



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

The Wisconsin Light

Gay Vets Organize Protests Against Dornan Amendments to Defense Bill

Milwaukee—The Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Veterans of America (GLBVA), the United States' largest veterans organization with an outreach to Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual and Transgendered veterans, is organizing a protest campaign against Rep. Robert Dornan's (R-CA) amendments to the 1997 Defense Authorization Bill.

The first amendment would discharge HIV positive servicemembers with less than 15 years of service.

The second amendment would repeal the "Don't ask, Don't Tell, Don't Pursue" law and codify the previous policy, which legalized outings, witch hunts, and often, discharges with harsh penalties.

"GLBVA is going on record at this time and is asking all veterans, whether Gay or straight, to write to President Clinton, to email the White House, and to communicate with their elected representatives their extreme displeasure at Dornan's mean-spirited amendments," said Col. Nancy Russell (Ret., USA), the President of the Board of Directors of GLBVA National.

The threat that these amendments will survive a House/Senate conference committee is very serious, in spite of the fact that the United States' top military leaders have not asked for either amendment.

Miriam Ben-Shalom, GLBVA Public Relations Officer and a former litigant against the pre-Don't Ask policy towards Gays in the military told *Light* that she is "aghast" at the nastiness of Rep. Dornan.

"I am shocked," Ben-Shalom said. "We are told, on the one hand, by Dornan and his ilk, that we are unworthy to serve, unworthy to be American citizens wholly, unworthy to have families. Yet when we attempt to serve with honor under a draconian policy such as Don't Ask, when we seek to form legal families, when we strive to seek the venues to prove our fitness to be citizens, we are rebuffed with a hatred which is understandable only if one is a student of history—specifically the history of Nazi Germany.

Fax or email the White House. The email address is: Scott_M@al.eop.gov.

The fax number is (202) 456-5558.

Madison's The United Names New Director

Madison, WI — De Ette Tomlinson has been named the new Executive Director of The United, Madison's Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual center.



De Ette Tomlinson

Since its founding in 1978 to help support an anti-discrimination ordinance, The United, a largely volunteer organization, has continued to serve Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual people of Madison, Dane County and the rest of Wisconsin.

For the past five years, Tomlinson has been Collective Manager of the Mifflin Street Community Cooperative. She has also been Business Coordinator at Feminist Voices newspaper and a Collective Member of Her
Please Turn to The United on Page 31

Cream City Foundation Celebrates: 14 Years of Helping the Community



Members of the Club 219 Pride winners of the B Division in the Milwaukee Classic. Bottom Row: (l to r) Fred, Kevin, Craig, Dion, Greg, Todd. Second Row: Patrick, Henry, Mark, Steve, Tom, Justin. Top Row: Scott, Gary Bob.

Queers in Zimbabwe Face Draconian Measures as They Fight for Their Rights

by John E. Peck

Kodzero dzevangochani dziri kodzere dzevanhu — "Queer rights are human rights"



Even in Shona, one of the two major indigenous languages of Zimbabwe, it is not that difficult to express an idea many people around the world now take for granted. Unfortunately, as

readers of the *Wisconsin Light* and other progressives have discovered over the last year, there is a ruthless campaign now underway targeting Gays, Lesbians, and Bisexuals in this supposedly revolutionary and democratic African country.

Having just returned from two months in Zimbabwe, I was able to follow the Queer rights debate firsthand and had the opportunity to discuss the situation with members of Gays and Lesbians of Zimbabwe (GALZ) as well as with some of their grassroots supporters. The following account is purely my own and where I do paraphrase Zimbabweans I have opted to change their names.

Section 23 of Zimbabwe's Constitution entitles all citizens to equal protection and specifically states "no law shall make any provision that is discriminatory either of itself or in its effect." **!Unexpected End of Formula**

This laudable principle was in response to the institutionalized racism of the Rhodesian dictatorship that eventually compelled Zimbabwe's black majority to take up arms in a bloody fifteen year long *Chimurenga*, or "struggle for independence."

Since 1980, though, Gays, Lesbians and Bisexuals have faced another uphill battle: defending their basic rights to freedom of affection, expression, and affiliation. In this respect, one of their best allies has been the Zimbabwean women's rights movement which also must endure continued oppression and marginalization — long after the "revolution" — all in the supposed interest of "maintaining national unity," "preserving cultural identity," "challenging western imperialism," etc.

Next door in post-apartheid South Africa where sexual orientation is officially recognized and protected by Article 8 of the Bill of Rights (the only nation in the world to date), the Queer community has rallied

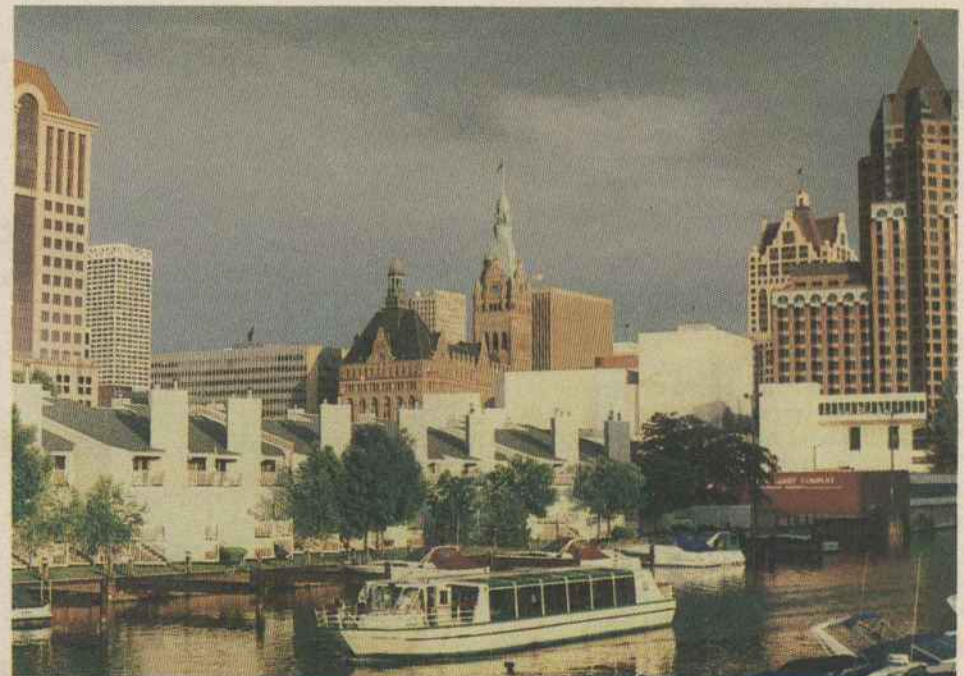
strongly behind their brothers and sisters across the Limpopo.

