so many millions of Americans are so angry at the government." Berlet proposes to address real economic grievances, rationally refute scapegoating and expose the lies and prejudices that the most fanatical members spew.

Gays and Lesbians need to understand that the movement tolerates homophobia, although individual members harbor different levels of prejudice. Still, "if you go into the militia movement homophobic, you're going to come out homophobic and armed," Berlet says. That should scare Gay and Lesbian people, he warns.

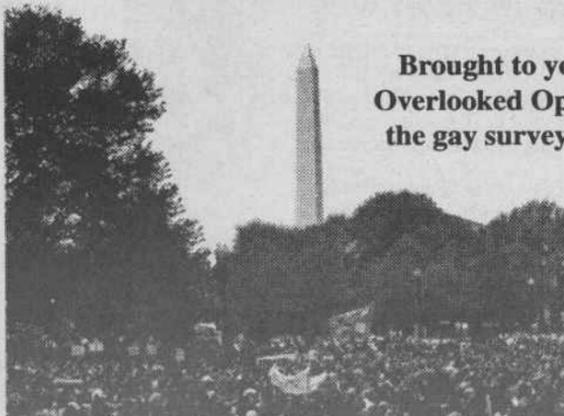
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Lillie Taylor—the Milwaukee AIDS Project's Volunteer of the Year, accepted her award from Cheryl Lucas, Director of Volunteer Resources, at the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin's Volunteer Recognition Dinner held at the Italian Community Center recently.

Riverwest Rainbow Association Forms

Milwaukee—A new LesBiGayTrans organization is in the process of formation. It is the Riverwest Rainbow Association, a community gather of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgendered neighbors and friends who live in the Riverwest section of Milwaukee.

The Association will be holding a "get to know you" picnic on Saturday, May 25th from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. at Kern Park, Site 4 (closest to the river), 3500 block of N. Humboldt Boulevard.

Come out, bring a dish to pass and meet everyone.

Topics to chat about will include: frequency of meetings, whether or not to have a table at Locust Street days; setting up meetings with Common Council members; building community; the possibility of walking together at PrideFest; and how to work together with other LesBiGayTrans groups.

For more information, call (414) 225-1645, or write: RRA, c/o Peace Action Center, 1001 E. Keefe, Milwaukee, WI 53212.

Milwaukee One of Three US Cities Least at Risk for Cryptosporidium

Washington, DC—Over 30 million people in 28 of the nation's cities are at risk of a Cryptosporidium outbreak in their drinking water becoming a health problem, according to a report recently released by the National Association of People with AIDS (NAPWA).

The report examines testing and reporting practices for Cryptosporidium among 31 of the nation's metropolitan water districts. Cryptosporidium is a microscopic parasite that can cause severe health problems, especially among people with compromised immune systems, and is often found in drinking water.

"People with compromised immune systems, especially people living with HIV, need to understand that their public drinking water may not be safe," said A. Cornelius Baker, Acting Executive director of NAPWA. "This report will help educate the public about this problem and serve as a guide to creating solutions."

In 1995, more than 45 million Americans drank tap water from sources that contained Cryptosporidium. In April 1993, an outbreak of Cryptosporidium in Milwaukee caused more than 400,000 residents to become ill from their drinking water. Approximately 4,500 people were hospitalized and 110 people died. Of those who died, the majority were people with HIV. Additional outbreaks have since occurred in cities such as Las Vegas and Philadelphia.

Of the 31 cities surveyed by NAPWA, six are at extremely high risk of a Cryptosporidium outbreak becoming a major public health crisis. For people with HIV/AIDS and others with weakened immune systems in the six extremely high risk cities — Atlanta, Dallas, Minneapolis, Newark, St.

Petersburg, and Washington—NAPWA recommends they immediately follow the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Guidelines on Cryptosporidium, which include: boiling tap water, drinking bottled water and/or using specified NSF-approved under-the-sink or direct-faucet filters.

Twenty-two cities—Baltimore, Boston, Chicago, Cleveland, Denver, Detroit, Houston, Kansas City, Los Angeles, Miami, New Haven, New Orleans, New York, Philadelphia, Phoenix, Portland, Raleigh, Sacramento, San Diego, San Francisco, St. Louis and West Palm Beach—were found to be a high risk.

Three of the cities—Milwaukee, Seattle and Tampa—are at low risk of having an outbreak of Cryptosporidium becoming a health crisis because of regular surveillance, notification and consumer education.

People with HIV infection, the elderly, infants, transplant recipients and individuals undergoing chemotherapy are considered the most vulnerable for cryptosporidiosis, the infection caused by Cryptosporidium. For most healthy people, cryptosporidiosis causes abdominal cramps, low-grade fever, nausea and extreme diarrhea resulting in dehydration and even hospitalization. Symptoms normally last two to three weeks. For vulnerable populations the symptoms may last for months and can be fatal.

"NAPWA encourages all individuals who are concerned about their drinking water to become educated consumers," said Lisa Ragain, Policy Associate for NAPWA. "Find out where your water comes from, how it is tested, and consider safe alternatives."

Three of the Smaller Milwaukee Area HIV Service Providers Unite

Milwaukee—Three of Milwaukee's small providers of HIV/AIDS services have announced the establishment of United HIV Services (UHS). UHS is a cooperative venture of BestD Clinic, STD Specialties Clinic and St. Camillus HIV/AIDS Ministry.

According to Bro. Stephen E. Braddock, Ph.D., Executive Director of St. Camillus, "UHS is committed to providing a continuum of quality, holistic care and support to persons infected or affected by HIV disease."

Ross Walker, President of BestD Clinic, states the three partners will attempt to "model cooperation between service providers and promote sensitivity to all individuals regardless of race, religious beliefs, age, gender, sexual orientation or disability."

"As we discern and develop new initiatives and services for the months ahead, such as case management, early intervention and more programs for women and children, UHS will stay focused on what is best for the people we support. It's long past time to make collaboration more than a buzz word," said Braddock.

Fred (Casey) Reilly, RN, Executive Director of STD Specialties agrees, adding, "We're all in this together. The more united we are, the more effective we are."

The combined programs of BestD, STD Specialties and St. Camillus offers a continuum of service and care from prevention and diagnosis through death and beyond. "Living with HIV means having to make some very important decisions and UHS facilitates some options. People are entitled to have choices concerning their health and well-being," said Walker.

Faith in Action Grant

The St. Camillus AIDS Ministry Interfaith Volunteer Caregiving Program has received a \$25,000 Faith in Action grant from The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. This grant will help the ministry recruit and train volunteers to provide services to those living with AIDS.

Some of the services the volunteers will provide include housekeeping, transportation to medical appointments, shopping, errands, and respite for caregivers.

"Given all the responsibilities entrusted to the volunteers, the esteem in which they are held is high. They will be duly recognized, affirmed and appreciated for their efforts," said Braddock.

The grant is from The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the nation's largest private philanthropy dedicated to improving health care through grant-giving. The Princeton, NJ-based Foundation established Faith in Action two years ago.

The Foundation expects to fund 800 Faith in Action grants totaling \$20 million over the next two years. Recipients must obtain matching funds locally in order to continue projects in the future.

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation has helped establish nearly a thousand projects that help the elderly, people with Alzheimer's disease, AIDS and chronic illness, health care for the homeless, high-risk mothers, infants,

and children.

For information on this Faith in Action project or to volunteer, call Kathryn O'Connor Kuhn at (414) 259-4664, or contact the project at 10101 West Wisconsin Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53226. For information on how to start your own Faith in Action program, contact

Dr. Kenneth Johnson, Executive Director of Faith in Action, at (914) 331-0016.

New Book Tells the Story of L/G/B/T Olympic Triumph Cobb County

Atlanta, GA—The story of determined activists and their desperate struggle with Olympic powers is told in the new book: **Olympics Out of Cobb/Spiked!** The second victory in this tale came when Olympic officials recently routed the torch relay around Cobb County after previously removing volleyball.

Quoted from the book: "Start with one anti-gay resolution in Cobb County, Georgia, add women's Olympic volleyball to the Cobb Galleria Centre, sprinkle with Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgendered people and other human rights activists weary from a history of government sanctioned discrimination, stir in hatemongers determined to maintain traditions of bigotry and you have a recipe for a controversy of Olympic proportions."

The ongoing clash between Olympic officials and Transgendered, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Gay activists took another twist just before the press conference announcing the book at 1:00pm on Wednesday, May 1, 1996 at Charis Books and More, 1189 Euclid Avenue, Atlanta, GA, (404) 524-0304.

As reported in *Light*, the latest page in this saga came on April 19, 1996, with the removal of the Olympic torch relay route from Cobb County before protests began with the torch arrival in LA on April 27, 1996.

The controversy with the Olympic committees began in January 1994 when the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games (ACOG) announced the Cobb Galleria Centre as the venue for preliminary women's volleyball. Their decision came after the Cobb County Commissioners had passed an anti-gay resolution on August 10, 1993. After six months of intense pressure, the dramatic conclusion came on July 29, 1994 when ACOG pulled women's volleyball from Cobb County.

Announcements

Do You Want to be a Country Dyke?

Madison—Are you a country dyke (or want to be?). Want to meet other country Lesbians? Then join us! On Sunday, June 2nd, from 1:00 p.m. for information sharing on small engine maintenance. Bring a vegetarian dish to pass and stories to tell and let's get acquainted. Call (608) 437-3637 for location and directions.

Angels of Hope MCC Moves to New Church

Green Bay—Angels of Hope MCC is pleased to announce that, as of Sunday, June 2nd, services will be held in their new building at 614 Forest Street in Green Bay at 11:00 a.m. Service are presently held at 11:30 a.m., Sundays, at Best Western Downtowner, 321 S. Washington Street in Green Bay through May 26th.

Formal dedication of the new building will take place as part of Angels of Hope's 10th anniversary observance on Sunday, November 30th. The new building is located one block south of the corner of University Avenue and Forest Street, one block east of Baird. For more information, call (414) 432-0830.

Sherman Park Rainbow Association Meeting

Milwaukee—The next meeting of the Sherman Park Rainbow Association will be held on May 22nd, at 7:00 p.m. at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 3617 N. 48th Street. The guest speaker will be Stephanie Hume. Hume is the Lesbian and Gay community's liaison to the Milwaukee Police Department.

Final details on Rainbow's participation in the Games at PrideFest '96 will also be discussed. For more information, call (414) 777-3986.

Action Wisconsin Dinner

Madison—Action Wisconsin will hold a buffet dinner on Wednesday, May 29th at the Miller Inn, 3931 W. State Street in Milwaukee beginning at 5:30 p.m. The guest speaker will be State Rep. Tammy Baldwin. For more information, call (414) 276-6355.

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The Closet Within the Closet: Domestic Violence and the Lesbian Community

By Kathy Anderson

In January, 1989, a 46-year-old real estate agent in Madison fatally shot and killed her former lesbian lover in the chest in the backyard of the victim's house, and then shot and killed herself later that same day. The real estate agent's co-workers said, "She wasn't a person you'd believe would do this..."

While people in general often find it hard to believe that women commit acts of violence, Lesbians, in particular, find it horrifying that Lesbians could be violent, especially with their girlfriend or partner. That women could engage in the same abusive behavior as male batterers in heterosexual relationships seems impossible. And yet, it's sadly true.

While studies on domestic violence among heterosexuals show that about 20 to 25% of the population experiences domestic violence, based on the few studies that have been done, it appears the same percentage applies to the Lesbian community (and the Gay men's community as well). In Milwaukee, for instance, that would be two women for every ten in Fannie's on a Saturday night.

Abusive relationships can simply happen to anyone. Victims of domestic violence do not have a "profile." They are not of a particular family history, education or income level, race, personality, type or sexual identity, according to Claire Renzetti, author of *Violent Betrayal* and a sociologist who has completed a study of Lesbian battering.

Just as victims of crimes, such as rape, theft and murder have no specific profile, neither do victims of domestic violence—Lesbian, Gay, or straight.

Without this knowledge, and without awareness that domestic violence is a problem within the Lesbian community, Lesbian victims of battering end up in another closet—one that exists within the community itself.

Battering in Lesbian relationships takes on the same patterns as in heterosexual relationships. The Lesbian batterer uses the same tactics of control and abuse that male batterers use: emotional abuse, economic control, isolation, threats, sexual abuse, physical abuse, and even murder.

The Lesbian batterer, however, has a few extra weapons in her arsenal. For instance, she may threaten to "out" her partner to her co-workers or family. Furthermore, the Lesbian victim who fears being outed at work, will not only have trouble explaining any visible bruises she may have, but how could she explain they are from a woman?

Lesbian victims also fear the response of police, courts, and sometimes battered women's shelter staff. The police, though they may be slow to respond to domestic violence calls in general, are less likely to take a Lesbian seriously when she calls for help after her girlfriend beats her.

The courts are more likely to call the battering, "mutual abuse," and thereby accuse the victim of abusive behavior as well. In battered women's shelters, homophobic residents and staff may make it difficult for a Lesbian resident to receive the support and safety she needs.

It would seem the world, even those systems set up for support, is against the Lesbian who suffers domestic violence. For these reasons, Lesbian organizations and battered women's shelters have come up with specific services and programs for Lesbian victims of abuse. But these programs are few and centered in larger cities only, such as New York, San Francisco, Los Angeles and Boston.

Besides the programs, there are networks, books, articles, training manuals, and newsletters available to anyone anywhere.

In 1994, Casa de Esperanza, a Latina battered women's shelter in St. Paul, Minnesota, received a grant to film a documentary on battering in woman-to-woman relationships.

Premiering in 1995, *My Girlfriend Did It*, was the first video to serve as a tool for training shelter staff, people in the helping professions, and law enforcement agencies, and for building awareness in the Lesbian community and the battered women's movement.

Yet, still, within the Lesbian community, the subject of domestic violence remains somewhat ignored, even taboo to a certain extent.

According to activists and researchers, Lesbian communities around the country may be reticent to discuss, or address, Lesbian domestic violence for many and varied reasons.

First and foremost seems to be the fact that no one wants to "air our dirty laundry." In a homophobic world, where there's Gay-bashing and verbal and physical attacks on Lesbians and Gay men on a daily basis, no one wants to admit it happens within the community, within intimate relationships, as well. There's already so much violence directed at Lesbians and Gays, why make it worse?

Suzanne Pharr, author of *Homophobia: A Weapon of Sexism* and early organizer on Lesbian battering, says that the rise of the Religious Right has created an atmosphere of shame for Lesbians and Gays—for simply existing. In this type of homophobic climate, the

Lesbian and Gay community is even less likely to bring out in the open its flaws and problems.

Though homophobic pressures from the outside may be obvious, it is the internalized myths of the Lesbian community itself that are not so obvious and yet perpetuate reticence on the issue.

The belief in a Lesbian utopia, says Pharr, maintains a resistance among Lesbians to realizing that the Lesbian community is not necessarily a sanctuary from the abuses of power and control.

Another myth, shared by the straight community as well, is that women are not violent or abusive. Classic feminist theory concerning battering states that domestic violence is a dynamic of a patriarchal society.

In a male-dominated culture, men abuse power, and fueled by sexist attitudes and values, men abuse women.

(Conversely, it is believed that men cannot be victims of abuse, which is another myth that allows silence and disbelief in both the straight and Gay communities about domestic violence among Gay men.)

On top of these underlying myths, the Lesbian community is typically pretty close-knit. Circles of friends overlap or are completely shared between lovers. When the close friends of the victim are also the close friends of the batterer, who can the victim trust for support and help? Who would believe her?

For the victims, the reticence within the Lesbian community can make them more vulnerable. Survivors have said the taboo surrounding domestic violence causes them to deny the abuse is happening or to feel ashamed to discuss it.

