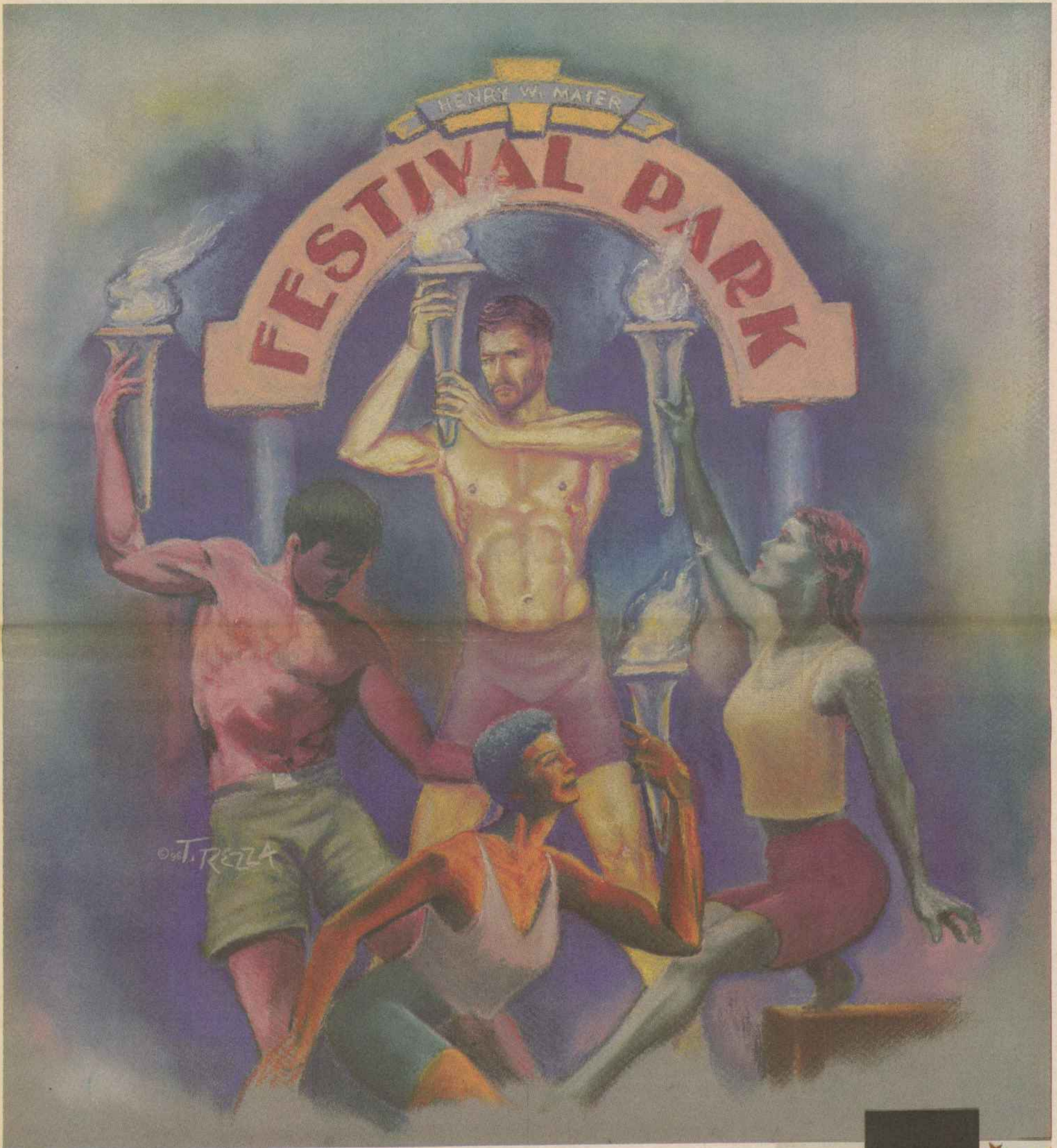




*Give the People Light and they will find their own way.*

# The Wisconsin Light



## PrideFest '96

### June 7-8-9

## Milwaukee's Lakefront



I take pride  
in the people  
I see,  
the things  
I do,  
the places  
I go,  
and the person  
I am.

**Take Pride.**



Milwaukee, Wisconsin

# Landmark 6 to 3 Decision HIGH COURT VOTES "NO" ON 2!

## President Clinton Signs Ryan White CARE Act Renewing Funding for Crucial Care.

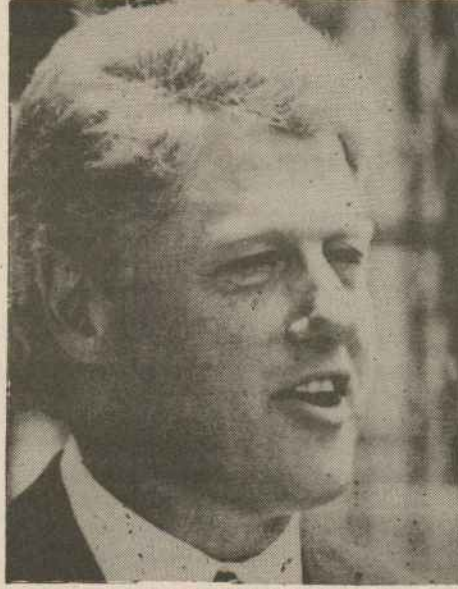
Washington, DC—President Clinton, on May 20<sup>th</sup>, signed a bill renewing the Ryan White CARE Act for five more years. The legislation authorizes the federal government's leading effort to provide vital medical care to the hundreds of thousands of Americans with HIV and AIDS.

Present at the signing in the FDR Room of the White House were Doug Nelson, Executive Director of the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin (ARCW), along with 30 other heads of AIDS agencies and members of Congress.

"The Ryan White CARE Act has been a big part of America's progress" on AIDS, said the President. "But even as we celebrate our progress, we shouldn't forget that the fight is not over. We have to do more to stop the rising tide of infection among women, communities of color and young people—especially young Gay men. Until there is a cure, we cannot and must not rest."

"The president followed through on his commitment to America's men, women and children with AIDS," said Winnie Stachelberg, the Human Rights Campaign's (HRC), senior health policy advocate. "This money is desperately needed as health-care providers have been struggling to manage ever-increasing caseloads at least year's funding levels."

The long-overdue measure provides \$738 million in fiscal year 1996 for the care and



PRESIDENT CLINTON

treatment of people with HIV and AIDS—an increase of more than 16% over last year.

The bill also provides \$52 million specifically designated for new AIDS drugs.

The Ryan White CARE Act originally passed in 1990. It expired on September 30, 1995. After a House-Senate conference committee hammered out a final version of the renewal bill, it passed the House on May 1<sup>st</sup> by a vote of 402-4. A day later, it passed the Senate unanimously.

The bill's passage was due to a number of reasons, observers say. One was the intense lobbying effort put in by the AIDS Action Council, HRC and other AIDS activist groups.

HRC played a key role in nullifying an amendment to the bill, proposed by anti-Gay Sen. Jesse Helms (R-NC), which would have excluded organizations that serve the Gay community from receiving federal funds under the law.

Had this happened, observers say, much of AIDS prevention and education would have fallen back to all volunteer groups who would not have been prepared to handle the load.

"This was a vindictive, discriminatory measure, considering that a large number of organizations providing care to people with HIV and AIDS are based in the Gay and Lesbian community," said Stachelberg, who also serves for HRC as co-chair of National Organizations Responding to AIDS.

The Helms amendment was replaced by language proposed by Sen. Nancy Kassebaum (R-KS), that prohibits the use of CARE funds to directly promote intravenous drug use or sexual activity, either hetero or homosexual.

Last year, as part of the drive to bolster congressional support for AIDS funding, HRC commissioned an unprecedented bipartisan poll demonstrating that voters of all political stripes favor maintaining or increasing federal efforts to care for people with AIDS.

HRC and other AIDS activist organizations vigorously opposed a provision of the bill that directs states to institute mandatory HIV testing of newborns if states cannot demonstrate by the year 2000 that they have significantly reduced mother-to-child HIV transmission.

However, that provision is mitigated somewhat by a provision of the bill promoting voluntary HIV counseling and testing for pregnant women as part of their prenatal care.

**Milwaukee**—By a vote of 6 to 3 the United States Supreme Court wiped away the hopes of those who tried to put Gay and Lesbian civil rights up for a vote. The ruling handed Gay and Lesbian activists what legal experts are calling their biggest legal victory ever.

The High Court rejected the State of Colorado's appeal of a Colorado Supreme Court decision that invalidated a controversial amendment to the State Constitution.

The Amendment, popularly known as Amendment 2, prohibited the passage of any laws that would prevent discrimination against Gays and Lesbians. There can be no appeal of the Court's decision.

### The Majority Rules

Justices O'Connor, Kennedy, Stevens, Gizenberg, Breyer, and Souter shattered the hopes of Gay civil rights opponents with a sharply worded opinion written by Justice Kennedy.

Kennedy's majority opinion can and will now be cited in dozens of Gay and Lesbian civil rights cases winding their way through the Federal and State Court systems.

"We must conclude," Kennedy wrote, "that Amendment 2 classifies homosexuals not to further a proper legislative end but to make them second class citizens. This Colorado can not do. A State can not so deem a class of persons a stranger to its laws. Amendment 2 violates the Equal Protection Clause."

### Precedent Set

The immediate effect of the ruling is to put an end to referendum campaigns that would limit or abolish Gay and Lesbian civil rights through voter approved amendments to State Constitutions. But the Court's ruling is likely to have an even bigger long range impact.

It marks the first time that the U.S. Supreme Court has ruled that discrimination against Gays and Lesbians is unconstitutional.

Furthermore the Court cited the same judicial principles it had used to ban segregation and discrimination against African-Americans in the 1950's and 1960's.

Suzanne Goldberg, a staff attorney with the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund said "We believe the ruling should have ramifications for other attempts to treat Gay people as second class citizens—including the military's ban on openly Gay service members and proposals to prohibit legal recognition of same-sex couples' marriages."

### Clinton, Others Praise Court

President Bill Clinton praised the decision, issuing a statement calling Amendment 2 "bad policy that is inconsistent with American values." Clinton had weighed into the controversy earlier.

During the heated 1994 Congressional Election campaign, he issued a public letter condemning attempts to pass state wide referendums that banned the passage of Gay civil rights laws.

Doug Nelson, Executive Director of the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin was in the White House with Clinton when the news broke. Along with 30 other AIDS Activists and AIDS service providers, Congressmen and Senators, Nelson was invited to watch as Clinton signed the renewal of the Ryan White CARE Act in the FDR Room adjacent to the Oval Office.

In an exclusive interview with *Light* Nelson said, "Everyone screamed and started applauding. Then the President came in with a broad smile and joined in the celebration. It was glorious."

In a statement provided to *Wisconsin Light*, the Wisconsin Civil Liberties Union said the decision "marks a sea change in the

TURN TO HIGH COURT, PAGE 35

**THE SPOTLIGHT**  
Entertainment Section

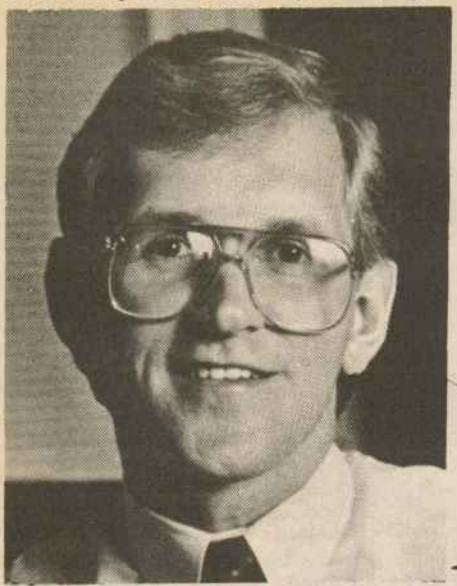
- **The Milwaukee Classic**  
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Milwaukee's softball tourney
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It's My Party  
When Night Is Falling  
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- **The Night Light**
- **In the Public Eye:**  
Superior's Bob Jansen
- **Curtain Calls**  
Stomp

## Gunderson Fires Volley Against Bigotry and Hate From the Floor of Congress

Washington, DC—Rep. Steve Gunderson of Wisconsin, the only openly Gay Republican in Congress, assailed a fellow Republican for publishing material suggesting he had helped sponsor a wild, Gay party in a federal building.

"The gentleman from California has every right to dislike me if he so chooses," Gunderson said Tuesday of California Rep. Bob Dornan, a zealous and unabashed homophobe.

"But he has no right to misrepresent the facts, nor the motives of others in this, his latest attempt to smear the Gay community."



REP. STEVE GUNDERSON

Dornan published in the May 9<sup>th</sup> issue of the *Congressional Record* an article by freelance reporter Marc Morano stating that Gunderson was a sponsor of Gay events in two federal office buildings that were pervaded by illegal drugs and illicit sexual activities.

Gunderson, visibly upset, invoked a "point of personal privilege," a rarely used parliamentary procedure for speaking on the House floor when a lawmaker feels that his or her dignity or integrity has been harmed.

The Wisconsin Republican said the "Cherry Jubilee," held in Washington the weekend of April 12-14, was "a gift of love, not a weekend of illegal activity," that raised up to \$60,000 for two AIDS service organizations.

According to Gunderson, the main event, a Saturday night dance at the Mellon Auditorium in the Department of Commerce attended by 2,000, and a Sunday brunch in the courtyard of the Rayburn House Office Building, were held without incident.

"There is no evidence by anyone, including all security personnel and authorities at the Department of Commerce, of any illegal activity."

Gunderson said he was a host for the Sunday brunch, which he attended, but was not a sponsor of the weekend.

Morano, a self-confessed Right Wing Christian, said he conducted an "undercover

investigation" at the Saturday night party, and his article details lewd dancing, nudity, illicit sex and evidence of illegal drugs. He produced a videotape for the conservative Family Research Council and the article was the basis of a column by ultra conservative Black radio host Armstrong Williams.

"Hate and prejudice are the motives by which Mr. Morano and Mr. Williams sought to totally misrepresent the fund-raising events," Gunderson said.

Morano said he stood by everything in the report and said, "I don't appreciate him referring to me as a bigot. It is a very straightforward account."

Dornan, who on Tuesday, May 7<sup>th</sup>, was leading an attempt to expel from the military anyone with the HIV virus and reinstate the ban on Gays in the military, had no comment on Gunderson's statement, his office said.

## Photo Exhibit "Love Makes a Family"

**Madison**—On Sunday, June 2, 1996, from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m., at Wil-Mar Neighborhood Center, 953 Jenifer Street in Madison, a coalition of neighborhood and Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual groups will host an opening of photographer Gigi Kaeser's exhibit, "Love Makes a Family: Living in Gay and Lesbian Families."


Music will be provided by the Harris Lemberg Jazz Trio, pianist, Jane Reynolds, and by Klezmer band, Id Vicious.

The photo display celebrates Gay and Lesbian parenting, and it is proudly sponsored by the Marquette Neighborhood Association, The United, Wil-Mar Neighborhood Center, SAGE, the Common Wealth Gallery, the Rainbow Cooperative, and SHAKE IT UP!

The photos will also be on exhibit during business hours until Wednesday, June 5<sup>th</sup>, at Wil-Mar.


For more information, call Judy Olson at (608) 256-6540.

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## The High Court's Decision on Amendment 2 is a Victory for All Americans

The President of the United States came out of the Oval Office and heard the cheering and the applause. He didn't have to ask why the 30 or so AIDS leaders gathered in a nearby room should be reacting this way. He knew. He'd been informed that the Supreme Court had struck down Colorado's Amendment 2. He was smiling broadly as he entered the room.

There are times in America's history when the country lives up to the promise that so bedazzled and beguiled the world in 1776: that all are equal, and free before the law. This is one of those times.

While the national Gay organizations have called for celebrations across the land—and those are certainly justified—perhaps what serves us equally well—if not better—at this junction of events is a sigh of relief, and a few moments of reflective contemplation about what has just occurred.

In the opinion of some, this decision is our Emancipation Proclamation. If that is so, then it is well to remember that there was a long and terrible road between that and Brown v. the Board of Education. There were further trials between that and the Civil Rights Act of 1967. Still, for African-Americans, after all these years, the job of reaching full equality is not complete, nowhere near it, as a matter of fact.

The same will be true for us. We have a great victory, but our struggle goes on. Despite the court's decision, our youth still kill themselves, lost in bleak despair. We still lose jobs and homes because of who we are. There are still those among us who hate themselves.

We must work for and continue to demand for ourselves, this country's highest ideal: equality. We want no more, but we can have no less.

We must pause and then go on, buoyed by the confidence that anyone who fights for human dignity as do we, will win—in the end.

## Cream City Foundation Helping Us All to Live Our Dreams

Once again the Cream City Foundation, through a large grant, has helped make PrideFest happen. CCF is the largest LesBiGay foundation in Wisconsin. Celebrating its 14th year, the foundation funds a wide variety of Gay and Lesbian projects. In fact, CCF has been actively engaged in supporting every facet of the community.

Grants have gone to cable television shows, scholarships for college students, civil and legal rights efforts, books in public libraries, health programs including responses to AIDS, and anti-violence and anti-discrimination projects.

By keeping its overhead low, CCF can put your donations to their best use. The board of directors comes from all segments of the community. Some donors give big, some give small, and some give by designating the Cream City Foundation in their workplace United Way or other combined campaign. You can request a donor option card during your workplace giving campaign and check the box next to Cream City Foundation.

The future of the Gay and Lesbian community lies in self-sufficiency to strengthen and empower our members and organizations. Government and charitable organizations give minimal support to Gay and Lesbian concerns.

And we understand our own needs as no one else can. Through Cream City Foundation, we can continue to demonstrate our responsibility for one another.

## All Hail the Possum Queen

Great things can from tiny projects grow—at least that's they say. In the case of Milwaukee's annual Possum Queen contest, "they" just happen to be right.

It was back in 1991. Charlotte Louraine and Lizzie Bordeaux were in the M&M Club having a good time, laughing about an episode of the TV sitcom, "The Beverly Hillbillies" in which Elly Mae was running for Possum Queen. They thought it would be funny to do something similar; to wage mock campaigns against each other for the "glory" of being Milwaukee's Possum Queen.

The idea fascinated a lot of people and soon it was decided to use the contest as a way of making money to help people with HIV and AIDS. Whatever was raised would go to the Milwaukee AIDS Project.

That year, the Possum Queen Contest raised nearly \$800. Combine that with the money raised from the five subsequent contests, and the amount totals \$51,900. The money goes toward direct client care, HIV/AIDS prevention and research and HIV testing.

Back in the days when a lot of us were growing up in small towns, it was said that nothing brought people closer together than some project in which everyone could have fun and work together for a good cause. Such is the Possum Queen Contest.

There's no real organization to it. That might disrupt the spontaneity of it. There are just very decent, fun-loving people having a wonderful time for themselves and, in the process, raising money to help those less fortunate than themselves.

We have been told that those involved with it, Max and the rest, don't want any thanks. Maybe not. But let us go on record here as saying that they honestly deserve it. What they do in having fun is to give people the opportunity to help out, to give, to fight back against something much bigger than ourselves.

Without trying to put too fine a point on it, the Contest and the Possum Queen are reigning symbols of all that is good and kind and compassionate in this community.

All Hail The Possum Queen!! Long May She Reign!!

## Editor's Note It's Time for Pride

By Terry Boughner

You could be the most closeted person on earth. You could live all your life in the woods, never, ever visiting a Gay bar, a bookstore, or have any contact whatever with the community—and still you would know when the Pride celebration rolled around. Not only that, you would know the time and the place due to the litany, like a chorus of toads, that springs up every year.

In no particular order, there's Vic Eliason, he of WVCY. There he is, banging his bible, abusing its words, babbling on and on like a brook in a storm. In reality, I bet he gives thanks for us. It's a fact that homophobia brings the radio and TV hucksters of religion more in contributions than any other cause.

Meanwhile the "Christian Civil Liberties Union" (to my mind a contradiction in terms), is busily distributing flyers that spread all sorts of falsehoods about how HIV is transmitted.

There's Mark Belling too, but I've got my blood pressure to watch, so I won't write any more about him.

Then, of course, there's Milwaukee's TV Channel 6. Did you get a copy of the elaborate and colorful publication "Six Is News" sent in the mail? It's called **Take Six** and inside you'll find a section called "Summer Fun with Joe on the Go."

Now who this Joe is, I haven't a clue, but apparently it occurred to him to list all the summer's event here, including the various fests.

Guess what? Joe's got everything from the Grape Lakes Festival to Indian Summer and just so you won't get all confused, he's conveniently divided them into "family festivals" and "ethnic festivals."

Su-prise, su-prise! PrideFest isn't listed.

Now to give Joe the benefit of the doubt he probably should be forgiven if he doesn't think of us in the ethnic category. Certainly we've got a culture of our own, one that is drawn from all cultures—plus the considerable amount we've created ourselves—but since Joe doesn't know us very well, he might have overlooked that.

But family? That's a different story altogether.

And that brings me to what I want to talk about. Why I go to PrideFest—and why I think all of us should go.

I don't go because I'm proud of being Gay. Eliason aside (far aside), any more than the color of my hair or skin, I didn't have any choice in that. I am Gay. That's all that needs to be said about that.

However, in a world where members of my community, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgendered and Gay, can be denied a job and housing; in a world where we can be (and often are) disowned by our families and tossed out on our ear; in a world where we can be bashed and killed with impunity, I must go to PrideFest and be proud.

Not of me as a Gay man, but of me as a man who is Gay.

I will go to PrideFest to show that it is my

right, my sovereign right as a human being to love who I will and join in a moral and sacred union with who I want. No religion, no political hack, no bigot or arrogant homophobe is going to deny me that, any of it.

I will go to show by my physical presence that I am a human being; that I will be treated as one, having dignity and deserving of respect.

And I will go to show that I have a family. Yes, Joe, despite what you have been told or may think, we who are Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual or Transgendered, form families, honest, loving, caring families just like anybody else.

Joe, if you doubt that, then I invite you come to my house sometime. Come meet the sweetest, kindest, human being on earth who I am privileged to call my spouse. I love him, Joe, love him dearly.

Take a look at us, Joe, Jerry and me. See our "lifestyle," so derided by the Right Wing extremists.

"Lifestyle?" Jerry's and my "lifestyle," comes down to who's going to take out the garbage and who's going to wash the dishes.

The fact is, we're not any different from other same-sex couples we know. We, as they do, work to build a home for each other. We struggle. We compromise. We learn and grow. But I'll tell you, when I see that smile in Jerry's eyes, after nearly 10 years now, it still makes me feel like chocolate melting in the sun.

Isn't that love, Joe? Isn't that what families are supposed to be about—Gay, straight or any other kind?

Joe, I'm sorry to take off on you like this. I don't even know you, but if you're "on the go," then, may I say, perhaps you haven't gone far enough.

Come and learn about us and you'll see that our unions, our families are a tad stronger than others. Consider this, in this world, if you're a female-male couple, all of society is trying to keep you together.

However, if you're a same-sex couple, all of society is trying to pull you apart.

You have to be tough to form a same-sex family, Joe, real tough, and full, so very full of love.

So Joe, PrideFest '96 will happen even without being included in your little list. And if you had your head about you and came to PrideFest, what you'd see is a lot of people, a whole lot of people, not proud of who they are so much, as *that* they are.

You would see families, Joe, acting just as all families do. You'd see dating couples, walking along, going hand in hand, with moonbeams in their eyes.

We live in this world. We have contributed mightily to its culture in every imaginable field. We have a right to be here. We have a right to live, and live with our heads held high. That's what PrideFest is all about.

Don't sweat it, Joe. We don't need your little list. We've been ignored before, lots and lots of times to the point where we could be compared to blue lights flickering along some midnight wall and then are gone.

But that too is the point. The flickering has stopped. The light grows stronger every day. We will be ignored no more. We will be denied our dignity no more. We will be refused our rights no more.

To show that I support that, to show I believe in that, I will go to PrideFest '96.

## Letters

### Voice of Bigotry

TO THE EDITOR:

The "Voice of Bigotry" shouts out: Queer, faggot, bull dyke, lesbo, farries, degenerates and child molester. The Religious Right (not religious or are they right) crucify us on a cross of intolerance and hate. We encounter homophobia daily. Our community is attacked by the AIDS pandemic. Women's issue are not treated or only paid lip service. We are ghettoized.

People say sexual preference is a choice. I question these sages of our time. Who in their right mind would chose to be the brunt of jokes, second class citizens with few rights guaranteed in most states, and at time have to hide the specialness which is the same sex love that we share.

Oh God! If I was a pessimist, I'd sign up for shock treatments or a lobotomy, which were early cures for homosexuality. I'm a realist. I believe our sexuality is not a choice, the expression of it is a choice. Our community is special. We can define ourselves as more than a sexual act.

If we look at SAGE (Senior Action in a Gay Environment), who brings our attention to the need of our seniors. These people lived through and are a part of the protest of Mattachine in the 50's, through Stonewall, through many made promises and broken promises of government, through to today. The freedom we have built on their suffering and perseverance.

In our society where 25% of suicides of youth are Gay and Lesbians, Gay Youth Milwaukee help council young folk in their coming out and youth problems. We must protect, encourage, and develop our youth. They are the leaders of tomorrow.

I've been a part of the Resurrection of Christian humanity towards the Gay and Lesbian issues facing

TURN TO LETTERS, PAGE 34

## One Term, Please

TO THE EDITOR:

I write, in an attempt to address an issue, I feel needs noting.

I have noticed that the Gay community has adopted the using of a designation which implies, Lesbians are a separate group, i.e., "Lesbian and Gay community". The implication is that a homosexual male, and Bisexual males and females are inclusive within the designation "Gay Community", while homosexual females are a separate designation, "Lesbian".

This is not consistent with the ideals of a community, that has struggled to break the shackles of ostracism.

I would ask the people of the "Gay Community", if they stand as members of the whole, or as sub-categories of the whole?

J. C. Dotson  
Oshkosh, WI

## Deadlines

Copy deadline for the June 6<sup>th</sup> issue is May 31<sup>st</sup>.

Ad deadline for the May June 6<sup>th</sup> issue is June 4<sup>th</sup>.

Copy deadline for the June 20<sup>th</sup> issue is June 14<sup>th</sup>.

Ad deadline for the June 20<sup>th</sup> issue is June 18<sup>th</sup>.

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

## The Wisconsin Light



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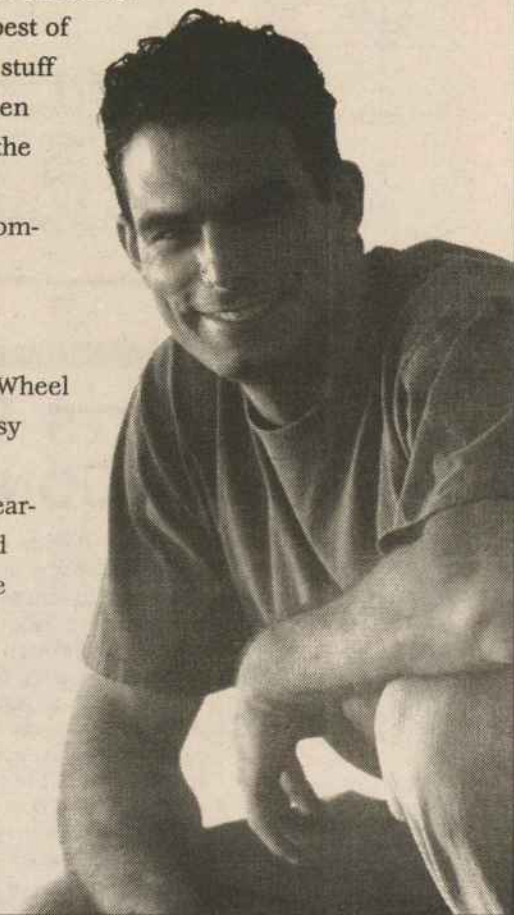
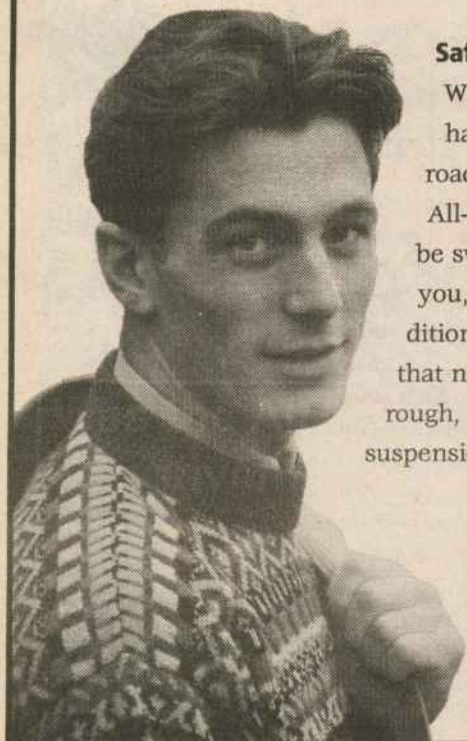
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## Youth Column

### Thoughts on Graduating From High School

Commentary by J. Alan

Well, the time has finally come upon us. It is the time that only a few months ago I thought I might never see. It is nearly graduation time. Yes, it is time to finally kiss high school good-bye. It is a moment that is long awaited and a moment that has come all too fast.

I suppose I should be excited, and I suppose I am excited. I have fought hard for this moment and there are very few people who are not aware of that fact.

This final year of high school has been such a rush. It was more exciting than anyone can imagine to be the very first openly Gay student at my school. It was exhausting to fight a six month onslaught with the administration of my high school and it was very moving to wake up an entire synod of people to reality.