State-sanctioned Queer bashing in Zimbabwe first really came to light worldwide after GALZ was "banned" from having a literature table at the prestigious Zimbabwe International Book Fair (ZIBF) in August of 1995 — ironic, given the event's much-touted theme of "human rights and justice."

Numerous African writers, religious figures, and politicians — from Nadine Gordimer and Wole Soyinka to Desmond Tutu and Nelson Mandela — voiced their outrage to President Mugabe and the Zimbabwean government. Seventy U.S. Congresspeople also signed on to a protest letter drafted by Barney Frank and Maxine Waters.

President Mugabe's now infamous backlash was to call homosexuals "worse than dogs and pigs" who had "no rights at all" and with typical patriotic bluster he added: "let the Americans keep their sodomy, bestiality, stupid, and foolish ways to themselves."

At other points he has compared homosexuality to prostitution as a "threat to
Please Turn to Zimbabwe on Page 29



The Edelweiss is once again plying the waters of the Milwaukee River and harbor. The popular cruise ship offers dinners and cocktail cruises through October. Reasonably priced cruises for your next gathering are also available. For more information call 272-3625.

By Michael Bouvier

Milwaukee— This year the Cream City Foundation (CCF), the only non-profit, grant-making, community-based foundation in the state of Wisconsin, proudly celebrates fourteen years of commitment.

CCF, whose sole purpose is to support the changing needs of the Gay and Lesbian community, was founded in October of 1982, as an offshoot of the Cream City Business Association.

The now defunct association held a number of fundraising events during its first few years as a way to provide support for the community. However, they found that taxes took away much of the proceeds that were being raised. As a result, the creation of a separate non-profit organization run by volunteers was planned.

The Foundation's principle objective is to encourage philanthropic activism through grants that are used to provide financial and technical assistance to non-profit organizations serving Lesbians and Gay men.

The Cream City Foundation was formed by original directors James Maurer, John Kujawski and Ralph Navarro.

The first executive board consisted of Ralph Navarro, president; Ed Jawrowski, vice president; Roger Ravacz, treasurer; and Warren Breitlow as secretary. Jawrowski provided \$500 as seed money to begin the operation.

Warren Breitlow of Breitlow Studios in Wauwatosa, Wisconsin, remembers those early days.

"Our first meeting was held in the boardroom of Edrick Moving & Storage in Brookfield," he says. "It became difficult to get everyone interested to come out that far, so I volunteered my business offices for the next 18 months as a meeting place. Our turnouts increased and we were able to really start planning ahead. We held our very first fundraising event at *This Is It* on December 23, 1982. We raised a grand total of \$76, but we felt good about it."

Joe Brehm, the owner of the popular Milwaukee bar *This Is It*, remembers the first fundraiser very well.

"It was a cold night," Brehm said, "two days before Christmas and this (the Foundation), was a new thing. But despite all that, the bar had a good crowd of good people, people who were in the spirit of giving."

Please Turn to CCF on Page



Jerry Johnson

Current and past leaders of Cream City Foundation are shown above. (l to r) Don Schwamb, Current CCF President, Tony Rhodes, Vice-President Ross Draegert, and Board Member Arnie Malmson.

CCF
Continued From Page 1

Brehm continued. "I believed then as I do now, very strongly, that the Foundation would become the most important organization in the Milwaukee community," he says. "Its goal is to see that small groups who are unfunded -- get funded. Otherwise they wouldn't exist and flourish as they do."

This Is It hosted a successful auction fundraiser this winter dividing proceeds between CCF and the Milwaukee AIDS Project's Food Pantry.

Last year CCF was able to award grants in excess of \$32,000 to the Gay and Lesbian community including organizations such as Seniors Acting in a Gay Environment (SAGE), the Lesbian Alliance of Metro Milwaukee (LAMM) and the Human Rights League (HRL).

CCF also sponsored the "Long Road to Freedom" exhibit at Milwaukee's City Hall, the first Gay event ever held there; the Ron Geiman reception; and helped to support AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin.

CCF continues to provide grants to Pridefest each year to help defray expenses.

In October of 1995, CCF was instrumental in bringing and hosting the National Conference of Gay/Lesbian Foundations to Milwaukee. The grant received for the event was underwritten by Miller Brewing Company.

Delegates from throughout the country attended this event. CCF along with NEW HARVEST--Madison and PHILANTHROP-FUND of St. Paul, Minn., hosted the convention.

Workshops and seminars during the conference focused on such topics as fund development; staffing issues; organizational problems and solutions; community relationships; interacting with mainstream foundations and governmental agencies; and discussions on the common concerns and issues which daily affect other Lesbian and Gay foundations throughout this country.