Without acknowledgment by the Lesbian community, the suffering and isolation of Lesbian victims is only prolonged and made more critical. Without community resources, support, or assistance, the Lesbian victims of abuse may stay in the relationship far longer than she would otherwise, increasing the chances of injury and perhaps even death.

A workshop, "Addressing Domestic Violence in Lesbian Relationships," will be held Friday, May 17, 1996, 1-4 p.m. at Centennial Hall in Milwaukee. Psychotherapist Kathleen Neville will be the workshop facilitator. Cost is \$50 per person.

A one-time screening of the video, *My Girlfriend Did It*, the ground-breaking documentary on battering in Lesbian relationships, will be shown at 7:30 p.m., May 17th also at Centennial Hall.

The event includes a musical performance by Dawn Rivers. Tickets are \$8 in advance, \$10 at the door, and are available at Outpost Natural Foods Co-op, People's Books, Just Us, and AfterWords.

Editor's Note: Kathy Anderson, the author of this article and a freelance writer living in Minneapolis, is the documentary's script-writer.

Parents Committee Okays Gay Family Photos at Madison Elementary School

Madison— A committee of parents at a Madison elementary school approved allowing a photo exhibit of Gay and Lesbian families to be displayed in the school's library under certain conditions.

But the committee at Hawthorne Elementary School said children of parents who oppose the exhibit don't have to see it, and that teachers will discuss with parents how the exhibit will be dealt with in classrooms.

"This decision is final," Hawthorne Principal Peg Hamele said after the meeting Thursday, May 2nd. "We have to fine-tune the plan, but this is intended to be the last meeting on this issue."

The exhibit, created by Amherst, Massachusetts, photographer Gigi Kaeser, came to the attention of Hawthorne teacher David Wolfe at a conference last year, and he asked to bring the photographs to the east side school.

More than 35 staff members at the school issued a letter to parents and others saying they support the exhibit.

"We believe it is educationally sound and supports our SIP (school improvement plan) goals of prejudice reduction and inclusion," the letter stated.

The exhibition also was supported by the Human Relations Advisory Council, community members who advise Madison Superintendent Cheryl Wilhoite.

"(Not) showing the display at this point sends a message that it is not OK and it is not safe to be Gay or Lesbian in Madison today," the group's statement read.

Despite Two Legislative Defeats, Gays Won't Shun Alaska—Businesses Hope

Juneau, AK—You can see how Gays might get the feeling they're not welcome in Alaska.

First the Legislature approves a bill making it harder for Gays to pass fringe benefits from their employers on to their partners, then it votes to outlaw same-sex marriages. But the Gay travel industry doesn't expect any significant drop-off in Gays visiting the state.

"Gay travelers like the same things about Alaska that mainstream travelers like," said Tracy Michaels, president of the International Gay Travel Association. "By and large we find the community to be receptive because they know we're there to spend money, and their businesses depend on that tourist money."

That doesn't mean, however, that legislative defeats go unnoticed in the Gay community. Score is kept, Michaels says, but boycotts tend to be used only when laws are passed that take away rights gays already have won.

In Alaska, the same-sex marriage ban, if Gov. Tony Knowles decides to sign it, would codify a policy already in practice. The domestic partners legislation gives public and private employers the option to deny benefits to unmarried partners, but doesn't require it, a move seen as a defeat for Gays.

The governor has until Monday to decide whether to sign the same-sex marriage ban. His spokesman, Bob King, said Knowles has not yet made up his mind. Knowles signed the domestic-partners bill in the last week in April.

While it's not clear Alaska tourism will lose any business, travel agents who market to Gays say Hawaii is getting a tourism dividend while a court case is pending there that could legalize same-sex marriages. The case goes to trial this August.

"I know for a fact that there are people go-

ing to Hawaii to take advantage of their domestic-partner laws and marriages," said Robert DeLoach, president of Apollo Travel Service in Anchorage.

Tourism is a billion-dollar-a-year business in Alaska, but industry groups don't track how much of the that comes from the Gay community.

Ken Morris, public relations director for the Anchorage Convention and Visitors Bureau, said his members haven't heard of any troubles because of the legislation. But complaints wouldn't surprise him.

"Whichever way it goes you're going to get beat up by somebody," he said.

Several cruise lines do offer trips through the Inside Passage for Gay men or Lesbians. In Minneapolis, RSVP Travel Productions Inc. brought 1,100 Gay men to Alaska aboard the Sea Spirit in 1995. No cruises have been set for this summer.

"We have always had a very good reception in all of the ports that we've traveled to in Alaska," said Paul Figmiller, RSVP's marketing director.

Figmiller and DeLoach both pointed to a constitutional amendment Colorado voters approved in 1992 as the sort of thing that keeps Gays from spending their tourist dollars in a state.

That amendment, which now is before the U.S. Supreme Court, blocked any laws that specifically spelled out rights for Gays.

Michaels said she and many other agents in the Gay travel association have begun shunning Salt Lake City, sending passengers through Denver instead, after Salt Lake City's school board canceled all high school clubs to avoid sanctioning a Gay students group.

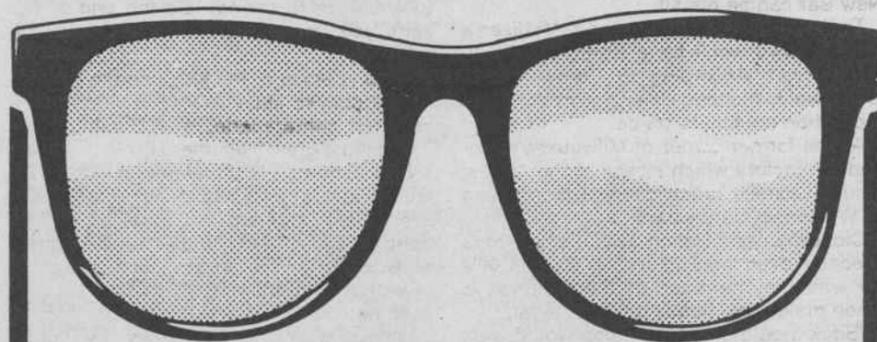
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SPOTLIGHT

The Dance Bars Are An Old Staple That Are Changing to Meet the Times

By Bill Meunier

The walls are vibrating, lights are flashing, the dance floor is packed. Its another Saturday night at one of Wisconsin's Queer Dance bars.

Dance bars are a cultural icon for the Gay community, an important part of Gay life, especially for Gay men.

While many Gay and Lesbian bars have dance floors, what makes a dance bar is more than a space to gyrate. It is a good DJ, the right kind of lighting along with an over-powering sound system, and a crowd of people who have come to dance.

could dance together, so could two men. It took a while for it to sink in. For a while everyone would still stop dancing when a uniform walked in.

"We had dancing before Chicago did. Chicago activists used Milwaukee as a way to get dancing there."

Cicirello adds that another staple of Wisconsin's Gay Dance bars, female impersonators, was made legal at the same time.

"While this (making male-male dancing legal) was going on, we also successfully contested the law against cross dressing.



Jerry Johnson

Dance-Dance-Dance—Dancing remains popular around the state.

In Milwaukee it's La Cage and Club 219; in Green Bay it is Za's; Appleton has the Pivot Club, while Kenosha has Club 94.

In Madison the New Bar was the place to be, but due to the Hotel Washington fire the dance crowd has moved over the Manoeuvres—or, according to sources at La Cage and Club 219, they are coming from Madison to Milwaukee—at least until the New Bar can be rebuilt.

That soon may change and Madison's dance crowd won't have to make that 70 mile drive. According to Co-owner, Ed Grunewald, Manoeuvres is remodeling to more than double its space.

As the former owner of Milwaukee's legendary Factory which closed in the 1980s, Chuck Cicirello is the dean of the owners of Wisconsin Dance bars.

Cicirello's association with Dance bars predates even the Factory. In the mid 60's he was the manager of the Castaways when male-male dancing wasn't legal.

"Back then the minute a cop would walk in, everyone had to separate and stop dancing," said Cicirello. "If they got caught they would get charged with disorderly conduct."

That got changed.

"We used a test case," Cicirello said. "We got a judge to rule that if two women

We got a judge to rule that if women could wear men's clothes, men could wear women's clothes," Cicirello said.

How did Dance bars get to be so popular? According to Cicirello, their popularity is rooted in years gone by.

"Year's ago it was a way of meeting someone. If you liked someone you played a slow song on the juke box and asked them to dance. By the end of the song you knew if you had a date for the evening.

"Also years ago, the kids used to engage in line dances like the Stroll. It brought a spirit of camaraderie, and togetherness. Things just grew from there."

The Dance bar's popularity in Gay male culture is not easily explained. These bars are typically the largest Gay clubs in their community. They attract the biggest crowds. For some the attraction is a wider selection of men with whom to spend an evening.

Others want the anonymity that large crowds provide.

Still others enjoy the total dance bar experience, the music, the lights and the cruising.

Grunewald believes that the music and the DJ are the most important elements.

TURN TO DANCE BARS, PAGE 12

IN THE PUBLIC EYE

Interview with Full Moon Productions Founder Brenda De Jong

By Cynthia Van Vreede

Full Moon Productions has just finished producing two successful concert appearances by comic Suzanne Westenhoefer in Madison and Milwaukee. I talked with the woman behind the stage curtain, Brenda De Jong, the founder and heart of Full Moon. Brenda is a 35 year old software engineer. She and her partner, Kim, live in a new home they built twenty miles south of Fond Du Lac. In her spare time, Brenda loves to garden and tend to her horses.

Wisconsin Light: How did you come to start Full Moon Productions?

Brenda D Jong: I worked with another production company, initially. And they were in kind of a downward trend and weren't doing many shows. And I thought it would be a good thing to do if someone were doing more shows for the community. Another woman and I decided to branch out and start Full Moon.

WL: Did you know what you were getting into?

BD: Yes. We worked with the other production company for a couple of years, so I think we had a little bit of a feel.

WL: What are some of your favorite memories over the past eight years. What are some of the highlights?

BD: Every show was a highlight. I think every show we brought in was a great show. It's nice that the Suzanne Westenhoefer shows have grown and that we've been able to move up to a bigger, nicer, venue.

It's our goal to provide a quality entertainment, as well as a quality environment. We don't like to have to do shows in churches with hard pews because it's uncomfortable. People like to go out and be entertained and be comfortable. And some of the smaller shows though, that's all the budget permits. So it's been nice to be able to move up to a nice theater like the Pabst. I guess that's a highlight.

WL: And the dances have been going okay?

BD: The dances are terrific. It's also been nice to move the dance to a little nicer place because we're at the O'Donnell Park Pavilion with those. So it's been nice to move up and be in a new facility.

WL: It's been my experience in the past that sometimes when the community had dances outside of Lake Park Pavilion, they weren't attended as



Brenda De Jong

well. I think maybe people got stuck in that groove. Now it's not a issue of whether or not you want to have it somewhere else, you have to have it somewhere else.

BD: I think previously we've been scared to go other places. Either because the facilities we could afford to rent weren't in the best part of town and people were scared to go there in the evenings, or just wondering if you'd be seen going into something that would be a woman identified event or perhaps a lesbian identified event.

And I think maybe, maybe as more people are out, or maybe we've made some progress and people aren't as worried about that anymore.

Still, when I choose venues I try to find a place that there's not a lot of outside traffic. So if people do have those issues that they'll still feel okay going there and not being outed. I know there are people in occupations where that's a very sensitive thing, like teachers.

WL: Does Full Moon have any plans for Pridefest?

BD: No. I wish we did. I, unfortunately, promote several stages at the National Women's Music Festival which is the same weekend.

WL: Are you going to Michigan Women's Music Festival this year? I looked at the flyer this year and realized I didn't know any of the performers anymore.

BD: A lot of artists who were very popular on the women's circuit are really rethinking.

TURN TO DE JONG, PAGE 12

"Relatively Speaking" Wraps up Next Act Theatre's Sixth Season

Milwaukee—Next Act Theatre is presenting Alan Ayckbourn's rollicking romantic farce **Relatively Speaking**, May 9-26, 1996, playing in the Stiemke Theater at the Milwaukee Center, located at 108 East Wells Street, Milwaukee. The production is being sponsored in part by a grant from Lucy and Jack Rosenberg.

Relatively Speaking, Ayckbourn's first big hit, is a fast-paced comedy of absurd situations and lightning wit.

GINNY and Greg are soon to be married. However, Ginny has a few "loose ends" to tie up in the person of Phillip, her former boss and one time love-interest.

Believing that Ginny is visiting her parents, Greg gets there first to make a good impression, not realizing that this is actually the home of Phillip and his wife

Sheila. By the time Ginny arrives, much confusion and befuddlement has already set in, and she makes it worse.

Eventually, the two women come to a private understanding and put each man in his respective place. **Relatively Speaking** is vintage Ayckbourn, at his frothy and hysterical best!

Regular performances run Thursdays at 7:30pm, Fridays at 8:00pm, Saturdays at 4:30pm and 8:30pm. All performances are staged at the Stiemke Theatre The Stiemke Theatre is wheelchair accessible.

For ticket reservations and information on discount rates, call the Milwaukee Rep Box Office at (414) 224-9490. For further information call the Next Act office at (414) 278-7780.



Jerry Johnson

Mary Fauckenberg—wife of the late artist, James Fauckenberg, posed with the artist's self-portrait at current exhibition of his art at the BestD Clinic, 1204 E. Brady Street in Milwaukee. The exhibit opened May 4th.

Suzanne Westenhofer Knows What Makes us Laugh

Reviewed by Julie Kleppin

Humor: just what is it that makes us laugh? Suzanne Westenhofer knows. On her visit to the Pabst Theater April 26, presented by Full Moon Productions, Suzanne had it completely under control. While some womyn in the audience were simply in love with her (did they even hear what she said?), she had everyone rolling from the start. Whether you think she's cute or not, she's funny.

Most of Westenhofer's humor results from her quirky observations on the everyday experiences we all share. She talks about normal events—adding her bizarre analysis—and it all sounds like she just thought of it and said it for the first time. No matter how outrageous her comments, the delivery is so smooth and natural, she's believable. She'd be good at sales...

On the surface, Westenhofer's routine seems non-political. She ignores obvious comedy material like Republicans or the Presidential race.

She's not outraged about AIDS, the environment, or campaign financing. But the personal is her political field. Whether its auditioning in Hollywood as an out actress or telling your family you are Gay, she's talking about discrimination and Westenhofer wants us to fight back.

But she makes it sound like helpful advice. Wear your freedom ring jewelry when you travel—you'll get better service from other Gays in the airline industry. If your sister says Satan's inside you, tell everyone you're eating for two.

Though she's 40 and never married, Westenhofer's older sister denies being a Lesbian, saying she's "married to Jesus." So Suzanne proudly announces that Jesus is her brother-in-law.

Westenhofer gets Lesbians to laugh at themselves in a very positive way. She knows we love to change flat tires. And it was a dyke who invented the fanny pack because A, we hate to carry purses, and B, it's more like a tool belt. Womyn always ask what a prospective date's sign is but they ought to ask, "Can you rewire a lamp? Do you like to mow the lawn?"

Anyone's experience is Westenhofer's material, like coupons and shopping. There's her girlfriend who is so unused to

shopping, she thinks milk is found in the cereal aisle. Suzanne has a thing about cats and pets in general.

A cocker spaniel looks like a rat with a skirt, and, "When you have to change the cat box, you KNOW we don't need that cat!" She usually carries a story over the edge but adds a touch that keeps it real: Flying to a small town, the planes get smaller and smaller till it's just the pilot and you—and you have to give the safety speech. And then you can't remember how it goes...