The reality, as they and I learned, is that we exist — and we are not about to roll over and die anymore in the hypocritical face of their "religion".

However, waking people up to the reality of our existence required many sacrifices as all Coming Out experiences do. At the very beginning of this venture it became clear that I would have to play my cards right if I was to stay in this school — and it was imperative that I stay in this school.

With all of our personal interests vested in ourselves and at grave risk, we often lose sight of the service that we are providing for other people. It is imperative to remember that our Coming Out is indeed providing an immense service for other people.

The road of the future is paved by the work of today. This fight has only taken about 6 months of my time. I don't regret it. However, think about how small my donation is in comparison to what many other people have given of themselves.

I have not fought a twenty year battle for inalienable rights that are past due like Lesbian activist Miriam Ben-Shalom.

I did not have to sacrifice my life as Harvey Milk did.

I never had to become an unwitting martyr as did many of my late peers who fought tirelessly for what they believed in, only to hand over their lives 15 years ago to that apocalyptic, genocidal disease that adorns itself with a red ribbon, the faces of our innocent young people, and the face of religious hypocrisy.

In lieu of the contribution of these people and surely hundreds of thousands more, my contribution seems dwarfed and as quiet as a white pearl flowing in a beach of white sand. However, no self-sacrifice of this sort can ever be fully in vain. The contribution that we have given is important. The contribution that a great many of you will give is important.

Every fantasy that has ever existed in my dreams is coming to life now. I am entering a new time in my life and, I imagine, so are you. The contributions that my generation will give

of themselves shall indeed be the white pearls flowing in a beach of white sand.

Thousands of people may walk over the seemingly silent contributions of the past every day. However, there will always be that one individual who will, as if it were by chance, stumble and discover the contributions of their predecessors. Another one of life's magical journeys begins.

Make your contribution now. V

If you would like to contact me, write to me in care of Wisconsin Light, 1843 N. Palmer St., Milwaukee, WI 53212.

### AIDS Fundraiser Gala to be Held On Lake Geneva Cocktail Cruise

**Kenosha** — Prizes that include a Caribbean cruise and airline tickets to anywhere within the continental U.S. are being offered in a raffle sponsored by the Southeast Wisconsin AIDS Project (SEWAP), a service agency of the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin, Inc. (ARCW).

"There have been generous prizes offered by businesses throughout southeastern Wisconsin," says Don DeBaere, Chair of the fundraising event. "The total value of the prizes comes to nearly \$4,500, which should make this raffle our most successful yet." The raffle, he explains, happens in conjunction with SEWAP's sixth annual fundraising twilight cocktail cruise of Geneva Lake.

The grand prize is a three night cruise of the Bahamas in September, 1996. It is presented courtesy of the Cruise Shoppe of Kenosha Travel and Royal Caribbean cruise lines. As an added incentive, Kenosha Travel is also offering a special low fare for non-winners who would like to join the winners on this cruise. A portion of these ticket sales will also be donated to SEWAP.

American Airlines is providing the First Prize of a pair of round trip tickets to anywhere American flies within the continental United States.

The second prize is a carved jadeite pendant set in 14K gold, courtesy of China West Gems in Lake Geneva. Jadeite is the most choice cut of jade, and the carved pendant is valued at \$550.

Other prizes include a 44"x33" framed offset print of the Gardens of Montgeron by Auguste Renoir given by the Mathis Galleries of Racine, a night for two in the honeymoon suite of the Park East Hotel in Milwaukee, and a one night stay with breakfast for two provided by the Grand Geneva Resort and Spa of Lake Geneva.

Drawing for the raffle will be on June 15 during the annual SEWAP fundraising Geneva Lake cruise, and raffle ticket holders

do not have to be present to win. The cruise is aboard the elegant paddle wheel excursion boat "Lady of the Lake", a replica of the historic excursion boats that sailed Geneva Lake a century ago.

Funds from the raffle and cruise support AIDS care and prevention services in Racine, Kenosha and Walworth counties. Raffle tickets are \$2 each, three for \$5, or ten for \$15. Cruise tickets are \$45 per person. For further information or to purchase cruise or raffle tickets, call SEWAP at 1-800-924-6601 or (414) 657-6644.V

### LAMM Has Moved

**Milwaukee**—On May 1<sup>st</sup>, the Lesbian Alliance of Metro Milwaukee (LAMM) and the LAMM Education Fund (LAMMEF) relocated to a new office.

The new address is: 1417 N. Wauwatosa Ave., Suite 103, Milwaukee.

The mailing address has not changed. It is: PO Box 93323, Milwaukee, WI 53203.

The phone number has not changed. It is: (414) 264-2600. This is also the number for the Police Citizen Complaint Intake Center.


### Pride/Twin Cities Hosts 25th Anniversary Theme Contest

**Minneapolis/St. Paul-MN**—Gay-Lesbian-Bisexual-Transgender Pride/Twin Cities is announcing the 25th Anniversary Theme Contest. The 1997 Pride Festival will be the 25th anniversary of the Pride Celebration in the Twin Cities, and to prepare for the festival we are starting early.

Pride/Twin Cities is planning many exciting and new events to surround the 1997 Pride Festival. To get things in motion we have to start now, and we need your help.

Pride/Twin Cities is looking for a festival theme that will fit the 25th Anniversary theme and the Twin Cities. Those are the only two guidelines.

Entries must be postmarked Friday, June 14th, 1996. The winner of the 25th Anniversary Theme Contest will receive a cash prize. Please send entries to Pride/Twin Cities, P.O. Box 2104, Loop Station, Minneapolis, MN 55402. For further information call the Pride Line at (612) 362-3680 or 1-800-PRIDE-YA.V



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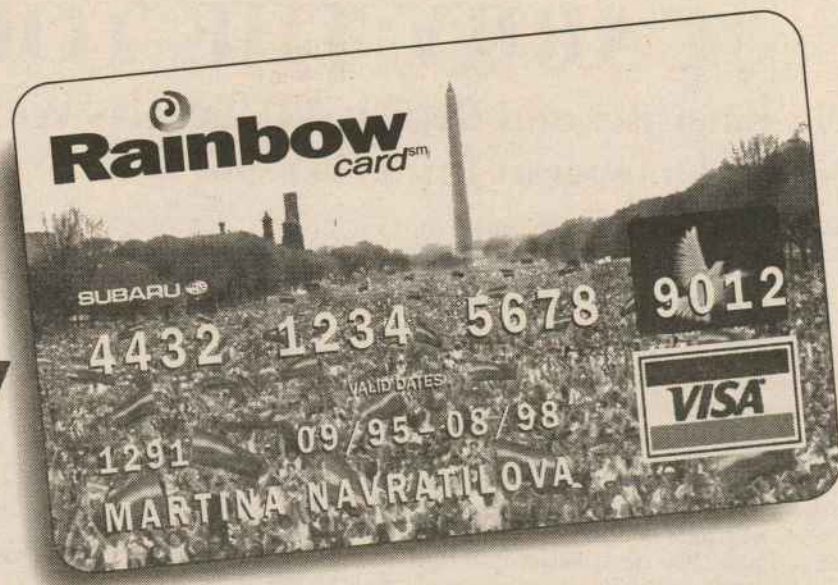


Photo by Greg Gorman

“Already we have **donated** over **\$50,000** to organizations serving the Lesbian and Gay community”

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# WISCONSIN'S PRIDEFEST '96

## CARRY THE TORCH - June 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup>

### Old Favorites and Regional Delicacies Will Tempt Tongues at PrideFest '96,

**Milwaukee**—You go to the State Fair. There's cream puffs, corn dogs, and fresh, hot buttered corn on the cob. You eat.

You go to Summerfest, Polishfest, Irishfest, Italianfest, Afrofest, and you eat—and eat. As someone once said, in Wisconsin, you don't experience summer, you eat your way through it. Now comes PrideFest '96.

As festival goers enter the gates at this year's PrideFest, the air will be redolent of the tantalizing smells of all kinds of good things to eat. With eleven food stands to provide you with culinary delights, everyone will find just what they are looking for, whether it's a full meal, or just a "little" snack.

#### Old Standards and New Favorites

For example, the Pride Grill, staffed by the Pride Volunteer Corps and Gay Youth Milwaukee, will be firing up the coals starting on Friday night. Along with good old-fashioned standards like brats and burgers, the menu will include succulent honey-mustard chicken sandwiches.

Pizza lovers will be able to buy pizza, whole or by the slice provided by Papa John's.

Staffed by volunteers from PFLAG, the pizza parlor is a new addition made possible by the facilities available at the Henry W. Maier Festival Park (Summerfest grounds).

Love that sultry taste of old Napoli, with just a touch of basil and a little garlic, perhaps? Satisfy that craving with Philadelphia brats and meatball sandwiches, the kind where that luscious sauce oozes sweetly from between your lips.

The Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgendered Community of UW-Milwaukee volunteers will be building hoagies (subs) throughout the weekend.

For those who like something a little "hot," there will be jalapeno peppers and zesty, eye-watering springrolls at Gus', staffed by PrideFest volunteers.

#### Cajun Cooking and Tex-Mex Chili

Mama Roux's will be adding a bit of "down home Lou'siana" at the festival by offering a menu of Cajun food. Mama Roux's justly famed chefs will be forking up a special cat-fish dinner on Friday night, a foot-stompin' gustatory souvenir of warm moonlit nights on the bayou.

Walker's Point Café, will be heading a little further west and offering up great, heaping helpings of Tex-Mex chili, the kind, if you want, that'll make the sweat bead on your forehead. Now that's good stuff!

Like cheese? (If you're from Wisconsin, dare we even ask the question?) Try George's

famous hand-rolled mozzarella sticks to wow your dairy state taste buds. So crisp on the outside, so meltingly good inside, you'll understand why George can never make enough.

#### Vegetarian Delights

Last year, PrideFest could not keep up with the demand for vegetarian burgers. This year, however, there'll be plenty. They're called Garden Burgers, and they're so rich, so full of juice that you'll savor every bite.

(If you see a white flag nearby, that'll be the cattle industry surrendering. Those Garden Burgers are *that* good.)

This year, for the first time, a vegan burger will make its debut at the festival.

All vegetarian foods will be prepared on separate grills.

Burgers of any kind not your style? Try one of the cheese subs or garden pizzas. Both will be available at PrideFest, as will big Idaho potatoes, baked to a turn, and topped with lots of broccoli, cheese or spicy tomato sauce.

#### Corn on the Cob

It's summer in Wisconsin—or it will be. What's summer—or any festival—without corn on the cob? Imagine that first bite, the sweetness of those kernels so chock-full of juice, and all that butter that runs down the corners of your mouth. That's corn on the cob, roasting ears by another name. But whatever they're called, every taste brings memories flooding back of fairs and childhood on the farm, when the days were lazy and the air smelled of the rich harvest that would fill the barns.

This year PrideFest has rented the Anderson Corn Roaster. Capable of roasting 400 ears of corn per hour, everyone will be able to get their fill.

#### And to Drink

This is Wisconsin, and in Wisconsin we drink beer, golden in its stein, rich and frothy. In keeping with that tradition, Miller brands will be offered at all beer stands, which will be staffed by volunteers from the Lesbian Alliance of Metro Milwaukee and the Saturday Softball Beer League.

New to this year's festival will be wine coolers, served from a stand next to the pizza parlor. As the poet said, "A glass of wine, a book of verse and thou." PrideFest will supply the wine. The poetry and the "thou" are up to you.

Caffe A-Go-Go will be serving espresso, plus a wide variety of its other full-flavored coffees, from its new, fully-equipped van.

Snapple tea will be sold from a stand in the middle of the Miller Oasis.

Pepsi products will be served at the various food stands, as well as bottled water.

### Milwaukee Artist, Barb Peterson, Brings Spirit of Diversity to Pride Logo

"It's bold, it's bright, and it's strong," said artist Barb Peterson, "and symbolizes a lot of different things that our community identifies with or is represented by."

That's how Barb describes her 1996 PrideFest logo, a five-colored flame and stars rising out of a torch to illustrate the theme "Carry the Torch."



Barb Peterson

The five colors represent the five years that PrideFest has existed in its current format. They also evoke the Olympic spirit of the year.

And carrying the torch, to Peterson, also means "carrying PrideFest from one location to another, obviously this year being our first year at Summerfest grounds, which is going to be exciting for everyone, I'm sure."

Peterson has designed the logo for the last three PrideFests. She aimed to create "a strong logo that lends itself to the variety of applications

that we use it for during the festival." It will be available on clothing and lapel buttons as well as printed material.

Peterson, a Milwaukee native who earned a degree in commercial design from MATC, has been working as a graphic designer for almost 18 years. She is developing her own freelance graphic design business, Wild Child Design, (414) 384-9453.

"I'm familiar with the creative end of things as well as the production part of the job," she said, "which allows me to capitalize on the design and actually get it to reproduce the way it's supposed to."

She also works in the fine arts and has some sculptures on display at her artists' cooperative, Gallery 218, at 218 S. 2nd St., Milwaukee. In October, Peterson hopes to hold a one-person show.

### Admission to PrideFest

There are five ways you can into PrideFest.

1. Buy a \$4.00 daily ticket at the gate
2. buy an \$8.00 three-day pass. Call the PrideFest office at (414)272-FEST for ticket outlets
3. Wear an advance sale PrideFest'96 pin and get FREE admission on Saturday and Sunday until 12:30 PM.
4. Proud Crowd members get FREE admission during the entire festival when they wear their official Proud Crowd Shirt
5. Milwaukee Journal/Sentinel Press Card holders will get free admission when they show their press card on Sunday from 3 to 4 PM.



Bill Meunier at PrideFest 1994

### Bill Meunier to Receive PrideFest's Top Honor, the Lifetime Achievement Award

Bill Meunier works hard. Everyone who knows him knows that. He had a dream to make Wisconsin PrideFest into a respected national Pride celebration, and he was part of a core group that made it happen.

For that accomplishment and other successes, Bill Meunier will receive a Lifetime Achievement Award at PrideFest this year at the Hess Stage after the parade Sunday.

The story starts in June of 1987, in Chicago, where a contingent of Milwaukeeans joined Chicago's Gay Pride Parade, as they had for the past several years. Milwaukee had hosted small Gay Pride Parades of its own in the early 1980s. Despite the warm welcome in Illinois, some people started asking why Milwaukee couldn't do its own celebration again.

One of those persons asking was Bill. He had already been active in groups like the Gay People's Union, one of Milwaukee's first Gay and Lesbian organizations. He had worked as a tireless organizer for neighborhood groups and for his church festival. He had participated in political campaigns nurturing allies of the LesBiGay community and bringing in new allies.

He did all that and many other things in the Gay community. His direct personal style could sometimes startle people, but as one long-time friend puts it, "No one can ever say Bill's not always thinking of the community."

In September of 1988, a variety of LesBiGay organizations held events as part of "Rightfully Proud," the Milwaukee Lesbian and Gay Celebration. On June 17, 1989, the Milwaukee Lesbian and Gay Pride Committee held its first Gay/Lesbian Pride Parade and Rally at Cathedral Square downtown. The event was repeated the next year as "The Gay '90s, Look to the Future."

It was nice, but it wasn't nice enough for the Bill and his ambitious cohorts. In 1991, with the theme "Together in Pride," the Pride celebration moved to Juneau Park. It stayed there for the next year, "PrideFest '92," and for the "Forward in Pride '93 PrideFest."

But that wasn't good enough. There wasn't enough room for all the participants, performers, and vendors. So PrideFest, as it was officially known by then, moved down the hill to an area just north of the War Memorial Art Center along the lakefront.

The year 1994 was the 25th anniversary of the Stonewall Rebellion in New York City, the pivotal event in LesBiGay history that Pride celebra-

tions commemorate. In that year, Milwaukee's PrideFest celebration called itself "Our Time To Shine." The next year, 1995, with fireworks added to the lineup, PrideFest celebrated "Live the Dream."

But already the limitations of the lakefront site were clear. It was too small and crowded. Renting stages, electrical generators, portable toilets and a million other things made the site expensive. The financially prudent step was to join Milwaukee's other festivals in their use of Summerfest grounds. Logically, it was the right thing to do. As a measure of pride, it was a sweet victory.

No festival runs easily. Behind the scenes you'll find countless hours of work and gallons of blood, sweat and tears. Bill has given more than his share. Along the way, he arranged for the first LesBiGay fundraiser in the City Hall Rotunda. Because of him, rainbow flags flew along Milwaukee's downtown streets. Bill became the most frequent guest on Milwaukee's cable access television's "Queer Program."

For all that and more, Bill will receive PrideFest's top honor.





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# PrideFest 1996 Stages

To appeal to the broadest possible tastes, each of our PrideFest stages has its own character and flavor. We have tried to program entertainment to meet that character. Times may be subject to change. For up-to-date schedules, call (414) 272-FEST.

## Grand Opening

### Friday Evening

- 5:30-6:00 Guests Arrive
- 6:00 Opening Ceremony and Ribbon Cutting  
Gather at Gazebo near Miller Stage
- 6:15 Friday night spaghetti dinner at the Pride Grill
- 6:30 Singstational
- 7:15 Romanovsky & Phillips
- 9:15 Pulsations

## Alyn Hess Stage

The Alyn Hess Stage, named for a Milwaukee activist who helped found Milwaukee's LesBiGay movement, is our big outdoor venue and will use the Summerfest Miller Stage. The Hess Stage will offer not only entertainment but will host most of the general political and special events of the festival, such as the PrideFest pre-Parade rally, the wedding and the interfaith Sunday service.

Come to the Hess Stage for bands, dance troupes, choral groups, the Saturday evening Gayla show, and the Sunday B.J.Daniels Review of the best local acts and impersonators.

### Saturday

- 11 a.m. To be announced
- 12:15 p.m. FWEPP
- 1:30 p.m. Pulsations
- 3:15 p.m. The Yell Leaders
- 4:30 p.m. Sweet Cheeks
- 6:30 p.m. Saturday Night Gayla - Banks Brothers, Lady Belle, Judii Lowe, Lu Shanti, Cream City Chorus, Rod Benedict, Amy Armstrong, Rick Beech, Jason Stuart, Jeff Krassner
- 10:15 p.m. Gillette

### Sunday

- 10:30 a.m. Interfaith Service
- 11:30 a.m. Pre-Parade Rally

### Noon Pride Parade

- 1 p.m. Post Parade Rally and Awards
- 1:30 p.m. Blue Deuces
- 3 p.m. Josie Santiago
- 4 p.m. Dianna Jones and the Reign
- 5:30 p.m. To be announced
- 6:30 p.m. The Wedding
- 7 p.m. Singstational
- 8 p.m. B.J.Daniels Revue
- 9:30 p.m. To Be Announced

## Harvey Milk Stage

Look for this stage housed in its own tent. The Milk Stage grew in popularity last year, its crowds at times almost rivaling the Hess Stage. The Harvey Milk Stage is perfect for smaller, individual acts and reviews that would drown on the Hess Stage but can flourish in a more intimate setting

### Saturday

- Noon To Be Announced
- 1:30 p.m. Drag-o-Rama
- 3:15 p.m. Diva Time with Yolanda, Lu Shanti, Dataciaous
- 4:15 p.m. From the Valley with Love
- 5:15 p.m. Latino Pride
- 6:30 p.m. Les/Bi/Gay Radio Presents
- 7:45 p.m. Julie Darrough and Friends

### Sunday

- 1:30 p.m. Jeff Miller
- 3:30 p.m. The Cowgirl Sweethearts
- 4:45 p.m. Shoreline Dancers
- 5:30 p.m. Country Jamboree - Line and Square Dancing Lessons
- 6:30 p.m. Just Us - Just Country Dance Time
- 7:45 p.m. Julie Darrough and Friends

## Fine Arts Theater Stage

Located in a tent, the Fine Arts Stage will offer theater troupes, musical revues, and classical music and dance. This stage debuted in 1995 to impressive attendance and should grow in popularity in 1996.

### Saturday

- 2 p.m. Dale Gutzmann's Broadway Revue
- 3:30 p.m. Theatre Q
- 5 p.m. Fest City Singers
- 6 p.m. Women's Song

### Sunday

- 2 p.m. Dale Gutzmann's Broadway Revue
- 5 p.m. Poetry Slam
- 6 p.m. Spanish Dancers

## The Shepherd Express Rainbow Cafe

Our newest entertainment venue at the Channel 12 Stage will include an espresso bar in the back. The cafe offer coffee-house style entertainment, such as poetry slams, folk music, acoustical blues, and other quieter types of music - along with comedy.

### Saturday

- 1 p.m. Mia Montenegro
- 2:15 p.m. Judii Lowe
- 3:30 p.m. Jerry Grillo
- 4:45 p.m. Ronnie Nyles
- 6 p.m. Tracey Rose
- 7 p.m. Terry Frank's Delta Blues Show
- 8:45 a.m. Booze Hags

### Sunday

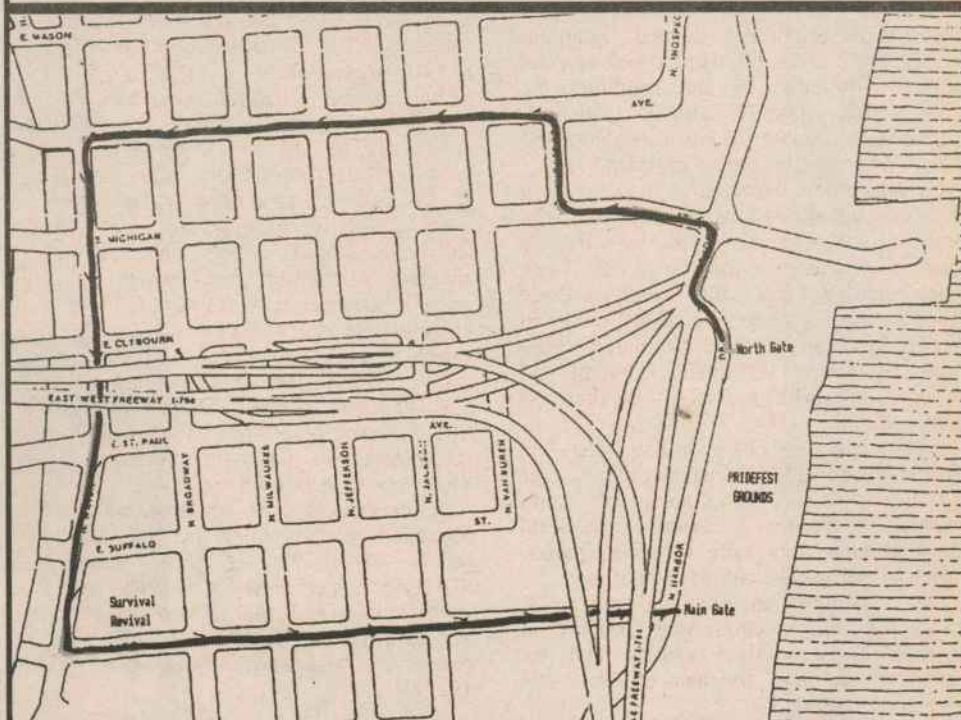
- 1:30 p.m. Kathy Priestly
- 3 p.m. Dykeappella
- 4:15 p.m. Jeff Jennings
- 5:30 p.m. Lojo Russo
- 7 p.m. John Berg
- 8:15 p.m. To Be Announced

**The Wisconsin Light  
Stonewall Tent**

Think of this as the festival's soapbox. Here's the place to find the news you need from groups like the Human Rights League and Parents and Friends of Gays. The tent will also host speakers sharing their expertise.

# PRIDEFEST - JUNE 9<sup>TH</sup> PARADE ROUTE

- North on Harbor Drive to Michigan Avenue
- West on Michigan Avenue to Cass Street
- North on Cass Street to Wisconsin Avenue
- West on Wisconsin Avenue to Water Street
- South on Water Street to Chicago Street
- East on Chicago Street to Harbor Drive



## The Pride Council's Members Work Year Round to Bring the Festival Off

*PrideFest's Board and Pride Council members work year-round organizing performers and vendors, raising funds, arranging events, and sweating bullets to make sure you enjoy the festival. As a result of their efforts, Wisconsin PrideFest gets bigger and better each year.*

**Susan Cook**, Co-Director, Volunteer Coordinator - Susan has been voted in to serve as Co-Director for PrideFest. Her main task is to oversee the food and beverages at the festival, and then find the volunteers to serve the crowds. Just ask her how many people it takes to serve a brat!

**Bill Meunier**, Co-Director - In 1987, at Chicago's Gay Pride Parade, Bill wondered why Milwaukee didn't have its own Pride celebration. The rest is history. This year, with PrideFest finally at Summerfest (where else would be more appropriate in this the City of Festivals?), Bill will receive a Lifetime Achievement Award.

**Rick Finger and Sheldon Schur**, Parade Coordinators - Three years ago the couple was convinced to organize the parade and enjoyed it so much they've kept doing it. Each year they select the route, get the city permits, and register floats and marching units. On parade day you'll see them getting the units in order and sending marchers off. The rest of the year they run Brady's Bunch Antiques and Collectibles.

**Dale Gutzmann**, Fine Arts Festival Coordinator - Dale runs a professional theater company in Milwaukee, Dale Gutzmann Productions, at the Marcus Center for Performing Arts, and presents shows in Russia and an annual Gay review in a Thailand hotel.

**Mike Hall**, Vice Chair, Operations; Security - Mike started two years ago as a security guard. Now he's in charge of security as well as operations. That means he makes sure the grounds are set up with the proper lights, tents, tables, chairs, equipment, and whatever else is needed to make sure everything runs smoothly and securely. He works as finance manager for Heiser Lincoln-Mercury.

**Chris Klein**, Treasurer - This is Chris's second year with the festival, and her involvement with PrideFest has grown. Chris has been instrumental in getting some of the grant proposals written and in working with business owners. As official "bean counter," the rest of the council enjoys watching Chris's expressions whenever there is mention of an expenditure.

**Jason Kostrzewa**, Merchandise Coordinator - This is Jason's first year coordinating PrideFest's souvenir merchandise. An engineer who recently moved to Milwaukee, he enjoyed the spirit of city so much he had to get involved.

**Lil Lau and Lori Sitzwohl**, Food and Beverage Coordinators - Lil and Lori first gained food service experience volunteering at the MAPfest food tent. Last year they worked with the PrideFest food coordinator, and this year they're responsible for creating menus, shopping for the best prices, and making sure the food is at the site ready for the festival. Together for 10 years, they are also part of the MAP Thursday night group, MAP outreach and ACT-UP. Lori works at St. Mary's Hospital and Lil is a GLEEM member at her workplace, Ameritech.

**Mike Lisowski**, Secretary, Marketplace Booth Coordinator - Mike keeps track of booth space for businesses, artists, and organizations at PrideFest's Marketplace. He has been involved with PrideFest since 1988 and joined its board of directors in 1993. He has worked at the Milwaukee AIDS Project since 1989 as a prevention specialist and has directed Gay Youth Milwaukee since 1980.

**Bob Moore**, Volleyball Coordinator - Bob, a past president of GAMMA, is coordinating the third annual Miller PrideFest Volleyball Tournament.

**John J. Prentice**, Esq., Legal Advisor - John renders legal advice to the PrideFest Board and Pride Council. He joined the PrideFest Board of Directors in 1996.

**W. Michael Ross**, Liaison to the People of Color Community - The true colors of PrideFest include people of color, and the People of Color Community works to make sure that happens. Michael has been emcee for the People of Color Presents Echo Chambers Rainbow Review, a one-hour show at the 1995 and the 1996 PrideFest. A student at UWM, Michael is a former Miss Black Gay Wisconsin and active as a police recruit trainer with the Human Rights League.

**Del Slowik**, Food Coordinator - The sauce on the Philly brats, meatball sandwiches, and Friday spaghetti dinner is Del's secret recipe. So is the meatballs. His job, at its most basic, is to figure out what people want to eat and to make sure it's served up delicious. Del has been volunteering at PrideFest for three years and has yet to meet a crowd he can't feed.

**David Todd**, Media and Entertainment Coordinator - Someone has to contact all the entertainers, line up the acts for the stages, handle all the press releases, deal with the media, get out the advertising, and do the public relations. That's David Todd's job. This is his second year at PrideFest, where he says "it's wonderful to see people celebrate how proud they are to be Gay and Lesbian." His family comes with him every year. David works as a television producer in Milwaukee.

## Robert and Virginia Savrnoch Named Parade Grand Marshals

The Pride Committee has announced that they have named Robert and Virginia Savrnoch as Grand Marshals of the Pride Parade. The Savrnochs are cited for having a history of supporting the Gay and Lesbian community as well as participating in the struggle against AIDS.

The Savrnochs are residents of Delafield, Wisconsin, where Robert served as mayor for seven years. He is currently a Delafield Alderman and works as Director of Purchasing for Marquette University in Milwaukee.

The couple has three sons, one of whom was a Gay man and who died of complications due to AIDS in 1990.

The Savrnochs are co-facilitators of the Family, Friends and Lovers Support Group at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Milwaukee.

The couple have provided resources for the Memory Garden on the St. Camillus Campus in memory of those who have died of AIDS. This garden will be dedicated on May 27, 1996.

They will participate in AIDS Walk Wisconsin and in the first Candlelight Memorial and Mobilization, May 19, 1996, at 7:00 p.m. at the Miller Pavilion at O'Donnell Park.

In addition to parenting their own children, the Savrnochs have had a number of "adopted sons," who were Gay and several of whom have died.