"We're trying to make our community stronger in Milwaukee and throughout Wisconsin," states Tony Rhodes, president of the board of directors for the Cream City Foundation.

"Each grant we are able to award is the direct result of the financial support and participation of caring people," Rhodes said. "Our contributors tell us what they think is important and what areas of concern they have. They all want to insure the support of diversity in our community and we try to make sure that our grants cover the variety of purposes and the differences that exist," Rhodes added.

"We hope that the help we provide through grants emphasizes the unified goal that each group shares with the others—to assist, enable and empower our Gay and Lesbian community," he said.

In 1994, CCF honored the Miller Brewing Company for their continued support of the community with a sold-out dinner at the Miller Pavilion overlooking Lake Michigan.

The event was a fundraiser for the Foundation which also featured a silent auction. Miller spokesman Tom Reed, director of public affairs, said, "We're proud to be a continuing supporter of the Cream City Foundation. CCF has continually proven to be an excellent example of how to productively and efficiently take funds and multiply their impact and effectiveness."

"We share a responsibility to each other as members of our community," states Rhodes. "Most people don't realize the positive impact that charitable giving has on the world around us."

Ross Draegert, vice president of CCF and its ACHOICE representative, is excited at the results of the 1995 workplace campaign. "We reached an all-time high in dollars desecrated example of how to productively and efficiently take funds and multiply their impact and effectiveness."

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"We reached an all-time high in dollars designated to CCF," he says.

ACHOICE and United Way's Donor Choice program are two of the avenues for providing funds to the Foundation in the workplace. If workplace giving is not available, a tax deductible *Direct Contribution* is welcome and can be put to immediate use.

"It's obvious that people know about the Foundation and feel as strongly as we do that the community deserves to have the same financial support that every other organization has, especially since the Gay and Lesbian community is one of the few groups that receive no financial support from government resources," states Draegert.

"The foundation is really excited about the future and we have many plans on the table," said Rhodes. "This coming July we are co-hosting a benefit concert with The Saturday Softball League featuring Ms. Julie Wilson, one of America's foremost cabaret singers and Broadway stars. We'll soon be announcing ticket and performance information on that."

"We are also working on an exciting fund-raising event for later this year," he tantalized with a knowing smile.

Rhodes was asked his idea of the Foundation's role; what he thought its mission was.

"The great mission of CCF," Rhodes replied, "is in promoting community philanthropy. Essentially, we are "energy directors" looking to power non-profits that serve Les/Bi/Gay and allied groups. As an all-volunteer organization we strive to operate as cost-effectively as possible in raising funds. It is an exciting time in Milwaukee for all of us. We all look forward to the community's continuing support," Rhodes says lastly, "and returning that support back to the community where the needs are greatest."

Those interested in helping the Cream City Foundation as volunteers or with financial support can reach a representative at the Milwaukee Enterprise Center, 2821 North 4th Street, Milwaukee, WI 53212, or phone (414)265-0880.

Cream City Foundation Grants 1995-'96

Milwaukee—The Cream City Foundation, Inc. (CCF), of Milwaukee, celebrating its 14th year of commitment to our community, is proud to announce that for this calendar year through May, a total of \$13,814 has been awarded in grants to our local Gay and Lesbian community.

Due to limits on available funds, CCF had to decline some requests. CCF also had to restrict funds and was unable to grant the full amounts originally requested.

Grants—January—May, 1996

- PrideFest: \$5,000 to help defray expenses at this year's June 7-9 Pride Celebration.
- Wisconsin Research Center: \$500 for costs to monitor religious right anti-Gay/Lesbian governmental and social movements in Wisconsin.
- Counseling Center of Milwaukee: \$1,800 for Lesbian and Gay programs.
- 1996 Great Lakes Film & Video, Inc.: \$2,000 underwriting expenses.
- Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP): \$650 for Make A Promise Dinner
- MAP Dental Clinic: \$3,114 from Possum Queen winner and Ballgame Bar.

Thanks to our community's generous donations and workplace giving contributions, CCF grants in excess of \$32,000 in 1995 to the following:

- 1995 Great Lakes Gay/Lesbian Film and Video Festival-UWM funding since 1991.
- Counseling Center of Milwaukee: Lesbian and Gay programs.
- Fest City Singers: June Musical Production.
- Saturday Softball League: Helping with operating costs.
- SAGE: Seniors Active in a Gay Environment.
- MAP, AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin
- Lesbians of Color/Women of Color: Sista Women Views, Information, Outreach and Understanding Projects.

- UJIMA: Operating Expenses.
- PrideFest 1995: Major Sponsor since 1991.
- Human Rights League for Gays and Lesbians (HRL) Milwaukee.
- Lesbian Alliance of Metro Milwaukee-Education Fund.
- National Gay and Lesbian Task Force: 21 Scholarships to October National Conference awarded courtesy of the Arnie Malmson Development Fund.
- "Hate, Homophobia and Schools" UW-Green Bay: An hour-long video and teacher's manual for viewing and discussion in schools.
- John Cowles Memorial Scholarship: \$1,000 annual award.
- Ron Geiman Community Reception: Major Sponsor.
- "Long Road to Freedom" at Milwaukee City Hall: Major sponsor.
- National Conference of Gay/Lesbian Foundations: Host and major sponsor, October 13-15.

The Cream City Foundation is a non-profit, charitable organization recognized by the IRS. It is an all volunteer organization—made up of laborers, executive, clerical workers, and students. CCF is your community.

Your Direct Contribution is needed and can be put to use right away. Instead of giving to only one group, your donation can be allotted among many worthy and diverse local groups, that have been raising funds for the specific

purposes of providing resources and money for programs that will strengthen and expand the cultural, educational, healthcare, and legal resources of our local and Southeastern Wisconsin Lesbian and Gay communities.