Suzanne Westenhofer performing at the Pabst Theatre

Whatever Westenhofer does, she does it OUT. No shrinking violet, she wants to strike fear into the hearts of discriminators. When it comes to what we should call ourselves (Gay? Lesbian? Bi? Trans?), she says we need to united and be serious. "Let's bring back the old term SODOMITES."

Suzanne Westenhofer's not just some teenager trying to shock us, she's herself. Ending her act, she asked us all to: Vote for Clinton (for our sake) and VOTE. Don't do anything rash but come out everywhere you can. Be braver. You'll feel better, you'll be free. Be smart, but be Gay. And most of all, be yourself.

Linda Kimpel



Art For AIDS—Pictured left to right: Jason Rohlf, artist, and Art For AIDS auction committee members Paul Mandracchia, Lisa Quinn and Cece Murphy. Art (left to right) by: Jason Rohlf, Doug Holst, Bruce Johnson, Lois Mogensen and Karen Kaisler. The auction will be held June 2nd. (See related story on page 7.)

Revival of 'An Ideal Husband' by Oscar Wilde Opens to Acclaim on Broadway

New York, NY—Quite the voice of common-sense morality that Oscar Wilde and a pretty good playwright, too.

Take a look at the splendid revival of *An Ideal Husband* which arrived Wednesday, May 1st, at Broadway's Barrowmore Theater from London, courtesy of director Peter Hall and a fine cast of mostly British actors.

Its stars are unknown on these shores, but they are sturdy professionals who know how to get the most out of Wilde's elegant play.

Written in 1895 (the same year as his masterpiece, *The Importance of Being Earnest*), *An Ideal Husband* discourses on the impossibility of perfection and how one deals with idols who have feet of clay.

The plot: Sir Robert Chiltern, loving husband and devoted public servant, faces a serious moral dilemma. In his youth, he sold a cabinet secret for a large amount of money. It made his career. Now he is threatened with exposure by an exotic adventuress named Mrs. Cheveley unless he publicly endorses a questionable financial scheme.

Should Sir Robert tell his wife, Lady Chiltern, who holds her husband up to impossibly high standards? "One's past is what one is," she says. "It is the only way by which people should be judged."

"I did not sell myself for money," Sir Robert equivocates. "I bought success at a great price."

The politician enlists the help of a good friend, Lord Goring, a witty gadabout and a stand-in for Wilde in the play. Goring may affect a narcissistic, frivolous nature-

- "To love oneself is the beginning of a lifelong romance," he opines—but he actually is the most realistic and caring person on stage.

This production has the good fortune of starring Martin Shaw as Goring. Shaw is not a conventional leading man, but he has an engaging smile and a sure sense of comic timing. The actor also has been padded to look a bit like Charles Dickens' Mr. Pickwick.

Shaw gets robust support from David Yelland as the tempted foreign affairs minister; Penny Downie as his adoring wife, and Anna Carteret as the seductive blackmailer.

Michael Denison and Dulcie Gray, one of Britain's favorite acting couples, make delightful supporting appearances, Denison, as Goring's exasperated father, and Gray, as a society matron who is a more gentle version of the formidable Lady Bracknell in *The Importance of Being Earnest*.

Hall effortlessly spins the play's four acts, and his actors never fall off balance.

Designer Carl Toms' settings are deceptively opulent. They are spare but give the suggestion of richness. A giant coin featuring the profile of a severe and somber Queen Victoria descends from the heavens between each scene, a funny reminder of the age's emphasis on propriety.

An Ideal Husband is a remarkably humane play, generous in its forgiveness of human foibles. This production captures the good spirit of Wilde's comedy with style and grace.

"Beneath the Oval Office" at Theatre X Shines With a Brilliant Cast

Reviewed by Glenn Bishop

Glenn is not a political creature, as any of Glenn's friends are sure to tell you. Occasionally Glenn feels as if he slept right through the Reagan Years. Of course Glenn might also be quick to point out that President Reagan most certainly did as well.

Truth be told, perhaps Glenn also slumbered right past Bush and found himself emerging fully grown, not asking, but boldly telling everyone in sight. Well, that's another story.

Mark Anderson and John Kishline, like Glenn, start from the premise that Ronald Reagan nodded off sometime in 1980. Glenn ponders just how long it might take a highly trained team of archaeologists to discover if Reagan ever awoke. Such vitally important information is sure to remain top secret and highly classified for years to come.

The heart and soul of *Beneath the Oval Office* is the President of the United States, nebulously referred to as simply "the Old Man." As crafted by Messrs. Anderson and Kishline, "the Old Man" is a cookie eating, piano playing, Moon River-singing buffoon. Glenn remembers a chimp flick that Ronald Reagan made but seems to recollect that Moon River was sung by Andy Williams... Glenn digresses.

The audience finds themselves deep in the bowels of the White House. "The Old Man" is ga-ga. His manipulative and condescending wife (the always marvelous Flora Coker) is quite happy with her current digs, thank you very much and

isn't inclined in the least to move.

Surround her and "the Old man" are resident spin doctor Trudy Onassis (Marcie Hoffman) and body guard cum manservant Todd (David Rommel).

For good measure throw in a Barbara Walters-wannabe, Irene Duffy (Debrah Clifton), a clueless reporter unable to present on camera even the simplest of news reports. Poor Duffy wouldn't recognize a scoop if it was topped with hot fudge, whipped cream and a cherry.

Act 1 is all is very "You Can't Take it With You" until the sudden and unexpected arrival of rival Colonel Bob Slocum, armed with a political ultimatum. The challenge: a Presidential debate, winner take all. Intermission curtain.

Political satire is a curious beast at best. Despite veiled allusions to the eminent Mr. Reagan, this Theatre X production is less a specific indictment of any specific politicians or party, but an unbridled assault on the uniquely American brand of presidential politics. Anderson and Kishline spare no one, taking no prisoners. The end result is not pretty.

Where *Beneath the Oval Office* really shines is in the marvelous ensemble performances. As "the Old Man", John Schneider is a delight. His movements a touch out of sync, his facial expressions running the gamut, "the Old Man" emerges as an oddly endearing fellow. He meets a true rival in the physical comedy derby with Sean McKenna, the bumbling presidential challenger.

Beneath the Oval Office continues through May 19.

art for AIDS auction

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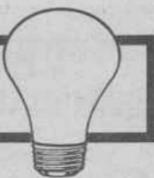
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ANNOUNCEMENTS



Karen Beaumont in Concert

Milwaukee—Karen Beaumont will present a concert of organ music with guest artists Jennifer Goodman, trumpet, and Wendy Wagner, soprano, on Sunday, May 19th at 4:00 p.m. at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 914 E. Knapp St. in Milwaukee. There will be music by Walther, Gubaidulina, Boulanger, Hindemith, and Bach. The concert is free and open to the public. A free will offering will be collected to help support the concert series at St. Paul's.

DANCE BARS

Continued from Page 9

"The type of music and the DJ are big parts of any bar's success. We notice a significant drop in patrons when our number 1 DJ isn't there."

Circirello agrees with the importance of the DJ. However he adds that the socializing opportunities are important too.

"Strangers can ask other strangers to dance. Dancing is a great ice breaker for people especially for people who are shy."

"It's easier to ask someone to dance than it is to strike up a conversation," said George Prentice, owner of La Cage, Milwaukee's biggest dance bar.

Za, aka Mark, from Za's in Green Bay put it simply "Gay men love dancing."

So, according to Za, do Lesbians. While in Milwaukee, most Lesbians who want to dance go to Fannies and put a song on the juke box, in smaller towns like Appleton and Green Bay, Lesbians mix more freely with men on the dance floor.

One owner, Bob Haultman of Kenosha's Club 94 thinks that his bar's ability to attract both Lesbians and Gay men is a big plus.

"We don't have one single type of people coming here. Everyone feels comfortable because everyone fits in. We are happy that Lesbians and Gay men come here."

The bar business in general has been depressed the last few years and dance bars in particular have been hard hit. The reasons are varied.

As Za put it, "People don't have a clue about how much it costs us to operate. You have a big space that is empty most of the time, and it only fills up late in the evening. Your cost is enormous, because you have to pay for that space even when it's not full."

Prentice and Za both point to a drop in the bar business in general.

"All the bars, straight and Gay are down," says Prentice.

"People look at the hour or two or three that they are there and they think the bar is making a killing. Part of the reason there aren't many dance bars is that there are a limited number of customers. No one wants to go to an empty room," said Za.

Za goes on to say that, "We are at point in time right now when dance bars are not kicking the butt that they used to. Younger Gay people don't have the same problems coming out that they used to. There are a lot more straight people coming to Gay bars and more Gay people going to straight bars."

While dancing is the main feature at all of these bars, they also have auxiliary bars in quieter areas of their buildings. These cocktail bars allow patrons to engage in conversations with a new friend without having to shout at each other.

Za's has the elegant Java's on its second floor. La Cage's Grubb's Pub located in its basement also serves food.

The Pivot Club, and Club '94 have front bars that are somewhat isolated from the noise of the dance areas. Manoeuvres is installing a cocktail bar in the front lobby of the space it occupies in the Hotel Wilson.

Club 219 has a video cocktail bar in its basement.

Like any business the bar business is very competitive, so all of the bars do their best to make their customers happy. All of the owners agree that customer service is extremely important.

"Never forget that you are one of the customers and always look at things like a customer does. I like to say "I was a whore before, I'm a whore now. The only difference now is that I own a bar" said Cicirello.

Za, Grunewald and Haultman agree. "Customer service is our number one priority," said Grunewald.

"One segment of the population is into the latest gimmick," said Za. "But some bars have been successful without spending tons and tons of money. You do have to have a good sound system and lighting, but you have to treat the customers with respect."

Prentice says the technical aspects are also important. "Good sound, good lights and of course the music you can't fool the kids."

Are dance bars dead? Not in the least, but they are changing to meet the new

times. They are investing more in technology and some have alcohol-free times or spaces.

"You don't have to drink at a dance bar to have a good time," Za said. "We are not pushing alcohol we're pushing a good time. Alcohol might be part of that but it doesn't have to be."

Za's offers shows during the week and is starting a dry night on Sunday evening. According to Za, "We will be open to anyone who is over 16. Alcohol will be served upstairs at Java's, but no alcohol will be allowed in the dance area."

Like Za, Prentice and others point out that keeping up with the latest technology is expensive, which is why some bars charge a cover.

Grunewald says that his bar spent over \$5,000 just on one large screen video monitor.

Despite the challenges of making a profit, none of the bars are likely to become empty warehouses any time soon.

Tough drunk driving laws and AIDS have helped hold down the crowds. "It used to be that you would have a big crowd throughout the weekend," said one owner.

"The crowds aren't as big as they used to be but they are still there."

"Those free wheeling days of the 70's and 80's are long gone" according to Prentice. "We'll never see them again. Now instead of going out on Friday and Saturday night, many people just go out on one or the other."

To help attract customers, the various bars employ a variety of marketing approaches including shows, pageants, and drink specials. They also carefully monitor their music, often changing the format from night to night.

Each of the bars tries uses various marketing techniques to attract more people. Club 219, for example, has several shows during the week and weekends and often has strippers on the weekend.

La Cage prides itself on continually updating its sound and lighting systems, offering the latest technology.

The Pivot Club has brought in nationally known entertainers, while Club 94 relies on its ability to attract a wide mix of people from Chicago, Racine, Kenosha and Milwaukee.

Despite their problems, no one should give up on the dance bars yet. As Haultman put it "People love to party."

As long as that's the case, the walls will keep vibrating and the lights will keep flashing.

DE JONG

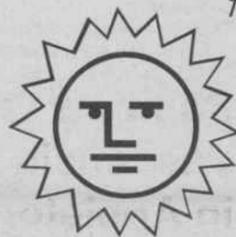
Continued from Page 9

ing their careers. Like Diedre McCalla was very popular. When I talked to her booker not too long ago and she's rethinking her career because it's hard to get enough people out to those shows to break even.



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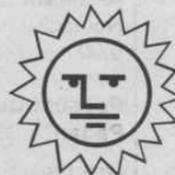
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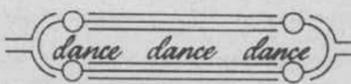
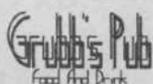
The PARTY!



If you want to strut your stuff on TV Gay Dance American will be filming Friday May 10th!



Note: there are less than 200 regular La Cage Cards left to issue. Pictures are taken Wednesdays and Fridays 11pm to 12:30 pm. Temporary slips expires May 15th.



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The Triangle—hosted a benefit on April 28th for the Tenant Relief Fund for Madison's Hotel Washington which burned to the ground on February 18th. Mr. Rod's of the hotel's bar joined several performers including (left to right) Terry, Brittany Morgan, Tabitha Stevens, Tabitha, Brittany, Vanity Fair and Asjia Knight.

Jerry Johnson

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Tune Reviews

Reviewed by Tim Grair

Paul Bowles--Migrations

Yes, this is the same Paul Bowles who wrote *The Sheltering Sky* and no, this is not a spoken word album. Mr. Bowles has had a long career as a composer (the earliest piece on this recording was written in 1931, the most recent was finished in 1993). Much of Mr. Bowles music was written as incidental music for theater and has since been lost. This is a shame. Thankfully Hermann Kretzschmar, Catherine Milliken and Dietmar Wiesner (collectively HCD) have recorded the seven pieces comprising *Migrations*. Although Mr. Bowles has been associated with the avant garde his music is very accessible. He borrows heavily from jazz and the music of other countries. As is usual with classical CDs, the liner notes are extensive and provide a wealth of information about both the composer and

the compositions. The playing is competent and expressive and Mr. Bowles himself approves of HCD's interpretation. This is traveling music--whether or not you actually go anywhere.

Rainbow Over Wisconsin Formed in Appleton to Promote LesBiGay Community

Appleton, WI—Rainbow Over Wisconsin is a new non-profit organization which has been formed to promote the growth and stability of the LesBiGay community through charitable and educational activi-

ties.

Rainbow Over Wisconsin was started through the support and sponsorship of Blue Lite, Brandy's II, Madhatter, Napal-ese, Pivot Club, Rascals, Sass, and Za's.

The origins of Rainbow Over Wisconsin lie with the group of businesses which in the past sponsored the Bar Appreciation Picnic held annually in Green Bay. Last year the group decided it would be in the best interest of the community to change and grow.

The Bar Appreciation Picnic became a Pride Picnic—something better serve the LesBiGay community. The first Pride Picnic raised money totaling over \$2,000 that was divided between charitable groups. It was so successful that the group felt the community would benefit if this organization were more visible and accessible. Therefore, Rainbow Over Wisconsin was created.

Looking to the future, Rainbow over Wisconsin will produce the Rainbow Over Wisconsin Pride Weekend as well as many other fundraising events throughout the year.

The Pride Weekend will include a bowling tournament, Saturday, August 31st at Riviera Lanes in Green Bay, and a picnic, Sunday, September 1st, tentatively scheduled at Memorial Park in Appleton.

Rainbow Over Wisconsin would like to invite anyone interested in learning more about the organization or who are interested in benefiting from fundraising events to join them Monday, June 3rd, 7:00 p.m. at Sass, 840 S. Broadway, Green Bay, Wisconsin. Free food, soda and juice will be served. There will also be a cash bar.

For more information, call (414) 437-7277.