## San Diego Lesbian/Gay Pride Prepares for Major Summer Turnout

**San Diego** — San Diego Lesbian and Gay Pride will present its 23rd annual parade, rally and festival July 26-28, just as scores of media begin converging on the city in preparation for the Republican National Convention.

This year's celebration themed "Spotlight on Freedom", kicks off with a high-spirited political rally July 26, and continues the following day, July 27, with an expanded, colorful parade down University Avenue and an elaborate two-day festival in Balboa Park.

The weekend is expected to draw exciting celebrities and attract huge numbers of Pride-goers from all over the U.S., says Brenda Schumacher, executive director of San Diego Pride, adding that this year's Pride celebration was strategically moved closer to the convention so that "the community could take advantage of the media spotlight and present to the world a message of freedom and equality for all."

As the media descends upon San Diego, the Pride staff will direct its "spotlight" on voter registration, political awareness and youth involvement through a series of weekend events ranging from rally speeches, parade pageantry, parties and cultural activities.

"Our 'Spotlight on Freedom' slogan is fitting for this election year because it embraces many political agendas that are critical to the civil freedom of Gays and Lesbians everywhere.

The weekend will showcase dozens of high-profile supporters of Gay and Lesbian issues and present an opportunity for the youth in our community to participate in a non-discriminating, safe environment," says Schumacher.

Stronger sponsorship is allowing for exciting festival additions such as a new youth area within the Pride festival. Big-name entertainers, expanded dance floors and an increased number of exhibitors can also be expected.

Many of last year's sponsors have increased their support while new ones like the Rainbow Mall and the Alliance of Psychological Health Care Professionals have recognized Pride's increased attendance, which jumped last year by over 25 percent.

"It's a great opportunity for businesses to introduce themselves during one of our largest and most important gatherings of the year," says Schumacher.

Some of this year's sponsors include American Airlines, Naya Water, Mesa Distributing Inc., Party Boy Productions, Cush Honda San Diego/Frank Lechner, Out Newsmagazine, Update Newsmagazine, CURB Graphics, ROK Enterprises and Men on Vacation, Pride's official tour operator.

The national organization, Rock The Vote, will also be visible throughout the celebration to inspire voter registration. Schumacher says

## Leslie Feinberg, Craig Hickman at AfterWords

**Milwaukee**—AfterWords is pleased to offer what is sure to be the literary event of the summer. On Tuesday, June 18th at 7:00pm, activist, transgender warrior and noted novelist of *Stone Butch Blues*, Leslie Feinberg will be at AfterWords to promote her latest book, *Transgender Warriors: Making History from Joan of Arc to RuPaul*.

Feinberg will read from *Transgender Warriors* as well as from her Lambda Literary Award-winning *Stone Butch Blues*.

Reading with Feinberg on June 18th is performance artist/poet Craig Hickman. Hickman has performed his solo theater piece *skin & ornaments* to sold-out houses in Boston and elsewhere and recently published *Rituals: Poetry and Prose* which brings together Hickman's musical verse, his unabashed autobiographical writing and his searing commentary on being Black and Gay in America.

For further information concerning this event, please contact AfterWords Bookstore, (414) 963-9089.

### PrideFest Hours

#### Friday, June 7

Opening ceremonies at 6 p.m.

Gates open

from 6:15 p.m. to midnight.

#### Saturday, June 8

Gates open

from 11 a.m. to midnight.

#### Sunday, June 9

Gates open

from 10 a.m. to 11 p.m.

the Pride committee this year is encouraging the entire community to participate in the political process and learn about some of the vital issues facing Gays and Lesbians today.

Many of those political concerns will be addressed at the Pride rally at 8:00 p.m., July 26, outside the Lesbian and Gay Men's Center at 3916 Normal St. A youth dance party will be held the same night following the rally.

The San Diego Pride parade, scheduled for noon the next day, July 27, will feature an array of dazzling floats and over 150 contingents. The procession begins at Normal and University and travels west down University to Sixth Avenue. Pride staffers are advising participants to "swoop up" the creative energy as a show of unity and freedom that the whole world may see via increased media coverage.

To accommodate visitors, San Diego Lesbian and Gay Pride's official tour operator, MOV Travel is offering discounted travel, accommodations and travel packages. Call MOV Travel at 1-800-854-7688.

Those interested in volunteering for this expanded celebration should call the Pride office at (619) 297-7683, email at SDGayPride@aol.com, or Web site at www.rainbow-mall.com (search SDPride). To advertise in pride's souvenir program please call Ad Ink Advertising at (619) 260-1929. ▽

## HIV THERAPY TRIAL OPEN FOR ENROLLMENT

### WISCONSIN AIDS RESEARCH CONSORTIUM (WARC)

The WARC is currently enrolling individuals with HIV disease for participation in an experimental therapy trial. This trial may advance scientific knowledge and future treatment for other individuals with HIV disease.

### REMUNE™ (THE SALK VACCINE)

REMUNE is an experimental treatment intended to boost the body's natural immune response against HIV. In Phase I and II studies, REMUNE has so far been found safe and well-tolerated. The study compares the responses of individuals having equal chances of receiving REMUNE or placebo by injection every 12 weeks for up to 3 years.

#### ELIGIBILITY:

If you are over 18 years of age, HIV positive, have a CD4+ count of 300-549, have had no investigational vaccine or immune-based therapy treatment and no changes in antiretroviral drugs or doses within the past 3 months, and have no history of or current AIDS-defining conditions except for Kaposi's Sarcoma, you may be eligible for this study.

For information about enrolling in this trial, please call Jacque Kaczinski, R.N., at the WARC office at 414-225-1578.

**ARCW**

WARC is operated by the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin, Inc.



## WHO? CREAM CITY FOUNDATION

an all volunteer Milwaukee fundraising organization

P.O. BOX 204 • MILWAUKEE, WI 53201 • TELE: (414) 265-0880



## WHAT?

Since 1982 CREAM CITY FOUNDATION (CCF) has continuously provided:

- ▼ monetary grants,
  - ▼ scholarships &
  - ▼ financial assistance/underwriting
- to diverse non-profit Gay/Les/Bi groups and individuals who are dedicated in building a stronger and healthier Les/Bi/Gay community.

## WHEN?

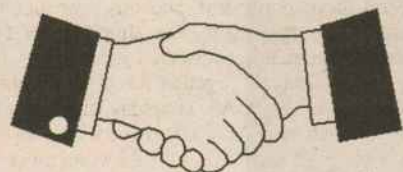
Grant applications should be submitted by the 15th of each January, April, July, and October. The \$1,000 John Cowles Memorial Scholarship is awarded in January. For applications or information please contact us.

## WHERE?

As members of the community, we understand our own needs as no one else can. CCF has and will continue to demonstrate our responsibility for one another and fund both short and long-term solutions in the Milwaukee and Wisconsin areas.

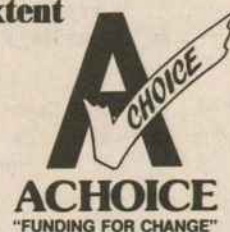
## HOW?

- ▼ CCF exists thanks to YOUR kind contributions ▼
- We are a non-profit charitable organization recognized by the IRS.
- Contributions are tax deductible to the full extent of the law.



Your View = Our View

CCF can also be designated the recipient of your workplace giving contribution through ACHOICE or United Way Donor Choice.





A laser light show lights up PrideFest '95

Jerry Johnson

## By the Rockets Red Glare, Fireworks Will Light the Sky with Pride

Wisconsin remains the only Pride celebration in the country with a fireworks display.

And not just fireworks—a display by Bartolotta's Fireworks Co., one of the best fireworks manufacturers and aerial pyrotechnics producers in the country. These are the same folks who present the July 3<sup>rd</sup> Milwaukee lakefront fireworks.

Best of all, this is the second year PrideFest has had fireworks. Miller Brewing Co. for two years has generously underwritten the cost of the display.

The fireworks will start at about 10:15 on Saturday night, June 8, with a rain date of Sunday night. The rockets will be launched from the is-

land near Summerfest, so the best viewing will be at the lakefront.

This show is designed for PrideFest. The shooting crew headed by Joe Maz has been working since fall to plan every burst, every color and every boom, just as they did last year. Watch for pink triangles in the sky and the colors of the Pride flag blending with the stars.

"The finale will be spectacular, just like last year," said Mike Hall, PrideFest vice president working with Bartolotta's. That means loud. Loud and proud. "The more noise the better," said Mike.

Fireworks displays involve more than lighting a few fuses. Show producers want a display that will start with a bang—no pun intended—and will go on to paint the night sky with fireworks that compliment each other in shape, color and sound. Eventually, they try to build to a climax that will thrill the eyes and ears of spectators.

Some colors, which are produced by certain chemical combinations, can be tricky to create. Some shapes, like triangles, require careful packing as the fireworks shells are stuffed with explosives. At every step, safety comes first. They don't call them "bombs" for nothing.

And every year, Bartolotta's adds a few fireworks innovations. Something's going to blow up in a way you've never quite seen before. Be there.

## Lambda Car Club To Make its Third Appearance at PrideFest '96

For the third year, hot cars are coming to PrideFest. You'll see mint-condition chrome, leather interiors, tail fins, the works—all up close and personal. Sponsored by the Great Lakes region of the Lambda Car Club, the Wisconsin PrideFest Invitational will attract classic autos from throughout the Midwest.

Last year's show drew two dozen beautiful vehicles that charmed auto enthusiasts and casual car fans alike. Part of the popularity of the show stems from the fact that at PrideFest, unlike other shows, the cars are not roped off, so viewers can walk right up to them, peer in the windows, and get a good look at the classics. You can almost pretend you're behind the wheel.

Everyone viewing the show can vote for the best of show in two categories: convertible and hard tops. PrideFest will award trophies to the top vote-getters in both categories.

For the last two years, the most popular convertible has been Allen Eslinger's white '57 Thunderbird. He'll be back this year, but to be fair to other exhibitors, he won't be in the competition.

Eslinger describes the car as Ford's response to Chevy's Corvette, a smaller vehicle than some other year's Thunderbirds and "one of the most beloved cars." Driving his T-bird down the street, he said, he attracts admiring stares and thumbs-up signs from men, women and children.

He's also the car's original owner. "We've become antiques together," Eslinger said, "and the love affair continues."

The Lambda Car Club is a national organization composed of Gay and Lesbian car enthusiasts. The Great Lakes Region includes Wisconsin and Illinois and sponsors shows and outings for members. Region President Don Dumfee is pleased to be returning.

One happy surprise last year was the number of people who signed up to join the club. Information and membership information will be available again this year.

Classic cars will be on display Saturday and Sunday and will join thousands of marchers in Sunday's Pride Parade.

## Community Responds to PrideFest's Call for Volunteers

Nearly 330 people have signed up to volunteer for this year's PrideFest celebration, a new record in pre-festival registrations. PrideFest organizers are very grateful to see so many people step forward to make the festival a success.

Volunteer Coordinator Susan Cook could not praise the volunteers enough for the contribution of time.

"The success of this festival rests on our ability to provide fast, friendly service to our visitors. We cannot do that without our volunteer corps," Cook said.

Cook said that several organizations are also providing volunteers to staff various areas.

For example, the Sherman Park Rainbow Association will be staffing the games area. The Saturday Softball Beer League, the Lesbian Alliance of Metro Milwaukee, the Milwaukee AIDS Project, the Galano Club, Gay Youth Milwaukee, the Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual Community of UWM and PFLAG will be staffing food and beverage stands.

"Many of this year's volunteers were with us last year, and are very excited to help out. It almost seems as if the volunteer corps is becoming a social club, and, of course, we always accept new members," Cook said.

People wishing to volunteer can call the Pride line: (414) 272-FEST or sign up at the festival itself by visiting the Volunteer/Information Booth. Work shifts are at least 4 1/2 hours long.

## PrideFest to Present Community Service, Stonewall and Lifetime Achievement Awards

Award nominations have been received for the three various awards granted each year by PrideFest: Community Service Award; Stonewall Award; and the Lifetime Achievement Award.

Recipients of the Community Service Award nomination include Doug Nelson, Executive Director of the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin; and PFLAG-Milwaukee.

Nominees for the Stonewall Award include: Jamie Nabozny and his parents, Robert and Carol. Jamie, a Gay student, experienced extreme forms of harassment while attending high school in Ashland, Wisconsin. He was attacked physically several times, once in a room in front of the entire class. When complaints were made to school administrators, no action was taken to help him survive the hostile environment.

Throughout the ordeal, Jamie's parents were very supportive.

Jamie finally dropped out of Ashland High School and moved to Minnesota where he earned his GED. He is now suing the Ashland School District for its failure to ensure his safety or right to receive an education in a non-threatening environment.

Jamie's parents recently formed a PFLAG chapter in Ashland. The meetings are well attended with new people coming each time.

Stonewall Awards will be presented to Dan Fons for his contributions to the community through Queer TV and ACT UP, and Karen Gotzler for running in the last aldermanic races as an out Lesbian.

## Interfaith Service to Be Part of Sunday's PrideFest Celebration

Gays, Lesbians, Bisexuals, and supporters will join in worship at the PrideFest Interfaith service at 10:30 a.m. Sunday, June 9, at the Hess Stage.

"We come together as people from different faiths," said the Rev. Lew Broyles, pastor of the Milwaukee Metropolitan Community Church, "and we try to make the liturgy as inclusive as it possibly can be."

Members of MCC, Dignity, Integrity, and Lutherans Concerned will participate in the service, but Broyles said it will be "not just Christian" in its focus. The service will include music, prayers, and reflections. About 200 people attended last year.

The Lifetime Achievement Award will be presented to PrideFest founder, Bill Meunier. Bill's commitment to the community goes back over 20 years, and includes his involvement in the Gay Peoples' Union, the early years of the Best STD Clinic, numerous political campaigns, and PrideFest for the past five years. Bill is a regular columnist for Wisconsin Light and the editor of the "Spotlight" section of the paper.

The awards will be presented after the Sunday parade at the Alyn Hess Stage.

## The Annual Pride Parade Gives Us a Chance to Stand Up and Be Counted

People on the sidewalk wave and cheer. Chants and music echo from downtown buildings. Gayly decorated floats and cars cruise down the street. There's nothing like a parade.

The annual Pride parade, traditional at Pride celebrations around the country since the Stonewall Rebellion, gives us a chance to stand up and be counted.

Last year's Wisconsin parade attracted about 3,000 marchers and many new entries. Spectators greeted parade marchers all along the route.

This year's parade will step off at noon Sunday, June 9. Marching groups will assemble in front of the Alyn Hess Stage, which will host a pre-parade rally with speakers and entertainers to fire up the crowd.

With the radical right gaining momentum and important issues facing voters and legislators, we need everyone we can muster for a show of strength. If you cannot march, please come and cheer those who do participate.

Individuals are welcome to join with any of the groups that are marching, or if they prefer, to join in at the end of the parade.

Because PrideFest has a new site this year, the Pride Parade has a new route. (See map.)

Parade fees are: \$30 for organizations and floats; and \$20 for decorated cars. Individual marchers are free!

For parade applications or more information, call Rick or Sheldon at (414) 289-8322. Join the parade to show support for LesBiGay rights—and smile and wave as you pass all the people who will cheer you on!

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## PrideFest Thanks Miller Brewing Co.

PrideFest wishes to express its sincere appreciation to the Miller Brewing Co. for the outstanding support it has lent to PrideFest '96. Miller's generosity toward PrideFest should come as no surprise to anyone. The company is well known for its commitment to diversity in all phases of community life.

A leader in the fight for equality, Miller's personnel policies have always exceeded the requirements of state and federal laws governing discrimination against minorities, including Gays and Lesbians.

A leader in the fight against AIDS, Miller has given millions to local and national AIDS organizations.

Miller was the first in line to become a major sponsor of the 1994 Gay Games. It also sponsors other events, such as the North Star Gay Rodeo in Minneapolis.

This year, like last year, Miller has made a considerable donation to help us "Carry the Torch" at PrideFest. Their contribution has made it possible for us to present America's only Pride fireworks display, our volleyball tournament, and much more.

You can find Miller products at all the beer stands at PrideFest. Cheers!

ENDING  
AIDS  
BEGINS  
WITH  
PRIDE

PROUD SPONSOR OF THE  
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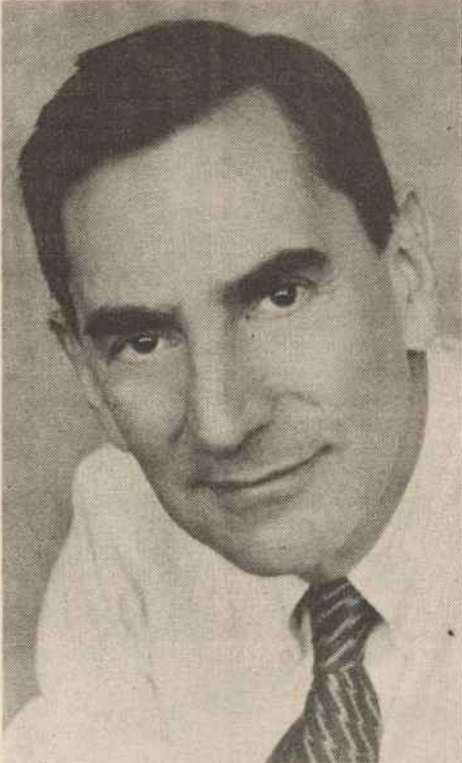
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## AfterWords' Tent at PrideFest to Be An Algonquin-esque Literary Oasis

Over the course of two days, AfterWords Bookstore & Espresso Bar is especially pleased to bring some of the finest Gay and Lesbian authors to Milwaukee for appearances at the Ninth Annual Wisconsin Pride Celebration. The theme for this PrideFest is "Carry the Torch."

Headlining at the AfterWords Literature tent on Saturday is noted author Dr. Betty Berzon. Berzon is an activist and psychotherapist and the author of such classic lesbian and Gay self-help titles: **Permanent Partners**.



Richard Isay, M.D.

**Setting Them Straight: You Can Do Something About Bigotry and Homophobia in Your Life** Berzon's most recently published title.

In **Setting Them Straight**, Berzon offers a prescriptive program for dealing with homophobia in the workplace, in family relationships, in casual settings or anywhere else.

Drawing upon her own experiences and in workshop she has conducted with Gay men



Carol Guess

and Lesbians on coping with bigotry, Berzon offers useful and compassionate suggestions on how to manage anger, religious prejudice, and other manifestations of homophobic or bigoted behavior constantly being exhibited

in our society today.

Berzon will be speaking at 2:00pm on Saturday, June 8th at the Literature Tent.

Richard Isay, author of the classic gay title **Being Homosexual: Gay Men and Their Development** has recently been published with Pantheon. Richard Isay's appearance at 1:00pm will headline the AfterWords PrideFest Literature Tent on Sunday, June 9th.

Since the publication of his first book, Isay has been widely recognized both within professional circles and the larger world as the leading authority on the psychological development of Gay men. Known as a pioneer in his field, Isay in **Becoming Gay** studies the process of accepting one's homosexuality and developing a positive gay identity at any stage in life.

Opening the Literature Tent on Saturday, June 8th at 12noon will be best-selling Naiad author and AfterWords favorite, Jackie Calhoun. **Changes** is the most recent of Jackie Calhoun's six novels.

As a premier chronicler of Lesbian life in the nineties, Jackie Calhoun's other titles include **Lifestyles, Second Chance, Sticks and Stones, Triple Exposure** and **Friends and Lovers**. Calhoun is hard at work on her newest book, due out from Naiad later in 1996.

Following Jackie Calhoun on Saturday at the Literature Tent is first-time author, Carol Guess.

In March, Guess published **Seeing Dell**. She is a gifted new writer who positions her character in the heart of the American landscape: a small midwestern town. Guess will read from **Seeing Dell** at 1:00pm on Saturday.

Following Berzon at the Literature Tent at 4:00pm will be popular syndicated columnist Yvonne Zipter.

Yvonne's column, "Inside Out" can be locally found in our own **In Step** Magazine. In her recent book, **Ransacking the Closet**, Zipter details the often hilarious, everyday foibles of the ordinary 1990's Lesbian.

Horror is the theme for Elaine Bergstrom who will read at 5:00pm. Bergstrom's "Daughter of the Night" was included in Pam Keese's first collection of lesbian vampire stories, **Daughter of Darkness**. Under the exotic name, Marie Kiraly, Elaine has recently published, **Leanna: Possession of a Woman**.

AfterWords is especially delighted to bring to Milwaukee another nationally syndicated columnist Shelley Roberts who will present her hilarious program at the AfterWords Literature tent Saturday at 7:00pm. The author of **Hey Mom, Guess What!** and **The Dyke Detector**, Roberts has just completed a take-off on the popular "little instruction books", **Robert's Rules of Lesbian Living**. Roberts has brought her wit, wisdom and wonderfully skewed perspective in her column, **Roberts Rules**, which can also be found locally in **In-Step**.

Local author Will Fellows will have his first book published by the University of Wisconsin Press in September, titled **Farm Boys: Lives of Gay Men from the Rural Midwest**. At PrideFest, Fellows, at 12 noon on Sunday, will read passages from the upcoming book and relate experiences of growing up gay outside of urban areas.

At 2:00pm, the AfterWords Literature tent will be the scene of a Poetry Slam hosted by local poet, Tim Grair. Everyone is welcome to come and listen and to participate for a variety of prizes in this unique event.

Following the Poetry Slam will be noted gay mystery writer, Mark Zubro. Zubro will be promoting his newest mystery, **Rust on the Razor**. The book is the sixth book in Mark Zubro's extremely popular Tom Mason/Scott Carpenter series. These books are set in Chicago and feature as sleuths a Gay high school teacher, Tom and his lover, Scott, a professional baseball player.

**Another Dead Teenager**, Zubro's most recent Paul Turner mystery has been recently released in paperback.

### AfterWords

Bookstore & Espresso Bar

is the proud sponsor for

### First AfterWords

### PrideFest Literature Tent

#### Betty Berzon

Sat. 2:00 pm

SETTING THEM STRAIGHT: You Can Do Something about Bigotry & Homophobia in Your Life

#### Richard Isay

Sun. 1:00 pm

BECOMING GAY: The Journey to Self-Acceptance

#### Shelley Roberts

Sat. 7:00 pm

ROBERTS RULES OF LESBIAN LIVING

#### Jackie Calhoun

Sat. 12 noon

CHANGES

#### Mark Zubro

Sun. 4:00 pm

RUST ON THE RAZOR

#### Carol Guess

Sat. 1:00 pm

SEEING DELL

#### Yvonne Zipter

Sat. 4:00 pm

RANSACKING THE CLOSET

#### Will Fellows

Sun. 12 noon

FARM BOYS: Lives of Gay Men from the Rural Midwest

#### Elaine Bergstrom

Sat. 5:00 pm

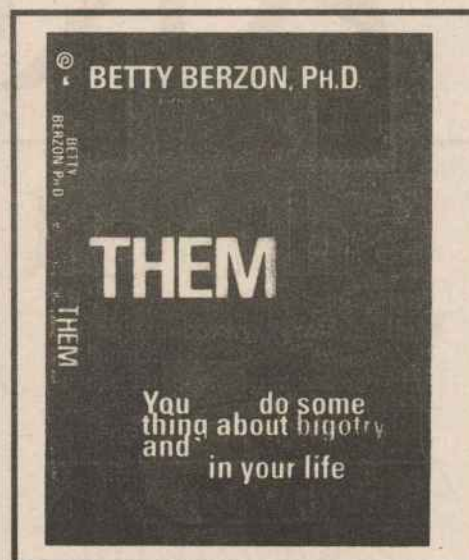
LEANNA: Possession of a Woman

## AfterWords

Come meet

Noted Author & Activist

AfterWords PrideFest  
Literature Tent  
Saturday, June 8th  
2:00pm



# Betty

# Berzon

## SETTING THEM STRAIGHT

You Can Do Something About  
Bigotry and Homophobia in your Life

AfterWords Bookstore & Espresso Bar 2710 N. Murray Ave.  
Milwaukee, WI 53211 963-9089

### AfterWords PrideFest

### Literature Tent

#### Schedule

#### Saturday, June 8th

12 noon Jackie Calhoun, **Changes**  
1:00 p.m. Carol Guess, **Seeing Dell**  
2:00 p.m. Betty Berzon, **Setting Them Straight**  
4:00 p.m. Yvonne Zipter, **Ransacking the Closet**  
5:00 p.m. Elaine Bergstrom, **Leanna: Possession of a Woman**  
7:00 p.m. Shelley Roberts, **Roberts' Rules of Lesbian Living**

#### Sunday, June 9th

12 noon Will Fellows, **Farm Boys**  
1:00 p.m. Richard Isay, **Becoming Gay**  
2:00 p.m. Poetry Slam  
4:00 p.m. Mark Zubro, **Rust on the Razor**

# 1996 Proud Crowd

## Supporting Individuals

Mark P. Behar  
Theodore T. Berg  
Jack Corbin  
Pam Del Rio  
Steven T. Delaney  
Ross Draeger  
Stu Feider  
D.E.F.  
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Mark Hanson  
David Huibregtse  
Nelvin Johnson  
Ken Kayser  
Yori Keegstra  
Izak Kolodny  
Dan Lagerman  
Charles A. Landry  
Chris Martin  
Attorney Tom Martin  
Heath Martinson  
Bruce Mikkell  
Carol Mullen  
Ralph F. Navarro  
Doug Nelson  
A Proud Lesbian  
Jacy Pratt  
Cathy Priem  
Jennie Ragland  
Marnell Reed  
Tom Schroeder  
John Terhardt  
Jon Tschachler  
Paula  
John L. Wirth

## Supporting Couples

Dan Austin & Bill Koehn  
Joe Boehlein & John Lauber  
S. Cox & Mr. Cox  
Claude Gagnon & Brad Yates  
Scott D. Gunkel & Jack E. Cramer  
Bill & Pat  
Connie Highsmith & Mary Rita Hurley  
David Holder & Kreg White  
Jean Johnson & Deb Wentz  
David Jones & Anthony Balistreri, Jr.  
Michael Karl & Tim Greene  
Sean & Tom  
Jason & Scott  
Lil Lau & Lori Sitzwohl  
Mary Messerlie & Margaret Flood  
Jim Nowlen & F.H.  
Barb Peterson & Sue Ochon  
Kevin-Richard Quader & George Litts  
Brigitte & Jamie Shelly & Lori  
A Loving Gay Couple  
Mark Street & Mike Phillips  
Ross Walker & Erv Uecker

## Supporting Organizations & Businesses

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Back Door BBS  
Ballgame  
Brady East STD Clinic  
Brandon Marsh  
C. A. Klein Accounting  
Caffe A Go-Go  
Chanticleer Guest House  
Chicago Pride  
Club 219  
Columbia Fun Maps  
Cream City Foundation  
Discovery/Recovery

Downer Liquor  
Federated Realty  
Financial Planning Services  
GAMMA  
Gargoyles  
Gay/Lesbian Community Center Trust Fund  
Handcrafted with Pride  
Havlicek & Associates  
Heiser Lincoln-Mercury  
In Between  
In Step Magazine  
Just Us  
Kathy's Nut Hut  
La Cage/Dance, Dance, Dance  
Landmark Enterprises  
Legal Aid Society of Wisconsin  
M&M Club  
Mach-7  
Mama Roux  
Manoeuvres  
Miller Brewery  
Milwaukee AIDS Project  
New Harvest Foundation  
Out of Solitude  
Park East Hotel  
Popular News  
Q-Voice  
Quest  
Renez CoZ Corner  
Sherman Park  
Rainbow Association  
Shepherd Express  
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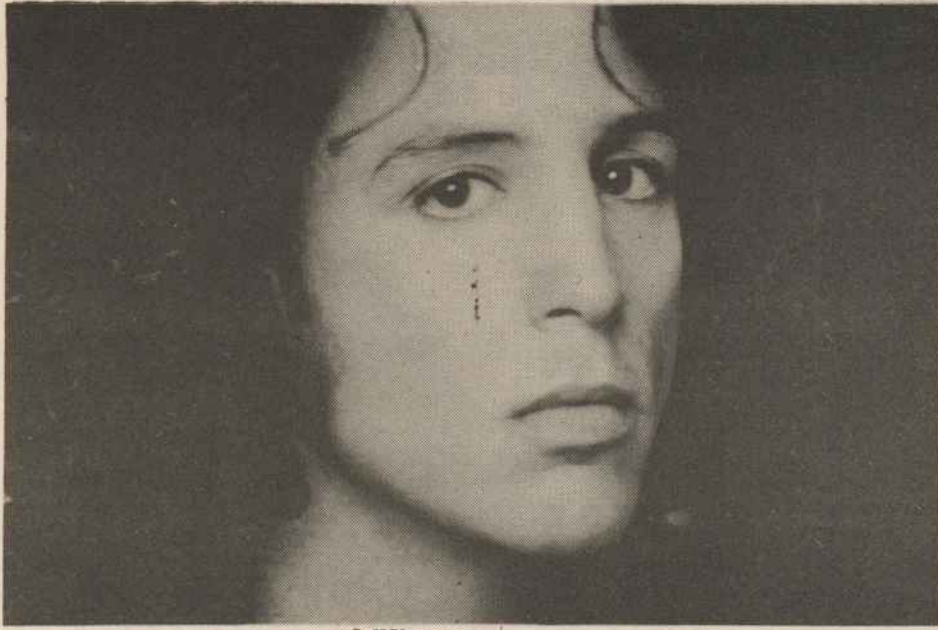
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Jeff Krassner

## Jeff Krassner, A Sincere Sizzler in the Music World to Perform at PrideFest

With his first album, "Strong for You," Jeff Krassner has impressed critics with his sincerity - and for the sizzle he put into a same-sex version of Dusty Springfield's "Son of a Preacher Man." Jeff will appear as part of the Saturday night Gayla on the Hess Stage.