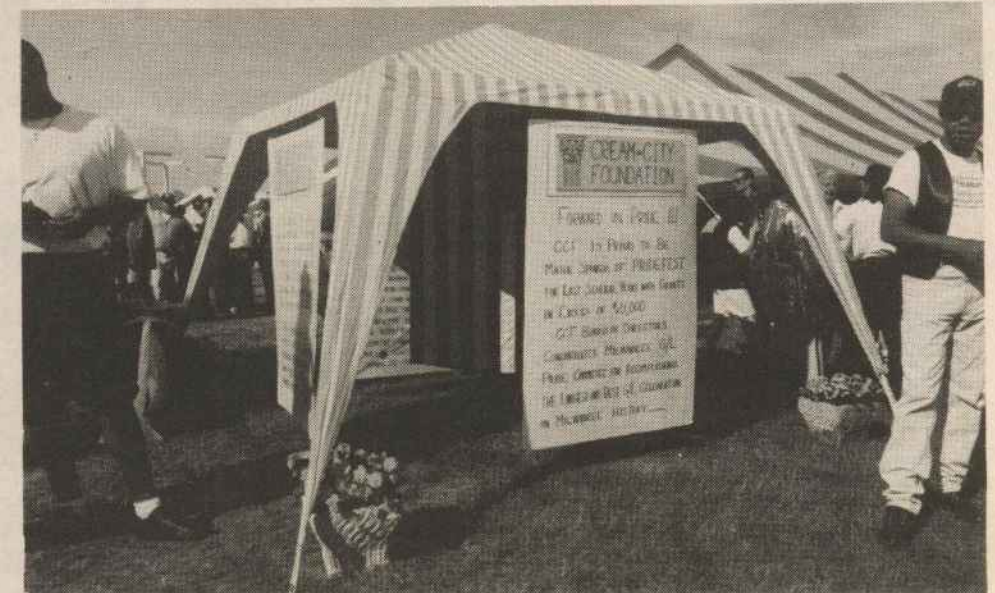
CCF is a member organization of ACHOICE and can be specified as recipient of your employee donation. Workplace giving is also available through Donor Choice of the United Way (some employers will match your donation). Or you can donate your time, energy, and money directly to CCF.

CCF: Work Place Giving Sets Record

Milwaukee—The Cream City Foundation (CCF) Board of Director is proud to announce that the 1995 workplace giving campaign for dollars pledged to CCF—about \$22,000—for 1996 reached an all-time high along with a record number of donors choosing CCF as their charity of choice.

Milwaukee area Gays and Lesbians and their many friends and families, are congratulated for their generosity and responsibility to our community.

CCF thanks all who gave so generously through ACHOICE, United Way Donor Choice or one of the many Combined Employee Campaigns at the workplace. If workplace giving is not available, a tax deductible "Direct Contribution" is welcome and can be put to immediate use.



The Cream City Foundation display at PrideFest 95. Over the years, CCF has donated over \$28,000 to help foster Pride in Wisconsin's LesBiGay community. PrideFest Co-Director, Bill Meunier says flatly, "Without CCF's help there would be no PrideFest."

**HIV THERAPY TRIALS
OPEN FOR ENROLLMENT**

**WISCONSIN AIDS
RESEARCH CONSORTIUM (WARC)**

The WARC is currently enrolling individuals with HIV disease for participation in two trials of experimental therapies. These trials may advance scientific knowledge and future treatment for other individuals with HIV disease.

TRIAL NO. 1 – REMUNE™

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.

TRIAL NO. 2 – DELAVIRDINE

This is a double-blind, randomized study. The study compares the responses of individuals taking varied doses of Delavirdine (DLV) and Zidovudine (AZT), or placebo and AZT.

ELIGIBILITY:

If your are fourteen years of age or older, are HIV positive, have a CD4 count greater than 200 but less than 500, and have not been on AZT therapy for more than six months, you may be eligible for this study.

**For information about enrolling in these trials,
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.

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5. Upon verification of vehicle purchase and eligibility, we will mail your Added Security Classic repair protection contract to you.
6. Refer to the Added Security Classic protection brochure at your dealer for further information about the coverage.
7. Suggested retail price of Added Security Classic repair protection with \$0 deductible is \$805.
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9. Only one Added Security policy will be issued per coupon.

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Editorial

Welcome Robert and Virginia Savrnoch PrideFest '96 Grand Marshals

Seldom have we been so moved by an interview as we have in reading the one we're carrying this issue with Robert and Virginia Savrnoch, the PrideFest Grand Marshals for 1996. The interviewer, who has not written for the paper before, has used a striking talent to bring out two warm and incredibly compassionate people, full of the inner beauty that comes from giving in an unstinting way. The account of Michael is alone, enough to make your chest fill up.

The Savrnochs have worked with people living with AIDS, do what they could, going from individual to individual, taking care of physical needs, easing suffering, listening when that was needed. They gave in these ways as they had given to their own son. In this, they represent the uncounted thousands of people across the world who strive to provide some relief from suffering to those driven to ground by a fierce storm.

But the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgendered community is more than AIDS. The Savrnochs represent those others as well.

They are not only people working with those with HIV/AIDS. From their Gay son and others, they have learned of the pain of those suffering from the prejudice against us for being who we are. Again, read the story of Michael. You will understand what we mean.

Finally, the Savrnochs represent the parents of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgendered people; parents who don't disown us, but who say, "We love you for who and what you are." Don't we all wish for parents like that? Is that not what PFLAG is all about?