CALENDAR

May 11th SSBL Games Sijan Field Duwanne Moore Benefit Help send Ms. Moore to the Miss Gay USA pageant 10:30 Za's	May 12th MOTHER'S DAY Jamie Anderson Nomad's 8:00 Possum Queen Pageant 6:00 Just Us	May 13th The Nerd AIDS Benefit Benefit in memory of Stephen Hemming Contributions for accepted for tickets 7:30 Powerhouse Theater Open Stage Walker's Point Cafe 8 to 12	May 15th HIV Testing Mama Roux's 8 pm to Midnight	May 16th Marianne Fleming Nomad's 9:00	May 17th Carole la Favor Booksigning A Room of One's Own 6:30 Cathy Braaten Nomad's 9:00
May 18th Spring Follies Club 94 Rainbow Tour Za's Astra Kelly Nomad's 10:00 SSBL Games Sijan Field	May 19th Rachel Bissex Nomad's 8:00 Rainbow Tour Manoeuvres	May 20th Eric Rofes Bookreading A Room of One's Own 6:30	May 23rd Wisconsin Light Distributed Feminist Sci-Fi Writer's Reception Room of One's Own 6:30	May 24th - 26th The Milwaukee Classic Friday- Registration and Party Downtown Hilton Saturday -Games at Wick Field (52nd & Vliet) Sunday- Games at Wick Field Banquet at the Downtown Hilton	

R U N S	Theater: Beneath the Oval Office Theater X (Thru May 19th) Tartuffe Boulevard Ensemble Theater Thru May 19th	Movies: The Celluloid Closet The Oriental Theater (Now playing) The Birdcage Various locations Statewide	Art: James Faulkenberg A Retrospective BESTD Clinic
	Dr. Suess I Presume Broom St. Theater Madison (Fri, Sat, Sun to June 2nd) Die Fledermaus Skylight Opera Theater (May 15th- June 7th)		
	DEADLINE FOR OUR NEXT CALENDAR: MAY 20TH		



OUT on Film

The Stars Take a Backseat to the Plots in This Summer's Films

Los Angeles—Bill Paxton hasn't sold many movie tickets in his acting career. Few people say, "Let's go see the new Will Smith film!" And the last time Michael J. Fox carried a hit film, people wore leisure suits.

Nevertheless, these decidedly B-list actors are the leading players in what could prove to be this summer's three biggest movies—Paxton's **Twister**, Smith's **Independence Day** and Fox's **The Frighteners**.

In a rare demonstration that star power isn't the only key to the box-office safe, several of the summer's most anticipated titles are driven more by eye-popping concepts than million-dollar performances.

Instead of paying the likes of Jim Carrey, Arnold Schwarzenegger and Tom Cruise \$20 million apiece, the producers of these three movies are pouring that precious loot into special effects and letting the stories, not the stars, do the talking.

"Sometimes the idea is king," says Tom Rothman, whose 20th Century Fox studio is releasing **Independence Day** on July 3.

A number of inevitable star vehicles, including Carrey's **Cable Guy**, Schwarzenegger's **Eraser** and Cruise's **Mission: Impossible**, are sprinkled throughout the school-break season. Yet when all the receipts are totaled, the marquee players could trail their starless competitors.

Simply having a big star in a lead role is no guarantee of success. Just take a look at Julia Roberts' disastrous **Mary Reilly** and the Sharon Stone fiasco **Diabolique**.

A good plot or fantastic special effects (or both), on the other hand, can make the potential drawbacks of a low-cost cast disappear.

Universal Pictures is betting that writer-director Peter Jackson's execution of the comic supernatural film **The Frighteners** (July 19) will prove more attractive than the movie's cast.

Ever since the **Back to the Future** films of a decade ago, Fox has starred in one clunker after another: **Life With Mikey**, **For Love or Money**, **Greedy** and **Where the River Flows North**, although he did have a supporting role in last year's modest hit, **The American President**.

"Universal's line has always been that the concept was the story; they never wanted it to be star-driven," says Jackson, who made 1994's **Heavenly Creatures**.

Beyond Fox, **The Frighteners** is filled with the relatively obscure performers Trini Alvarado, Peter Dobson, Dee Wallace Stone and Jeffrey Combs.

"I like working with actors who don't bring a huge amount of awareness to the film," Jackson says. "You want to let the character, not the actor, drive the movie."

Recent Hollywood history suggests that small stars can indeed yield big profits.

Jurassic Park, the highest-grossing film of all time, didn't break records because it featured Jeff Goldblum and Laura Dern. The draw was the dinosaurs. The **Batman** concept is a popular enough franchise to survive two leading men, Michael Keaton and Val Kilmer, and is about to get a third, with TV's George Clooney.

Twister, which opened May 10, is one of the summer's most talked-about movies not because of actors Paxton, Helen Hunt and Jami Gertz.

The buzz is being generated by the special effects: For the first time since 1939's **Wizard of Oz**, a tornado has a co-starring role. The movie is directed by **Speed's** Jan De Bont and was written by Michael Crichton (who wrote **Jurassic Park**) and his wife, Anne-Marie Martin.

In the film, Hunt (of TV's "Mad About You") plays Paxton's estranged wife. The two are Midwest storm chasers determined to get in the path of a tornado. Once there, they hope to place scientific instruments in the cyclone's path, taking measurements as the devices are sucked into the vortex.

"It's not that I didn't want stars," says De Bont, noting that Hunt is well-known to TV viewers. "I wanted actors that had

a natural talent. The star of the movie is nature, so you better have actors who can act natural.

"If I had cast Arnold Schwarzenegger, you would expect him to behave in a certain way. He would probably pull out a machine gun and try to shoot the tornado. There are a lot of limitations to big stars."

And a lot of costs. Without a high-priced actor, the makers of **Twister**, like **Independence Day**, put the bulk of their \$75 million budget into computer effects.

Independence Day is about another menace in the sky: Instead of a tornado, it's invaders from another planet. The movie stars Smith (of TV's "Fresh Prince of Bel-Air"), Bill Pullman and Goldblum.

The premise of **Independence Day** is the kind of wild storyline made famous in the peril films of years ago.

In the same spirit of 1956's **Invaders From Mars**, the new film presumes that life exists beyond Earth. Rather than bearing gifts from another solar system, the **Independence Day** aliens intend to destroy the Earth over the July 4th weekend.

Dean Devlin, who wrote and produced **Independence Day**, says he and director Roland Emmerich were inspired by now-famous movies that, at the time, starred hardly famous actors: **Jaws**, **Star Wars**, **Close Encounters of the Third Kind** and **E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial**.

"Those were the films that Roland and I fell in love with as children," says Devlin, who collaborated with Emmerich on **Stargate**, which cast the then ice-cold Kurt Russell in a starring role.

As for putting superstars in leading parts, Devlin says it often ruins a film's suspense. "You know who's going to survive at the end of the movie," Devlin says.

"We've always had a simple philosophy in casting," Devlin says. "We don't care if somebody's a big star or a little star. We just want the best possible actor for the part."

When John Carpenter made **Escape From New York** 15 years ago, Russell wasn't a big star. Thanks to **Tombstone** and **Stargate**, Russell's more famous now, but Carpenter says Russell alone can't bring people into this summer's sequel, **Escape from L.A.** (Aug. 9).

While Paramount paid Russell \$10 million to star in the follow-up, the studio spent another \$40 million on the movie itself, guaranteeing good special effects. (The original cost just \$7 million.)

"The audience has changed since **Escape From New York** you have to give them more juice," Carpenter says. "Five movies open every weekend. You're trying to get attention, but how do you get awareness up, especially in the hinterlands?"

The answer for several of this summer's filmmakers is not big stars but the loudest bells and whistles. Come Labor Day, that formula could clinch the summer sweepstakes.



Blockbuster Time—The summer's first film, "Twister," opens in theatres May 10th. Bill Paxton and Helen Hunt are trying to escape the path of the on-coming tornado.

'The White Balloon' Offers a Rare and Haunting Glimpse of Life In Iran

Reviewed by Glenn Bishop

The White Balloon is quite a departure for Glenn. Lately, hardly a film goes by without its appeal to Gay and Lesbian audiences. Not so with this surprising film from Iran. No hint of homosexuality, not a scantily clad man in sight.

The White Balloon is a delightful film focusing on an adorable little girl, Razieh (Aida Mohammadkhani) who has her little heart set on a new, chubby goldfish for the imminent New Year's celebration.

The Iranian New Year's feast begins on the first day of spring and continues for 13 days. The little girl's much desired goldfish serves to symbolize the peaceful and harmonious relations between men and women.

Razieh's reluctant mom, quite understandably pleads with the little girl that the goldfish in their very own pool will do just nicely but Razieh's heart is set. With the assistance of her older brother, Razieh soon finds herself, money in hand and on the adventure of her young life.

Desperately clutching a 500 tomans note, a huge amount of money in Iran, Razieh soon finds herself sidetracked on her way to the pet shop. Despite warnings that it is not good for girls to watch snake charmers, little Razieh is fascinated.

She is promptly swindled out of her money. Poor curious and courageous Razieh.

When later asked what drew her to this forbidden attraction, she simply states, "I wanted to see what it was that was not good for me to watch." A sentiment that Glenn has all too often fallen victim to

himself.

With the help of a few tears, she eventually reclaims the bank note from the exotic snake charmers. Determined not to be similarly sidetracked, she will go directly to the pet shop.

Upon arrival, however, Razieh finds to her utter dismay that she has once more lost the elusive bank note. A kindly old woman will aid Razieh in her search. Success! The note is found but sadly in an unreachable spot beneath a curbside cellar grate. With frantic preparations for the New Year's celebration swirling about her, Razieh enlists several individuals to help her retrieve the note.

Jafar Panahi's deceptively simple plot in no way diminishes the simple and enchanting joys of **The White Balloon**. Unfolding in real time, **The White Balloon** manages to create a whole world in miniature, through the wide-eyed wonderment of one small child. It is a persuasive image, to be sure.

With a most expressive face, a refreshing sense of wonder and a charming directness, little Aida Mohammadkhani will steal your heart while she steals the film as Razieh. Razieh is not your typical adorable little Hollywood child character. Aida's Razieh is kind and timidly friendly, often short-sighted but possessing a streak of obstinance as only a small child can.

Mohsen Kalifi is not less engaging as Razieh's older and protective brother. Mohammad Shahani is attractive as the soldier who befriends Razieh.

What in part makes **The White Balloon** such a special and noteworthy film is that it provides a brief and fleeting glimpse into a life and culture rarely seen in the West: Iran.

The White Balloon is rare opportunity to see a truly special and unique film. Glenn recommends that everyone takes a chance on this absolutely delightful film!
Rating \$\$\$\$\$ (scale \$ to \$\$\$\$\$)



The White Balloon—Ali (Mohsen Kalifi) is shown with his sister Razieh (Aida Mohammadkhan) in a scene from the film which was directed by Jafar Panahi.



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Long Lost Louisa May Alcott Novel May Soon Be Turned Into a Movie

Boston, MA—A beautiful but penniless governess discovers she actually is an heiress. Her pure heart wins her the love of a dashing English lord.

Louisa May Alcott wrote this story when she was a teen-ager, but few knew about the manuscript until two Alcott scholars from North Carolina and South Carolina found it in the stacks of a Harvard University library.

"I've come up with a lot of nice things before, but none as good as this," Joel Myerson, an English professor at the University of South Carolina, said Tuesday, April 30th.

Attached to the manuscript was a handwritten note from Alcott claiming authorship of the story.

"When we read the first couple of pages we thought the novel was worth photocopying. When we finally got around to transcribing it, we realized how good it was," Myerson said.

Called **The Inheritance**, the manuscript was handwritten and difficult to decipher. Myerson said he and his collaborator, Daniel Shealy of the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, discovered the book two years ago, but only recently finished transcribing it.

Now Hollywood producers are vying for rights to the story, and book publishers will get their first shot at it this week, said Todd Shuster, a partner in Zachary Shuster, a Boston-based literary agency.

Agents negotiating the deal have been flooded with calls since word of the manuscript spread among major studios, Shuster said.

"We knew we had a wonderful novel on our hands, but we didn't expect it to produce ... this breaking of the floodwaters," he said.

Shuster said the novel had a "feminist streak," and was "romantic with a capital 'R.'"

Set in an English castle, the novel follows the trials of Edith, an orphan hired

as a governess by the Hamilton family. Edith's beauty draws the jealousy of a Hamilton aunt, who accuses the governess of stealing.

Virtuous Edith knows who committed the crime, but will not reveal the name. Instead, she resolves to accept the blame and leave the family.

Just in time, a castle page confesses to the theft and, in the final twist, produces a critical excerpt from the will of a Hamilton ancestor revealing Edith is actually an heir to the family's fortune.

To sweeten the ending, Edith's virtue wins her the heart of handsome Lord Percy.

Shuster would not reveal details of offers he's fielding, but pointed to another recent Alcott find, **The Long Fatal Love Chase**. Shuster's partner, Lane Zachary, negotiated that manuscript's \$1.5 million sale to Random House.

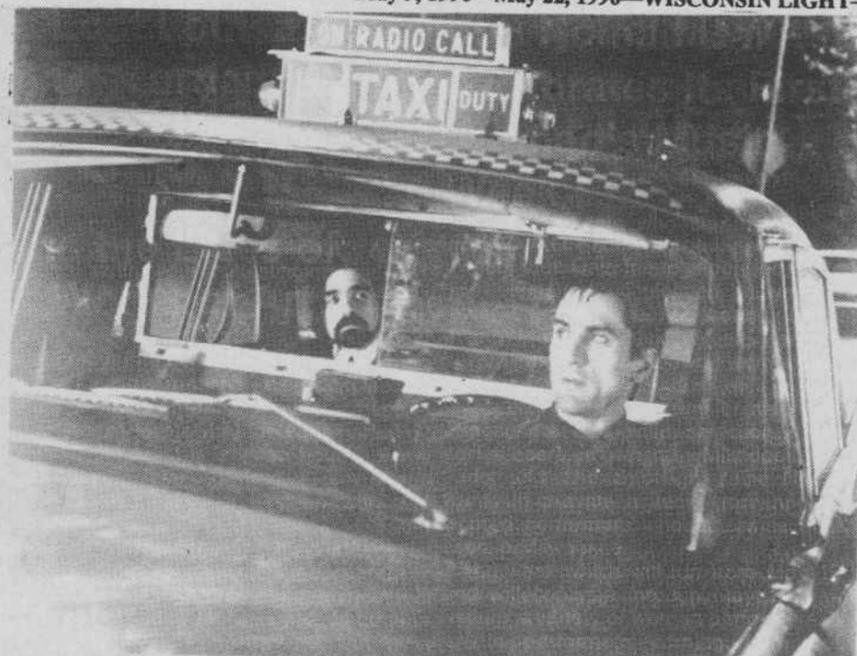
Myerson and Shealy said they discovered the new, 150-page novel while sifting through Alcott holdings at Harvard's Houghton Library.

The two have edited Alcott's journals and letters, and collaborated on several other projects involving the author. Myerson said they were searching the stacks, "just looking for anything," when they found the book.

After securing permission from Harvard and the three heirs to the Alcott estate to publish the manuscript, they approached Zachary to represent them. Any profits from **The Inheritance** would be shared between the heirs and the researchers, Shuster said.

Shuster said his agency plans this week to approach publishers as well.

"To honor the legacy one would go to a publisher first and then go to Hollywood," he said. "But because of the aggressive behavior of development executives in Hollywood, we will send it simultaneously to Hollywood and the publishing community in New York."



Robert De Niro—stars in the film classic "Taxi Driver," which is now playing at Milwaukee's Downer Theatre. The film is currently in theatrical reissue, celebrating its 25th anniversary.

old gymnasium where dozens of beautiful youths lounge around the pool, nude of course and without a pesky old troll in sight.

Boy is a virtual fantasia of youthful male sexuality, where the camera lingers lovingly and long on the video's seven key models, caressing their every curve.

Sure, there is some mild simulated sex (nary an erection of course) but the emphasis is the playfulness of male sexuality, the innocence of youth. It is a powerful aphrodisiac, to be sure.