"I wanted a cover song I could be real out on," Jeff said, "something where me using the original pronouns would be a little controversial." When he began his singing career in the early 1980s, Jeff wondered about coming out. He did, and decided, "if I'm honest and the work is good, people will respond."

He eventually became executive co-director of Outmusic, an organization that provides opportunities for up-and-coming Gay and Lesbian songwriters, musicians, and singers.

"If I'm strong enough to be out, maybe it will help someone else," he said. "I didn't have that when I was a kid."

He began his career as a featured performer at Catch-A-Rising-Star and The Improv, opening for Robin Williams, Rodney Dangerfield, and Jerry Seinfeld. In addition to the many clubs and industry showcases in which he's performed, Jeff has worked on five Grammy shows and pre-shows, and fronted for two bands.

Jeff has toured western Europe for a year in 1988-1989 in the 20th anniversary production of "Hair," eventually playing the lead role of Berger. He headlined an outdoor concert for the

participants in the Boston/New York AIDS Ride and sang for crowds at Pride events in Philadelphia, Boston, and New York. He rocked the crowd of 55,000 people with his original music at Yankee Stadium's closing ceremonies of Gay Games IV on a bill with Patti LaBelle and Cyndi Lauper.

In May, he performed in his home town of Philadelphia for its PrideFest '96. This July, Jeff will perform at the closing concert of the opening weekend for the 1996 Summer Olympic Games in Atlanta.

Meanwhile, his first album has won critical praise for its energy and depth.

"I sing it the way I feel it," Jeff said. "And I do have a real soulful white-boy voice. Black music has been a big influence on me. Even as a kid, it resonated for me. Maybe it's the freedom in it, the freedom within the oppression that I identified with. Music has been my refuge for as long as I can remember."

He said he wanted an album that would be true to himself at this point in his life. "I wasn't worried about what's charting right or not. If so, I would have given the album more of an alternative edge," he said. "I wanted more of a soulful, honest album, not R&B as it is now with a lot of techno and drum machines."

Except for "Son of a Preacher Man," Jeff wrote all the songs on "Strong for You." The songs vary from rock to soul to gospel to hot

## "Country Cousin", Jeff Miller, "The John Deere Diva" To Appear at PrideFest

One of the top national acts on the Gay country music scene, the Jeff Miller Show has been enjoyed in clubs, festivals, and rodeos in 43 states and 5 Canadian provinces. His high-energy, top 40 country show keeps the "John Deere Diva" in the road some 33,000 miles a year.

He will appear at PrideFest on the Harvey Milk Stage at 1:30 p.m. Sunday, June 9, to kick off an afternoon of country music.

Recently, Jeff performed as the country headliner for RSVP Cruises, hosted the International Mr. Leather Contest, and profiled in the monthly Gay video magazine, Network Q.

Dance drives his show with a solid mix of two-steps, line dances including the obscure but popular "Wild Wild West," waltzes, shuffles, swing, and even a polka—the "Condom Polka," sung to the tune of "Beer Barrel Polka": "Roll on a condom / Show who you're with that you care / Roll on a condom / Before my legs hit the air . . ."

Jeff adapts songs for his audiences. Sometimes it's flipped pronouns or other subtle changes. Other times it's a total rewrite, as with his most requested song, "Something in Black," a leather fantasy and a rewrite of "Something in Red." Jeff admits his version is "absolutely filthy," but it has made him a legend in the leather community and led to his invitations to host the Mr. Leather Contest and Pantheon. Jeff followed up that parody with a leather version of "Trashy Women."

Jeff's performance has been heavily influenced by dance. He learned ballet in rehab for a basketball injury. After discovering a fondness for dance, he switched his college major from marketing to musical theater. That background gives him "stage presence to spare," some say.

Speaking of basketball, Jeff won a gold medal in basketball at the 1986 Gay Games II with Team San Diego and performed his music at the 1990 Gay Games III.

This February, Jeff was called on to headline the Australian Line Dance Ltd. Harbour City Hoe Down at the Sydney, Australia, Mardi Gras festival. It was the first time that an American, Gay or Straight, was invited to appear.

Jeff has sung professionally for more than 15 years in everything from '50s groups to gospel quartets to Broadway touring companies. The hat is no act—Jeff has been competing on the Gay rodeo circuit for more than seven years.

Jeff Miller stands to be one of the first openly Gay country singers on a major label. Some call him a hunk with his emerald-green eyes and 6-foot, 6-inch frame. See what you think.

He writes from personal experience, and the title song, "Strong for You," is about "everyone living with HIV or AIDS, about anyone who feels it's not safe to say who they really are," Jeff said.

"Strength, I think that's what we need. I want to inspire people."

## The Irrepressible Romanovsky & Phillips Will be Flaunting It at PrideFest

By their own estimate, Paul Phillips and Ron Romanovsky have performed for more than 3 million people since their songs about the foibles of romance, politics and lifestyles first hit the stage in San Francisco in 1982.

They've played in more than 200 cities plus at two LesBiGay national marches in Washington and at more than 100 Gay Pride events. They'll also perform at the 1996 Wisconsin PrideFest on the Hess Stage Friday night.

The cabaret duo has sometimes been compared to the Smothers Brothers, although they insist the Smothers Brothers should be compared to them. Romanovsky and Phillips have sold more than 70,000 albums and won awards from a variety of groups, including the Christopher Street West Association and the American Society of Composers, Artists and Publishers.

Their most recent album, "Let's Flaunt It," ran into trouble getting produced because the lyrics of one song suggested that God must be a queen because parts of the world are just too well-decorated. Cover photos of Ron and Paul wearing nothing but well-placed musical instruments didn't help, either. They concluded that not everyone can take a joke.

Paul, at age 9, won first place in the New Jersey state baton twirling championship. He had made his stage debut as a singer at age 7, and in high school showed "great promise" as a cheerleader. As a teenager, he once cooked dinner for Ted Koppel.

Later, at Wheaton College in Illinois (Billy Graham's alma mater), Paul was barred from participation in the Men's Glee Club European tour because he wasn't "manly enough." In Bloomington, Indiana, he was thrown out of a bar for dancing with another man and filed the first U.S. test case to ever go to a hearing of a local human rights ordinance protecting Gays and Lesbians.

Ron describes his childhood in suburban Pittsburgh as miserable. He ran away from home, flunked gym class, and wrote novels to cope with harassment from homophobic classmates. As soon as he could, he moved to San Francisco, began writing songs, and met Paul in Golden Gate Park in 1981.

Ron is now an active member of the Friends of the Accordion and the Closet Accordion Players of America, and has combined accordion playing and rollerblading to create the sport "Squeeze-blading," something that might catch on at McKinley Park in Milwaukee.

Catch their show - and be prepared to laugh.



Romanovsky and Phillips

## Tracey Rose Finds Humor in the Ordinary

Sometimes Tracey Rose performs with maxipads stuck to her forehead, knees, shoulders, hips and feet - for good, practical reasons, as she can explain. She also can explain the humor in corkscrews. She can tell her coming-out story in rhyme.

She will bring her humor to PrideFest's Rainbow Cafe at 6 p.m. Saturday.

Tracey has also performed at the Michigan Womyn's Music Festival, National Womyn's Music Festival, Women's Comedy Conference, clubs, and college campuses. She won the USA Network College Comedy Tour in December, 1995.

She's also a graduate student in advertising, "something where a good sense of humor and good comedy writing skills can be very, very valuable," she said.

Being out, she said, hasn't caused her as much problems as her androgynous appearance. "People think I'm a guy, and that's where I really get a lot of negative reactions from people," she said. "I'm not going to change the way I look because some people can't handle ambiguity or uncertainty. Look at these breasts. Do they look like they belong to a man?"

## The Yell Leaders Bring a Unique Sound to PrideFest '96

When a Milwaukee band, The Yell Leaders, released a song three years ago called "I'm Troubled," critics called it "twisted and brooding," "quirky," and "heartbreaking." The song won a song of the year nomination from the Wisconsin Area Music Industry and the band earned a best new band nomination.

When The Yell Leaders released an album, "Thursday," critics became more confused by the range of songs: "a friendly, pensive sound that feels great as the weather gets warmer," said one reviewer. "The songs' intelligent lyrics express many different personal feelings that most of us can relate to very well."

The members of The Yell Leaders may be familiar to Milwaukeeans: Mary Schmid, vocals; Julie Straszewski, vocals; Bobby Tanzillo, drums; Brian Wooldridge, bass and vocals (yes, one of the Wooldridge brothers); and Joe Vent, guitar and vocals.

Band members also donated a song, "What Life Brings," to the Large Thumb Club's annual fundraising compact disc, which will benefit the Camp Heartland Project summer camp for children with HIV/AIDS.

The Yell Leaders will appear on the Hess Stage at 3:15 p.m. Saturday.

## Kathy Priestley to Bring to PrideFest the Heartstrings of Softly Melodic Song

In her performances around Wisconsin, Kathy Priestley has won praise for songs rich with the complexities of human experience, and for lighting up a stage. She has been compared to Mary-Chapin Carpenter for enlightening her listeners by a gentle pulling of their heart strings.

Kathy will sing at the Rainbow Cafe at 1:30 p.m. Sunday, June 9.

Her most recent album, "Salt of the Earth," includes three memorable cuts. "Our True Love" tells the story of two lovers who find their survival depends on facing their problems together. "Sweet Grama Rose" is Kathy's tribute to her grandmother, an influential force in her musical career. "I Believe," a song about survival, is dedicated to Kathy's late friend Andrea Reimer, who died after a long battle with breast cancer.

Her music as a cross-over of country, rock, and blues. Straight-from-the-heart lyrics and driving guitar complement her husky voice. Audiences sometimes find a piece of themselves hidden in her lyrics.

## Jason Stuart, Finds Humor in Just Being Truthfully Himself

"There's nothing funnier than the truth," said Jason Stuart, a comic who will appear in the Saturday night Gayla on the Hess Stage.

He came out in 1993 on the television show "Gerald," which proved to be smart career move. "Since coming out, my shows have been selling out," Jason said. "The more I tell the truth, the more successful I become."

Coming out was a smart move personally, of course. "It's very, very tiring, being in the closet," he said. He has taken his comedy performance, "I'm Out . . . Jealous?" to clubs around the country and to comedy shows across the television dial.

"The show is about me," he said. "I don't know what else it could be about. I could pretend to be Tom Cruise and do his life. It'd be a lot more interesting. But I can only talk about me."

Because Jason is an openly Gay comic, his shows have been picketed by conservative Christians carrying signs like "Fags Should Die!" in Kansas City, Tallahassee, and Walt Disney World, which scared him at first and shocked his own religious sensibilities. He has also received support he never would have gotten as a closeted Gay man.

He's performed at a lot of AIDS fundraisers, something he says he's proud to do. But he can joke, sardonically, at the toll the disease has taken on the Gay community. "We deserve something free. Like a car."

Jason is also pursuing an acting career. He has appeared in "seaQuest DSV," "The John Larroquette Show," "Murder, She Wrote," "Kindergarten Cop," and as the lead in "Gay TV: The Movie." He's also developing a sitcom pilot with Paragon Entertainment.



The Yell Leaders



## FrontRunners Milwaukee, Gay Running Club, Plans Special Run June 8 for Pride

Milwaukee — FrontRunners Milwaukee, new Gay running club, has announced plans for a special run commemorating PrideFest. On Saturday, June 8, starting at noon, members will begin their usual Saturday morning fun run from the Summerfest entrance of PrideFest. Upon returning, everyone will be heading into PrideFest to take in the sights and sounds (and replenish sorely-needed fluids).

Also throughout June, FrontRunners Milwaukee continues their Saturday morning tradition of an informal fun run starting at the base of the Water Tower (at the east end of North Avenue) promptly at 9:00 a.m. From there members take off for a 30-40 minute jog through Lake Park and the fashionable East Side. Immediately following, everyone heads off to a nearby eatery to chow down and socialize.

### For Information on PrideFest, Go Into Cyberspace

You can find PrideFest on the information superhighway. Computer users with modems can get information about PrideFest through the Internet or the Back Door BBS.

The Internet Home Page address is <<http://www.execpc.com/online/wipridefest.html>>.

The home page is linked to additional pages containing information about special events, stage schedules, performebios, and more.

The Internet E-mail address is: [pridefest@tbdmil.com](mailto:pridefest@tbdmil.com).

If you don't have access to the Internet, you can get much of the same information from the official PrideFest Bulletin Board on the Back Door BBS by calling (414) 744-9336.

After completing the log on procedure, go to the message section and press your \* key (the star above the 8 on the keyboard), and you can read all about PrideFest. Each message has a file attachment so you can download it and print it out for your own use.

While you are there, check out the 250-plus message boards, the matchmakers, live chat with other users, dozens of games, and plenty of downloadable files. PrideFest is deeply grateful to the Back Door BBS and computer consultant Stu Feider for making PrideFest's cyberspace sites possible.

Everyone from casual runners to marathoners are welcome at all events. Membership is informal and free. For further information, call Brian at (414) 332-1527 or John at (414) 285-7645, or send email to [blackjon@execpc.com](mailto:blackjon@execpc.com) or drop by the "java'd up" FrontRunners Milwaukee Web page at [www.execpc.com/~blackjon/frontrun.html](http://www.execpc.com/~blackjon/frontrun.html).

### Shop and Mingle at the PrideFest Marketplace

Approximately 70 different vendors, organizations, and artists have things to give you and things sell you in the PrideFest Marketplace, located at the Williamsburg Village of the Henry W. Maier Festival Grounds (Summerfest).

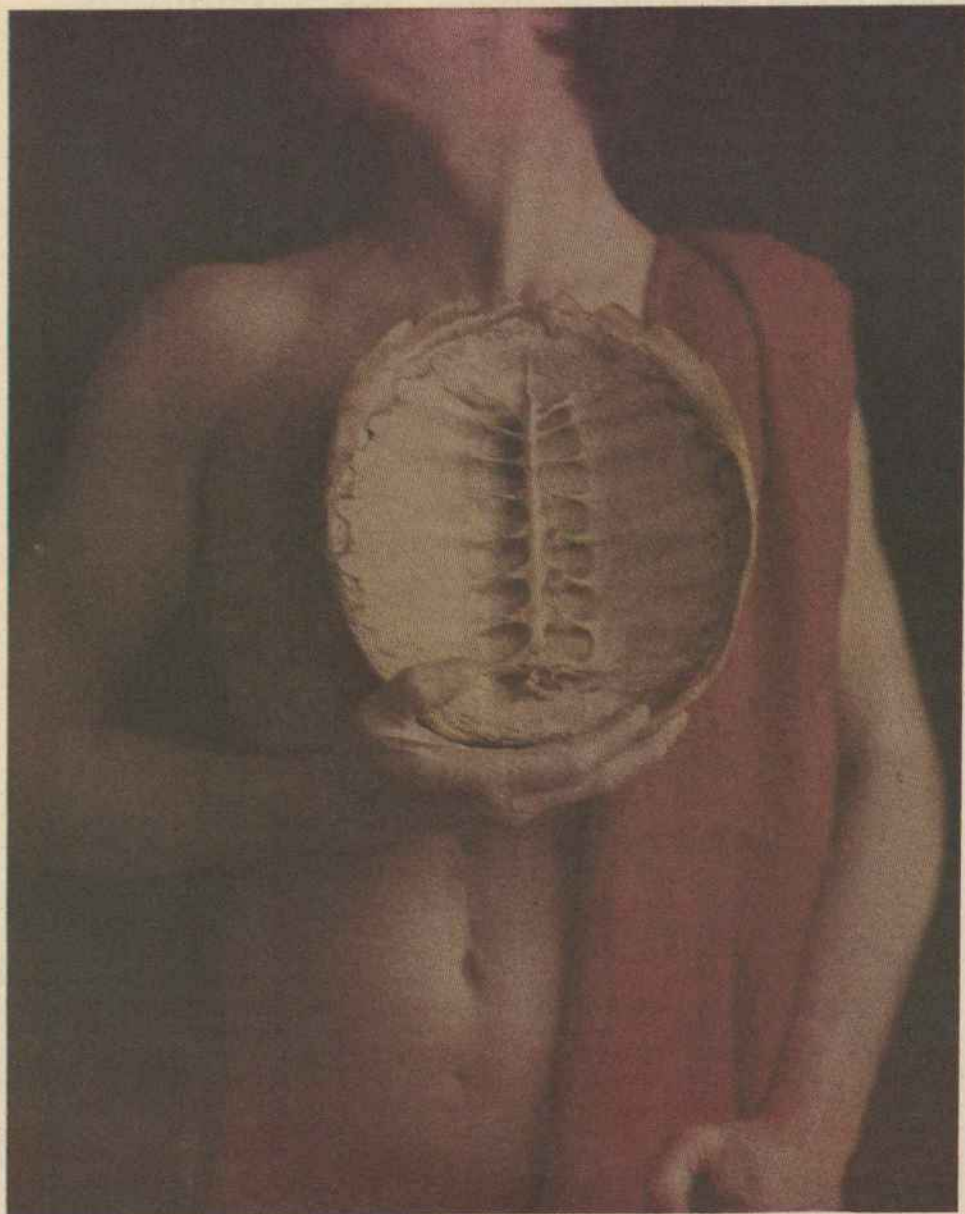
As last year, booths will include not-for-profit organizations handing out information or selling you witty bumper stickers and T-shirts. Business will also be giving away sales literature and selling you items of all types.

New this year, artists and craftspeople will be offering you their creations. A special booth rental rate will encourage artisans who might have limited budgets to bring their works to PrideFest.

Because PrideFest has moved to the Summerfest grounds, Marketplace booths will be much nicer this year. Volunteers and workers will enjoy paved ground under their feet instead of damp and lumpy grass, a sturdy roof over their heads in case of inclement weather (perish the thought!), and telephone or electrical hookup if needed.

The Marketplace will be open from 11 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. Saturday and 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Sunday.

**Advertise  
In  
Wisconsin Light  
[414] 372-2773**



Art For AIDS—Among the dozens of art objects that will be sold at the June 2nd Art For AIDS Auction is "Metamorphose" by Todd Greskoff.

## The Rainbow Flag Continues the Link Between Our Community and Color

Color has long been associated with Lesbians and Gays. In Victorian England, the color was green. Lavender became the color of choice for the Gay and Lesbian movement in the late 1960s.

A frequently heard chant in the early post-Stonewall Pride Parades was "Purple Power." The pink triangle, although first used by the Nazis to identify Gay men in concentration camps, became a popular symbol of liberation in the 1980s.

So it is natural that LesBiGays today have adopted a flag of many colors.

In 1978, Gilbert Baker of San Francisco made the first Rainbow Flag. Using a sports flag, "The Flag of the Race," as his model, Baker dyed and sewed the material himself.

The original Rainbow Flag had eight stripes. The colors were pink, red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo, and violet. According to Baker, those colors represented sexuality, life, healing, sun, nature, art and harmony.

Soon Baker was looking for someone to mass produce the flag. He approached the Paramount Flag Co. At that time, the color hot pink was not commercially available, so the flag was reduced to seven stripes.

In November 1978, San Francisco's Gay and

Lesbian community was devastated by the assassination of Harvey Milk, the city's first openly Gay public official. In response to this tragedy, the 1979 San Francisco Pride Committee decided to use the Rainbow Flag as a symbol to show their community's strength and unity.

The committee eliminated the indigo stripe so it could divide the colors evenly along its parade route, three colors on each side of the street. The six color version soon became popular, but its popularity was largely limited to San Francisco.

Then in 1989, the flag received national attention. John Stout sued his West Hollywood landlords when they prohibited him from flying the flag from his apartment balcony. Stout won, and the attention his suit garnered brought the Rainbow Flag to the forefront of Lesbian and Gay symbols.

Partly as a result of that suit, the International Congress of Flag Makers recognized the Rainbow Flag in 1989.

Today untold millions of rainbow bumper stickers, pins, shirts, and flags are displayed and worn by Gays and Lesbians throughout the country. Gilbert Baker's flag may have lost two of its stripes, but the idea remains the same.

The Rainbow Flag symbolizes our unity and our diversity. Whenever and wherever someone raises a rainbow flag for the first time, they are doing more than just displaying a flag. They are writing a new chapter in the proud history of the movement it represents.

### PrideFest to Host Wedding for Couples to Vow their Love

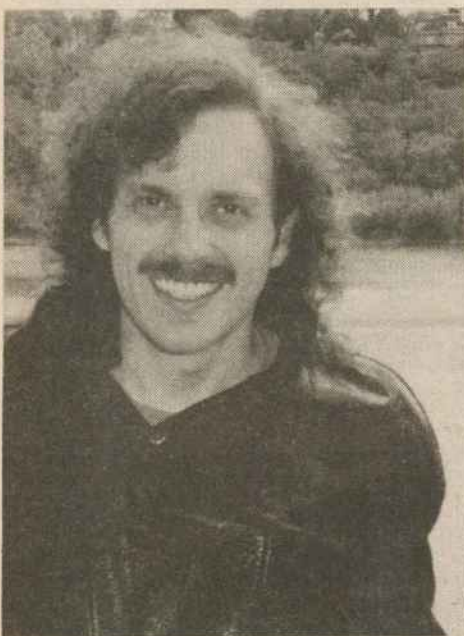
Marriages mean a lot, said the Rev. Lew Broyles, pastor of Milwaukee's Metropolitan Community Church. They mean a lot politically these days, but they are more than an imitation of Straight customs.

"They show we are sincere and genuine in our promises to one another and in our promises to the Divine," Broyles said.

This year as in previous years, PrideFest will host a wedding at 6:30 p.m. Sunday, June 9, at the Hess Stage. Last year, 77 couples made vows, in addition to couples renewing their vows.

Clergy from three denominations will officiate. A wedding cake similar in size but not design to last year's, which served 620 people generously, will be provided to participants and their wedding guests. Special music will again be performed.

To participate, couples must register for \$10 at the MCC/Wedding Booth in the Market Place, which will be marked with a banner reading "PrideFest Wedding Registration." Each couple will receive boutonnières, a certificate, and a wedding photo. They will also receive a copy of the vows for the ceremony.



James Faulkenberg

Faulkenberg: A Restrospective art display by the late artist, James Faulkenberg, continues on exhibit at the BestD Clinic, 1240 E. Brady St., in Milwaukee

# art for AIDS auction

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# THE SPOTLIGHT

America's Oldest Les/Bi/Gay Softball Tourney

## IT'S MILWAUKEE CLASSIC TIME AGAIN!



Milwaukee has always been a hotbed for Gay and Lesbian softball as shown in the above picture, which was taken during the Opening Ceremonies for the Gay World Series held there in 1979.

### For Sports Fans, Wick Field for The Milwaukee Classic is the Place to Be

By Bill Meunier

**Milwaukee**--Do you like watching athletic men in uniform? Do you enjoy the thrill of competition, cheering for the local team and cruising the crowd?

If the answer to either of these questions is yes, the Milwaukee Classic held on Saturday May 25<sup>th</sup> and Sunday May 26<sup>th</sup> is the place for you.

The Classic offers you a chance to cheer on your friends as they play in a nationally known LesBiGay sports event without having to pay for the privilege.

**23 Teams Expected**

The nationally famous tourney will again take place at Wick Field located at 50<sup>th</sup> and Vliet. The seven diamond complex will host seven Milwaukee LesBiGay softball teams that will be joined by 16 teams including those from Cincinnati, Chicago, St. Louis, New York, Toronto, and Minneapolis, all coming to participate in the annual softball tournament. Admission is free!

The Classic is known as one of America's premier Gay sporting events. The Classic began in 1978. Originally called the Wreck Room Classic after its sponsor, it was the first ever Les/Bi/Gay softball tournament.

Over the years, the tournament has seen many close early season battles between teams who would meet later at the Gay World Series. This year should be no exception. No matter what round it is, with six games going on simultaneously, the sports fan can always find an exciting contest (and or an exciting person) to watch.

**Tournament Schedule**

Teams will begin arriving on Friday May 24<sup>th</sup> at the headquarters hotel, the Downtown Hilton (formerly the Marc

Plaza). Registration and hospitality will be from 5:00 to 10:00 p.m.

The action on the field will begin at 9:00 a.m. on both Saturday and Sunday. All of the teams will play a two game seeding round Saturday. A double elimination tournament will begin on Saturday afternoon.

In the Double Elimination round teams will be divided into a B and a C division. This format guarantees that weather permitting, every team will play at least four games spread over the two day event.

It also allows teams that are more recreational in a nature, a good shot at taking home a trophy.

The final games of the tournament will be followed by a banquet at the Harbor Lights in the Miller Pavilion in O'Donnell Park on Milwaukee's lake front. Banquet tickets can be purchased at Wick Field.

**Getting There Is Easy**

Wick Field is easily accessible via the freeway. Take 1-94 to Hwy 41 North. Exit at the Vliet street ramp. Follow the signs to Vliet Street and head west.

Although the field has a small parking lot, its likely to be filled early so plan on parking on the streets surrounding the playing fields.

**Participating Teams**

Participating teams include: **Chicago:** Buck's Saloon, North End, Roscoe's Renegades, Charlies; **Cincinnati:** Kittens, The Comets; **Milwaukee:** Balistreri's, Ball Game Rangers, Club 219, In Between, M & M Club, The Triangle, Wreck Room; **Minneapolis/St. Paul:** The Bombers, Bottlehouse Storm, The Classics, Rumors, Spikes, Uncommon Ground; **New York:** Buddies; **St. Louis:** Shooters, Thunder.

## YOU'RE INVITED

**Sheepshead Tournament at the 1100 Club**

The 1100 Club is hosting the original Milwaukee Sheepshead tournament on Saturday May 25<sup>th</sup>. The five handed call an ace tourney begins with registration at 3:30. For more information call the 1100 Club at 647-9950.

**Old Timers Party at 3Bs**

3 B's is holding its annual Old Timer's party on Saturday May 25<sup>th</sup>. The all day event begins at 2:00 PM and continues to close at 2:30 AM.

"This is a reunion party. Its a great chance for people to see their old friends from the bars that don't exist anymore," said Bruce Lemke, co owner of 3 B's.

Food and snacks will be served throughout the day. There is no cover.

3 B's is located at 1579 S. 2nd St. For more information call 672-5580.

**Classic Cookout**

In Between is going all out to welcome those hunky athletes in town for the Milwaukee Classic.

Starting at 5:00, Saturday the 25, the bar will host a cook out on its patio. There will free brats and side dishes for anyone involved with the Classic in addition to a half price tap beer special.

On Sunday the 26<sup>th</sup>, the bar will have a "tailgate party" with carnival games and special activities.

**Miss Fox Valley**

On Sunday May 26<sup>th</sup> the Pivot Club will host the Miss Gay Fox Valley US of A Pageant. This is the seventh annual Pageant.

The festivities get underway around 9:00. The cover is just \$3.00. Contestants will be judged on talent, evening gown, personal interviews.

This is a preliminary for the Miss Wisconsin Gay US of A pageant which will be held at the Pivot in September. Anyone wishing more information should contact Ashley Morgan at the Pivot Club 1-(414) 730-0440.

**HIT Fundraiser**

The Holiday Invitational Tournament has scheduled a fund raiser aboard the Par -A - Dice Riverboat Casino in East Peoria Il for Saturday June 1st.

The one day cruise will includes round trip transportation by bus, a lunch buffet, and two cruise packages with snacks and beverages served on the return trip. Cost

of the event is \$40.00. For more information contact Jeff W at 332-9414 or Rick S. at 482-1964.

**Parties at Mama Roux's**

The weekend of June 1st and 2nd will be a busy one Mama Roux's. Following up on its recent wildly successful "Mud Wrestling contest", the bar is trying to help people reach their inner child with its first annual Mama Boy and Mama Girl contest on Saturday June 1st.

Co-Manager Joe St. Clair told The Spotlight "We are going to help people back up the years. Contestants will be judged on their ability to dress and act like the children they are. There will also be a talent competition."

Festivities get underway around 6:00. The contest is scheduled to start at 7:00. There is no entry fee, however, there are prizes. Snacks will be served but there is no cover. To pre-register contact Mama Roux's before May 31st at 347-0344.

On Sunday June 2nd, Mama Roux's is throwing a birthday bash for its Co-Managers Joe St. Clair and Patrick Huberty (Luvy) "We're not getting older they're getting whatever we can." say the birthday boys.

Despite The Spotlights pleadings, they wouldn't tell us how old they're going to be, but as the day goes on, perhaps they can be persuaded to reveal their true ages.

All Joe would say is "As the lights get dimmer we get younger."

In honor of the occasion, Mama Roux's will be offering free beer and food from 4:00 to 6:00. Everyone is welcome. Birthday spankings are definitely encouraged.