In a very true sense, the Savrnochs are a bridge between the Gay community, the AIDS community, and the parents of those of us in both communities. As such we urge all to welcome Robert and Virginia Savrnoch as the Grand Marshals of PrideFest '96. We commend them to the community—the whole community, all of it, in all its blazing diversity.

We know that they do not seek honor or recognition. That is their way. But honor should never be pursued. It should always come unsought. Only then is it truly the gift that it is meant to be. The Savrnochs are utterly deserving of this gift.

Our thanks to the interviewer, known but to the paper, who went out of the way to do what others did not and do with a delicate artistry what should have been done long since. That person has served this community very well indeed.

Join Action Wisconsin

The other evening, we had the opportunity to join some 40 other LesBiGay activists from around the state at a reception for Action Wisconsin. The reception was hosted by Miller Brewery and held at the beautiful, old guest hall in Miller Valley.

For those of you who may not be aware of it, Action Wisconsin is the state-wide organization formed to fight for the civil rights of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgendered community. It is an inclusive group, transcending political parties and ideologies, believing that beyond those differences which divide us, there is—and must be—an overriding concern for equal rights. That's what this country has promised, and that's what Action Wisconsin is fighting to attain.

Naturally, there was a great deal of talk about the recent U.S. Supreme Court decision concerning Colorado's infamous and virulently anti-Gay Amendment 2. It had been struck down by an unexpectedly wide majority. As elsewhere in the nation, the euphoria lingered.

It was State Rep. Tammy Baldwin who, as is her way, put some perspective on things. Speaking to the activists that evening, she warned of the battles still to be fought in this war for equality.

Our enemies have been bloodied, but they are far, far from being defeated and they will not go away. As is substantiated by many press releases flowing into this paper, Baldwin told the group that the Far Right has only amended its tactics. Its strategic aim remains the same: in effect, to bury us.

It is for this reason that she urged all present to work to make Action Wisconsin as strong as it can be. We join her in that.

This beleaguered community needs Action Wisconsin. We must have it to defend ourselves against the enemy's assaults. This means that each and every person in our community out there, interested in their own rights and the rights of others, should get involved.

Join Action Wisconsin. Make it grow. It's working for us—and for the ideal given to all of us in America: the ideal of equality before the law.

For more information, or to join Action Wisconsin, write: Action Wisconsin, P.O. Box 342, Madison, WI 53701-0342, or call: (608) 231-1099.

Editor's Note

On Deadlines and Other Matters

By Terry Boughner

A few years ago now, Ron Geiman, along with myself and a couple of others, decided that we could make things a little easier for ourselves—and inform the community—if we held a forum to explain how our publications were put together. That was the origin of "Getting the Word Out." It was held twice in the banquet room of the M&M Club.

Perhaps some of what was said then deserves repeating. I think that especially since it is 4:00 a.m. as I write, the morning of layout day. A fax has just come through, telling about an event a group wants put in the paper. The problem is, the event is taking place one day before the paper is published.

Deadlines are important, terribly important. That's why we print them in every issue of the paper. Please, if you have an event you want published, think ahead. Get it in well before it happens.

Wisconsin Light, as I imagine is the case with any newspaper, gives first priority to dated material. Other things can and do get bumped.

For example, we had written an article describing the workings of an organization. There was nothing dated about it. But when the article got put back to the next issue, the head of the organization complained wildly, as if he had been delivered a gratuitous insult. Nothing of the kind. That's how things work.

As with any paper, we cannot promise you in what issue undated material will appear.

We are delighted to report your event, but please give some advance notice. Don't fax an outline or a couple of sentences through well past deadline and then wonder why a complete and rigorous story wasn't done.

Please remember that if whatever you have gets in late, there's not always someone with the time to reduce your outline and/or few sentences to prose.

In the matter of press releases, the more, the merrier. There are organizations and groups that deluge us with press releases about vari-

ous events. That's good. All of them don't get printed, but if they're prioritized, those certainly will.

It also helps to call and draw attention to something you really want in. "Did you get such-and-such? I would really appreciate it getting in." That has a strong tendency to get you to the top of the pile.

Not too long back, I ran into someone who complained, "We (an organization) never get noticed in the paper, not as much as some."

My response was, "We print everything we get from you."

"Well, there should be more. Don't you think about us?" he wondered.

"No, not really. There are a few other things to think about, you know."

The point of all this, is that the media is a tool. It can be very effective, extremely so, but like any tool, it is only as effective as those who know how to use it.

Do you have a point of view on some issue? Write a commentary piece. Please remember, however, that in writing commentary, you contest ideas, not people. It is called reasoned dialogue and debate.

The same thing holds true for Letters. Please don't engage in name calling and other invective. That doesn't help anyone.

As one person complained one time, "When are you going to stop printing all those things by idiots?"

My response: "We'd love to hear from you, too."

Do you have an idea for a story? Is there an article that you think ought to be written? Suggest it—but not when I'm out at a bar, having a night to myself.

Early on, I asked Ron about that. He told me, "Honey, I just tell them I have office hours and turn and walk away." Like so much other advice Ron has given over the years, that counsel is gold.

Letters

Gay Marriage

TO THE EDITOR:

"Gay marriage" — a ridiculous issue? A Gay/Lesbian person has only three choices. (1) Remain celibate (or "cruise" for superficial sex). (2) Marry heterosexually — and eventually make not only themselves unhappy, but (more important) the spouse and any children of such a false union. (3) Seek a responsible union with a member of the same sex.

This last seems the only mature, valid, indeed realistic option. So, why not confirm the Gay union as a marriage, with the rights — and yes indeed, the responsibilities too?

Denying marriage to Gays/Lesbians will not turn them "straight" — and they are "people too after all," with need and ability to love maturely, as best they can.