Amongst the six sections in **Boy**, two stand out. In the third section, Sergei and Mathias delightfully cruise each other poolside. Later Dalibor is given a massage by a spectacular un-named youth who surprisingly wears swim trunks. Inquiring minds want to know why. Actually the massage itself seems pretty feeble but Dalibor's enthusiastic response carries the scene.

Glenn is sorry to say that **Boy 2: Boys at Play** is far less successful. Featuring sexual superstar Lukas on the box cover, this sequel should similarly prove as popular as the original, at least commercially.

Glenn imagines there are few male

readers of the **Wisconsin Light** not familiar with Lukas's beautiful .. um, blue eyes.

Lukas's considerable talents notwithstanding, despite its title, **Boy 2: Boys at Play** is ironically, far less playful than was **Boy**. The five segments of **Boy 2** again feature Eastern Europe's most beautiful and endowed (or is it beautifully endowed) youths. Still, some of the original's magic is missing.

On some levels, little seems to separate **Boy 2** from those other videos these same boys make but which can only be found in "those sort of places." (and which cost a whole lot more). Sure, there's lotsa sex but only "simulated" and there is, of course, the total absence of any pesky erections or um, climaxes. Needless to say, there's nary a condom in sight. Certainly an idyllic portrayal of youthful sexuality but Glenn wonders what message this video is making.

A bit disappointing, **Boy 2** still boasts a some beautiful boys and incites the viewer to think about a Eastern European holiday. Affordably priced at \$24.95, both videos are available at AfterWords Bookstore and Video Adventures.



Murderous Personality—Hugh O'Connor stars in "The Young Poisoner's Handbook" which is now showing at Milwaukee's Oriental Theatre. The story takes place in 1961 in London and is the story about a boy with a demented scientific mission.



OUT on Video

"Boy" and "Boy 2" Show the Delightful Whimsy of Young Male Sensuality

Reviewed by Glenn Bishop

Glenn's friends are getting worried. Why, just the other day a dear friend of Glenn's, being shocked at the vehemence of his tirade against **Mrs. Winterbourne** and poor little Ricki Lake in particular, inquired if his medication dosage had been changed of late.

Even Glenn's dear friend Kiki was heard to utter, "Oh, Glenn, why don't you lighten up!" Okay, fine. Perhaps Glenn is beginning to take **The Cinema** just a little too seriously.

Anyway, it's back to reality with a fresh new assignment: review of **Boy** and **Boy 2-Boys at Play**, two new videos from those wonderful folks at Greenwood/Cooper.

Few can be unfamiliar with the videos of Greenwood/Cooper, an enormously popular and successful line of videos targeting Gay men and featuring young, attractive male models frolicking nude in a variety of activities, most of which are not

commonly done in the nude.

Even fewer will disagree that these same activities: gymnastics and aerobics, for example, can be far more entertaining viewing when being performed by extraordinarily handsome and enormously endowed young men. Still...

In **Boy**, released a scant four months ago, Greenwood/Cooper had an unqualified best-seller. Capitalism dictates a sequel. But just how good are these videos?

As the box covers indicate for both of these releases, the videos are filled with lovely boys, all sleek and smooth and inevitably hung like proverbial little ponies. These gorgeous little scamps, the blossoming youth of Eastern Europe, just seem love to frolic shamelessly in front of a camera. As Glenn himself might if he looked like these gorgeous youths..

Even cynical Glenn found **Boy**, the original video, an absolute delight. It's six sections are set in what looks to be an

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The Daddy's Boy Contest was held April 26th at Milwaukee's Wreck Room bar. Shown above are the contestants with the three winners holding their trophies.



Jerry Johnson

The Daddy Contest was held the following night, April 27th, at Milwaukee's 1100 Club. The three winners are holding their trophies, posing with the contest's other contestants.

AfterWords Bookstore Hosts Prominent Lesbian and Gay Authors at PrideFest

Milwaukee--AfterWords Bookstore & Espresso Bar is especially honored to present at PrideFest, this first year at the Henry W. Maier Festival Park (SummerFest grounds), the AfterWords PrideFest Literature tent.

Throughout Saturday June 8th and Sunday June 9th, festival attendees will be able to find in the Literature Tent a variety of diverse programs given by prominent Lesbian and Gay authors, writing workshops, a poetry slam, as well as a history of the development of Gay and Lesbian literature.

As the Pride Guide went to press, the schedule of programs at the Literature Tent had yet to be finalized but among the highlights are appearances by the following noted Gay and Lesbian authors:

Ever since his first novel, **Fag Hag** was published in 1992, Robert Rodi has been delighting Gay readers. **Closet Case, What They Did to Princess Paragon and Drag Queen** have followed, each featuring Rodi's uniquely hilarious perspective on contemporary Gay life. He has brought these talents to **Birdcage: A Novel**, based on the hit Robin Williams/Nathan Lane film (Plume, \$10.95).

Regular readers of our very own Wis-

consin **In Step** have long enjoyed "Roberts' Rules", a regular column penned by syndicated columnist Shelly Roberts, author of **Hey Mom, Guess What!** and **The Dyke Detector**.

Just in time for Pride, Roberts brings us another humorous volume, **Roberts' Rules of Lesbian Living** (Spinsters Ink, \$5.95), a delightful send-up of "life-instruction" books, here filled with fabulous lesbian truisms.

Since the publication of **Being Homosexual**, Richard Isay has been recognized as a leading authority on the psychological development of Gay men.

AfterWords is particularly pleased to present Isay upon the publication of his new ground-breaking work, **Becoming Gay** (Pantheon, \$23.00), a timely and deeply personal account of what it means to accept and live fully by one's true nature.

Betty Berzon, Ph.D. is a long-time psychotherapist and activist and is the author of two classic Gay/Lesbian Best-seller: **Permanent Partners** and **Positively Gay**.

In her new book, **Setting Them Straight: You Can Do Something About Bigotry and Homophobia in**

Your Life (Plume, \$10.95), Berzon provides a unique battle plan for confronting the discrimination that is a part of every gay and lesbian person's life, whether it comes from strangers or from friends and family members.

Berzon's appearance at PrideFest was still tentative at publication time of the Pride Guide.

Long-time AfterWords favorite and best-selling Naiad author Jackie Calhoun is a happy addition to our roster of authors. Jackie's most recent title is **Changes**. Later in 1996, Naiad will publish **Love or Money**, the seventh novel from this popular Wisconsin writer.

AfterWords is particularly pleased to present local author Will Fellows, author of the soon-to-be published **Farm Boys: Lives of Gay Men From the Rural Midwest**. Publication of this intriguing title

from the University of Wisconsin Press is due in September.

Limited space prevents anything more than a mention of a few last minute additions: Gay mystery writer Mark Zubro (**Another Dead Teenager**), first-time Lesbian novelist Carol Guess (**Seeing Dell**) and Yvonne Zipter (**Ransacking the Closet**), another regular contributor to **In Step** magazine.

Please stop by the AfterWords PrideFest Literature Tent for a more complete schedule of authors and programs!

New Books At AfterWords

Lesbian Fiction

We Are Gathered Here by Micah Perks
St. Martin's Press HC \$22.95

Gay Fiction

A Murder on The Appian Way By Steven Saylor
St. Martin's Press HC \$23.95

Lesbian Non-Fiction

The New Our Right To Love : A Lesbian Resource Book edited by Gina Vida Simon & Schuster Pb \$14.00

Gay Non-Fiction

Wrestling With The Angel : Faith and Religion in the Lives of Gay Men edited by Brian Bouldrey Riverhead Books Pb \$14.00

AfterWords Calendar

Monday, May 13th

AfterWords Book Club Book to be discussed: **Tricks: Twenty-Five Encounters** by Renaud Camus 7:30p.m. New members always welcome

Saturday, May 18th

Author Appearance: Eric Rofes **Reviving the Tribe: Regenerating Gay men's Sexuality and Culture in the Ongoing Epidemic** 7:00p.m. Free

Eric Rofes, Author of

Reviving the Tribe: Regenerating Gay Men's Sexuality and Culture in the On-Going Epidemic to Appear at AfterWords

Milwaukee--AfterWords Bookstore is pleased to present activist, political strategist and author Eric Rofes for a reading and discussion on Saturday, May 18th at 7:00p.m.

Rofes' appearance at AfterWords coincides with the publication of his most recent book, **Reviving the Tribe: Regenerating Gay Men's Sexuality in the Ongoing Epidemic**

In **Reviving the Tribe**, Rofes creates a rich and brutally honest portrait of the contemporary Gay men's lives amid the seemingly endless AIDS epidemic. Rofes offers both an honest self-examination in addition to a relentless critique of current sexual politics within the Gay community.

Confronting the horrors of the AIDS epidemic, Rofes refuses to give way to hopelessness, denial or blame. In **Reviving the Tribe**, Rofes provides a moving and compelling argument for stepping out of the "state of emergency" and embracing a life beyond disease.

Rofes is the author of several other outstanding titles focusing on contemporary Gay and Lesbian issues including **I Thought that People Like That Killed Themselves: Lesbians, Gay Men, and Suicide** and **Socrates, Plato, and Guys Like Me: Confessions of a Gay Schoolteacher**.

Reviving the Tribe is an inspiring blueprint for the Gay community which faces a continuing spiral of disaster and is filled with insights of special interest to anyone with an interest in AIDS prevention policymaking.

Rofes' appearance at AfterWords is free and is open to the public. For further information, please call (414) 963-9089.

AfterWords Bookstore

AfterWords welcomes

Eric Rofes

REVIVING THE TRIBE

Saturday, May 18th
7:00pm

Eric Rofes will read and discuss **REVIVING THE TRIBE: Regenerating Gay Men's Sexuality and Culture in the Ongoing Epidemic**. Mr. Rofes is an activist, political strategist and author of such previous books as **I THOUGHT PEOPLE LIKE THAT KILLED THEMSELVES** and **SOCRATES, PLATO, AND GUYS LIKE ME**.

AfterWords Bookstore & Espresso Bar
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Tim Grair

Animal Time—A Possum Queen fundraiser was held April 26th at Milwaukee's La Cage bar. Above, Rudy D'Angelo performed, helping to raise money in the annual bar competition for the Milwaukee AIDS Project.

Madison's A Room of One's Own Features Three May Readings

Carole laFavor

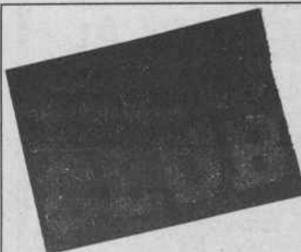
On Friday, May 17 at 6:30p.m., mystery author Carole laFavor will read from her new novel **Along the Journey River**, published by Firebrand Books. A Native American Lesbian mystery, **Along the Journey River** follows the train of sacred ceremonial objects stolen from the

Minnesota Red Earth Reservation's Ojibwa tribe.

Carol laFavor is a Two-Spirit Ojibwa living in Minneapolis.

Eric Rofes

On Monday, May 20 at 6:30 p.m., author and Gay activist Eric Rofes will be on hand to read from his book **Reviving the Tribe: Regenerating Gay Men's Sexuality and Culture in the Ongoing Epidemic**, published by Haworth Press. **Reviving the Tribe** creates a rich and honest portrait of contemporary Gay men's lives amid the AIDS epidemic; it offers both autobiographical self-examination and a critique of current sexual politics within the Gay community.



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Feminist Science Fiction the **Women of Wonder** anthology: Suzy McKee Charnas, Karen Joy Fowler, Thursday, May 23 at 6:30p.m. for a Nancy Kress, Katherine LacLean, Pamela reception featuring many of the authors who will be attending the feminist science fiction convention, WISCON, in Madison on Memorial Day weekend. Authors appearing will include those featured in the **Women of Wonder** anthology: Suzy McKee Charnas, Karen Joy Fowler, Nancy Kress, Katherine LacLean, Pamela Sargent, Pat Murphy, Judith Moffett and others. All readings and events are free and open to the public. Call (608) 257-7888 for more information.

WISCONSIN'S DANCE BARS

Wisconsin's Dance Bars are ready and waiting for you to stop in and take in the music, lights and fun they have to offer. The bars (listed in alphabetical order) are:

CLUB '94

9001 120th Ave.
Kenosha, WI 53142
857-9958

Hours: Mon- Sat 7 pm to Close
Sunday 3 pm to Close

Cover: For special shows only
Stop in and sample Kenosha style hospitality. Club '94 attracts people from Chicago, Racine, Kenosha and Milwaukee. DJ's play on weekends only.

CLUB 219

219 S. 2nd St.
Milw, WI 53204
271-3732

Hours: Mon-Fri 4 to Close
Sat- Sun 3 to close

Cover: Only for special shows
Club 219 is known not only for its dancing, but for its first rate shows and gorgeous strippers. Club 219 covers include a free drink.

LA CAGE

801 S. 2nd St. (corner of 2nd and National)
Milw, WI 53204
383-8300

Hours: 8 to close every night
Covers: (without a La Cage card)

WedsThurs \$2.00
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MANOEUVRES

150 S. Blair
Madison, WI 53703
258-9918

Hours: Mon-Sat 4 to Close
Sunday 2 to Close

Cover: Cover for Sunday Shows

Located in the Hotel Wilson. Madison's newest place to dance. Its the place to be for Madison's Dance crowd. Manoeuvres is remodeling to double its space.

THE PIVOT CLUB

4815 W. Prospect HWY BB
Appleton, WI 54915
730-0440

Hours: Tue-Sat 7 to Close
Sunday 1 to Close

Cover: None

The Pivot is the largest Dance bar in Wisconsin. Great variety of shows including some national names. Good sound system and music mix.

ZA'S

1106 Main St
Green Bay, WI 54301
435-5476

Hours: Mon- Fri 6 pm to Close
Sat- Sun 8pm to Close

Covers for special shows and Sunday dry night.

Za's is a very user friendly bar. A large dance floor, a music mix that changes every night and the elegant Java's upstairs all make for a fun evening.