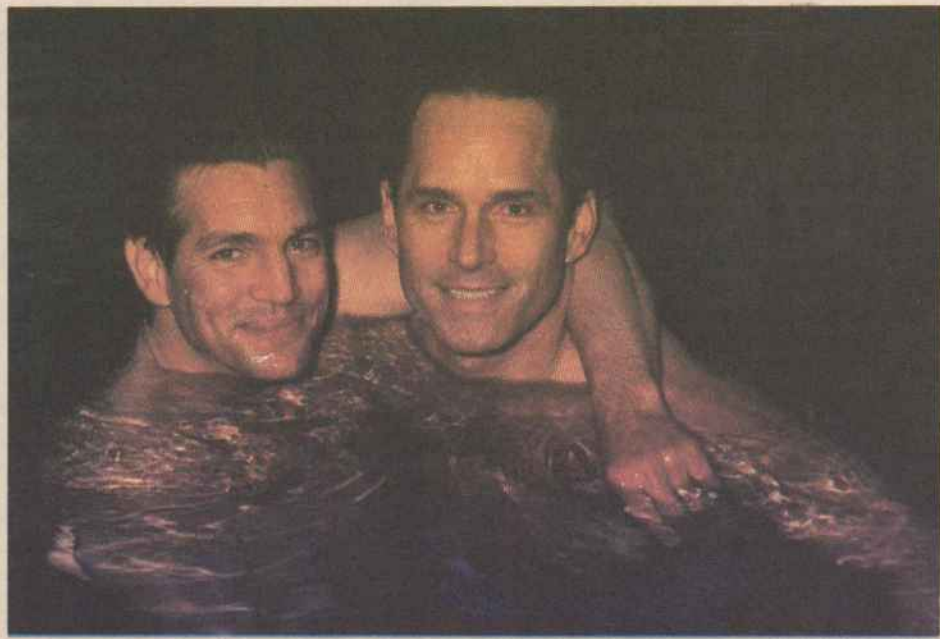
Mama Roux's is located at 1875 N. Humboldt.

**Double Feature in Green Bay**

Green Bay's Positive Voice is sponsoring a double feature with The Celluloid Closet & Jeffrey will be shown on Saturday June 1st. Dinner (BYOB & a dish to pass) is at 5:30 and show time is at 7:00. This fun evening will take place at Bill & Jerry's 2016 Fem, Green Bay, WI. Call (414)468-3259 for more information.

**Rainbow Over Wisconsin**

Rainbow Over Wisconsin will host a reception beginning at 7:00 at Sass 840 S. Broadway in Green Bay on Monday



It's My Party--Eric Roberts and Greg Harrison star in the film that is now playing at the Orpheum Theatre in Madison and the Downer in Milwaukee.

June 3rd. The event will feature food, juice and soda.

**Parties at In Between**

In the week leading up to PrideFest In Between is focusing on the diversity of the LesBiGay community. Each night will focus on a different group within that community with drink specials and other activities.

Sunday June 2nd begins "Celebrate The Diversity of Pride Week" with a special night for female impersonators.

Monday June 3rd is "Levi Leather Pride Night" Tuesday June 4th is "Old Gold Pride Night." for older members of the community. On Wednesday June 5th In Between welcomes couples.

Thursday June 6th is "Lesbian Night."

Friday June 7th is "Party After PrideFest night" anyone with college id gets a drink special.

**PHANTOM OF THE OPERA** Production stage manager and de-clawed extremely friendly cat seek furnished housing (apartment/condo/house cabin... whatever) during run of show in Milwaukee from July 14 thru August 24. I have a car so I don't mind living outside of the City, especially in a quaint secluded area near natural beauty. Voice mail/pager: 1-800-990-5118

# OUT on Film



## 'It's My Party' Is a Difficult Film to See, But One that Should be On Your List

Reviewed by Glenn Bishop

Cinematic representations of AIDS have long been, shall we say, problematic. At least for Gay men and Lesbians. With typical Hollywood morality, PWAs are invariably portrayed as innocent victims of a virus which they most certainly did not deserve, that is to say "heterosexual."

The faces of AIDS, once sinisterly referred to as "the Gay cancer", for mainstream America are, for the most part, small children, pregnant women and the like, is not an irony missed by Glenn.

When in those rare occasions Gay men are depicted as protagonists in AIDS (melo)dramas, the results have ranged from idealized (*Longtime Companion*) to the sanitized (*Philadelphia*).

Randal Kleiser's recent *It's My Party* boasts the best of intentions in seeking to place AIDS within a Gay sensibility and, refreshingly enough, with an intended Gay audience. Unfortunately, as Glenn knows all too well, even the best of intentions in this world are rarely enough.

Best of intentions notwithstanding, moviegoers are likely to find *It's My Party* a strained, difficult affair.

The affair in question is a farewell party for Nick (Eric Roberts). Nick, a Los Angeles architect, has been fending off AIDS-related illnesses. Time and circumstance do indeed catch up with Nick: he has untreatable brain lesions and is likely to, in the matter of a few short days, degenerate into a state similar to that of a root vegetable. Before bidding this oh-so mortal world

adieu, Nick wants to go out with a bang.

With the able assistance of loyal friends Charlene (Margaret Cho) and Tony (Paul Regina), Nick impulsively, chaotically plans a farewell soiree and swansong.

Over the course of not one, but two agonizing days, the many and varied disparate friends and family members of Nick group together. To laugh. To cry. To fight. To love. To see if Nick and ex-lover Brandon (Gregory Harrison) will get together before it's too late.

Brandon was the love of Nick's life. They had seemed, to one and all, to be living a fairy tale existence.

Here are two attractive, successful Gay men who were in a long-term loving relationship. A fairy tale perhaps until the arrival of the AIDS.

Cut to reality: Brandon finds himself unable to handle Nick's illness and the two go through a bitter break up. Nick is literally kicked out of the home he himself designed.

Cut to the present. The Party. All seems to be going well. At least as well as such a ghoulish affair is like to go. Guests are clearly uncomfortable. Only Nick seems to be enjoying himself but it is his party after all. (Does Glenn dare mention that Nick is the most attractive man present.)

Against his wishes, Charlene has invited Brandon to the party. With Brandon's arrival, a dark cloud descends upon this otherwise charmed event.

Other guests, Nick's better and truer

TURN TO PARTY, PAGE 28

## 'When Night Is Falling' Is a Pleasant Little Film, Even If Somewhat Flawed

Reviewed by Cynthia Van Vreede

Running away to join the circus was never so appealing as in *When Night Is Falling*, a new film by write/director Patricia Rozema. Rozema's known for her other lesbo-friendly film *I Heard the Mermaids Singing*.

In *When Night Is Falling* we meet Camille (Pascale Bussieres), a theology professor at a small religious college somewhere in Canada. She's engaged to a fellow professor, Martin (Henry Czerny). They are urged to marry and become co-chaplains of the college by the Rev. De-Boer (David Fox).

When her dog dies suddenly, Camille finds herself crying in the laundromat where she meets Petra (Rachel Crawford).

Petra is a circus performer in a poor-man's Cirque du Soleil-ish, the Kircus of Sorts. Petra flirts with Camille, who would rather be friends. "Like Thelma and Louise, without the guns," says Camille. The two do become friends, and much more.

Hounded by creditors, the circus must leave town, and Petra will have to leave, too. Camille, who still feels affection for Martin, must make a choice between the

woman she wants and the man she once loved.

The nice thing about *When Night Is Falling* is that the characters are attractive and complicated people. Martin is not a lout, someone easy to leave. He's a very sympathetic person, yet not a victim.

The element of religion brings another dimension to the film, and adds another layer to Camille. Rozema's direction was at times, clever. A particularly nice touch was a scene in which Camille and Martin are in the office talking while Petra can be seen frolicking through the window. The sex scenes are hot and steamy.

On the down side; do we need another film where the characters are so opposite? Camille is richer, whiter, and older than Petra. Do we really need another lesbo flick in which the Lesbian "seduces" the sorta straight woman?

And why must Lesbian films be shot with dramatic symbolism? It gives an otherwise good film a rather Film School 101 look.

On the whole, *When Night Is Falling* rates 3 and a half out of 5 ju-ju-bees. And if you go see the film, make sure you sit through the credits.



When Night Is Falling—Camille (Pascale Bussieres), and Petra (Rachel Crawford) star in the film directed by Patricia Rozema that is now playing at Milwaukee's Downer theatre.

## 'Horseman on the Roof' is a Delight for the Eye and a Feast for the Mind

Reviewed by Glenn Bishop

Occasionally Glenn goes to the cinema, with no Gay political agenda clutched desperately in his clammy little fist. Rather, Glenn can be seen balancing a "family-sized" popcorn and a "biggie" Diet Pepsi. Only entertainment is on Glenn's mind.

The enjoyment is amplified by the guilty pleasures offered by the opportunity to see a movie for free on a damp and drizzly afternoon while playing hooky from work. No review deadline looms on Glenn's immediate horizon.

Treading amidst the treacherous terrain of Gay films seeking to sneak into to multiplexes far and wide dominated by big summer blockbusters, Glenn happens upon a film every so often that demands an audience by virtue of its sheer cinematic joy. *Horseman on the Roof* is such a film.

Director Jean-Paul Rappeneau has turned to Jean Giono's literary masterpiece, *Horseman on the Roof* to create his splendidly romantic tale of courage and gallantry, of honor and betrayal, of love and of death.

Far away removed from the pessimism of our so cynical age, Rappeneau transports us back to a picaresque era, a dangerous time filled with violence and disease yet where real value is placed on such simple virtues as honesty and integrity.

The year is 1832. Following the fall of Napoleon, the vast and omnipotent Austrian Empire controls much of the continent. In Italy, a brave band of freedom fighters, the Carbonari continued the fight for the freedom of their homeland from exile in France.

Angelo Pardi (Olivier Martinez) is such a Carbonari. Set against a carnival celebrations taking place through the streets of Aix-en-Provence, Austrian spies are soon on his heels, causing Angelo to flee

his home.

Equal measure of circumstance and fate delivers Angelo to Manosque, a city experiencing the full devastation of a cholera epidemic. Hysterical citizens denounce Angelo as a poisoner of their water supply.

Again, Angelo is forced to flee. Angelo seeking and ultimately finds refuge on the city's rooftops. There, unseen, Angelo can gaze upon the madness that has enveloped the city.

Under the cover of nightfall, Angelo quietly drops into the attic of a seemingly deserted building. Despite his stealth, Angelo is discovered by the beautiful, if curiously unflappable Pauline de Theus (Juliette Binoche).

Thus begins an extraordinary journey as Angelo and Pauline transverse the magnificent French countryside, death and destruction surrounding them at every turn. Together they will battle the epidemic, a crazed populace, and their own increasingly impassioned emotions.

Here is indeed a simple story. Rappeneau presents in Pauline a beautiful and virtuous heroine. Angelo is truly a protagonist of heroic proportions: fearless, courageous yet honorable.

Blazing with wealth of glorious passions, *Horseman* is set thrillingly against the exciting backdrop of a European continent facing great political and sociological upheavals.

With extraordinary performances from both Martinez and Binoche, a lush musical score by Jean-Claude Petit and a glorious tapestry of the beautiful French countryside, *Horseman on the Roof* is a feast for the eye and for the mind. Most highly recommended!

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

*Horseman on the Roof* open May 31 at Milwaukee's Oriental Theatre

A NEW FILM BY PATRICIA ROZEMA  
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SENSATIONALLY DIRECTED."  
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## 'Mission Impossible' Is Bland Film that Doesn't Live Up to the Name

Reviewed by Glenn Bishop

For a summer blockbuster to emerge as THE SUMMER BLOCKBUSTER, a director must, as if some sort of mediaeval alchemist, spin gold from often the most mundane of ingredients.

Glenn imagines that most everyone will agree that such cinematic ventures require action, lots of action. There should be some spiffy special effects thrown in. And don't forget a star.

Probably someone in the 15 to 20 million dollar category. Still, while the prerequisite ingredients may be no secret, the formula, more often than not, inevitably proves elusive.

Enter **Mission Impossible**. As a mere youth, Glenn has fond memories of the original 60's television series. Glenn would plead, beseech, beg, implore and generally make such a scene that Glenn's parents would inevitably acquiesce and grudgingly allow him to stay up well past his normal bedtime to watch Jim Phelps and company set forth on their latest adventure.

Just how would Cruise and DePalma bring to life this 60's classic was paramount in their minds as Glenn and dear friend Kiki attended the highly secret and somewhat clandestine press screening last evening.

On paper **Mission Impossible** looks like a sure thing. Tom Cruise is a star of the highest magnitude in Hollywood (despite those pesky rumors that he is Gay). The success on the big screen of such disparate 60's TV shows as *Batman* and *The Brady Bunch* have proved nostalgia a potent ingredient. Throw in plenty of Hi-Tech gimmickry plus some nifty special effects and there you have it. A SUMMER BLOCKBUSTER.

Or then again, maybe not.

Following a promising opening sequence, complete with that absolutely marvelous "Mission Impossible"-theme by Lalo Schifrin and the obligatory "Your mission, Jim, should you choose to accept it...".

Cruise and company radically depart from the formula that proved such a success with in the long-running series.

Jim Phelps is back, not played by the suave, if wooden Peter Graves but instead by a puffy, haggard-looking Jon Voight. The rest of Mr. Phelps crack-team will be new to 90's audiences with Tom Cruise ably filling the role as the group's hotshot maverick, Ethan Hunt and a delightful, unbilled cameo by that former stud puppy, Emilio Estevez.

TV audiences in the 60's always knew, deep down, that Graves, Greg Morris, Barbara Bain and Martin Landau, despite whatever adversities thrown their way, would ultimately emerge triumphant. Then again, the 1960's were perhaps a more innocent time, when Americans still felt that the United States ruled the world and our spies could do no wrong.

Not so in the cynical 90's. Within moments of the opening credits, Phelps' mission goes wrong, very, very wrong and all on the team save Hunt and Phelps' wife Claire (Emmanuelle Beart) are systematically butchered.

Hunt is "disavowed" and the rest of the film pits him against spies, both ours and theirs (whoever "theirs" are).

Glenn won't spoil the plot for loyal readers of the *Wisconsin Light*. Cruise, DePalma and screenwriter David Koepp (*Jurassic Park*) keep the audience guessing (but conveniently add in scenes where characters re-cap what's been going on, in case anyone is confused).

Vanessa Redgrave has a few winning moments, looking for all the world like a James Bond villainess (and probably wishing she was). Tom Cruise's pumped up biceps are likewise impressive.

**Mission Impossible** is sure to earn oddles of dollars. But when the last of the popcorn is munched and the last of the soda is slurped, **Mission Impossible** proves disappointing.

Forget seeing any cameos of the original team. In fact this mission foregoes all of the delightfully cheesy 60's camp that made the series so memorable. Rather, this is a bland mission, a mission without humor and without romance.

Peter Graves, where are you?

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



Japanese animation brings the characters to life in "The Ghost and the Shell" which opens May 24<sup>th</sup> at Milwaukee's Oriental theatre.

# Curtain Calls

## "Et Toi, Tu Danse?" Presents Gala at Milwaukee's Pabst Theatre

**Milwaukee**—Milwaukee's chamber ballet company, Et toi, tu dances? Presents **Gala at the Pabst** on June 1, 8:00 p.m. at the Pabst Theater. Featured are international artists from the Leipzig and Paris Opera Ballet Companies, a world premiere by New York choreographer Mark Dendy, the Milwaukee premiere of Paquita Divertissement, and Yves de Bouteiller's **Vivaldi Concerto**. Tickets are \$10 - \$27.

Et toi, tu dances? Presents a diverse program that reflects the company's multi-faceted approach. The classical repertoire also includes the pas de deux from *Diana and Actaeon* danced by Yves de Bouteiller and Robin VanValin.

In addition, **Rituals**, a new work created especially for the company by national award-winning choreographer Mark Dendy premieres. Mr. Dendy has won awards which include the National Society of Arts and Letters and an Emmy Award in a PBS series. Two works by Yves de Bouteiller, **Vivaldi Concerto for Two violins and 8 Dancers** and **Buscandote**, which debuted at the company's premiere performance in 1992, complete the contemporary selections.

For tickets call the Pabst Theater Box Office at (414) 286-3663. Group discounts available by calling (414) 964-6700. ▽

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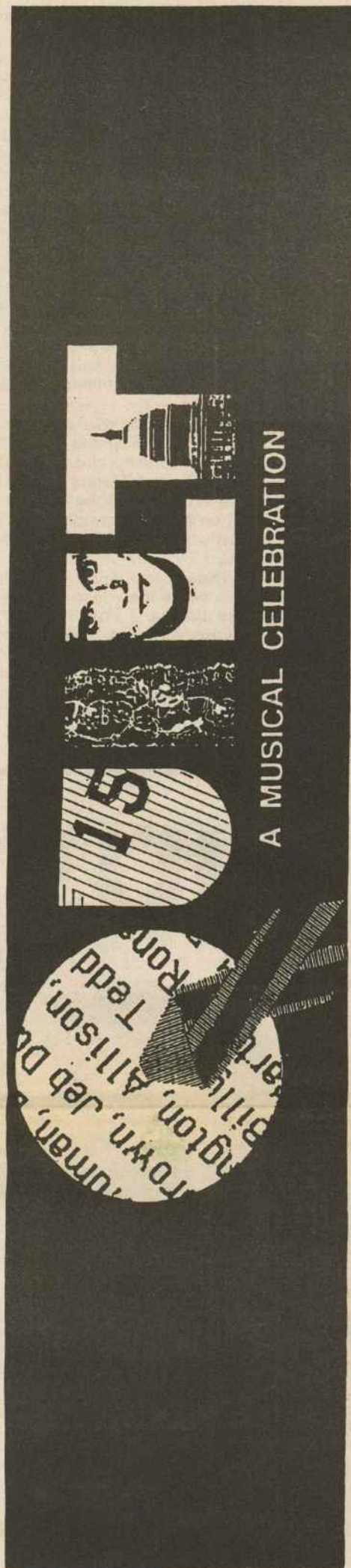
Lyrics by Jim Morgan

Music by Michael Stockler

Book by Jim Morgan, Merle Hubbard  
& John Schak

Featuring: David Flores & Kathleen Matts

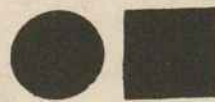
Directed by Don Hoffman



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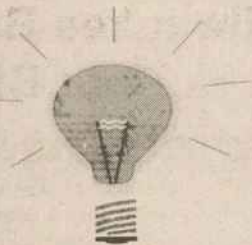


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# The Night Light



## The Night Light

### It's Summer and LesBiGay Wisconsin Is Sizzling With All Kinds of Fun

By Dusty Sass

Me and my dear, dear friend Dr. Susie Shovelit are going to be extremely busy the next few weeks. After all if there was ever a time to be Queer in Milwaukee, its this time of the year.

Between all those hunky, butch athletes coming in for the Milwaukee Classic, (fresh meat yum!) and the wonderful offerings of PrideFest, there is so much going on that it will be hard to keep it all straight. Not that I would try to do that. I left that scene long ago, but I digress.

Things get hopping on Friday the 24<sup>th</sup>. Susie and I will be at **The M&M Club** to exchange notes, and cruising reports and to enjoy their fabulous fish fry in the **Glass Menagerie**.

(For those of you not familiar with Milwaukee, the **Glass Menagerie** is attached to the **M&M Club**. It takes its name from the fact that is a glassed-in enclosure, offering an outdoor patio effect. Folks agree that there is nothing, absolutely nothing, more romantic or soothing than to have one of their delicious meals, while the rain or snow falls on the panes over head.)

Susie just loves their creamy cole slaw. Of course Susie loves just about anything that's creamy. Yes we know that other bars have fish fries too so please save the cards and letters. We do go to all of them, but this week is **M&M's** turn.

From there we're going to flit over to the Downtown Hotel Hilton so I can register as a player in the **Classic**. Yes, I can put away the pumps and put on the cleats. And before you make any nasty remarks, keep in mind that I have a big bat and I know how to use it.

The **Classic's** opening night reception provides the perfect opportunity to scope out all those out of town men er ummm I mean check out the competition I'll be seeing on the field.

On **Saturday the 25th** I'll be at Wick field for the **Milwaukee Classic**. I'll be doing my best to go for the gusto, and experience the thrill can only come from dominating another team. I will probably get to play some softball too!

In between games I'll practice my summer cruising mode. There will be plenty to practice on.

Unfortunately, my heroics on the softball field will prevent me from entering the **1100 Club's** Sheepshead tourney. It's too bad, because I love the game and **1100 Club** sheepshead parties are always a fun time. Registration is at 3:30.

After a hard day on the diamonds, I'll check out **In Between's** Classic party. Free brats (make mine large please) and other goodies for **Classic** players, umps and volunteers.

At some point, I have to get down to **3 B's** for its Old Timers Reunion. This is an annual party to relive the glory days of bars that are no longer with us.

Having stuffed myself, I will simply have to do something to work off the extra pounds. So it will be off to **Just Us** for its Saturday Country Western and Line dancing session.

Hey I know how to draw the line, I just don't do it very often. The weekly country dancing jam starts at 7:00 and goes to 10:00. Its followed by a DJ playing your favorite disco tunes.

But Dusty can't stay in one place too long (makes too good of a target) So it will be off to **Club 219** where Kim will be playing some of my favorite songs from the golden age of disco.

I should leave early to save my strength (such as it will be) for the games on **Sunday the 26<sup>th</sup>**. Its not that I really like the idea of playing softball on Sunday morning after a hard night of partying, but anything (well almost anything) for the team.

After the tourney (and a shower, clothes change etc.) is the fabulous **Classic Banquet** held this year at the Downtown Hilton. (tres posh).

I'll be too busy accepting my Most Valuable Player award at the banquet to make the Miss Gay Fox Valley US of A pageant at Appleton's **Pivot Club**, but I do wish I had the time to be there. Ashley Morgan and the staff at the **Pivot** al-

ways put on a great show.

I will have to settle for going off to the bars to celebrate with the winners and commiserate with the losers. Susie and I will start off at the **Triangle**. The staff there headed by Bill Wardlow gives great service. And they are pretty good bartenders too.

Then it will be off to **This Is It**. The place is certain to be crowded with holiday revelers and owner Joe Brehm and his staff do a great job. I can tell you honestly and this is the truth, go in to **This Is It** once and they will not only know you by name, but what you like to drink.

After a major weekend like this it will be restful to sit back and enjoy Memorial day. But we can't sit on our laurels (or our duff) for too long. On Wednesday I am going to check out the Open Volleyball at **Geraldine's** in Mad Town.

Then on Thursday it will be time to re-

charge the batteries for another big weekend.

On **Saturday June 2<sup>nd</sup>** I'll be hopping aboard the **Riverboat Casino** in East Peoria Ill for a HIT fund raiser.

Also on **Saturday June 2<sup>nd</sup>**, I'll be taking in another one of those wild, outrageous parties they like to throw at **Mama Roux's**. This time its their first annual **Mama Boy, Mama Girl** contest. It starts at about 6:00 and it should be a real hoot.

On **Sunday the 2<sup>nd</sup>**, I start off with the **Art Auction for AIDS**. Held at the Italian Community Center the auction starts at 10:00 am with a viewing and a brunch. I've got my eye on several works of art that will be on display there. I might buy some paintings too. Admission is \$25.00 and well worth it.

After the auction it will be back to **Mama Roux's** for their big birthday bash held in honor of Co-Managers, Joe St. Clair and Pat Huberty. From 4:00 to 6:00 there will be food and free beer. I hear that **Mama Roux** herself might show up to administer a proper (and well deserved) birthday spanking.

Then it will be off to **In Between** for the start of its "Celebrate The Diversity of Pride Week." There will be special activities and drinks for members of different segments of the community throughout the week.

For example, Sunday night is in honor of Female Impersonators, Monday is Levi Leather Pride Night, Tuesday is Old Gold Pride Night, Wednesday is Couples Night, Thursday is Lesbian Night and Friday is Party-After-the-Fest night with specials for those who can show a current college id. What a great way to get to know others in the community!

**Thursday June 6th** is **Wisconsin Light** distribution night. So hop out to your favorite place to get the latest updates and my next column. (Assuming I have the time to write another one)

I plan on spending my spare time (like I'll have any) working my modem like crazy dialing 744-6003. That's the **Back Door BBS**. I want to be their 250,000th caller so I can win that great prize package. By the way there is not one shred of truth to the rumor that I made 100,000 of those calls myself trying to catch that blond hunk in chat. But I digress.

**Friday June 7<sup>th</sup>** is the big kick off night for the biggest event of the year, **PrideFest '96**. The fabulous Romanovsky and Phillips take the stage along with the talented **Singsational** and the hot Lesbian disco group **Pulsations**.

**Saturday June 8<sup>th</sup>**, the Fest gets into full swing with six stages, nationally known authors, fireworks and so much more.

**Sunday June 9<sup>th</sup>** is the annual pride parade. (I know what you're thinking but even after eating all that great **PrideFest** food, I will not enter the parade as a float.) Don't miss the fun that will be going on all day, especially the **BJ Daniels Revue** which will once again close the fest.

Whew, I told you it was going to be a busy two weeks. And to think summer is just starting. Time to hit the exercise machine (The last time I did that my hand hurt for weeks). Catch ya at the **Classic** and at **PrideFest**. In the meantime play safe and be proud.

**JUST ▼ US** opens Mon-Fri at 4pm featuring a  
2-4-1 Cocktail Hour, 4-8pm • Open Sundays at 1pm  
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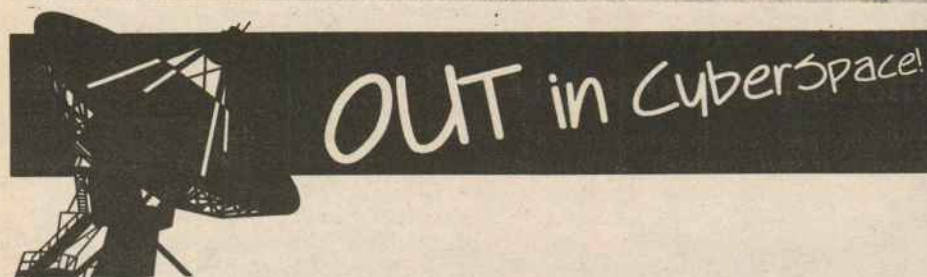
- ▼ Shoreline Country Dance Group
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## Everything You Need to Know—and Then Some—to Serf the Internet

By Steele

Hello, it's the '90's. If you don't have a computer, now is the time to get one, upgrade or dust off your Pentium. In this and future columns I will take you through what you need and what's available in cyberspace.

Cruising cyberspace, you can bump into everyone from military analysts and academics to computer geeks, hyperactive technopunks, and outdoor enthusiasts seeking the latest ski report, not to mention software company spies charting their competitors' latest moves, but before we can get on-line let's check your hardware. You do this by logging onto the Internet.

We're not going to assume that you understand even one piece of Internet jargon or can define the latest cyberbuzzword. Instead, we'd like to walk you through, step by step, everything you need to know to get plugged in, logged on, and up to speed on the information superhighway. Even if you're already on-line, you'll still find plenty of interest in this special, in-depth section.

Most PCs on sale today can handle anything the Internet throws their way with a little help. Here's a rundown of what you'll need for optimal access.

### What You Need

**Computer**—Should be at least a 486/50 megahertz or faster. Most Internet applications run under Windows, so fast Windows performance is a must. It should at least eight megabytes of memory but some programs will use more if you can allocate it.

**Modem**—14.4 modems, are pretty much the baseline standard. However, a 28.8 is worth the extra money. You'll get significantly faster Internet cruising and speedier downloading of graphics.

**Video Card**—Because data can come in only so fast, nearly any card is adequate. If your card handles graphic images well, it'll be fine for most of the stuff you download. However, a Windows-accelerated video card will speed up everything you do if you're in Windows.

**Hard Drive**—Since you'll be downloading all sorts of goodies, you'll probably want at least a 500 MB hard drive. If you don't have that much space, you can either use disk compression software (available at most computer stores) or buy a new hard drive. Although the latter suggestion may sound expensive, hard-drive memory upgrades are actually quite affordable, around 50 cents megabyte.

**Sound Card**—Nearly all Internet programs and many files have sound effects. You need a sound card to be able to hear them. Any 16- or 32-bit sound card with Windows drivers should be just fine. Buy one based on how it sounds to you and how well it fits your budget.

**Monitor**—A 15-inch monitor is certainly sufficient, but you'll save yourself a lot of eye strain with a 17-inch monitor. Don't even think about anything smaller, you'd be amazed at how tiny a 14-inch monitor seems when you're looking at graphics.

**Speakers**—You can spend anywhere from \$25 to more than \$300 on speakers for your PC. As with the sound card, your choice depends on budget and the level of sound quality you want. You could run your PC straight into a stereo, if one happens to be nearby.

**Software and Utilities**—Make sure you

have the latest drivers for your video and audio cards. For playback of video clips, you'll want Video for Windows, Quicktime for Windows, and the Indeo Video drive.

This description of needed hardware is based on the assumption that you will want to access the Internet. This hardware will also apply to nearly all other uses, but keep in mind that your situation may be different.

When you buy or upgrade a computer, you should always be aware of what you are going to use it for.

Don't be afraid to ask lots of questions. Make sure the salesperson or consultant knows exactly what you intending to do with your new cyberspace machine. That way you can be sure that you're not paying for options you don't need and won't use and that you aren't getting something that won't do what you want it to do.

If you have questions please contact me via Snail Mail to Wisconsin Light attn.: News from CyberSpace or E-mail me at [online@execpc.com](mailto:online@execpc.com).

## Milwaukee-Based and Nationally Known Back Door BBS, Approaches Milestone

**Milwaukee**—The Back Door BBS, is nearing a milestone, its 250,000<sup>th</sup> call. The Gay owned, Milwaukee Computer Bulletin Board is only 4 years old.

"We are really overwhelmed by the response we have gotten" said Co-sysop Paul Parkinson. Parkinson and his lover of 9 years, Will, own and operate the Back Door.

This is not the first milestone achieved by the Back Door. The Board received national recognition when it was named one of the top 75 Adult BBS's in the country by **Erotic Connections**.