To say that "marriage is for heterosexuals only" seems exactly like saying "freedom is for whites only" or "power is for males only." True, we used to believe these notions — and in good faith, not maliciously. But now, we see they oversimplify human reality. True, major change is alarming, even when valid. Still, a decade or so from now, will the young generation (including a few from Gay/Lesbian unions, via adoption for fertilization) be puzzling as to why people once fussed so much about same-sex marriage, religious and civil?

As to whether homosexual unions are "unnatural" or "abnormal" — a simple two-part slogan solves that perplexity. Its answer is both yes and no, thus: (1) "Gay indeed IS okay — IF you are Gay (2) And straight truly IS great — IF you are straight!" Dilemma solved, via basic Plurality 101, or "different strokes" as they say.

As for religious marriage: someone else said, "God made diversity; man made bigotry; who d'ya trust?"

Brian Kevin Beck
Whitewater, WI

Et Tu, Cal?

TO THE EDITOR:

Cal Thomas claims that ancient Rome fell because they promoted Gay hanky-panky. As one who has studied ancient Rome at least as much as Mr. Thomas, I must cordially disagree. Reliable studies indicate that ancient Rome fell because of bad hair.

The decline of ancient Rome started when the proconsuls and senators, most of whom were Republican, started getting their perms at Marius Sulla's eight-seater. Marius claimed to be the only straight hair stylist on the Via Pontevecchio. He specialized in hair frying tight little ringlets for that poodle-with-a-migraine look.

The senators and proconsuls would then take their bad hair moods out on their scribes and make them feed them grapes while reclining on their ancient Roman futons (i.e., the senators reclined; legislators in those days did not recline with scribes except in the underground laboratoriums).

The scribes mightily resented this treatment and started dipping the grapes in strychnine.

Around this same time, the senators closed Signorina Katarina's Ristorante out of pique that her customers answered to a higher fashion calling than they. Consequently, Caesar had no place to take Germanicus when he visited ancient Rome, all hell broke loose, and thus fell ancient Rome.

So, you see, Cal, it wasn't the homos after all. It was the hair. You could look it up.

Michael Neville
Milwaukee

WOW's Accountability

TO THE EDITOR:

My purpose for writing is to inform the community, including members of Wisconsin Outdoor Women (WOW), of a recent, questionable experience I had with the leadership of WOW, known as "The CORE." I am a former member of WOW.

It has been advertised through irregularly published monthly newsletters that additional CORE members were needed. Experiencing dissatisfaction with the organization, hearing of similar feelings from other members, and the refusal of several CORE members to voice our feelings at CORE meetings due to their fear of being ostracized, I expressed interest in joining the CORE. Because an existing CORE member, with whom I had a personal difference in the past, opposed my involvement, I was told I would not be allowed to join. One of the CORE members, who claims to have been a member of the organization for over 13 years, stated that WOW is not run democratically when I questioned the fairness of the action.

Further, upon requesting a copy of the by-laws and a current financial statement of WOW from the apparent treasurer of the organization in a telephone conversation and questioning how membership dues are used, I was sent a refund of my dues by certified mail accompanied only by a brief letter incorrectly stating that I had requested a refund of the dues. I guess that means I am now no longer a member of WOW.

I was removed from the organization because I dared to question the way the organization is run!

Please consider the following opinions.

1. I believe the CORE should be made accountable to the general WOW membership of the state and management of its finances. WOW makes a profit on many of its activities and has quite a bank account balance, as confessed to me by a CORE member. Plus, it charges yearly membership dues. How is this money used? Is WOW a non-profit and tax-exempt

organization?

2. If WOW is not run democratically, how is it run? Apparently, if written by-laws do exist, they are not available to the membership.

3. It is my belief, based upon my experience with the organization, the much talked about cliquishness and discrimination based upon personality and belief differences does exist in WOW, encouraged by its CORE.

4. Overall, is this the type of behavior and practice which promotes and celebrates diversity, openness, and acceptance within our community?

Consider what I experienced when I tried to become involved in bringing about change within an organization which is clearly, in my opinion, not of benefit to the majority of its membership or the community. Otherwise, would we not be seeing more WOW-sponsored events and more participation in the events it does sponsor?

Julie Jernigan
Milwaukee

Please Turn to LETTERS on Page 31

Deadlines

June 20th Issue
Articles - June 14th
Ads - June 18th

July 4th Issue
(distributed July 2nd)
Articles - June 27th
Ads - June 29th

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The Wisconsin Light



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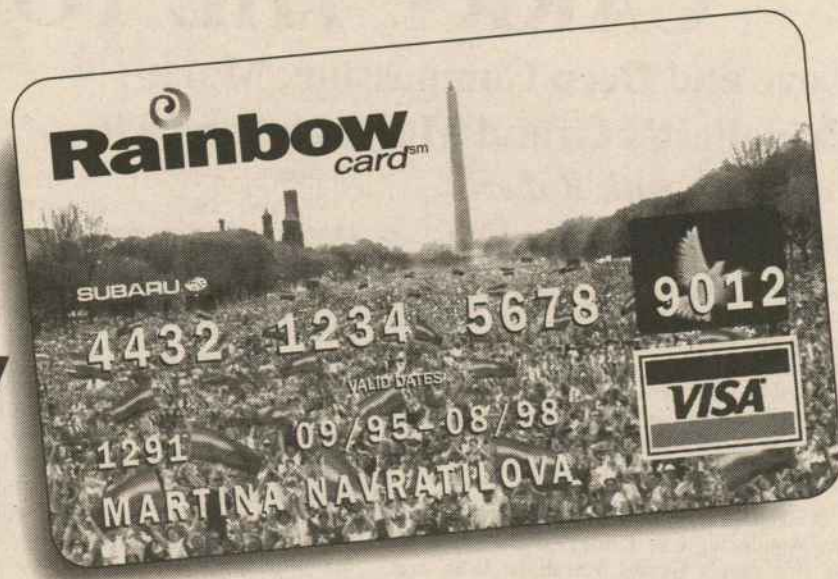


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WISCONSIN'S PRIDEFEST '96

CARRY THE TORCH - June 7th, 8th & 9th

Love and Deep Compassion, Mark PrideFest's Grand Marshals for 1996

Interview with Robert and Virginia Savrnoch

Because many in the Gay community at-large have not met Robert and Virginia Savrnoch, and because there has been a great desire to know them, Wisconsin Light decided to interview them. What the interviewer found was a charming and graceful couple who live according to ideals to which all of us should adhere.