Entertainment Guide

APPLETON

Rascals Bar & Grill
702 E. Wisconsin
Appleton, WI 54991
954-9262

The Pivot Club
4815 W. Prospect
Appleton, WI 54915
730-0440

DOOR COUNTY

Black Smith Inn
PO Box 220
Baileys Harbor, WI
839-9222

Chanticleer Guest House
4072 Cherry Rd
Sturgeon Bay 54234
746-0334

EAU CLAIRE

Wolf's Den
302 E Madison
Eau Claire, WI 54703
715-832-9237

FORT ATKINSON

Friends
10 E. Sherman Ave
Fort Atkinson, WI
563-2231

GREEN BAY

Brandy's II
1126 Main St
Green Bay, WI 54301
437-3917

Napalese Lounge

515 S. Broadway
Green Bay, WI 54303
432-9646

Sass

840 S. Broadway
Green Bay, WI 54304
437-7277

Za's/Java's

1106 Main St.
Green Bay, WI 54301
435-5476

KENOSHA

Club 94
9001 120th Ave
Kenosha, WI 53140
857-9958

LA CROSSE

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114 N 5th St.
La Crosse, WI 54601
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La Crosse, WI 54601

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291-9889

Club 219

219 S. 2nd St.
Milwaukee, WI 53204
271-3732

1100 Club

1100 S. 1st St.
Milw, WI 53204
647-9950

Fannies

200 E. Washington
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643-9633

Just Us

807 S. 5th St.
Milw, WI 53204
383-2233

Kathy's Nut Hut

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Milw, WI 53204
647-2673

Le Cage

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Milw, WI 53204
383-8300

Mama Roux

1875 N. Humboldt
Milw, WI 53212
347-0344

Station 2

1534 W. Grant
Milw, WI 53204
383-5755

The Ball Game

196 S. 2nd
Milw, WI 53204
273-7474

The M & M Club

124 N. Water
Milw, WI 53202
347-1962

The Nomad

1401 E. Brady St.
Milw, WI 53202
273-3866

Popular News

225 N. Water
Milw, WI 53202
278-0636

3B's Bar

1579 S. 2nd St.
Milw, WI 53204
672-5580

This Is It

418 E. Wells
Milw, WI 53202
278-9192

Triangle

134 E. National
Milw, WI 53204
383-9412

Walkers Point Cafe

1106 S. First St.
Milw, WI 53204
384-7999

Wreck Room

266 E. Erie
Milw WI 53202
273-6900

Zippers

819 S 2nd St.
Milw, WI 53204
645-8330

RACINE

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Racine, WI 53403
634-9804

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600 6th St.
Racine, WI 53403
632-0171

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Rockford, IL 61104
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Sheboygan, WI
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457-1636

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701 Highway 10W
Stevens Point, WI
54481
341-8862

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JT's Bar
1506 N 3rd St.
Superior WI 54880
394-2580

The Main Club

1813 N 3rd
Superior, WI 54880
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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

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. Give me a call. (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. Leave me a message. (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

LOOKING FOR YOU GWM, 20, 5'8", 170, light brown hair, blue eyes, straight appearing and attractive, seeks others into friendship first and then possibly more. Give me a call. (Columbus) #19397

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'wd 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 GREENBAY 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 YOSHI 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

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 GREENBAY 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

MY FIRST TIME Jack, like to have my first guy to guy action, give me a call- (Greenfield) #34174

GROUP GROPE Todd, 28, subm btm, looking for one or more for group fun, if you are interested leave a message- (Kenosha) #34451

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. Call me. (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. Please leave a message. (Madison) #31168

LONG BROWN HAIR Scott, 23, 6'2", 170 long brn hair/blu looking for friends, have a lover, looking for some people to hang out with- give me a call- (Milwaukee) #34416

YELLOW HANKY FUN Bob, GWM, 40s 5'8, 190, looking for dom tp man, GWM or GBM or GHM under 40 who likes it regular, also into Jock Straps and Yellow hankies. (Milwaukee) #34585

JUST A GOOD TIME! Christian, I'm, 24 6'2 blonde/blu, 165, looking for 18-24, in the area who want to have a good time on the weekends, leave a message! (Milwaukee) #34990

ARE YOU THE ONE? GWM, 24, 5'9", brown hair, hazel eyes, seeks others, 18-30, smooth and boyish looks, for fun, friendship and pleasure. Leave me a message. (Milwaukee) #23317

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

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 end'wd, 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

LET'S TALK GWM, masculine and 23, 6', 165, sandy blonde hair, hazel eyes, good shape, varied interests, seek local guys, 21-25, for friendship first then maybe more. (Oshkosh) #21232

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

GIVE IT A TRY! GWM, 38, let's hook up late at night, What the hell? 170 5'10, professional, like to snow ski, water ski, never done this phone thing before, give me a call- (Southeast) #34821

LET'S PLAY DRESS UP GWM, cross dresser, well end'wd, seeks same for fun. Leave me a detailed message. (Southeast) #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! Call me soon. (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



Photo by: David Christian-Brown

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

THE LONG HAUL GWM, 45, 5'7", brown hair, green eyes, 'stache and beard, seeks others into settling down and monogamous relationships. If this is you, call me. (Wausau) #22674

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

TWO FOR YOU GWM couple, 30 and 35, good looking, seek others, good looking and stable only, for fun, pleasure and friendship. Give us a call. (Wisconsin) #29474

MY NAME IS JIM GWM, 32, farmer, medium build, balding, seeks a significant other for life sharing and monogamy. You must like children and you don't have to be the perfect "10". Leave me a message and let's see what develops. (Wisconsin) #28694

LET'S PLAY GWM, 28, seeks same, for fun and pleasure. Call me and leave a way to contact you. (Wisconsin) #27268

NON GAME PLAYER'S WANTED GWM, 23, 5'6", 120, attractive, brown hair, green eyes, varied interests, seeks same, under 30, slim and attractive, for the finer things in life. Give me a call. (Wisconsin) #5093

HIGH HEELS AND YOU Bi White TV, seeks same into footwear and more. Call me. (Wisconsin) #1469

LET'S DRESS UP GWM, 36, CD, seeks others with similar interests, for fun and friendship. Call me. (Wisconsin) #49615

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

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

BI THE WAY! Bi Curious WM, 5'7", 160, 20's, brown hair and eyes, seeks others to teach me what I have been missing. Please leave me a message. (Mancato) #23982

BE MY MASTER Terry, GWM 6'1 185, 36 slave iso master to serve, into SM BD, disciplined, if you are that master, give me a call- (Minneapolis) #33468

BUILT AND BLACK? GWM, 25, 5'10, 180, looking for bi or gay black male, taller stocky built and very dom if you meet the description leave a message- (Minneapolis) #34523

GROUP PARTICIPATION GWM, seeks others, 30-50, for one on one fun or group encounters. (Minneapolis) #33158

PURE PASSION GWM, 44, 5'11", 190, gentle, sensitive and safe, seeks others, masculine preferred, for fun, pleasure and possibly more. Please give me a call. (Minneapolis) #31772

GO TO MY ROOM! GWM, 33, very hairy, beard and 'stache, seeks bad boys for over the knee discipline. Give me a call. (Minneapolis) #30637

WEEKEND FUN GWM, 48, seeks others, 22-35, smooth and tall preferred, for fun and alot more. You won't be disappointed. (Minneapolis) #29355

HOOK UP WITH ME GWM, 28, 5'10", 185, seeks aggressive and dominant guys for group activities. Let me hear from you soon. (Minneapolis) #29375

NEW EXPERIENCES GWM, late 50's, seeks GWM's only, 25+, for discreet encounters. You must be drug and disease free. Give me a call. (Minneapolis) #26040

PUNK WITH ME GWM, 22, 5'10", 185, blonde hair, blue eyes, goatee, good looking, seeks others to hang out with and more. Give me a call. (Minneapolis) #24343

HANKY SPANK ME! GWM, 28, 5'5", attractive and submissive, 135, nice body and in good shape, seeks others, dominant only, into over the knee discipline. (Minneapolis) #20664

USE AND ABUSE ME GWM, 36, 6'1", 185, slave, seeks a Master for total control and more. You know what to do, so call me. There is not anything I won't do for you. (Minneapolis) #19135

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, blonde hair, blue eyes, attractive, seeks non smoking men, 25-40, 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. (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 end'wd 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. (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

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 end'wd, to train me for their own satisfaction. Call me soon. (Minneapolis) #48817

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

OLDER WANT MUCH YOUNGER GWM, 53, seeks young and slender guys for phone fun and more. Please leave me a message. (Northeastern) #33628

SHOW ME AROUND Sean 23, like long walks, camping hunting fishing, new in town, looking for someone to show me around, leave a message- (Rochester) #34496

TEACH ME TONIGHT Bi Curious WM, 19, 5'6", 130, seeks Gay or Bi WM's for first time experience. (Saint Cloud) #16847

I'LL ROCK YOUR WORLD Bi WM, top, 48, 6', 185, seeks young and masculine bottom guys, versatile a must, for rocking good times. Leave a message. (St. Paul) #48830

Illinois

TAKE A CHANCE ON ME GWM, 34, 5'7", 230, stocky and good looking, 'stache/goatee, moderately hairy, seeks top men, 25-40, into fun, adventure and more. Call me when you get a chance. (Cicero) #11681

LOOKING FOR MY ROBIN GWM, healthy, 33, 6', 170, seeks Bi or GWM's, interested in role playing and fantasies. Give me a call. (Evanston) #10435

LOCAL FUN DESIRED GWM, 40, 5'9", 220, very easy going, seeks local guys for fun and more. Call me soon. (Evanston) #32722

NO ONE TURNED AWAY GWM, seeks any and all for fun and pleasure. Give me a call. (Evanston) #22963

WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE? GWM, 6', 165, Italian looks, brown hair and eyes, 'stache, new to this life, seeks GLM/GHM, 18-35, discreet and fun, for a long term friendship and relationship. (Evanston) #45050

DISCREET MEATINGS GWM, seeks others, 18-24, attractive, for fun and more. You must be straight acting and appearing. No exceptions! (Evanston) #21661

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. (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



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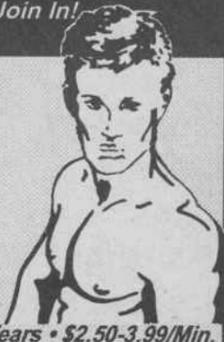
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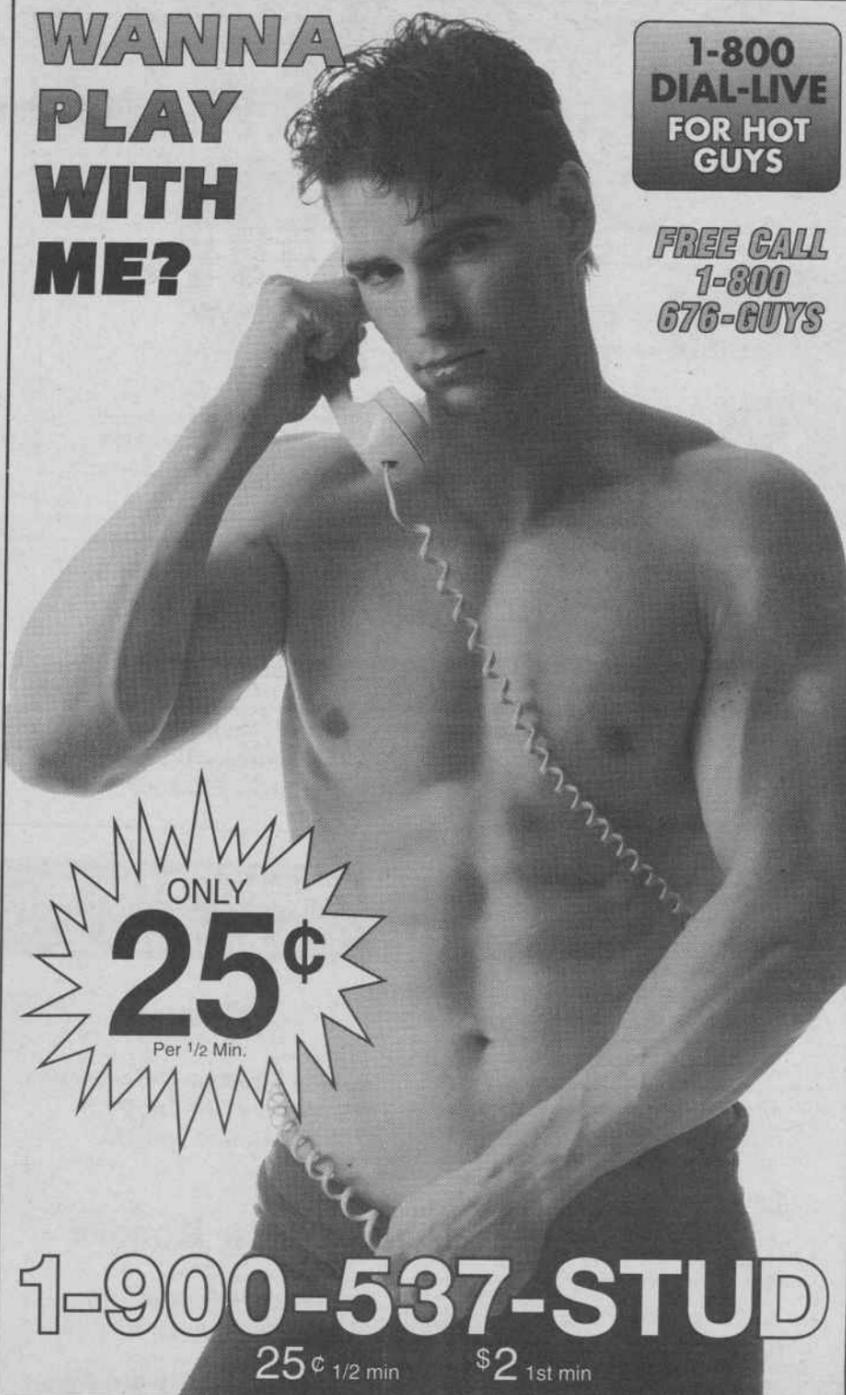


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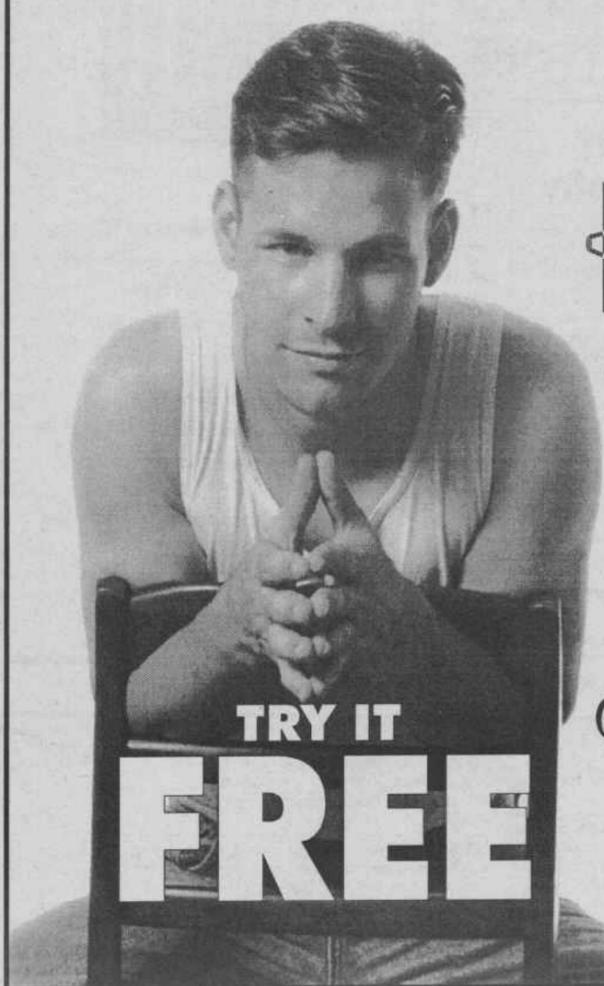
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Workshop to Focus on Women's Special Investment Needs

Milwaukee—An innovative workshop, Investment Planning for Women, part of a major, national initiative to provide women with a better financial education, will be offered by Prudential Securities' Milwaukee branch on Saturday, May 18, 1996 at 10:00pm at the Wauwatosa Library.

Investment Planning for Women covers a wide variety of topics, including the basics of investing, how to get started, asset allocation, portfolio diversification and discusses how important events, such as a child's education or future retirement needs, play a role in a woman's financial objectives. The program will also offer participants the opportunity to take a groundbreaking 35-question self-test, developed in concert with and certified by the highly acclaimed National Center for Women and Retirement Research. The test can help women identify the aspects of their own personalities that may prevent them from making the best possible financial decisions.

Irene Darden, a Financial Advisor with Prudential Securities' Milwaukee office, will be the featured speaker at the seminar. Ms. Darden is one of 200 Prudential Securities

Financial advisors selected out of approximately 6,000 nationwide to participate in the workshop series.

"Effective money management is within the grasp of all women, whatever their marital status, income or life situation," said Ms. Darden. "By educating women through these workshops, we can help them make the best investment decisions for their particular financial situations."

Admission to the Wauwatosa Library workshop is free, but reservations are required due to limited space. For reservations or more information, call Irene Darden at 800-558-7703.

Steering Committee Meets to Move Ahead On Milwaukee LGBT Community Center

Milwaukee—Approximately forty people attended the first meeting of the LGBT Community Center Steering Committee. Volunteer facilitators Sarah Berg, Bill Dempsey, Karen Gotzler and Rod Johnson led the meeting.