Over 3,000 LesBiGay and straight subscribers, use the Back Door's 17 lines. The BBS boasts over 250 national and local message bases, dozens of games, thousands of files, three match-makers and more. Those interested in the Internet will be happy to know that the Back Door has e-mail capability.

"One of the big advantages of the Back Door is that it is local," said one user. "You can chat with people who you actually have a chance to meet. Another big advantage is that it's easy to use system. The Back Door is definitely user friendly."

So what does the 250,000 caller get? Well, if he or she is a subscriber they will win a prize package including a stay at the posh Milwaukee Hotel Hilton and \$250 cash.

If the lucky caller is not a subscriber, the first subscriber calling in after the magic number has been reached will be declared the winner.



Paul Parkinson

The month of June could be the best time to subscribe. In honor of their impending milestone, the Back Door is offering a one year subscription for only \$45.00. That includes unlimited on-line time and 8 megs of down-loading.

To check out the Back Door use your modem and dial (414) 744-9336. The Back Door offers free access to nearly all of its many features for 90 minutes a day for three days after you are verified, so you don't have to subscribe to check it out.

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### AfterWords

#### New Book List

##### Lesbian Non-Fiction

**The Girls Next Door** by Lindsay van Gelder & Pamela Brandt Simon & Schuster HC \$23.00

##### Gay Non-Fiction

**Beyond Queer**, edited by Bruce Bawer Free Press HC \$25.00

##### Lesbian Fiction

**Seeing Dell** by Carol Guess Cleis Press Pb \$12.95

##### Gay Non-Fiction

**Like People in History** by Felice Picano Plume Pb \$12.95

# Out of a Cold Night in February, Came a Softball Tourney that Blooms and Grows

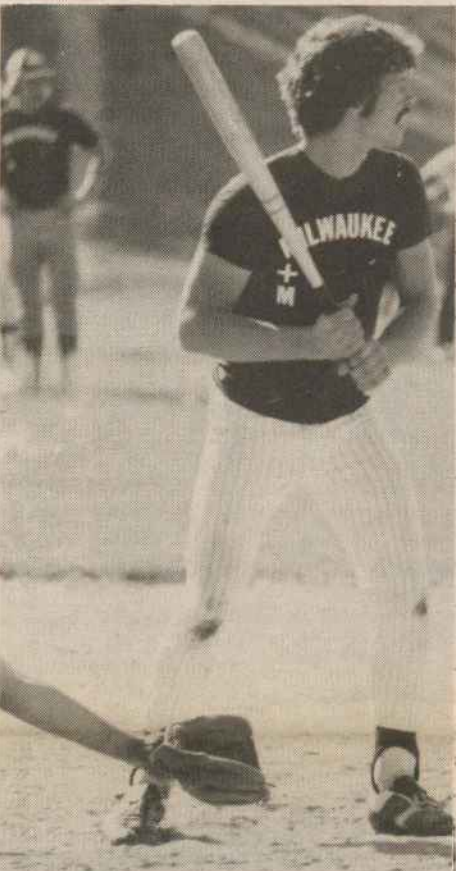
By Tom Salzsieder

I remember it so very well, as if it were yesterday, as a matter of fact. Isn't it amazing how simple are the beginnings of great things? That certainly was the case with what we now call The Milwaukee Classic, the granddaddy of all the softball tournaments—and, in my opinion, the very best. But I digress.

The Milwaukee Classic began nearly 20 years ago. Three guys on a cold night in February, 1978, were sitting around, having a drink and thinking of spring. What else do you do in Milwaukee on a snowy February evening?

The snow was blowing hard, the wind sounded like a banshee. Someone looked up and suggested brightly, "Why don't we have a softball tournament over the Memorial Day weekend?"

To the others, that sounded like a great idea and after batting the idea around for awhile (no pun intended), the three of us asked Wayne Bernhagen, owner of the Wreck Room, if he would sponsor such an event?



Steve Arneson prepares to take a cut at the ball during the 1979 World Series.

Wayne, who had cabin fever as badly as anyone else and who was always ready to promote Milwaukee and the Gay community said "Go for it!"

So then came the next questions. How do we contact people? Who do we invite? How are we going to get anyone to come to Milwaukee in May?

Someone suggested Bob Damron's *Gay Guide*. After going through that, we came up with over 50 names of softball organizations and sent invitations out all over the country. Now, would they come?

### The Breakthrough

The breakthrough came from New York. Richie Diaz said he would have his Eagles team join us. Then word came from Toronto that they would join us as well. To our surprise and pleasure, The Classic became international in its first year.

We called it The Wreck Room Classic because of Wayne's generosity in sponsoring it. The Eagles won that first Classic after a tough struggle with a women's

team from La Crosse.

The following year, in 1979, the Gay Softball World series was held in Milwaukee, so The Classic was not held. However, in 1980, 11 out of town teams joined 8 Milwaukee entries to watch as the M & M Club from Milwaukee took the title.

### The West Coast Joins In

West Coast teams from Los Angeles and San Francisco joined us in 1981, increasing The Classic's participation to 22 teams. That year, Milwaukee's Wreck Room Chaps defeated the Nu Town Saloon of Los Angeles to take the championship.

In 1982 we again had 22 teams participating. The Pendulum Pirates of San Francisco warmed up for their eventual World Series victory by taking the Classic.

In 1983, the number of teams increased by one as 23 teams participated. The Wreck Room Chaps returned the Classic Cup to Milwaukee in a thrilling nine inning victory over Sidetrack of Chicago.

1984, the final year for the Wreck Room Classic brought 26 teams to Milwaukee. Griff's of Los Angeles took the trophy back to the West Coast.

In 1985 we "Captured the Spirit" and hosted another World Series so there was no Classic.

### The Classic Changes Hands

For health reasons Wayne Bernhagen had to yield up his sponsorship. He asked the Saturday Softball Beer League (SSBL) to take over sponsorship of The Classic in 1986. The League accepted and 20 teams played in the tournament that was now called the Milwaukee Classic.

The Cloud Nine Americans of Minneapolis avenged an earlier loss to Redoubt of Chicago beating them twice in the final to win the championship.

The Americans repeated their success in 1987 and Club 1270 of Boston became the first Recreational Division champion as a new division is added to the tournament.

Chicago and New York came through in 1988 as Side Track captured the Competitive and Ty's/Chelsea Transfer won the Recreational crown.

The 10<sup>th</sup> Classic, held in 1989, brought 33 teams to Milwaukee as the women joined in. Burkhardt's of Atlanta took the Competitive Division, while Venture Inn of Philadelphia captured the Recreational championship and Club 1270 of Boston won the Women's division.

### The Classic in the 90's

In 1990 the Classic was mostly—how do I say it?—"bad."

Blake's Bad Boys of Atlanta won the Recreational and the M & M Bad Girls of Milwaukee took the women's cup. Not so bad were the Saloon Americans of the Twin cities who recaptured the Competitive Division.

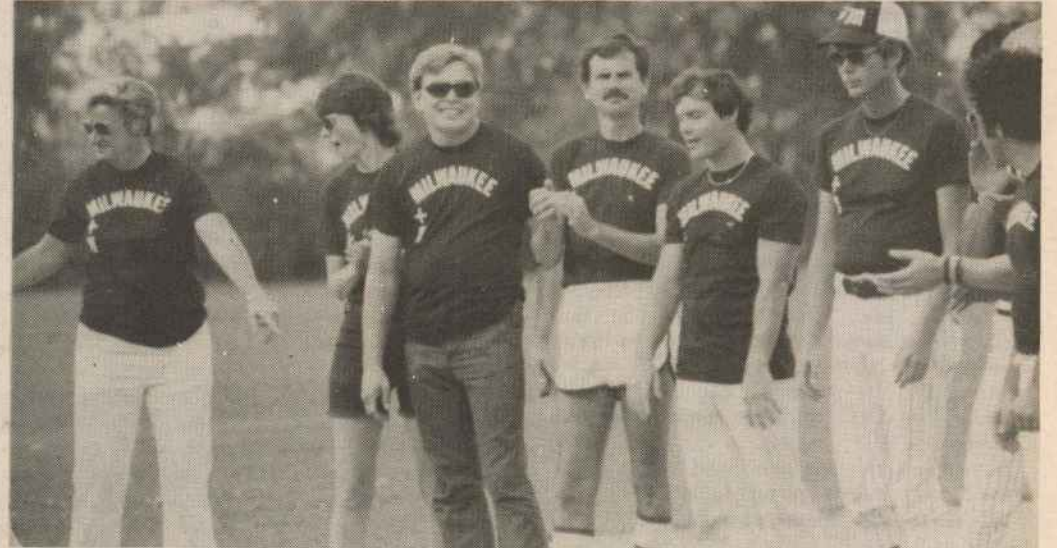
1991 saw the Classic's first no-hitter as Ray led Spike's Black Sox of New York to the Competitive title. At the same time, the Brass Rail edged out the Wreck Room Spurs of Milwaukee for the Recreational crown.

### Big Field, Big Move, Cold Weather

The largest Classic field ever came in 1992 with 46 teams participating. Unfortunately, that was a cold spring as wind chill temperatures dropped down into the teens. Nothing daunted and because of the record number of teams, the tournament was moved to Wick Field. Chicago Sidetrack and the Twin Cities Brass Rail Bandits took the championships that



Part of the crowd at an early Milwaukee Classic Softball Tournament, which was originally called the Wreck Room Classic. Hundreds of players and fans are expected at Wick Field for the 1996 Classic.



A portion of Milwaukee's 1979 Gay World Series team. From the left are Shirley Fitzpatrick, and friend, George Kruezer, Ron Burbey, Unknown and Bill Place. We think the guy on the very end is David Frey

year. In 1993 Milwaukee agreed to alternate its Memorial Day tournament with Chicago so there was no Classic that year.

In 1994 28 teams participated. The Cincinnati Cats, Chicago's Granville Station and Your Place (the YP) of Milwaukee won their divisions and took home trophies.

Last year twenty one teams played in

the 15<sup>th</sup> Classic. Club 219 won the American Division. The Annex Pumps of Chicago won the National Division.

So that's how it was. As they say, big things from tiny concepts grow. From a cold and snowy night in the Wreck Room, and three guys longing for spring, came one of the best—if not the best—softball tournaments in the country. We in Milwaukee can be proud of that.



The Toronto Raiders carry their colors during the opening ceremonies for the 1983 Classic. Over the years, Toronto's Gay Softball League has been a big supporter of the Milwaukee Classic.

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All Nite

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Sunday & Monday  
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**SHAMROCK BAR**

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**SATURDAY**  
EX-Special  
\$1.50 Bottles

Sat, May 25 • 5pm  
Milwaukee Classic  
Cookout for players,  
volunteers & umps

Sun, May 26  
Tailgate party following  
the Classic Banquet.

Sun, June 2  
Female Impersonator Night

Mon, June 3  
Levi/Leather Night

Tue, June 4  
Old Gold  
PrideNight

Wed, June 5  
Couples Night

Thur, June 6  
Lesbian Night

Fri, June 7  
Party After PrideFest  
College ID Night

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**IN BETWEEN**  
Milwaukee's Ultimate  
Social Bar

Beginning June 2  
We're celebrating the diversity of Pride with drink specials and other activities!



# IN THE PUBLIC EYE

## Interview with Superior's Main Club Owner, Bob Jansen

Bob Jansen is the owner of the Main Club in Superior. A recognized leader of the Superior Wi/Duluth, Minnesota community, Jansen has been honored by PrideFest, which gave him a Stonewall award in 1994. In addition, this year he has been named an honorary Grand Marshal of the Minneapolis Pride Parade.

**Wisconsin Light:** You own the Main Club, you've been an activist and a leader. What's it like to be a leader in the Twin Ports Area.

**Bob Jansen:** It's kinda like being a senator's wife, you're not elected to the position, but you have to act a different way. You have to be nice.

**WL:** Why did you decide to own a Gay bar in a remote portion of the state?

**BJ:** I was a faculty member of the College of St. Scholastica. They fired me, because I was Gay. I filed a grievance with them. The final settlement was a year's salary and that's what I used for the down payment on the Main Club. So my background to teach helped me be a capitalist.

When you sue the school you work for, you're not going to get another job in education.

**WL:** Was this the first Queer bar in Superior?

**BJ:** It was the first open bar, other bars were there but they weren't openly Gay.

**WL:** Did that mean you got a lot of heat?

**BJ:** Yes. Customers were afraid to walk in. They had never dealt with an openly Gay owner of a openly Gay bar.

**WL:** Did you have problems with the local police?

**BJ:** I'd rather talk about the present with the Police. Now we have a liaison police officer for the community. And the police have had homophobia workshops led by Lesbian and Gay officers from the Madi-

son to help them understand. I'm glad that happened people need to speak their own language an activist would just be perceived as having an ax to grind.

**WL:** What are your hobbies?

**BJ:** I like to play with leather.

**WL:** What do you do with leather?

**BJ:** Anything I can.

**WL:** Is there a leather community up there?

**BJ:** The four of us get together when we can. We have one of everything in our community, which is healthy because we learn from each other that way.

One of the great things about Superior/Duluth is that young people talk with old people. Drag queens talk with non-drag queens.

**WL:** Where does the Main Club draw people from.

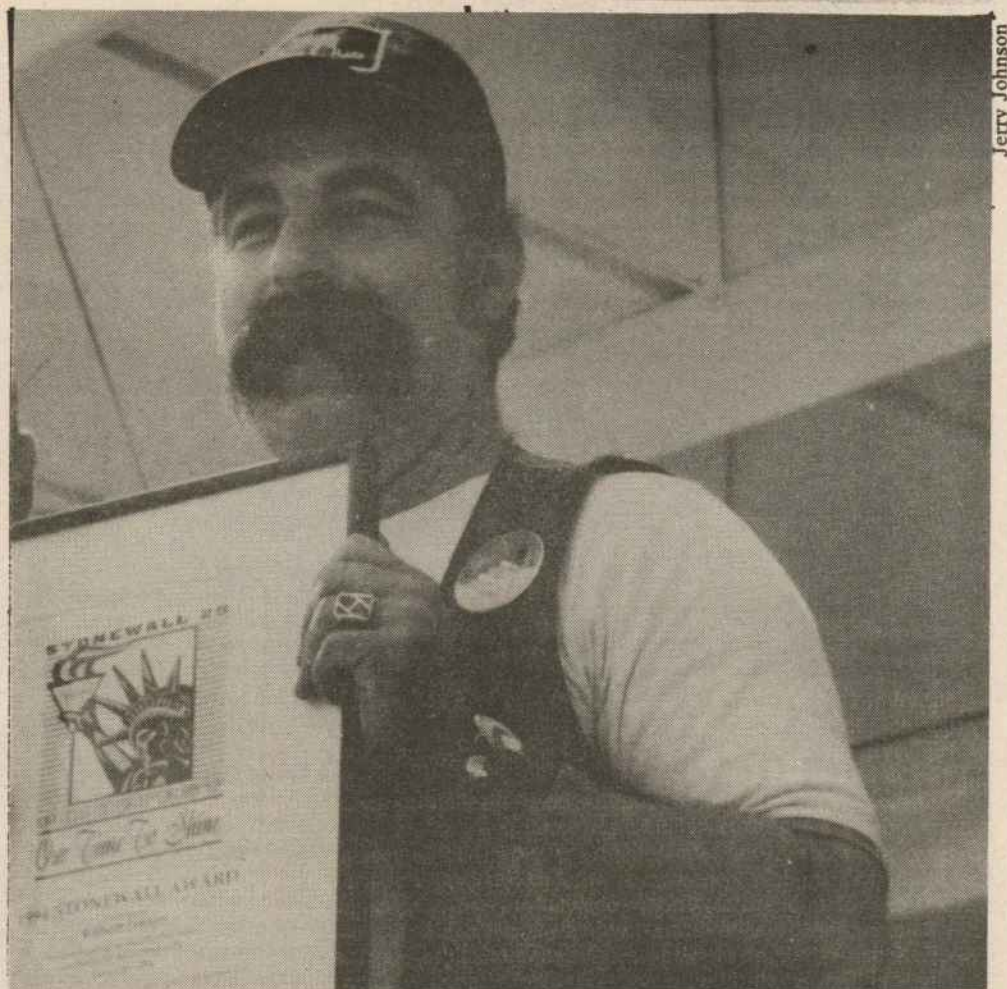
**BJ:** We attract people from Duluth and Superior. There are about 100,000 between the two of them and then people come from up to 150 miles away because there isn't anything else up here.

**WL:** What's different about a crowd in a town like Superior versus Milwaukee?

**BJ:** What you see is what you get. Most of the people have a special Saturday night outfit. Its pretty much a working class environment. When it gets 40 below everyone dresses like a Lesbian. They put their Syrells. (the boots you wear to ice fish) to stay warm. No one worries about how they're dressed at that point.

**WL:** How do you get people to come out when its 40 below?

**BJ:** I think its important to establish rituals in any community. So we have a Blue Moon Ball, which is a formal occasion where people can celebrate together. We also have our Christmas Sing Along, a Toys for Tots drive and our "Tacky Gift Exchange." You have to bring something you want to throw out, but it can't be



Jerry Johnson

Bob Jansen received his Stonewall Award at Pridefest '94 in Milwaukee

something live like an animal or an ex-lover. We also have a Bob night. You come as a bob, wear a bob or be a bob. We have a bob a que and serve fish ka bob.

**WL:** How do you view the Twin Ports Area?

**BJ:** With rosy sun glasses. The state ends at Highway 8 which cuts across the top fourth of the state. That's about Wausau's level. I think that our Superior and Duluth community is in its adolescence and growing.

**WL:** So what would say to people from say Milwaukee or Madison or Green Bay, for why they should come on up and visit the Main Club.

**BJ:** We love fresh meat. Plus we're putting in a horse shoe pit next to the patio behind the bar. Horse shoes are a non-

sexist form of entertainment.

We are very PC, it is haven for women (or men) who like to wear plaid shirts, keep a dog, drive a four wheel drive vehicle, camp out and read poetry. Its kinda rustic in a way.

**WL:** You are kind of the leader up in the Twin Ports Area. How does that impact on you and why?

**BJ:** Not every agrees with my politics. I believe that people should be comfortable with where they are at. I don't believe in outting anyone. I should point out that there are other good leaders around, but the fact is that they don't always be quoted in the paper.

**WL:** What does Pride mean to Bob Jansen?

**BJ:** Pink triangles, rainbows hoopteeha and celebration.

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# C'EST LA VIE

**EVERY SATURDAY • MALE STRIPPERS • 10:30<sup>PM</sup>**

**SUNDAYS with Alvin**  
**Beer Bust Madness**  
2-8pm • \$2  
Ham & Hard Rolls • \$1

**TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS**  
Tap Beer  
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**FRIDAYS**  
SHOWTIME WITH C'EST LA VIE'S  
**Dazzling Divas!**  
11:30<sup>pm</sup>

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The BestD Clinic at 1240 E. Brady in Milwaukee

## A Room of One's Own Features June Readings

**Madison** — A Room of One's Own, Madison's feminist bookstore, will feature three author readings in the month of June.



### Cream City Chorus

The Cream City Chorus' date for its Spring Concert has been changed to one week earlier.

The concert, **Bridging Dreams**, will take place on Sunday afternoon, June 9<sup>th</sup> at PrideFest on the Festival Grounds. Admission to this concert is free for all those attending PrideFest.



#### Carol Dell

On Thursday, June 6 at 6:30 p.m., Lesbian author Carol Dell will read from her debut novel **Seeing Dell** published by Cleis Press.

Set in a small Midwestern town, *Seeing Dell* is the story of a taxi driver who lives on the outskirts of the town memory — a town whose inhabitants struggle to touch one another and to tough Dell herself but are thwarted by their human inability to reveal themselves to one another.

#### Kate Kaufman

On Tuesday, June 18 at 4:30 p.m., author Kate Kaufman will be on hand to read from the book she co-authored with Ellen Bass, **Free Your Mind: The Book for Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Youth — and Their Allies**.

This groundbreaking book provides a step-by-step guide for empowering Gay youth. Rich in information and positive, practical advice, **Free Your Mind** also speaks specifically to members of the community who care for and support Gay youth.

#### Sage

On Thursday, June 20 at 6:30 p.m., Reiki master and healer Sage will be on hand to read from her book **Our Journey Home: A Guide to Conscious Ascension**. Sage is also the founder of Ishpiming, a 52-acre New Age resort and healing center on Turtle Lake in northern Wisconsin.

All readings are located at A Room of One's Own, 317 W Johnson Street in Madison, and are free and open to the public. For more information, call (608) 257-7888. ▽

## BestD Clinic Has a Long History of Serving Milwaukee's Gay Community

By Bill Meunier

**Milwaukee**—Throughout its 22 year history, the BestD Clinic has been in the forefront of fighting sexually transmitted diseases (STD's).

Originally an arm of the Gay People's Union (GPU), the GPU-VD Clinic was founded in 1974. The idea was to provide confidential VD exams, treatment and information to Gays and Lesbians.

In 1982, GPU spun off the Clinic and it moved to its current site at 1240 E. Brady Street in Milwaukee's lower East Side. Originally the Clinic used just the first floor of the historic 1885 building purchased by Dr. Roger Gremminger, a Clinic volunteer.

After the move, the Clinic's name changed from the Brady East STD Clinic, evolving into the BestD acronym now popularly used for the Clinic.

The name isn't all that changed though. In 1990, Gremminger gifted his equity in the Clinic's building. This insured the Clinic a permanent home.

The Clinic remodeled its space in 1994. Amazingly, while the remodeling was proceeding, the Clinic continued to operate with no interruption in its services.

In 1995 BestD used a grant from the Faye MacBeath foundation to remodel the second floor. The renovation has provided two comfortable meeting rooms, a room for the BestD resource center and a small office which was donated to PrideFest.

Because it is totally volunteer, the Clinic has been able to be flexible in its approach to fighting STD's through education, prevention and detection. The onset of the AIDS crisis in Milwaukee showed the value of that approach.

BestD clinic volunteers have been heavily involved in the initial response to the AIDS crisis. In fact the first response to AIDS in Milwaukee came from a small dedicated group of BestD volunteers.

The Milwaukee AIDS Project Committee worked with the City of Milwaukee and other funders to underwrite a new program moving into uncharted and relatively unknown areas.

By 1985, HIV testing was a major program at BestD. BESTD does only anonymous testing. Even the volunteers conducting the tests do not the names of the people they are testing.

BestD volunteers also played a key role in the founding of what is now known as the Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP) and in 1986, the Clinic's MAP Committee transferred its assets to the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin.

In 1987, the Clinic began satellite testing at the M & M Club and the Wreck Room. These traveling clinics have expanded and regular stops are now made at most of Milwaukee's Gay and Lesbian bars and clubs.

BestD Clinic also provided a venue for the first HIV+ support groups, which began meeting at the Clinic in 1985. The group has met continuously ever since.

The Clinic continues its work against HIV infection through testing Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday and with its outreach work at various bars and clubs.

With a volunteer force of over 100 committed and dedicated volunteers, the

BestD clinic conducts over 250 HIV tests per month in addition to testing and treating around 40 people per week for other STD's.

BestD is a 501(c)3 organization. It offers completely confidential HIV testing by appointment on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. A walk in General STD Clinic is held every Tuesday from 6 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. A Women's walk in STD Clinic is offered on the first and third Thursdays of the month.

To set an appointment for confidential HIV testing, volunteer, join a support group, or get more information about the BestD Clinic call (414) 272-2144.



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AMÉRICAIN... & GRILL

### SATURDAY, JUNE 1 Mama Boy Mama Girl Contest

Come in dressed up as your favorite little boy or girl. Sign up at the bar up until the contest begins. 6pm • Prizes

### SUNDAY, JUNE 2 Joe, Pat & Doug's Birthday Bash

4-6pm  
Beer & Snacks

#### Grill Hours

Monday thru Thursday: 4-10 pm  
Friday and Saturday: 4-11 pm  
Friday Fish Fry - Cod or Catfish  
Sunday Brunch from 11am-3pm plus full menu with grill open to 8 pm  
Carry-out Orders Available  
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Personal Checks upon Approval

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# CALENDAR

### Fri. May 24<sup>th</sup>

Milwaukee Classic Registration & Reception  
Hotel Hilton  
5th and Wisconsin  
5:00 to 10:00  
"Its A Party" Opens  
Downer Theater  
Milwaukee  
"When Night Is Falling"  
Opens at Milwaukee's  
Oriental Theater

### Sat. May 25<sup>th</sup>

Milwaukee Classic Softball Tournament  
9 AM to 6 PM  
Wick Field  
50th and Vliet  
Old Timers Reunion  
3B's 2:00 to Close  
Sheepshead Tourney  
1100 Club 3:30  
Milwaukee Classic Cookout  
In Between 5:00

### Sun. May 26<sup>th</sup>

Milwaukee Classic Softball Tournament  
9 AM to 6 PM  
Wick Field  
50th and Vliet  
Tailgate Party  
In Between 9:00  
Miss Fox Valley  
Gay US of A Pageant  
The Pivot Club 9:00

### Mon. May 27<sup>th</sup>

Memorial Day  
Remember Our Les/Bi/Gay Veterans  
Fly a Rainbow Flag

### Fri. May 31<sup>st</sup>

Article Deadline For Wisconsin Light's June 6th issue  
To be Listed in Our Next Calendar Use Our Fax Line (414)372-1840

### Sat. June 1<sup>st</sup>

HIT Casino Cruise  
Call Jeff 332-9414 for information  
Mama Boy Mama Girl Contest  
Mama Roux's 6:00  
Positive Voice  
Double Feature 7:00  
2016 Fern, Green Bay

### Sun. June 2<sup>nd</sup>

Art Auction for AIDS  
Italian Community Center  
10:00 AM  
Impersonators Pride Night - In Between  
Joe & Pat's Birthday Bash - Mama Roux's  
4:00 to 6:00  
Gigi Kaeser Photo Exhibit Opening 4 - 8  
Wil-Mar Center -Madison

### Mon. June 3<sup>rd</sup>

Rainbow Over Wisconsin Reception  
Sass 7:00  
Levi/Leather Pride Night  
In Between

### Tues. June 4<sup>th</sup>

Old Gold Pride Night  
In Between

**Ad Deadline for Our June 6<sup>th</sup> Issue**

### Wed. June 5<sup>th</sup>

Couples With Pride Night  
In Between

### Friday, Saturday, Sunday June 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, & 9<sup>th</sup>

#### Wisconsin's PrideFest '96

6:00 to Midnight Friday  
11:00 AM to Midnight Saturday  
10:30 AM to 11:00 PM Sunday  
Henry W. Maier Festival Park  
(Milwaukee's Lakefront)

## "In the Life" to Feature Gay Directors, Producers, and their Films

New York City — For its June Gay Pride Special, *In the Life*, the award-winning Gay and Lesbian newsmagazine on PBS, examines the rapidly expanding world of Gay and Lesbian film and video. Whether in conscious-raising documentaries and short videos, or in big Hollywood features, Gay-themed works have exploded onto screens from art houses to neighborhood shopping malls.

Highlighted in a special sneak preview excerpt is *It's Elementary*, a new documentary by Academy Award winning director Debra Chasnoff (*Deadly Deception*, 1993), that shows what happens when grade school teachers address Gay issues and homophobia in the classroom. This powerful documentary is sure to be controversial in light of high-profile, right-wing efforts to keep any mention of homosexuality out of schools. *In the Life* presents the first national look at this important new film.

Correspondents Tanya Barfield and Charles Busch join *In the Life* host Katherine Linton for these stories and more on the June Gay Pride edition of *In the Life*:

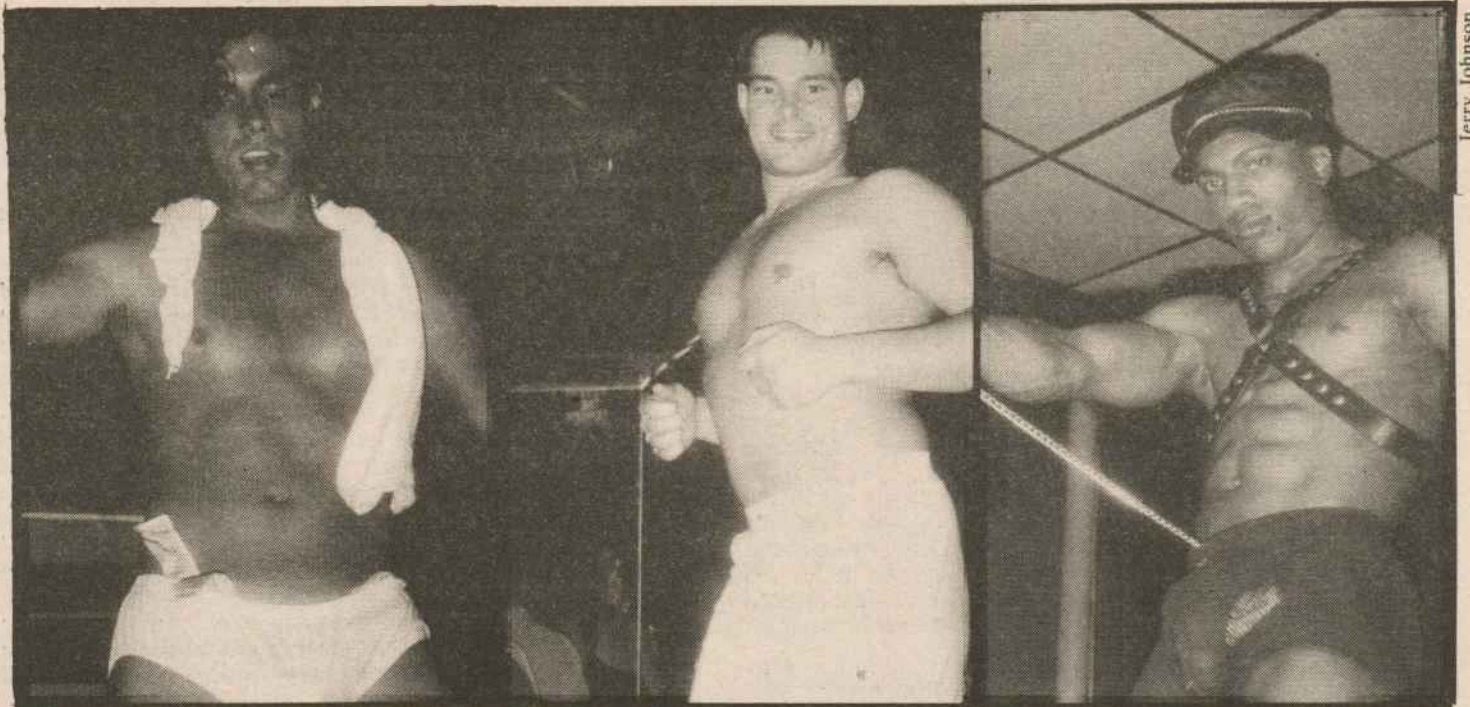
**Charles Busch talks with John Schlesinger**  
Writer/factor Charles Busch interviews Academy Award winning and openly Gay director John Schlesinger about his long, successful career which includes some of Hollywood's most innovative and commercially successful films including *Midnight Cowboy* and *Sunday Bloody Sunday*.