Wisconsin Light: There are many who are wondering why PrideFest chose you to be this year's Grand Marshals. Who are the Savrnochs, anyway?



Ginny Savrnoch: Basically, we're two old farts. We've been married for 38 years. We have three sons, one of whom died of AIDS. After our son, Gary, died, we vowed to carry on. We don't want to see others die alone; we wanted to educate others—parents—and show love, compassion. I guess we just want to help those who have AIDS and get parents involved.

WL: How long have you been working with PWAs?

GS: Six years.

WL: Tell me about your community involvements.

Bob Savrnoch: We work at St. Camillas AIDS Ministry and through a support group, "Family, Friends and Lovers of People with AIDS."

GV: That support group was our first contact—when we met others who were going through this illness...

BS: We've worked with MAP (Milwaukee AIDS Project) too. I guess you could say that we just pick up people by word of mouth. We take them to various groups, talk to them, help them as best we can. We've been out to Menominee Falls, West Allis—all schools, grade and high schools, all over.

We've spoken at churches, one in Waukesha; also LaFarge Adult Education. We speak whenever we are asked.

GS: We have spoken at retreats...

WL: Retreats? What kind of retreats? Are you Catholics?

GS: (Laughs) We are Catholics—Bob is more Catholic than I am—but we have worked, for example, with Brother (Stephen) Braddock (of St. Camillas AIDS Ministry), who runs retreats. We come and cook, do the Closings—Parents, you see, are so closeted. I believe people need to be visible.

BS: I resigned from being the mayor here in Delafield when Gary got so sick. I just wanted to continue doing what we did with him.

WL: Which brings up a point: discrimination. What have you encountered? Because of what you do, because of your son? **Bob,** you work at Marquette University which has not had the best of reputations concerning Gays on campus or the Gay press.

BS: I haven't gotten any flack. I've been well treated by the Jesuits and gotten encouragement from them. I got time off to be with my son. I have spoken on at least three panels at Marquette about AIDS, AIDS awareness.

Actually, I could care less about people who might have had a negative attitude. Maybe I'm just too dumb to notice it—I just don't care. That's their problem. I don't spend energy paying attention.

WL: How many people have you helped in the last six years?

BS: (Laughing) I knew you would ask that question! See, I should have kept records...

WL: It's not the numbers...

BS: I know. Let's see—maybe 25 people or 30 that we've been care-givers with—have no

idea how many we've talked with—lots...

WL: You "adopted" some of these men—I assume most were men?

GS: Yes. So many were rejected by their families. Mike was one. He went to live with his family in Virginia, but when his father found out he was Gay and he had AIDS, he beat Mike up and later shot him.

We cooked for Mike, took care of his cigarettes. When he left for Florida to live in his lover's condo, we called him every day for 5 years. He really depended on us, living in a red-neck area of the country. We told him we weren't going away. We stayed with him until—the end. We took three trips to Florida that year. It was painful, but you get past it with people.

WL: Well, you live in a small town. You know the small town stereotypes—intolerance, that sort of thing. How has Delafield treated you?

GS: It was an opportunity to educate. We were very up front and honest. People already knew my son and liked him, so I think it was easier. Maybe there were those who talked behind our backs. There was stuff, but that's "poo-poo" stuff. I don't pay attention to that, anyway.

WL: Well, what do you do with people who look at you and go "poo"?

BS: Well, we were on Mike Lisowski's (TV) show, and we heard that we were somehow not supposed to be involved—and we talked about why we felt we should be involved.

GS: You know, we heard that because we helped to bring the (AIDS Memorial) Quilt to Milwaukee—

BS: Yeah, I arranged the transportation for it to get here—

GS: And he was the MC for that event. Afterward, we heard from so many people things like, "I wish you were my parents." You know, 50% who tell their parents are rejected. And I have met so many wonderful, beautiful people: Beautiful! Wonderful.

BS: I made the welcome speech at the Candle Light Memorial a couple of weeks ago and I heard the same. There are lots more who we need to reach—we need to change their opinions. They need to better understand Gay and Lesbian issues. You are no different. You should not be treated differently in any way—that's our theme.

WL: Do you get more flack from Gays than straights?

BS: We just don't think about it or concentrate on it.

GS: We don't do what we do—I mean, one thing I don't like is recognition. We steer clear of it. We stay clear of honors and recognition. We don't want it.

WL: And your other sons? Family?

GS: Well, my son John, who's an attorney in Fresno, was head of Central Valley AIDS Team.

WL: In Fresno?

GS: Yes, and his wife is on the Board of Directors.

WL: So your work is a family thing, too?

BS: Yes.

WL: What about your care-taking work—what do you do?

GS: You come in—relieve the caretakers, give them a break. It makes things a lot easier. We cook, change diapers, do the wash, you name it. Sometimes we listen—just listen. We have met Rick and Larry—you know, Beck Fuhrman's parents. She's the three-year-old who died of AIDS...