The group agreed on a set of ground rules for Steering Committee meetings. The most significant ground rule was that decisions will be made by consensus. However, the group agreed to honor requests to vote on issues if necessary.

The bulk of the meeting was spent discussing an Outcome-Based Approach to Planning and Funding. The committee also began preliminary work on developing an Outcomes Statement (mission statement).

There was concern over how "community" will be defined for the purposes of Gay men, Bisexuals, Transgendered people and their supporters in the metro Milwaukee area. It was noted, however, that at some point a statement would have to be developed to address concerns around this issue.

Three Task Groups were formed: an Organizing Task Group, which will be responsible for developing some structure to the Steering Committee; a Public Relations Task Group; and a Feasibility Task Group. Jerry Johnson volunteered to be the archivist for the effort to develop a community center.

The LGBT Community Center Steering Committee will be at PrideFest, on June 7, 8 and 9, in booth space purchased by Ross Walker and Erv Uecker.

The next meeting of the Steering Committee will be on Saturday, June 1, at 11:00am. The location is yet to be determined.

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Recent Research On Bisexuality Indicates that Bisexuality Is Part of a Continuum.

"I do not in the least underestimate bisexuality...I expect it to provide all further enlightenment." — Sigmund Freud

"Even a superficial look at other societies and some groups in our own society should be enough to convince us that a very large number of human beings, probably a majority — are bisexual in their capacity for love..." — Margaret Mead

Studying Bisexuality

Bisexuality is the capacity for sexual, emotional and social attraction to individuals of both biological sexes. However, as long as everyone is viewed as either heterosexual or homosexual, bisexuality will be treated as a myth, a developmental phase, or as a pathology.

Modern sex research is limited by its monosexual framework; the assumption that everyone is either straight, or Gay; that attraction for one sex excludes the other. Such research ignores human diversity and subsumes bisexuality under a discussion of homosexuality. When bisexuality is lumped with homosexuality it both minimizes bisexuality and keeps the emphasis on the homosexual side of the equation.

"Given the diversity of human sexual responsiveness, it may be as artificial to use a three-category system to describe individuals as it is to employ a two-category system. Nevertheless, it is important to recognize the Bisexual option as an identity because sexual orientation is a powerful determinant of social roles and social stigmatization," says psychologist Jay Paul, urging that "we re-examine our culture's myths and theories of sexuality in light of existing evidence."

Usually not much distinction is made between bisexuality and homosexuality, or between how people self-label (identity) versus how they act (behavior). This confuses things, particularly when looking at percentages.

In the last several years we have seen media-quoted estimates of the prevalence of homosexuality/bisexuality ranging all the way from 1% to 20%, depending on how the study was done and what questions were asked. The only thing consistent in these studies is that a greater number of people report same-gender attractions and experiences than identify as homosexual/bisexual.

Numbers would not be important if love for both genders was regarded as normal. Numbers will not be accurate as long as people are afraid, for reasons of social ostracism, to identify as someone who is attracted to their own sex, or both.

Forty years ago Dr. Alfred Kinsey's Homosexual/Heterosexual Rating Scale recognized sexual orientation as a continuum of gradations from exclusively heterosexual to exclusively homosexual — with most of us falling somewhere in between. Yet, most of us still think in either/or, binary ways. Old habits die hard.

In the 1980's Dr. Fritz Klein developed the Klein Sexual Orientation Grid. His scale expands on the behavior-focused Kinsey scale by including attraction, fantasy, social and emotional preference, self-identification and lifestyle factors; all measured along axes of past, present and ideal. This scale allows us to see sexual orientation as a dynamic multi-variable process.

A New Look at Bisexuality

In 1994 three sociologists associated with the Kinsey Institute published *Dual Attraction: Understanding Bisexuality*, the first major scientific study to look seriously at bisexual identity and to challenge the construct of an innate sexual orientation. It focuses on 100 interviews conducted at the Bisexual Center in San Francisco in 1983.

The researchers returned to the city in 1984-85 to circulate 400 questionnaires to members of three organizations concerned with sexuality, as a means of comparing the responses of the self-identified Bisexuals with self-identified homosexuals and heterosexuals. In 1988 they returned again and re-interviewed 61 of the original Bi Center members.

The study concluded that the Bisexuals studied appear to "add" their bisexual identity "on" to an already-developed heterosexual interest. However the study missed Gay and Lesbian-identified Bisexuals who did not frequent the Bisexual Center as well as the significant number of Bisexuals who adamantly say that they do not see themselves as "half Gay/half straight" or even "between Gay and straight," but have had a sense of themselves as bisexual from their earliest memories.

Additionally, the authors' bias against transsexuals, expressed by their use of derogatory language when describing them, in conjunction with the small size of their sample (11 people and all but one male-to-female), prevent the authors from accurately concluding anything about Transgender Bisexuals.

While *Dual Attraction* is the most important bisexual research to date, other emerging research is going further, surveying more di-

verse, larger groups of bisexuals from different geographic areas. Because of the organized Bisexual movement, which has burgeoned since 1987, researchers now have access to more information on Bisexuals' relationships and on the various routes by which they arrive at their identities.

A recent survey of Bisexuals backs the view that acknowledgment of sexual orientation is a developmental process. Dr. Ron C. Fox, a San Francisco psychotherapist, conducted a survey of 835 self-identified Bisexual women and men. He found 35% of Bisexuals considered themselves Gay or Lesbian earlier in their lives. This is exactly the population *Dual Attraction* does not thoroughly study.

Interviewed in the Bisexual magazine, *Anything That Moves*, Weinberg acknowledges, "We did not set out to take this and generalize for all Bisexuals. This study showed how bisexuality is formed by opportunities and support available to Bisexuals in a particular time and place."

Bis in Kansas today are not the same as Bis in San Francisco then. Even if bisexuality has a biological basis, bisexuality is formed by context.

Fox says, "Theories of Lesbian and Gay development have typically regarded establishing a Lesbian or Gay identity as the end point of the coming out process. Bisexuality was thought to be a transitional experience and identification, whereas, in reality, it can be an endpoint, phase, or place of recurrent visitation."

Fox's chapter, "Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Identities Over the Lifespan," points out that the common view of Bisexuals as confused is more the result of society's polarization into Gay and straight than anything inherent in the Bisexual identity.

He mentions that though the American Psychiatric Association's removal of homosexuality as a diagnostic category "contributed to a more affirmative view of homosexuality, the dichotomization of sexual orientation into heterosexuality and homosexuality remained, which supported the belief that Bisexuals were 'psychologically maladjusted...'"

In fact, no research on non-clinical samples of Bisexuals has found any evidence of psychopathology or psychological maladjustment due to bisexuality. On the contrary, Dr. Fritz Klein's research has found that self-identified Bisexuals are "characterized by high self-esteem, self-confidence and autonomy...and cognitive flexibility."

In a recent issue of *Gender and Society*, sociologist Paula Rust compares more than 400 Lesbians and Bi women. Rust observes that "coming out is not linear, that sexual identity formation must be reconceptualized as a process of describing one's social location within a changing social context." Changes in sexual identity, she says, "...are therefore expected of mature individuals as they maintain an accurate description of their position vis-à-vis other individuals and institutions."

General Population

Studies Leave Out Bisexuals

"AIDS has not spread to the general population yet, and may never do so..." — *Sex in America*

For Bisexuals, it is often confusing what is meant by the term "general population." Presumably it doesn't include Bisexuals, as the majority of people are heterosexually-identified, and that is usually what the code-words, "general population" imply.

On the other hand, if many, perhaps the majority, of people have the capacity to behave bisexually, and may choose to do so openly given a hospitable environment, then the "general population" does include Bisexuals.

The Janus Report on Sexual Behavior (1993), startled the public with a reported incidence of same-sex attraction in the general population as at least 20%.

Sex in America: A Definitive Survey (1994) found only 2.8% of men and 1.4% of women identified themselves as homosexual/bisexual.

They found, however, that 4% of ALL women, and 9% of ALL men surveyed reported same-gender experiences. Still, only behavior was measured, not fantasies or desires.

Sex in America's strength is that it is the first to question a large (3,432 Americans



Workout for Hope—Close to 120 people jammed, pumped and jumped recently at the 8th Annual Workout for Hope, raising \$13,000 for HIV/AIDS and cancer research at City of Hope Medical Center and Beckman Research Institute. Milwaukee participants burned more than 151,200 calories—the equivalent of 630 bags of plain M&Ms—swinging to the groove of the challenging workout.

aged 13-59) random sample of adults about many aspects of sexuality. However the authors admit they didn't have a big enough sample of Lesbians, Gays and Bisexuals to say anything accurate about America's overall same-gender experience, much less identity. Therefore, it's hard to take their "less than 3% of Americans identify as Gay or Bi" conclusion, in and of itself as "definitive."

What about brain studies? None of them have yet studied Bisexuals. In *The Sexual Brain*, Simon LeVay doesn't speak directly of connections of his research to bisexuality. From time to time he adds "and Bisexual," either as an afterthought, or as if he wants to cover himself if, as is the case with most biological phenomena, the biology of sexual orientation is continuous rather than binary.

National Institute of Health researcher Dean Hamer, on the other hand says that he excludes Bi-behavioral people from his populations in order to get purer, less ambiguous results.

How is it possible to separate out identity versus fantasy and attraction versus actual behavior in such studies? There is also a danger that when studies are done on exclusively heterosexual and homosexual people, it will be assumed that bisexuals fall somewhere "in between," while this may not be the case at all.

Those who are attracted to more than one gender or those who don't care about gender, may be qualitatively different somehow from those for whom gender is a determining factor in their attractions. If we are to ever gain an accurate understanding of human sexuality, it is important for researchers to acknowledge

Bisexual orientation and the continuum of sexual orientation in their theory and methodology.

Editor's Note: We thank Bi-Definition, the new Milwaukee-area organization for Bisexual people, for permission to print the above article.

Benefit Performance for Stephen Hemming

Milwaukee—There will be a special performance of the Milwaukee Repertory Theater's production of *The Nerd* on Monday, May 13, 1996, as a benefit for actor Stephen Hemming.

Hemming, who died on April 19, 1996, was a member of the Milwaukee Repertory Theater's acting company and an Associate Artist at American Players Theater in Spring Green, Wisconsin.

He also enjoyed a long association with the Madison Repertory Theatre, and performed with the Milwaukee Chamber Theatre and Next Act Theatre.

The doors to the Rep's Powerhouse Theater, 108 E. Wells Street, will open at 7:00 p.m. for the 7:30 show. The performance is open to the public and admission will be on a Pay-What-You-Want basis. Seating will be by general admission.

All proceeds from the benefit will go to a fund which has been established in Hemming's name.

College Newspaper Hands Out Free Condoms

Harrisburg, PA-AP—The student newspaper at the religious-affiliated Lebanon Valley College wanted its readers to be sure to pick up this week's issue, which included a story on AIDS and safe sex. So, a condom was glued to the front page of 1,000 copies of the newspaper. "It is a political statement," said Jasmine Ammons, a co-editor of the newspaper, *La Vie Collegienne*. "The information was something we wanted people to have," she added.

Lori Horst, a student from Lebanon, said she was shocked. "I couldn't believe what I was seeing. I think that it wasn't a good choice... It doesn't promote abstinence," she said.

But another editor, Natalie Hope McDonald, said it was fine if some people at the 1,150-student school affiliated with the United Methodist Church were shocked.

"AIDS is shocking because people don't think it's going to happen to them," she said. "If they're going to have sex and this is available, good. I don't think this is going to promote sex. There is a strong feeling around Generation X that people feel they are invincible. Socially, I think this needs to be discussed on campus."

College president John Synodinos said he was proud of the newspaper staff for expressing their opinions, although he had reservations about the condom distribution. "I don't believe anyone is against helping young people deal with a major epidemic," he said.

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Classics on Tour—On May 4th, over a dozen Lambda Car Club members brought their classic cars to Milwaukee's M&M Club. After having lunch in the Glass Menagerie, members posed with several cars, above. For information about the club, call Don at (312) 465-5307

Task Force's "Power at the Polls" Survey Paints Portrait of G/L/B Vote

Washington, DC — Now that the primary season is effectively over, the major political parties are planning election strategy. Which states and constituencies will bring victory? Which states and voters need attention? And which can be written off?

A new survey, released by the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF), for the first time paints a portrait of a political constituency that Democrats and Republicans ignore at their own risk.

Power At the Polls: The Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Vote is based on exit polling data from the 1992 and 1994 elections. The data was originally collected by Voter News Service (VNS), a major national polling organization, and until now has remained largely untapped by the media.

The report was produced by the NGLTF Policy Institute. The Gay vote survey is an analysis of Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual voter demographics, political persuasions and voting patterns. It provides the first statistically reliable picture of self-identified Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual voters.

"We are releasing this report at this critical time because Gay issues have exploded into the 1996 presidential campaign in an unprecedented way," said John D'Emilio, NGLTF Policy Institute director and author of the report. "After a generation of coming out of the closet, Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Americans are flocking to the polling booths."

The VNS 1992 exit polling data is based on a nationally representative sample of 15,488 voters. The poll allowed Gays, Lesbians and Bisexuals to identify themselves for the first time in a presidential election. Some of the major findings include:

▽ **Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual self-identified voters constituted 3.2 percent of the total voting population in the 1992 election.** That is roughly the size of the national Latino vote in the same year, more than double the size of the Asian vote, and slightly less than the Jewish vote. It's also as large as the old staple of American politics, the family farm vote. "Because we know that fear still keeps the majority of Gay people in the closet, this figure of 3.2 percent must be considered a floor rather than a ceiling, and a basement floor at that," said D'Emilio. "In other words, the total number of those voters is certain to be higher than three percent and is likely to be considerably higher."

▽ **The Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual vote can be decisive in urbanized states.** The self-identified Gay vote is not evenly distributed throughout the population, but instead is heavily concentrated in cities. In towns with a population between 5,000 and 10,000 people, the self-identified vote is slightly more than one percent. But in cities with populations between 250,000 and 500,000, the figure rises to more than eight percent. "As time goes on and more small-town residents come out, this figure will grow. But the urban concentration means the Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual vote can be the margin of victory in key states," said D'Emilio. "It can also make the critical difference in many Congressional races and in state and local elections as well." D'Emilio points out that eleven states with urban areas and well-organized and viable Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual communities—such as California, New York, Illinois, Michigan and others— together provide 49 percent of the total electoral vote. Add any two other states, and a candidate wins the presidency.

▽ **The self-identified Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual vote is also a younger vote, and will inevitably grow in size.**

"Because of the changes provoked in American life by the Gay and Lesbian movement, younger voters are significantly more likely to self-identify than are older voters," said D'Emilio. In comparison to the overall voting population, the self-identified vote is underrepresented in the older-than-60 group, and is represented especially heavily among voters younger than 30. "Gay voters already constitute five percent of the under-30 voters," said D'Emilio. "As our issues continue to have high visibility in national and state politics, there is every reason to believe the proportion of self-identified voters will get larger over time."

▽ **The Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual voter displays a clear political profile.** The polling data shows the Gay voter leans heavily toward liberal positions on key issues. The Gay voter is more likely to favor more government services and higher taxes to pay for them; downplay the importance of deficit reduction; support greater access to health care; blame government neglect rather than a decline in moral values for social problems; believe that government should encourage tolerance of diverse value systems; and support continued legalization of abortion. "In other words, this is the profile of a politically progressive constituency," said D'Emilio.

The survey also details who Gay voters vote for. In 1992, Clinton received 43 percent of the total popular vote, but 72 percent of the Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual vote. Only Jewish voters and African-American voters provided Clinton with larger margins. The Gay vote for Clinton surpassed the percentage of votes he received among union households and Latinos.