### Backstage Background for "Birdcage"

When club singer and performer Rick McKay approached director Mike Nichols about assisting on the film *Birdcage*, he never suspected his assignment would be to grab a hi-8 camera and get the real scoop on drag queens — a community Nichols admitted he knew nothing about. The result was an around-the-world rollick across the stages and through the dressing rooms of Gay clubs and cabarets.

### Video as an Educational Tool

This segment looks at four documentary videos designed to educate and promote social change. First, *It's Elementary* which visits classrooms across America where teachers are finding appropriate, creative ways to confront anti-Gay prejudice and counter Gay invisibility (see above); next, *Both My Mom's Names are Judy* by the Lesbian and Gay Parents Association of San Francisco,



9 Inch Males entertain the crowd at Milwaukee's Club 219 on May 11<sup>th</sup>. The men will also perform at Green Bay's Zas bar on May 31<sup>st</sup>.

about the children of Gay parents who speak out about their experience; then, *All God's Children* by Dee Mossbacher and Sylvia Rhue, developed as an organizing tool for the African American community to counter-balance the effects of *Gay Rights/Special Rights*, an anti-Gay film produced and distributed by the far right; and *Wide Time: Surviving AIDS* by Mimi Plevin-Foust, a documentary which debunks the myth that AIDS leads to immediate disability and death, and provides instead a model for life.

### In the Life's Short Film/Video Awards

*In the Life's* first annual Grand Jury Award for Outstanding Short Film/video goes to *No Regrets* directed by Barbara Anderson. The film, which will be shown in its entirety, tells the story of a Muslim living with AIDS, his acceptance of the disease, and his giving back to the Gay community. Also honored and shown is *Shaving the Castro* directed by Johnny Symons, about a barbershop in San Francisco's Castro area that has changed with the times.

### Stonewall on the Screen

*In the Life* talks to producer Christine

Vachon and actors Guillermo Diaz and Frederick Weller about the long-awaited film, *Stonewall*. The movie, by the late director Nigel Finch (*The Lost Language of Cranes*), explores the zeitgeist of New York's Greenwich Village during the summer of 1969 and the events leading up to the watershed riots that gave birth to the Gay rights movement.

### Pride without Borders

*In the Life* honors "Pride Without Borders", the international theme of Gay Pride '96, with a tour of the many cultures and countries *In the Life* has visited over the past two years. Included are a probing look into the Gay experience in Native American cultures, a revealing trip back to the 1995 World Conference on Women in Beijing, and stops in Romania,

Russia, South Africa, and Cuba.

*In the Life* will air on Wisconsin Public Television on Friday, June 7, at 11:00 p.m. For more information about *In the Life* airing times, call (212) 266-6012. ▽

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# 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

**Cavalier Lounge**  
114 N 5th St.  
La Crosse, WI 54601  
782-9061

## Rainbow's End

417 Jay St.  
La Crosse, WI 54601  
782-9802

## LAKE MILLS

**Cross Roads Bar**  
W6642 Hwy B  
Lake Mills, WI 53551  
648-8457

## MADISON

**A Room of One's Own Book store**  
317 W. Johnson  
Madison, WI 53703  
257-7888

**Geraldine's**  
3052 E. Washington  
Madison, WI 53704  
241-9335

## Fife's Corner Bistro

1344 E. Washington  
Madison, WI 53703  
241-9335

## Green Bush

914 Regent St.  
Madison, WI 53715  
257-BUSH

## Manoeuvres

150 S. Blair  
Madison, WI 54703  
258-9918

## Praire Garden Bed & Breakfast

W 13172 Hwy 188  
Lodi, WI 53555  
1-800-380-8427

## The Shamrock

117 W Main St.  
Madison, WI 53703  
255-5029

## Sunprint Cafe

638 State Street  
Madison, WI 53703  
255-1555

## MILWAUKEE

**Afterwords Books**  
2710 N. Murray  
Milw, WI 53211  
963-9089

## 3B's

1579 S. Second  
Milw, WI 53204  
672-5580

## Ball Game

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

## Boot Camp Saloon

209 E. National  
Milw, WI 53204  
643-6900

## Cafe Melange

720 N. Old World St.  
Milw, WI 53203  
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  
Milw, WI 53204  
643-9633

## In Between

625 S. 2nd St  
Milw, WI 53204  
273-2693

## Just Us

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

## Kathy's Nut Hut

1500 W. Scott  
Milw, WI 53204  
647-2673

## La Cage

801 S 2nd St.  
Milw, WI 52304  
383-8300

## Mama Roux

1875 N. Humboldt  
Milw, WI 53212  
347-0344

## M & M Club

124 N. Water  
Milw, WI 53202  
347-1962

## Nomad

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

## Rene's Cozy Corner

3500 W Park Hill  
Milw, WI 53208  
933-RENE

## Station 2

1534 W. Grant  
Milw, WI 53204  
383-5755

## 10% Club

4223 W. Fon Du Lac  
Milw, WI 53216  
447-0910

## Popular News

225 N. Water  
Milw, WI 53202  
278-0636

## 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

**JoDees**  
2139 Racine St.  
Racine, WI 53403  
634-9804

## What About Me?

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

## ROCKFORD, IL

**The Office**  
513 E. State St  
Rockford, IL 61104  
815-965-0344

## SHEBOYGAN

**Blue Lite**  
1029 N. 8th St.  
Sheboygan, WI 53081  
457-1636

## STEVENS POINT

**The Platwood Club**  
701 Highway 10W  
Stevens Point, WI 54481  
341-8862

## SUPERIOR

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

## The Main Club

1813 N 3rd  
Superior, WI 54880  
392-1756

## Trio

820 Tower  
Superior, WI 54880  
392-5373

## WAUSAU

**The Mad Hatter**  
320 Washington  
Wausau, WI 54401  
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# Here's the dirt . . .

By Doktor Suzee Shovelit

If you'd like a recap of your event or you have some dirt to spread" call **The Wisconsin Light at (414)372-2773** and make an "appointment." I don't make house calls, but I will listen to your ailments, cough and other sundry matters over the phone.

### Rumor Has It

**The Shamrock** in Madison is now a levi/leather bar and that a new LesBiGay bar will be opening up right next door sometime in July.

Speaking of rumors and levi/leather bars that are supposedly closing soon, **Bill Kindt**, owner of the **Wreck Room** told one of my spies, (I mean grave diggers) that contrary to popular reports his bar has NOT been sold. Not only that Bill says that bar isn't even for sale. Kindt says that he has turned down a couple of offers and wishes that people would stop spreading this nonsense.

This is also not a rumor. A stage manager from **The Phantom of the Opera** crew is seeking living accommodations for six weeks between July 14<sup>th</sup> through August 24<sup>th</sup>. Due to Milwaukee's festival schedule, he's had a great deal of trouble finding a place to stay while the show is in town. He and his de-clawed cat are the end of their ropes. If you have a furnished apartment, studio, spare room, loft or whatever he can rent, call him up. Check out the Arts section of this issue for his contact information

### RECAPS

**Beauty** hosted the First Annual Brady Street Art Benefit on Saturday May 4<sup>th</sup> and Sunday May 5<sup>th</sup>. I was in Beauty the following Wednesday to get my roots (oops I mean my hair) done, and the art that was left was mmmmm, yummy! All told the art benefit raised approximately \$3,000 which benefited the Milwaukee Inner City Arts Council. **Tom from Beauty** told me this first benefit is just the start of things to come.

On Sunday May 12<sup>th</sup>, **Simply Divine** held her **Wisconsin Entertainer of the Year Pageant** at Paramount Dance Hall in Madison. Featured performers included **CoCo**, **Miss National EoY** and **DuWanna Moore**, **Miss WI EoY**, **Cass Marie Domino** took 2<sup>nd</sup> Runner Up, **Kiara Nicole** took 1<sup>st</sup> Runner Up; **Paddy Cakes** was the winner.

On Sunday May 12<sup>th</sup>, **Just Us** hosted the **1996 Possum Queen Finals**. The winner **Dina Thirst** (Rodney) who was somewhat sponsored by the **Ballgame** raised over \$7,000 him/herself. For this annual AIDS benefit. The total amount raised came to \$21,814.06. **Kim**, (the DJ from **Club 219**) made

## Wisconsin Public Television Covers Gay History in June

**Madison** — Tune in to Wisconsin Public Television in June for the following programs on Gay history and issues:

**Friday, June 7 at 11:00 p.m.**  
**In the Life (60 min.)**

This episode of the award-winning **Gay and Lesbian** magazine examines the expanding world of Gay and Lesbian film and video, with excerpts of documentaries that inform and promote social change.

**Friday, June 14 at 11:00 p.m.**  
**P.O.V. (cc) (90 min.)**

"One Nation Under God." From exorcisms to Homosexuals Anonymous to beauty makeovers for Lesbians, many have tried to "cure" homosexuality. The "ex-gay" movement poses serious questions about who's asking Gays and Lesbians to change and why.

**Tuesday, June 18 at 8:00 p.m.**

**Hate, Homophobia and Schools ☆**

This WPT studio discussion includes Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual students, their parents, and religious and school leaders. Among the guests are the Rev. Mel White and Steve Hartley, principal of Madison's Malcolm Shabazz high School where the curriculum promotes a harassment-free environment.

**Thursday, June 20 at 11:00 p.m.**  
**Before Stonewall (60 min.)**

his second drag appearance catching everyone by surprise. **Max (aka Victoria Maxwell)** told Jerry Johnson, publisher of **Wisconsin Light**, that his future goal is to broaden the Possum Queen contest statewide. Each Wisconsin city would hold their own contest. He is contemplating getting a steering committee (oh no, not a board) together to oversee the local city contests. Max's dream would have the Possum Queen competition catch on across the United States, with the national finals held at PrideFest each year. Couldn't you just see that... the 2001 Possum Queen Nationals being held at the Marcus Amphitheater?

The Monday May 13<sup>th</sup> **Milwaukee Repertory Theater's benefit performance for actor Stephen Hemming** raised approximately \$4,200. Hemming died on April 19<sup>th</sup> this year from AIDS. He performed with a number of companies including Money raised went to a fund established in Hemming's name.

### Coming Up

**PrideFest '96** is just a few weeks away and plans for the annual festival (being held at the Summerfest Grounds this year) are taking shape. One of the scheduled entertainers the Gillettes (of "I Don't Want No Short Dick Man" fame.) Gurl...I hope the Christian Fundamentalists or any World Festival Board members aren't around when they sing that song.-the LesBiGay community will never hear the end of that one. Rumor also has it that RuPaul may be making an appearance.

And here's some freshly overturned the dirt on the Parade Marshall mystery. A **straight** couple from Delafield will be honored as the parade marshals. Why? Apparently they had a Gay son and caught hell for it. My sources tell me the PrideFest Parade Coordinators said they couldn't find anyone else to do it. My goodness...I'd love to see the list of who got asked and turned it down and why.

And is it true that the PrideFest Committee moved the ribbon cutting ceremonies to the inside of the park to avoid confrontation with the Christian Fundamentalists? PrideFest finally takes it rightful place in the City of Festival's Summer Festival line up only to have its opening ceremonies take place between closed doors. Shame, Shame, Shame.

I'll be out and about at PrideFest, to listen in, here and there and get the "dirt" for upcoming columns. Remember be careful what you say, you never know when Doktor Shovelit or one of her grave diggers may be nearby listening, remembering, recording snapping photos. Beware!!!

This encore program chronicles the 1969 Stonewall Inn riots in New York's Greenwich Village, which marked the transition of the Gay community from a "closeted" underground to an active force in society.

**Friday, June 21 at 9:00 p.m.**

**After Goodbye: An AIDS Story (cc)**

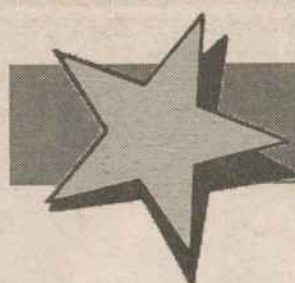
Experience the anguish of loss and the strength of the human spirit in this program featuring the Turtle Creek Chorale, a 190-member men's chorus that lost more than 60 members to AIDS in 10 years.

**Thursday, June 27 at 11:00 p.m.**

**Coming Out Under Fire (cc) (60 min.)**

Nine Gay and Lesbian World War II veterans joined America's fight against fascism only to find themselves fighting two wars: one for their country and the other for the right to serve. This documentary recently won a prestigious Peabody Award.

For more information call (608)265-3855. Wisconsin Public Television celebrates and connects the people of the state on WHA-TV/Madison, WLEF-TV/Park Falls, WPNE-TV/Green Bay, WHLA-TV/La Crosse, WHRM-TV/Wausau, and WHWC-TV/Menomonee-Eau Claire. V



# Tune Reviews

## Jeff Krassner's New CD is Old Fashioned Soul With a Gay Twist

Reviewed by Tim Grair

This is an old fashioned soul album. In fact this is exactly the kind of album that Aretha Franklin used to make. Krassner's cover of Dusty Springfield's "Son of a Preacher Man" will probably get the most attention and deservedly so. Why did no one think of this before?

The gimmick of having a man sing about being initiated by the "son of a preacher man" would probably stand on its own but it certainly helps that Krassner has a strong voice and an able back up band.

As good as "Son of a Preacher Man" is, the track that stuck in my head was "I Hear the Angels Sing" which is just a hauntingly beautiful Gay love song.

Elsewhere Krassner tends to be more gender neutral in his love songs.

**Strong For You** opens and closes with "The Powers that Be". In its first appearance it is a gospel style raver with excellent backing vocals and top notch saxophone work from Crispin Cioe.

The second time around Guido Osorio remixes it into a house track with definite club potential. The opening drum beats sound like they were sampled from Soul Solution's "Find a Way" but overall the feel is closer to Clivellas and Coles' production of Aretha Franklin on "A Deeper Love".

## Other Bars Have Dancing, Too!

The Spotlight inadvertently omitted **Geraldine's** from its article about Wisconsin's Dance Bars. Geraldine's is Madison's largest Dance bar.

In addition to Dancing, Geraldine's also has a full service kitchen, outdoor volleyball.

Owner, Ray Jacobson, told **Light** that the bar is expanding and a new bar will be added on Geraldine's second floor.

Jacobson says that in addition to its Volleyball leagues, Geraldine's has open volleyball on Wednesdays and on Sunday afternoon. There is line dancing on Saturdays as well.

Currently Geraldine's has a DJ seven nights a week. The bar is open at 4:00 daily. Covers are charged only for special shows. The bar is located at 3054 E. Washington.

In addition to Geraldine's full time dance bar, we would like to point out that three other Wisconsin bars offer DJ supplied dance music on the weekends. These are **Just Us** and **3 B's** in Milwaukee and **JT's** in Superior.

**Just Us** is located at 807 S. 5th in Milwaukee. The bar is popular with Lesbians and Gay men. It features a great Friday fish fry on a weekly basis. Country Dancing takes place on Saturdays from 7 to 10. The bar is open from 5 to close Sun - Friday and Saturday from 6 to Close.

**Just Us** does not charge a cover except for benefit shows.

**JT's** is a new bar in Superior. Located at 1506 N 3rd. It has a DJ on weekends. **JT's** opens at 1:00 on weekends and at 4:00 on weekdays. The bar features Karaoke on Thursdays, Dance Mix on Saturday and Sunday, and Country music on Sundays.

**3 B's** used to be known as a Country Western bar, but now offers a regular DJ on Friday and Saturday nights from 9 until Close.. **3 B's** is located at 1579 S. 2<sup>nd</sup> St.

**3 B's** is open from 3 to Close Monday thru Friday and Noon to Close Saturday and Sunday. There is no cover except for special events.

## Gutzmann's Zany Space Opera

Dale Gutzmann is at it again. This time he has converted Gilbert and Sullivan's HMS Pinafore into a modern theater piece that will take place on a Star ship cruiser.

Entitled "HMS Pinafore ...The Next Generation, the piece will take its audience to places no audience has ever gone to before.

The show will still have all of the old songs from the original, but it will also include robots on rollerskates, aliens with laser guns and a bizarre singing chorus.

The fun takes places at Vogel Hall in Milwaukee's PAC on June 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup>. For tickets call 273-7206.

## Finding Cost-Free Accommodations Through New Gay Penpals Newsletter

**North Hollywood, CA** -- Gay men all over the world can find vacation accommodations at no cost by browsing through the forthcoming International Gay Penpals summer newsletter which will list over 700 contacts in more than forty countries.

The listings include the USA, India, Russia, Cuba, Egypt, Thailand, Japan, Germany, England, Australia, France, Italy, Denmark, South Africa, Brazil, Argentina, Hong Kong, Mexico, Malaysia and Colombia.

Other than free vacation accommodations, additional benefits from corresponding with gay men all over the world include language practice, photo and culture exchange, jobs and even romance.

Men with HIV/AIDS can join for half price. No proof of status is necessary.

For more information, send a SASE to: IGP, Suite 320, Box 7304, North Hollywood, CA 91603, USA.

### PARTY

Continued from Page 19

friends, begin to seethe their resentment. Everyone is mean to Brandon. Especially loyal Tony. Brandon perseveres. Will Nick and Brandon come together by the last reel?

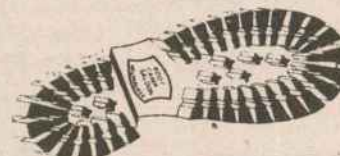
In **It's My Party**, Kleiser has made a brave attempt at portraying the extended, surrogate family many Gay men develop in their lives as well as the multitude of often conflicting emotions present in the face of losing a loved one.

Eschewing plot, Kleiser relies upon characters to compel us, the dialogue to engage us. Sadly, Kleiser is saddled with uneven writing and some mighty wooden performance which prove to diminish the film's message and effectiveness.

**It's My Party** is saved by a surprisingly effective performance by Eric Roberts as Nick. No ideal "victim", Robert's Nick is irritating and arrogant but brave and very human. Also effective are Bronson Pinchot as Nick's acerbic friend Monty and George Segal as Nick's befuddled alcoholic father. As for Gregory Harrison, well... he still looks good without his shirt on.

**It's My Party** isn't going to be the most fun social event on anyone's schedule, but still is a worthy film deserving an audience. Recommended.

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



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## Wisconsin

**BRUTALLY HONEST** GWM, 46, 252, 6'2", hazel eyes, brown hair, balding, varied interests, interested in crocheting and knitting, seeks others, with similar interests, for fun and friendship. Give me a call. (Appleton) #20138

**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

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

**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

**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

**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

**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 top man, GWM or GBM or GHM under 40 who likes it regular, also into Jack 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

**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 endw'd, seeks same for fun. Leave me a detailed message. (Southwest) #48852

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

**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

## Illinois

**WAITING FOR THAT SPECIAL MAN** GWM, 30, 5'10", 190, blonde hair, hazel eyes, into volleyball and golf, seeks others into life, fun and more. I want to meet that special dating partner. If this is you, don't hesitate to call me. (Crestwood) #48009

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

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

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

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

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

**WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?** GWM, 6', 165, Italian looks, brown hair and eyes, 'stache, new to this life, seeks GWM/GBM, 18-35, discreet and fun, for a long term friendship and relationship. Please give me a call. #45050

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

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

**STABLE AND GOOD HEAD** GWM, variety of interests, in shape and attractive, seeks others, 20-42, attractive, clean shaven and classy preferred, for a regular dating basis and more. Give me a call as soon as you read this. #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. #49848

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

**I AM SPONTANEOUS** GAM, 5'7", 141, seeks others, 29-39, slim and adventurous preferred, no smoke or drugs, for fun and more. Leave me a message. #49412

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

**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. Leave me a message. (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. Let's get together and see what happens. (Minneapolis) #33344

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**I'M WAITING FOR YOU, MISSY!** WM, 37, 6'2", 175, brown hair and eyes, disease/drug free, seeks passable TV's and TS's, pre-op or post-op, for fun, good times and more. Age and race not important. Please leave a message. (Minneapolis) #47973

**ALL ARE WELCOME** Bi BM, 5'11", 180, seeks others, 20-30, open to anything and everything. Group action is a plus and I'm versatile. You must be disease and drug free and ready to play. Give me a call. (Minneapolis) #48010



Photo by: David Christian-Brown

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

**I KNOW WHAT I WANT!** GBM, 6', 195, football player's build, seeks GBM/GWM, dominant only with varied interests, for fun, friendship and much more. Please be versatile and well endw'd for immediate response. #34333

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

**EASYGOING GUY** 41 blonde/bm 5'9 220 easygoing fun loving person, looking for guys in the area, have some beers, out to dinner, coffee, etc, give me a call sometime- (Oak Forest/Crestwood) #32791

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

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

## Iowa

**FUN BOY** GWM, 5'11", 200, hazel eyes, well built, seeks same into fun and adventure. Give me a call. (Des Moines) #19613

**TWO FOR YOU** GWM couple, 31 and 45, seeks top men, masculine and in shape, 18-40 only, well built a must, for fun, friendship and adventure. Call us today! (Keokuk) #43024

## 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

**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. Leave me a message. (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

**HOO 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. Give me a call. (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. Please call me. (Minneapolis) #19135

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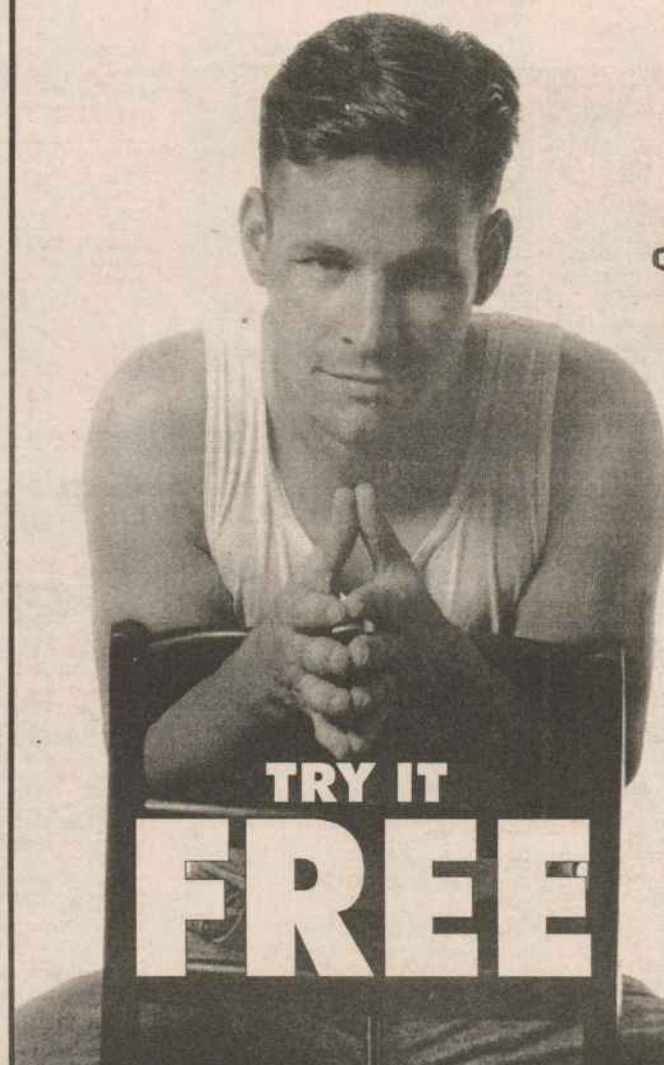
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## News Briefs

### Man Living With AIDS Seeks State Senate Seat

**Montpelier, VT-AP-**Former Defender General David Curtis, who has been diagnosed with AIDS, has said Thursday he may run for the state Senate from Chittenden County. Curtis, a Burlington Democrat, said he feels good physically and is anxious to run. But, he added, "The bottom line for me is whether I can physically serve."



"I think I'm doing reasonably well. I'm pleased, frankly," he said. "Certainly any campaign that I would wage would have to take into consideration some of the limitations that I have."

Curtis is being urged to run by 22 Chittenden County politicians who signed a petition of support.

Curtis served in the Vermont House as a Republican in 1974. Two years later, he ran unsuccessfully as both a Democrat and Republican for attorney general. He now considers himself a Democrat.

He said his interest in the Senate was sparked by concern for what he sees as a growing lack of civility.

"I'm concerned over the past few years about the deterioration of the collegial atmosphere that used to be present in the Legislature," he said. "It bothers me ... It seems to me that the Senate is becoming more and more partisan and fails to look at what we need to do for the betterment of the people of Vermont."

### Gay Fair Canceled Over Religionists' Protests

**Holly, MI-AP-**A Gay commitment fair scheduled for the third weekend in May was canceled after more than 100 people called organizers to voice their opposition.

"If this isn't an example of extreme hate-mongering, I don't know what is," said Jeff Montgomery, president of the Detroit-based Triangle Foundation, which monitors crimes against Gay men and Lesbians.



Ninety couples registered for the May 19 event. The fair, organized by First Choice Travel, was to include the staples of bridal fairs, from jewelers to photographers to florists, and a drawing for one couple to be joined in union. Montgomery said people called the travel agency, which is in Holly and specializes in arranging travel

for Gay men and Lesbians, and said they would picket the fair. At least two calls were death threats, he said.

Jeff Maxwell, minister at Calvary United Methodist Church in Holly, said he encouraged about 270 parishioners at Sunday's services to call the travel agency in opposition. "What somebody does in their bedroom is their business," he said. "What happens in the public domain is everyone's business. We had the responsibility to respond and share our opinion. Such a ceremony is inappropriate."

### Doctors Say Thai Hospitals Not Ready for AIDS

**Bangkok, Thailand-AP-** Provincial doctors are warning that there are not enough hospital beds in Thailand to care for the number of HIV-positive people who will develop the AIDS virus.



"Because of the high number of patients, sometimes each of our beds is used to accommodate three patients in one day," Dr. Varavudh Suraphruk, director of Sansai District Hospital in Chiang Mai, told the Bangkok Post.

Health officials estimate there are between 700,000 and 800,000 people in Thailand infected with HIV. It can take anywhere from two to 10 years for HIV carriers to develop AIDS.

The country has about 100,000 hospital beds and 15,000 doctors.

The Post also quoted AIDS activist and former deputy prime minister, Mechai Viravaidya, as criticizing the government for its "seasonal" anti-AIDS prevention campaigns. "It comes and goes with the rains," Mechai said, while calling for a more continuous campaign.

### HIV+ Soldier Convicted of Having Unsafe Sex

**Fort Drum, NY-AP-**A soldier who had unprotected sex without warning his partners that he was HIV-positive will serve two years in military prison. Spc. Kevin Barrows of the 10th Mountain Division did not wear a condom and failed to tell the women about his condition, according to a statement from the U.S. Army's Fort Drum in northern New York. Barrows was found guilty of aggravated assault and disobedience. He was sentenced the same day.



Barrows, who was assigned to the 41st Engineer Battalion, was given a bad conduct discharge, had his rank reduced to private and will have to forfeit all pay and allowances. According to Defense Department rules, military members with human immunodeficiency virus, which causes AIDS, are ordered to refrain from sex without use of a condom and to first notify sexual partners of their medical status.

### Russia Warns of AIDS Epidemic

**Moscow, Russia-AP-**The number of people in Russia testing positive for HIV doubled last year and the country will soon be facing an AIDS epidemic, health officials said Tuesday. Russia has 1,157 people registered as HIV positive and expects as many as 4,000 by the end of the



year, said the Health Ministry's chief AIDS specialist Alexander Golusov. Estimates of the real numbers, however, are several times higher. Many people are reluctant to undergo testing.

"We have enough cases now to begin talking of it as an epidemic," he told the Interfax news agency.

Peter Piot, an infectious disease specialist from Belgium, also said Russia was close to an epidemic, despite the relatively low number of AIDS cases so far. Piot, the director of UNAIDS, a new United Nations program, told a news conference at the Health Ministry that a sharp rise in sexually transmitted diseases in Russia foreshadows a rise in AIDS cases. The number of syphilis cases rose by 2 1/2 times last year, the report said.

The sectors of the population with AIDS also are growing, Piot said. Initially, the disease was largely confined to the homosexual population but has now spread to intravenous drug users, he said.

Since the first cases of the disease appeared in Russia in 1987, 205 people, 95 of them children, have developed AIDS, Golusov said. Of these, 137 have died, 64 of them children.

### The Archbishop Cries Foul

**Denver, CO-AP-** Gov. Roy Romer's veto of a bill that would have banned same-sex marriages in Colorado and two other recent decisions "represent a conspiracy against life at every level," Archbishop J. Francis Stafford said in a six-page statement. In his pastoral reflection, entitled "April is the Cruellest Month," Stafford criticized Romer's veto of the same-sex marriage bill, President Clinton's veto of a partial-birth abortion ban, and the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals' invalidation of a law against assisted suicide.



"The direction of the modern state is against the dignity of life," Stafford wrote. "These spring decisions harbinger a dramatic intensifying of the conflict between the Catholic Church and governing civil

authorities." The archbishop wrote that Romer's veto of legislation that would have banned same-sex marriages in Colorado is a "repudiation of the basic foundation of the state and society as we have known them."

"... the acceptance and promotion of homosexual activity as a valid moral option are a direct assault on the ancient moral vision which, for more than 15 centuries, has established both the private and public responsibilities indispensable for the achievement of the free order of society," Stafford wrote.

### Hawaiian Churches Protest Gay Marriage

**Honolulu, HI-AP-**A local citizens group is hailing a statement from the White House that President Clinton is opposed to same sex marriage. Clinton's press secretary, Mike McCurry, said the president's opposition probably would lead him to sign a bill to outlaw same-sex marriage, if it passes. However, McCurry said Clinton believes the bill, backed by Sen. Bob Dole, is designed to provoke hostility toward Gays and Lesbians.



Father Marc Alexander, co-chair of the group Hawaii's Future Today, said the president's position recognizes that giving same sex couples equal status with the traditional family is a different issue from preventing discrimination against homosexuals. The organization said it supports civil rights for homosexuals but does not support the move to alter the institution of marriage.

### Negligence Caused 1000's of AIDS Deaths

**Tokyo, Japan-AP-**A former adviser to the Health and Welfare Ministry said that a key ministry official knew in 1983 that blood products treated to remove the AIDS risk could have prevented thousands of infections. Japan put off approval of the safer products for several years, resulting in thousands of AIDS cases among hemophiliacs and their relatives, hundreds of whom have won settlements for compensation this year.



Gunji, now a professor at the University of Tokyo, testified in a 1993 court hearing that he did not know in 1983 that imported blood products not heat-treated to kill the AIDS virus could spread the disease. But the government already has admitted that in 1983 it knew about the risks of conventional blood products.

Doctors believe domestic blood was safer at the time than products Japan was buying abroad, although neither was heat-treated. At the time, heat-treating was already a normal practice in the United States, the source of most of Japan's imports. But Japan imported only the untreated products because of bureaucratic regulations.

Five pharmaceutical companies are now paying compensation along with the government in the out-of-court compensation settlements.

### Bishop Accused Of Creating Homophobia

**Dallas, TX-AP-**Dallas Bishop James Stanton and the Episcopal church created the hostile environment for homosexuals that led to a rector's arrest for lewd conduct, gay Episcopalians charge. Stanton has been a leading spokesman for the Episcopal Church in the heresy trial of Bishop Walter Righter of Alstead, N.H. Righter has been charged with "teaching a doctrine contrary to that held by the church" for ordaining a Gay priest.



Police charged the Rev. Rex Perry, of the Church of Incarnation in Dallas, with lewd conduct last December after they said he fondled an undercover police officer in a public restroom in a park at White Rock Lake. Perry's church is in Stanton's Dallas diocese.

Bryant Hudson, of The Gay and Lesbian Justice Ministry in the Episcopal Diocese of Dallas, said Stanton's opposition to the Gay people has created an environment of fear and repression. "This climate of fear and repression will continue to lead to the type of severe spiritual self-alienation and irresponsible sexual activity that led to Father Perry's arrest," Hudson said.

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## Dykes To Watch Out For



## First Gay "Workplace/Marketplace" Forum Set for October in New York City

New York City — A coalition of New York area Gay business leaders has announced the formation of the first "Gay and Lesbian Workplace/Marketplace Forum" slated for October 10-11, 1996 in New York City.

Billed as a "Summit in the City," the two day forum is designed to bring businesses, marketers and employers together to explore issues and form alliances with Gay and Lesbian consumers and employees. Key areas for seminars and discussion will be employment and personnel policies, advertising and marketing strategies, work-place and community communications, and individual customer relations.

Leading the project are Steve Levenberg, Founder of the Gay and Lesbian Business Expo, handling administration; Grant Lukenbill, President of GL Communications and author of *Untold Millions: Positioning Your Business for the Gay and Lesbian Consumer Revolution*, in charge of program development; and Todd Evans, President of Rivendell Marketing, handling sales and marketing.

Levenberg continues to produce the highly successful Gay and Lesbian Business Expo, which had its third annual gathering in New York in April.

"The steady growth of interest and participation in the Business Expo demonstrated to us that American mainstream corporations are now ready for a forum on how Gay and Lesbian issues can affect a company's business, outlook, reputation, marketing, advertising and overall success," said Levenberg.

"The demographics have proved the strength of the Gay market. Our forum takes the next step, which is to relate market issues to workplace issues," Levenberg said.

"Summit in the City" will consist of a number of workshop seminars, panel discussions and debates, marketing and advertising presentations and audience participation plenaries.

Moderators and speakers will include authors, advertisers, marketers, Gay and Lesbian business owners and personnel experts, including Sue Spielman and Liz Winfeld, authors of *Straight Talk about Gays in the Workplace*.

Lukenbill, whose book has emerged in the past year as the leading primer on Gay and Lesbian marketing, noted, "The increasing visibility and openness of Gays and Lesbians in the American workplace, the media and the marketplace has created a real need for this type of gathering. Most companies want to do the right thing by their Gay and Lesbian employees, but may need assistance and education in dealing with what are truly unprecedented personnel and product marketing issues. We believe our panels and experts can provide a lot of those answers and

counsel." Workplace/Marketplace '96 will provide valuable information and insight to nearly anyone in business, but should hold special interest for human resources personnel, labor relations managers, insurance and viatical settlement representatives, medical benefits administrators, civil service entitlement administrators, advertising, marketing and public relations executives, corporate communications managers and public policy representatives.

Evans, whose company Rivendell has been instrumental in bringing advertisers to the Gay market since 1979, remarked, "We have always believed that any company looking to profit from this important market must have its own policies regarding Gays and Lesbians in place.

Now, with this first-of-a-kind forum, companies can find out both how to reach the Gay consumer and how to deal with Gay and Lesbian human resources issues at the same time.

Registration for the two-day event will be \$429.00 (or \$479.00 with lunch included both days). The fee will include not only unrestricted access to all events and presentations to be held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Times Square, but a complimentary continental breakfast and beverage service both days, discounts on hotel accommodations, theater and airline tickets, special entertainment and a variety of product sampler packages. A 10% discount is also being extended to those to register by August 1, 1996.

Immediate registration and sponsorship information can be obtained through Rivendell Marketing at (212) 242-6863. ▽

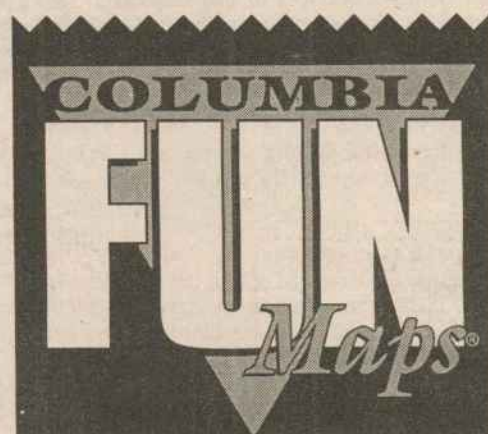
## Was the AIDS Virus Invented?

Milwaukee — On Friday, April 24 at 4:00 p.m., PBS will feature noted virologist Dr. Peter Duesberg as he contends in his book, *Inventing The AIDS Virus*, that HIV does not cause AIDS. Dr. Duesberg, professor of molecular and cell biology at the University of California at Berkeley and a member of the National Academy of the Sciences, argues that the long-term consumption of recreational drugs and the use of AZT to treat HIV-infected patients causes AIDS. ▽

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## MCC Awards Anthony Turney One of Four Human Rights Awards

Los Angeles—Anthony Turney, executive Director of the NAMES Project Foundation, has been named a recipient of a Human Rights Award from the Northwest district of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches (MCC).

Turney and three other community leaders will be recognized for their contributions to the AIDS community or the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgendered community. The awards will be presented at a 7:30 a.m. breakfast on Saturday, May 25 at the Golden Gateway Holiday Inn in San Francisco.

"I am deeply honored to receive a Human Rights Award from the Northwest District of the MCC," says Turney. "So many individuals affiliated with this congregation do great work in our communities. Their recognition of my work with the Quilt and the NAMES Project is both professionally and personally gratifying."

During his three-year tenure as Executive Director of the NAMES Project Foundation, Turney has initiated new ways to use the

AIDS Memorial Quilt to increase HIV prevention education and awareness throughout the U.S. and the world, especially among young adults and communities of faith.

Founded in 1987, the NAMES Project foundation sponsors and displays the AIDS Memorial Quilt to help bring an end to the AIDS epidemic. Through a network of 40 national NAMES Project chapters and 33 international affiliates, the AIDS Memorial Quilt is seen by more than one million people annually at nearly 2,000 displays.

Money raised at Quilt displays is granted to organizations that provide direct service to people everywhere who are living with HIV and AIDS.

To date, almost 6 million people have visited the AIDS Memorial Quilt. The next display of the entire NAMES Project AIDS Memorial Quilt will be October 11-13, 1996 on the National Mall in Washington, D.C. For more information on the Quilt, visit the NAMES Project World Wide Web site at [www.aidsquilt.org](http://www.aidsquilt.org).

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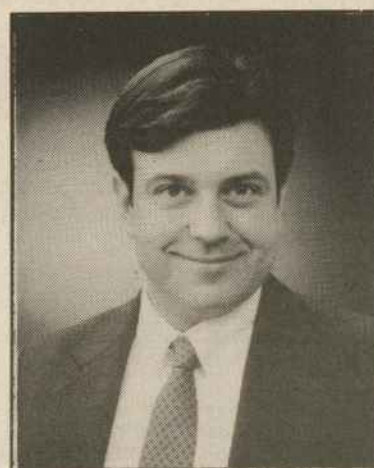
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LETTERS

Continued from Page 4

our churches. The big three principle that I see in MCC, Integrity, Dignity and Reconciling congregations: God made me Gay. God doesn't make junk. There is a place at God's table for us.

We have a community gifted in the arts. A good percentage of care giver, be they doctor, nurses, nursing assistance, councilors, clergy are members of the 10% club.

The best expression of our diversity is PrideFest. I've heard it said on late Sunday night, I wish PrideFest would last longer. If PrideFest was a weekend, that would be justified. It's an idea.

We love the freedom of PrideFest. I challenge you to put that freedom in your life. We love the energy of PrideFest. I challenge you to put that energy to work in your life to create a positive environment. Everyone loves the unity of PrideFest. Let take that unity and make it come true year round. There is not Gay or Lesbian issue. When my Lesbian sister suffer injustice, I suffer. When my Gay brothers are abused, I am abused. We certainly will all hang together or separately. The choice is ours.

When I think of PrideFest, being a 46 year old, white, Gay, male, I see a love fest. I see new loves sprinkled with old loves that stood the test of time. I see a celebration of the special gift we all have which is our sexuality. Maybe if heterosexuals would celebrate their special gift of sexuality, they wouldn't have time to attack ours.

I think of friend past, current and to come....I thank God, I'm Gay and blessed with caring brothers and sisters.

My joy has a responsible side. If I love PrideFest and the ideas behind it, that we are and are more than our sexuality, I need to get off my butt and do something. I called 272-FEST and volunteered to help. I'll be working the food tent. How about you? If you can't volunteer for PrideFest, could you volunteer to bring the spirit of PrideFest to another agency. Let's celebrate a new way with service to our

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Employment

Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund seeks attorney in Midwest Office to do AIDS/HIV test-cast litigation and policy/advocacy on behalf of Gay men and Lesbians. Must have significant litigation experience (5+ years preferred). Demonstrated commitment to HIV/AIDS issues and/or Lesbian/Gay community preferred. Salary: From high \$40's, DOE. Resume and writing sample by 6/17/96 to: Patricia M. Logue, LLDEF, 17 E. Monroe, Suite 212, Chicago, IL 60603.

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community. What's a couple hours? It could be fun! Rev. Theodore T. Berg Milwaukee

Oh, Boys

TO THE EDITOR:

I am writing, for the sake of adult Gay men who are attracted to adult Gay men, to throw back my head and laugh at Glenn Bishop's video review of Boys and Boys 2. It is both amusing and sad that, after trashing Brain Candy and giving a half-hearted nod to The Celluloid Closet, Glenn should give his full approval to what is essentially a soft porn flick. In fact, Glenn seemed to like it so much that he kept references to himself to a minimum. This says everything to me about where his tastes lie.

I am extremely pro-pornography, but I am also realistic. The vast majority of porn is not cinema. There is little or no plot. There is little or no acting (and the worst acting at that). There is no cinematography, and the soundtracks are the worst. I think that the only reviewing Boys and Boys 2 needed would have been the pictures on the tape jackets.

Trying to review porn in a legitimate newspaper isn't just a waste of time. It's a waste of space that could contain news of more social or political interest. Furthermore, it can be damaging to an already ailing Gay image. If this truly is your interest, you are welcome to it, but don't be surprised when conservatives hold up this fluff and claim that Gay men are sex-crazed pedophiles. Give me a man in his prime any day. I just don't feel like chicken tonight. John Kusch Milwaukee

Spring Rite

TO THE EDITOR:

Recently I was invited to participate in an activity organized by fellow Pagan and friend Mark Langenfeld and advertised by the Northland Gay Men's Center. It had been years since I had seen a Maypole dance and, until recently, I had never been fortunate enough to engage in this rite of spring. The pole was erected on the beach at Park Point in Duluth, Minnesota, facing Lake Superior, and decked out with ribbons of every color.

We were a diverse group. Some of us coming from as far as the Twin Cities and the Iron Range. Wymen, men, children, a grandmother and her family, along with a couple out for a walk on the beach joined in the fun.

As we danced around the Maypole, weaving the brightly colored ribbons around it, it was not difficult to imagine our ancestors doing the same all those

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many years ago. A rite of fertility, it was practiced to assure abundance of harvest in the Spring. It was a treat to participate in this ancient rite which succeeded in something I feel is all too lacking in this age—as sense of connectedness to the Earth and to each other.

Beth Johnson Superior, WI

Thanks From BestD

TO THE EDITOR:

A ga-zillion BestD thanks to the Possum Queen Contest. BestD Clinic was once again taken by surprise with the amazing gift of over \$8,200 resulting from the Possum Queen Contest. The contribution was delivered by Possum Queen Coordinator, Max Barnett on May 13th, the day after the finals and the crowning of the Ballgame's entry, Ms. Dinah Thirst, on Sunday night at Just Us.

It is unsolicited and unexpected affirmation and gifts such as this one that motivate the BestD volunteers to give additional time and energy for providing sensitive and sensible free care to all who come to the Clinic.

New Study Shows Men at Higher Risk for Contracting HIV than IV Drug Users

Milwaukee—Men who have sex with other men continue to be the largest at-risk group for contracting HIV in the Milwaukee area, suggests a report in the May 16th issue of the American Journal of Public Health.

The first-of-its kind study by the national Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates the prevalence of HIV in 96 metropolitan areas, including the Milwaukee-Waukesha area, the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel reports.

Because it usually takes 7 to 10 years to develop AIDS after infection with HIV, prevention hinges on information about how new cases are occurring.

"In each city it will be a different group that public health officials will need to focus on and worry about," said the study's author, Scott Holmberg, a physician with the CDC.

In the Milwaukee-Waukesha area, that clearly remains Gay and Bisexual men, Holmberg said. About 116 of them get HIV each year, the report says, out of an estimated 24,500 Gay and Bisexual men in the area.

The report says there are 6,000 injection drug users and 29 new cases a year from

Ross Walker, President of BestD, expressed his gratitude on behalf of the 115 BestD volunteers and the clients they serve to all the Possum Queen bars, participants and donors. Walker indicated that the generous spirit of selflessness was very much in evidence at the finals on Sunday and reflects that which is great in the LesBiGay community.

Additionally, the Clinic has recently received gifts or proceeds from:

Hillel Foundation, \$200; Jon Reich Art Exhibit, \$400; Memorials for John Pelzer, \$300; Nomad Club Benefit, \$205; Holiday Invitational Tournament, \$200; AfterWords' Louganis Nite "Free Coffee, \$34.07; Milwaukee Symphony Benefit, \$92.58; UWM Post, \$25; Faulkenberg Exhibit, \$1,000.

BestD thanks are extended to all of those who have helped to make this 22 year-old free clinic the caring place of service that it has been and is today. The people of Milwaukee, especially those who so often fall between the cracks of service and those infected with or affected by HIV disease, will see all of these gifts going directly to their care and service.

Ross Walker President, BestD Clinic Milwaukee

contaminated needles.

The final category studied was high-risk heterosexuals—people who have multiple sex partners a year, have sex with people who use injection drugs or who are bisexual. There are about 12,700 of them in the Milwaukee-Waukesha area and 62 new cases of HIV infection in that group a year.

Doug Nelson, executive director of the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin (ARCW), agreed with the basic message but said it "grossly understates the prevalence" of HIV and the number of Gay or Bisexual men.

The state estimates HIV infections among the Gay/Bisexual population in Milwaukee-Waukesha at 4,000 vs. the CDC's 1,230, Nelson noted.

"There's no question that to control the epidemic in Milwaukee we need to focus on the safer sex aspect with Gay and Bisexual men," he said.

But he added that the relatively low rate of HIV among injection drug users here is related to prevention efforts such as a needle exchange program.

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## HIGH COURT

Continued from Page 1

struggle for of Lesbians and Gay men for equality in America. The Court today firmly rejected the 'special rights' rhetoric of those would exclude Lesbians and Gay men from political life."

### Rehnquist, Thomas, Scalia Disagree

Chief Justice Rehnquist joined by Justices Thomas and Scalia dissented. Scalia writing the dissenting opinion said that striking down Amendment 2 "has no foundation in American constitution law. The people of Colorado have adopted an entirely reasonable provision... designed to prevent a piece meal deterioration of the sexual morality favored by the majority of Coloradans."

One of the cases cited by Scalia in his opinion was Ben-Shalom v. Marsh.

Miriam Ben-Shalom, a Milwaukee Lesbian activist, sued for the right to remain in the military.

Scalia cited this and other cases in a futile attempt to show that the government can discriminate against Gays and Lesbians.

Reaction from Christian Fundamentalists was universally negative. Vowing to continuing the fight by picketing PrideFest, Wayne Rohde, pastor of the Jubilee Christian Family Church said "We will continue to oppose homosexuality as a civil right."

### Controversy Started in 1992

The controversy over Amendment 2 began in 1992. A citizens group Coloradans For Family Values (CFV), gathered enough signatures to place the Amendment on the state wide ballot for the November elections.

Despite the pleadings of nearly every elected state official, voters approved the measure by a 54% to 46% margin.

CFV and similar groups had hoped that they could stop the steady progress of Gay and Lesbian civil rights laws by putting them up for a majority vote.

Shocked by their defeat, Gay advocates mobilized and braced themselves for campaigns in other states.

A national boycott of Colorado cost the state economy an estimated 40 millions of dollars in lost business and tourism revenue.

The boycott's biggest effect, however, was outside of Colorado. It had a chilling effect in other states where similar measures were being proposed.

CFV's electoral success was short lived. Before it could even take effect, a Colorado Circuit Court had already ruled that the Amendment was unconstitutional. That ruling was eventually upheld by the Colorado Supreme Court which issued a unanimous decision and a blistering opinion condemning the Amendment.

Ironically by appealing the Colorado decision, CFV, which intended to use Amendment 2 to stop Gay civil rights may have actually helped Gay and Lesbian activists more than anyone thought possible.

### Controversy Spreads

Despite adverse court rulings, CFV mounted a campaign to help conservatives in other states pass similar ballot measures. They thought they had found a potent weapon to stop the advance of Gay civil rights.

Groups like the Oregon Citizen's Alliance along with other conservative anti-Gay civil rights organizations, fought to join Colorado in banning Gay civil rights laws. But the voters in their states refused to go along with them.

In 1994, voters in Maine, Idaho and Oregon rejected ballot initiatives that would have limited Gay civil rights laws in their states.

In other states such as Washington and Michigan, conservative activists failed to get enough signatures to place the measure on the ballot.

### Both Sides Organized

Both sides of the issue organized support throughout the country. Spurred by their victory in Colorado, Conservative activists garnered millions of dollars to promote their ballot initiatives. Conversely, Gays and Lesbians outraged over seeing hard fought victories to win civil rights protection put up for a vote battled back.

In some states like Idaho and Maine, the Conservatives lost the election but succeeded in moving Gays and Lesbians to become involved and form state wide coalitions that are still in place.

### Charges And Counter Charges

Gay rights advocates charged that these state wide campaigns were rooted in homophobia. They pointed to slick campaign literature like that used in Colorado which claimed that the vast majority of Gay men have sex with children and engage in sex with over 500 sex partners a year.

Those promoting the ballot measures denied being anti-Gay. They accused Gay activists of trying to force their lifestyle on the public.

In the midst of the fray many Lesbians and Gay men became victims. Anti-Gay violence rose drastically in every state where the Conservatives waged one of their campaigns.

In Oregon two Lesbians and Gay men were killed when their house was firebombed at the height of a campaign to ban Gay rights by amending that state's constitution. They

weren't alone in paying the ultimate price for their beliefs.

### The Battle Continues

Despite the Supreme Court decision, no one expects the battle over Gay and Lesbian rights to end anytime soon. Just as White Segregationists continued to stand in the door even after the Supreme Court's landmark

Brown v. Board of Education decision in 1958, religious conservatives and other political activists will continue to wage war on Lesbians and Gays.

As a statement from the National Gay Lesbian Task Force put it, "Despite this ruling the Radical Right will not stop."

Perhaps the only thing the two sides can

May 23, 1996—June 5, 1996—WISCONSIN LIGHT—35

agree on is a statement made by one national broadcaster on Monday May 20, 1996, "Today the United States Supreme Court handed Gay rights advocates their biggest victory ever."

## Miller Third Annual Volleyball Tournney

Trophies and prizes will go to the best teams in the third annual Miller PrideFest Volleyball Tournament Saturday, June 8, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. GAMMA, a sports and outdoors social club, will present the tournament at Urban Park, just north of the Summerfest grounds on the lakefront.

Sixteen teams, both men and women, are expected from Wisconsin, Illinois and the upper Midwest. They will play round robin and then compete in single elimination. The best competitive division team and the best social division team will be recognized late Saturday afternoon.

In addition, all team members will receive free admission to PrideFest as part of the \$60 registration fee.

Miller Brewing Co. is again sponsoring the tournament.

Teams can still register by calling Bob Moore, Volleyball Coordinator, at (414) 963-9833.

## REACTING TO HISTORY

*The landmark Supreme Court decision invalidating Amendment 2 is indeed an historic one. Below is a sampling of some of the reactions that poured into the offices of Wisconsin Light.*

"There is only one thing to say. This is a glorious and monumental victory" **Eldon Murray, Long time Gay activist and Founder of SAGE Milwaukee**

"I'm ecstatic and very proud to share in this victory with everyone in Wisconsin who believes in equality for all people. All Americans deserve to be free of discrimination." **Mike Veverveer Openly Gay Madison Alderperson.**

"I am thrilled. Absolutely thrilled. This decision is a tribute to all of those who have worked so hard on behalf of equality and justice for all Americans. But we must realize that the fight for civil rights goes on. It doesn't end here, its beginning a new and exciting phase. We must all work together to make the most of what the Court has given us." **Openly Lesbian State Representative Tammy Baldwin.**

"Let this be a lesson to the sponsors of these bills. The American people do not support your campaigns of intolerance and bigotry. They do not support discrimination against gays, lesbians and bisexuals. They do not want you tying up their courts in costly prolonged legal battles. They do not want you to come to their communities to destroy and divide." **National Gay Lesbian Task Force Statement**

"The Supreme Court decision to strike down Colorado's Amendment 2 is based on the principle of equal protection under the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment of the US Constitution. This is what our fight is about to be treated equally as full citizens. This is a victory for all gay or straight who believe in the fundamental principle that all Americans deserve to live free of discrimination. **Stephanie Hume Lesbian Activist, Les/Bi/Gay Liason to the Milwaukee Police Department**

"Outstanding! Its a landmark day for American citizens who also happen to be Lesbians Gay Men, Bisexual and Transgender people. Now we've been told that the law protects us too!" **Miriam Ben-Shalom, Lesbian Activist**

"Thank you to the Supreme Court for serving justice and to those who would seek to take our equal rights under the Constitution- Live and let live! **Margaret Flood Human Rights League for Gays and Lesbians**

"This decision is much broader and much better than we could have hoped for. Its another reason to celebrate Les/Bi/Gay Pride at PrideFest and other Pride celebrations being held this summer. **Bill Meunier, Political Activist, PrideFest Founder and Co-Director**

## Public Notice

### Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors Center Project

Thursday, June 13<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30 p.m.  
Brown County Public Library  
515 Pine Street, Green Bay

### Order of Business:

Receipt of the 1995

Financial Audit;

Election of Officers



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**MEDICAL  
COLLEGE  
OF WISCONSIN**

**Center for AIDS  
Intervention Research  
(CAIR)**

# 1996 Milwaukee Possum Queen Contest



Jerry Johnson

## Possum Queen Contest Announces Record Total of \$21,816.06 at Just Us Pageant

**Milwaukee**—The 1996 Possum Queen Contest was held on May 12<sup>th</sup> at Milwaukee's Just Us Bar. The winner was Rodney (Dina Thirst) from the Ball Game bar. Ms. Thirst raised \$7,365, more than any other contestant thus winning the crown of Possum Queen. A total of 12 contestants joined with Rodney in raising a grand total of \$21,814.06, a new Possum Queen record, which easily eclipsed last year's record total over \$18,000. Each contestant picked one of four worthwhile programs: The Wisconsin House received \$6,000 to help it provide safe house

and support for men and women with AIDS, the Loving Spoonful Food Pantry garnered \$3,247 to provide food services for individuals and families affected by AIDS, \$3,114 was donated to the Cream City Foundation which has designated these funds to help open a new HIV+ specialty dental clinic and the BESTD Clinic which received over \$8,200 for its programs.

Those who participated in the Annual Possum Queen contest are pictured above. Starting with the pictures at the top (l to r) are: Jack E. O. Gasm (M & M Club), Contest Founders Charlotte Lorraine and her henchman Lizzie Bordeaux, Dinah Thirst (Ball Game), Miss Lavora Tory, (3 B's) Rudi D'Angelo (Guest Star La Cage), Blew Cheese (La Cage), Row 2: Kimberly Anne (Proxy for Club 219), Althea Later (Possum Queen, 1995), Victoria Maxwell (Possum Queen, 1992 and promoter of the Possum Queen Contest), Jackie Roberts (Guest Star) Melinda (Guest performer 3 B's) Nellie Mae Jones (Mama Roux's) Row 3: Jackie O receives the Tomy Polubinsky award, Nutrageous (Kathy's Nut Hut), Possum Queen Bust, Corliss Morgan, Mona (Just Us), Max Possum Queen Organizer, Rodney (Miss Dinah Thirst and Possum Queen for 1996).



Ron Geiman, former publisher/editor and founder of In Step Magazine was spotted in the crowd at the Possum Queen Contest, held May 12<sup>th</sup> at Milwaukee's Just Us bar.

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## ARCW

AIDS RESOURCE CENTER OF WISCONSIN, INC.  
 SAYS

### ▼ THANK YOU TO THE ▼ 1996 POSSUM QUEEN CAMPAIGN

Your efforts, compassion, and fundraising are vitally important to the 1,000 people with HIV/AIDS who receive services from ARCW's Milwaukee AIDS Project. The proceeds MAP received from the 1996 Possum Queen Campaign are already hard at work.

- ▼ \$6,000 is providing safe housing and support services for men and women with AIDS at Wisconsin House.
- ▼ \$3,247 to Loving Spoonful Food Pantry supports food services for individuals and families affected by AIDS.
- ▼ \$3,114 raised by the Possum Queen Campaign and granted through the Cream City Foundation will help open a new HIV+ specialty dental clinic.

Special thanks to host **Victoria Maxwell**, Possum Queen co-founders **Lizzie Bordeaux** and **Charlotte Lorraine**, and all of the fabulous 1996 Possum Queen Candidates:

- |                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Adaly Drama</b> , In Between     | <b>Blew Cheese</b> , La Cage               |
| <b>Connie Lingus</b> , La Cage      | <b>Crisco</b> , Club 219                   |
| <b>Dinah Thirst</b> , Ballgame      | <b>Jack E. O. Gasm</b> , M&M Club          |
| <b>Mona</b> , Just Us               | <b>Nelly Mae Jones</b> , Mama Roux         |
| <b>Nutrageous</b> , Kathy's Nut Hut | <b>Miss Lavora Tory</b> , 3B's             |
| <b>Weezy</b> , Independent          | <b>Tammy Nadine Throatwater</b> , Club 219 |