But, cautions D'Emilio, the Gay vote is not guaranteed to any candidate. "If the only two options in 1996 were to vote Democratic or Republican, the story would seem to be over. But Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual voters have a third option: they can stay home," said D'Emilio.

Evidence from the 1994 elections supports this assertion. In the midterm elections, when Gay issues received less attention than in 1992, and when disappointment was still fresh from the Clinton Administrations support of the "don't ask, don't tell" policy, the self-identified Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual vote shrunk by more than a third. "It still remained a heavily Democratic vote, but there were a lot fewer votes cast," said D'Emilio.

Whether voters stay home in 1996 or rush to the polls depends on several factors, said D'Emilio. Will the Democratic party actively court the Gay vote, or simply take it for granted? Will the Republican Party castigate the Gay community like it did in 1992, or try to avoid polarizing social issues? Will the extremist Christian Right make Gays the target of their rhetoric, and thereby galvanize Gays, Lesbians and Bisexuals to come out and vote? Will Gay organizations succeed in their plans to coordinate massive voter registration drives, and will they be able to mobilize those voters?

"In other words, the Republican Party can antagonize the Gay vote, or try to neutralize it," said D'Emilio. "The Democratic Party can effectively mobilize it, or watch it slip away in inaction. To a degree, the survey confirms what we have known only intuitively—but never had statistically viable data to prove," said D'Emilio. "There is a Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual vote. It is growing, it is concentrated, and it is still untapped."

The survey was released today at a Washington DC press conference, which also featured a report by Carmen Vasquez, director

Dykes To Watch Out For



of public policy, Lesbian and Gay Community Services Center, New York City, on the **Promote the Vote** Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender national voter registration drive; and Tony Valenzuela and Brenda Schumacher, co-chairs of Lesbian, Gay,

Bisexual and Transgender **VOICES '96**, an ad hoc coalition planning actions at the GOP Convention in San Diego this year.

For a copy of the Gay vote report, contact NGLTF at (202)332-6483, ext. 3303, or visit the NGLTF Web site at <http://www.ngltf.org>.

Religious Extremists Push Anti-Gay Initiative in Idaho--Again

Boise, ID—Each side in the debate over the proposed anti-Gay initiative found themselves in the same financial shape this spring as they were in two years ago in a campaign that went down to the wire.

But critics of the initiative are working on a much more solid financial base than the Idaho Citizens Alliance (ICA) appears to be, according to financial disclosure statements filed with the Secretary of State.

The ICA is a Right Wing Religious extremist group dedicated to institutionalizing discrimination against Lesbians, Bisexuals and Gays.

On April 1, opponents of the initiative to ban state or local laws protecting Gay people from discrimination had \$21,500 in the bank while ICA was down to less than \$300.

At the same time in 1994, initiative opponents had a bankroll of \$21,000 while ICA was working off of \$600. The initiative managed to fail but by less than 3,100 votes after opponents pumped another \$440,000 into the campaign against it, while ICA spent less than \$100,000.

Both sides are operating on the networks they established during that sometimes bitter campaign in 1994. Alliance founder Kelly Walton's company provided a third of the \$9,500 it operated the initiative drive with this winter. And the No on One Coalition continued to get substantial out-of-state support. It raised \$23,500 during the winter.

But the critical difference between the two is the cash injected into their campaigns last year compared to two years earlier. ICA and a related group spent \$42,000 in 1995 compared to over \$83,000 in 1993 preparing for the election-year run.

The coalition, on the other hand, spent more than \$100,000 last year after putting only \$11,000 into defeating the initiative in 1993.

The alliance has until July 5 to collect the 41,335 register voter signatures it needs to get the initiative on the November ballot.

But if the campaign plays out as it did in 1994, what happens this fall could be a key, and both sides are trying to assure they have the edge.

The initiative failed two years ago at least in part because of opposition in heavily Mormon eastern Idaho, and critics are trying to assure that vote stays with them this fall while ICA backers hope to win over members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (LDS).

"What may be most different is we can reach out to some allies that weren't there last time," said Mary Rohlfing, co-chairwoman of

the anti-initiative political action committee. "Had it not been for the abhorrence that members of the LDS Church seem to feel for discrimination, then Proposition 1 would not have gone down to defeat."

Part of the reason for the defeat was that the Religious Right had an anti-Gay video produced by the same company that created anti-Mormon tapes. Heavily Mormon counties like Bingham and Madison rejected the initiative even though the Mormon religion condemns homosexuality.

ICA blamed confusion created by their slogan to vote against "special" rights for Gays. They contended supporters of the initiative misunderstood and voted "no."

ICA plans to increase its presence in eastern Idaho this time, Executive Director Kelly Johannsen said. She keeps Mormon literature on sex, marriage and the family close at hand and distributes flyers that read "The sacred powers of procreation are to be employed only between man and woman lawfully wedded as husband and wife," and that to do otherwise will "bring upon individuals, communities, and nations the calamities foretold by ancient and modern prophets."

Religious extremists in Idaho and elsewhere are notorious for believing that sex and children are the only things that bring a man and woman together.

But Burley Stake President Steve Tuft questions just how much good either side will get from all its political theorizing and maneuvering.

"I think there's a myth in the community that Mormons are one model and they all respond in the same way," Tuft said. "I think Mormons are diverse."

"Our position is that we do not believe that homosexuality is an alternative lifestyle justified by a deity," he said, "but we don't want to take any stand against people."

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Video Adventures Celebrates The Opening of 'Celluloid Closet'

Milwaukee—If Gay papers across the nation are any indication, **The Celluloid Closet** is one of the most popular films to come along in many years. And why not?

Maybe you remember back in the '50s, sitting in a darkened movie palace, scrunched down in your seat and wondered (hoped?) if Sal Mineo was Gay? (He was.)

Or maybe you went to see **Ben-Hur** in 1959 and saw that scene where Stephen Boyd as Messala looks longingly at Charleton Heston (Judah Ben-Hur). Didn't you know, just know, that there had to be more between them than just plain old friendship?

It is the fascination of **The Celluloid Closet**, taken from Vito Russo's book, that it brings out all that we "knew" or wondered about. We weren't wrong. There were Lesbians and Gays on the silver screen.

There is only one problem with the movie. It can only offer snippets from the various films. You want to see more. You want to see the films that are cited in their entirety, which is where Video Adventures comes in.

Store owner Don Bohatka, has set up a special section containing videos of the films cited in the movie. For example, there's **Lost Weekend, Red River** (Guy Madison), **Gilda** (Rita Hayworth), **Rope, Midnight Express** (Brad Davis), and many more.

Video Adventures is offering a special price on these and the other films featured in the

Advertise In Wisconsin Light [414] 372-2773

movie. With a flyer, all such videos will rent for only a dollar.

The flyer, in bright yellow, can be picked up at the Oriental Theatre after the movie.

Video Adventures is the most elegant video store in the city. It is also one of the best stocked, with nearly 250 alternative lifestyle video titles to choose from. Each of these, with the flyer, rents for only a dollar for a limited time.

Video Adventures is located at 1418 E. Brady Street in Milwaukee's lower East Side. It is open from 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. daily. Stop in and take a browse around.

MAPFEST Continued from Page 1

pressed disappointment and sadness by the news that MAPFest would end. Known year after year, for bringing down the house with his rendition of "Ring Them Bells," Marks praised the MAPFest volunteers.

"I especially would like to express my extreme gratitude to all the entertainers, without whose time and talent MAPFest may never have been," Marks said.

When informed of Marks' disappointment with the ending of MAPFest, Nelson quickly responded, "PrideFest will be a bigger stage with thousands more people and I hope that Ronnie will 'Ring Them Bells' at PrideFest."

"I loved Ronnie and the entertainers at MAPFest and I believe we can find a way of continuing their great tradition on the SummerFest grounds of PrideFest," Nelson said. "I hope all of the MAPFest volunteers will join together in solidarity behind PrideFest."

Cook agreed that PrideFest was an excellent way for ARCW and MAP to reach out to more people in the community.

"I think MAPFest had 2,000 attend last year, but PrideFest will have 20,000 people this year and I'm glad we will all be together," Cook said.

C.A Klein, PrideFest Treasurer commented, "PrideFest is very pleased to be working with ARCW. Their increased support has made possible the PrideFest Laser Light Show which is very popular with the whole community."

CLASSIFIEDS

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GWM, 30, seeking a professional, responsible GWM, 30-35, to share 2 bedroom townhouse in Cedarburg. Rent is \$342/month, \$100 security. Cathedral ceilings, balcony, off street parking, garage, central air. Available June 1, call Joe at (414) 376-0556.

Housing/Rent

Milwaukee—Washington Heights. Gay friendly. 3 bedrooms, formal DR & LR rooms, breakfast nook, built-in buffet, china cabinets, garage. Entertaining delight! June, \$675; (414) 873-2662.

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Milwaukee—1530 N. 50th Pl., 2 Bdrm lower, new kitchen and bath, includes all appliances, garage, dining room with built-in china cabinets, hardwood floors, ceiling fans in every room. June 1, \$600. Call (414) 258-0692 or (414) 861-1476

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GWM—36, 5'10", 195 lbs. Looking for friendship or relationship to settle down with. Willing to relocate. I'm handicapped with speech impairment, but mobile. Call Mark at (414) 253-0921.

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Nelson was clear that ARCW was committed to being a part of PrideFest's growth and long term stability.

"We will be a long term, reliable source of support for PrideFest. We will continue to increase our investment to help assure the success of PrideFest," Nelson said.

As part of the working collaboration between ARCW and PrideFest, people will be encouraged to bring non-perishable food and personal care items to PrideFest to place in MAP food pantry barrels to donate to people affected by AIDS.

LAWSUITS Continued from Page 4

While Wisconsin has adopted such a cap in medical malpractice cases (but not other kinds of cases), many others have not (for instance, an Alabama jury forced my company to pay \$25 million in punitive damages because an agent stole approximately \$200,000 from a customer even though my company immediately fired the agent when it learned of the theft and offered to pay the customer everything which he lost and then some).

The most important change which is needed, however, is to adopt the British system of requiring the loser in a lawsuit to pay the legal costs of the prevailing party.

This already is the case in discrimination suits in the U.S., but it only works in one direction: only the plaintiff can collect attorney's fees from the defendant (thus our discrimination laws are discriminatory themselves).

The U.S. system encourages scurrilous individuals to bring frivolous claims against defendants, knowing that they will settle to avoid the legal costs which they would have to absorb even if they won. Critics charge that a loser pays rule would keep poor people from bringing lawsuits. They are wrong: if the poor person had a legitimate case, s/he would not only be able to win a judgment, but also would be able to win his or her own attorney's fees from the defendant.

Unfortunately, there has been little movement toward this legal reform in the U.S. A bill was introduced in the Wisconsin legislature to require the loser to pay (whether s/he be the plaintiff or the defendant) in discrimination cases, but it was watered down so that it only required someone who brought a frivolous case or made a frivolous defense to pay.

The problem with this solution is that the standard of frivolousness is difficult to meet, and any liberal judge can justify a case which most people would find frivolous.

While minor reforms will help control the toll that lawsuit abuse is taking on the economy, only a loser pays rule will end the injustices which have arisen in the American legal system.

RYAN WHITE Continued from Page 1

With the congressional session rapidly drawing to a close and political campaigns revving up, the final decisions were made and the equity provisions prevailed.

- A "living AIDS count" rather than a cumulative count will be used to direct funding to where the HIV epidemic is, not where it has been.
- Formula recognition will be given to states like Wisconsin that do not have an original high incidence city, yet is experiencing significant increases in HIV incidence state-wide.
- The new formula will be quickly implemented while still protecting areas of funding loss from service disruption.

Wisconsin Gains

Wisconsin will immediately benefit from the new CARE Act with a 47% increase in funding due to the equity formula. Wisconsin's Ryan White grant will increase from \$1,063,000 to \$1,563,000 in 1996. In addition, Wisconsin will receive \$250,000 in new Ryan White funds for the state AIDS drug program.

"In total, we will see a 70% increase in Wisconsin Ryan White Funding this year," said Nelson. "The real winners are people living with HIV and AIDS who will receive more services and greater financial help."

Nelson reported that the new equity formulas will be in effect for the next five years. Assuming no increase in appropriations, the equity formulas should deliver more than \$3 million of new funds to Wisconsin.

HIV Testing of Newborns

While the formula debate was intense and divisive, one issue that united the national AIDS community was the congressional attempt to add a provision to the CARE Act that would mandate HIV testing of all newborns.

The conference committee compromised on this issue as well, but most AIDS advocates are not pleased with the outcome.

The new HIV testing provision requires that within two years all states must either reduce the number of pediatric AIDS cases by 50% or demonstrate knowledge of the HIV status of 95% of pregnant women. If states are unable to meet these standards, they have a choice of implementing HIV testing of all newborns or losing Ryan White funding.

"Year after year we always have to prove to the politicians that mandatory HIV testing is counterproductive to early intervention and good health care," Nelson said. "The choice of mandatory testing or no funding is untenable, especially in light of the fact that there is no commitment by congress to guarantee health care to those who are HIV infected or to invest in AIDS prevention strategies like needle exchange which we know will save the lives of women and infant children."

Nelson said that the national AIDS community is unified and will work hard to change HIV policies so they are supportive and friendly to women and children.

As AIDS advocates in Wisconsin were celebrating their win, Nelson offered praise to the Madison AIDS Support Network, the Center Project in Green Bay, and the unity of AIDS activists in Wisconsin who "stayed the course" and were aggressive advocates during the contentious formula fight.

Nelson also cited the Log Cabin Republicans in Washington, DC and Wisconsin for embracing the equity principle and effectively lobbying on its behalf.

SALK VACCINE Continued from Page 1

The vaccine has been tested for safety among 300 individuals since 1987. To date, no serious adverse events or side effects have been reported, although safety parameters will be closely monitored during the vaccine trial.

"There is high interest in the vaccine because it is safe, there appears to be no side effects, and it is conveniently administered," said Nelson.

Nelson reported that the vaccine is administered through an injection every three months and that individuals may continue with current drug regimens.

According to Dr. Buggy, eligibility for the vaccine trial includes being 18 years of age or older, with a CD4 count between 300 and 549. Individuals may take anti-retroviral drugs, but must not have had any changes in the drugs or dosages in the prior three months.

The vaccine is called REMUNE™ and is produced by the Immune Response Corporation in California which was founded by the late Dr. Jonas Salk, who also developed the first polio vaccine in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

"I recall reading and hearing about Dr. Salk's immune response HIV theories for years," said Nelson. "It's very exciting to know that we have progressed far enough to implement this vaccine trial with a real sense of hope, and that people with HIV in Wisconsin can choose to be a part of it."

Dr. Buggy praised ARCW's research capacity through the Wisconsin AIDS Research Consortium.

"The researchers at the Immune Response Corporation in California know that ARCW will do a good job of adhering to the highest standards of quality research," Buggy said.

The REMUNE™ vaccine consists of two basic components. The first is the inactivated, or killed, HIV that has been stripped of its outermost protein, called gp120. One advantage of using an inactivated, gp120-depleted viral preparation like REMUNE™ is that it contains most of the common HIV proteins that can be recognized by the immune system. By including most of the HIV proteins, REMUNE™ may help the body learn to respond more broadly to HIV.

The second part of this therapy is a potent stimulator of immune cells. This mineral oil emulsion is commonly referred to as an adjuvant. The adjuvant enhances the immune system's response to the viral proteins in REMUNE™.

Anyone interested in participating in the REMUNE™ trial should immediately call Jacque Kaczinski at ARCW's research office, (414) 225-1578. A brochure explaining enrollment, a list of participating physicians and other general information can be sent to interested individuals.

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