BS: If someone calls, we're off. On Mother's Day, I stayed with a mother in a nursing home with her son until 6:00 a.m. That weekend, I also stayed with a dementia case, just to give the staff time.

GS: We unstressed them.

BS: I also stayed with "Ivory" who didn't want to die alone. Thing of compassion and caring. Things from a person's heart.

WL: Going back to recognition, why do you think PrideFest asked you to be the Grand Marshals. Why did you accept?

GS: We decided to accept this recognition so that we could be examples to other parents. We think of it as an education process, not to toot our own horns. Never.

I think Rick Finger (PrideFest Parade Coordinator) called us because of our attitude, because of our understanding of what's going on in the Gay community.

BS: Neither of us want honor. We just want to be of service. And do that with compassion.

GS: It's how we were brought up. It's a natural extension of who we are.

WL: Anything else you'd like to add?

GS: We are proud: Of our son; of being in-

involved. So very proud of the honor of being Grand Marshals. We—don't want to offend anyone—we just are willing to do what we are called upon to do. That's about it.

BS: The big thing is not to be alone, no matter who the person is.

GS: Feed a friend who's ill raspberries,

whatever. I think the beauty of relationships I have seen, the caring. People don't see it—we do. We've seen such gentle, wonderful spouses—significant people. It is a beautiful thing to watch, a privilege.

WL: Thank you.

WHEREAS, PRIDEFEST

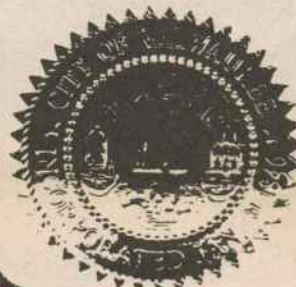
will be held June 7 - 9, 1996 in Milwaukee as a celebration of Milwaukee's gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender community and its positive contributions to the arts, industry, businesses, sports and other aspects of community life; and

WHEREAS, PrideFest is a celebration that includes hundreds of entertainers, a classic car show, dozens of exhibits, a volleyball tournament, fireworks and other activities; and

WHEREAS, The Common Council of the City of Milwaukee recognizes the contributions made by all of its citizens, regardless of race, sex, creed, national origin, ancestry or sexual orientation; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, The Common Council of the City of Milwaukee herewith recognizes the positive contributions gays, lesbians, bisexuals, and transgenders have made to the life of the community, congratulates the organizers of PrideFest and other Pride celebration events and urges the people of Milwaukee to join with it in recognizing the value of diversity in our community.

Introduced by Aldermen Paul E. Henningsen, Marvin E. Pratt, Fredrick G. Gordon and Michael S. D'Amato and approved by all members of the Milwaukee Common Council on May 14, 1996.



Alderman John R. Kalwitz
President of the Common Council

Ronald D. Leonhardt
City Clerk

Office of the Mayor CITY OF MILWAUKEE



Proclamation

Whereas: We are a community in which all citizens should respect one another and work towards greater harmony; and,

WHEREAS, Milwaukee's gay and lesbian citizens and taxpayers contribute to the Milwaukee economy and culture, which will be celebrated in a special festival honoring Milwaukee's gay and lesbian community; and,

WHEREAS, This year's festival will include hundreds of entertainers, a classic car show, dozens of exhibits, a volleyball tournament, wonderful music and food; and,

WHEREAS, The City of Milwaukee commends the members of the gay and lesbian community and organizers of this event for their efforts;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JOHN O. NORQUIST, Mayor of the City of Milwaukee, do hereby proclaim June 7-9, 1996, to be

MILWAUKEE PRIDEFEST DAYS



JOHN O. NORQUIST
Mayor



WHEREAS

WHEREAS, Milwaukee's Gay and Lesbian Community celebrates PrideFest '96, Friday, June 7 through Sunday June 9, 1996 at Henry W. Maier Festival Park; and

WHEREAS, PrideFest '96 is the largest Lesbian/Gay Pride observance in the Midwest; and

WHEREAS, Milwaukee's Gay and Lesbians have contributed to the financial and cultural well-being of this county, yet still encounter prejudice and discrimination; and

WHEREAS, PrideFest '96 will showcase entertainers, exhibits, shows, games and other activities and will help draw attention to the positive contributions made by the Gay and Lesbian community; and

WHEREAS, PrideFest '96 recognizes the positive influences and achievements made by the Gay and Lesbian Community and highlights the individuality and diversity of this community; and

WHEREAS, Milwaukee County's Gays and Lesbians are hard-working, voters and tax-paying citizens who use their talents for all; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that Milwaukee County Supervisors Elizabeth Coggs-Jones, Sheila A. Aldrich, T. Anthony Zielinski, Anthony J. Czaja, Michael Mayo, Sr., Penny E. Podell, Dorothy K. Dean and Roger Quindel, do herewith wish the sponsors and participants a successful and memorable PrideFest '96, June 7-9, 1996.



May 30, 1996

The Shepherd Express Sponsors The Rainbow Café at PrideFest '96

Milwaukee—The Shepherd Express, has become one of the major sponsors of PrideFest '96. Milwaukee's only employee-owned weekly alternative paper will be hosting the Rainbow Café at PrideFest on the Henry W. Maier Festival Grounds (Summerfest grounds).

The Shepherd Express was founded in 1982 and went from a monthly to a weekly in 1988. Currently, it prints 55,000 copies every issue and reaches approximately 165,000 readers—at least 15% of the metro Milwaukee market.

The Shepherd Express provides metro Milwaukee with its only news and arts weekly. From a news perspective, that means in-depth analysis and coverage of trends and developments in the urban environment through investigative reporting, commentary, feature stories, and a dash of irreverence and levity thrown in for spice.

While the Shepherd has earned its reputation by covering the actions, motivations, and ramifications of the powers-that-be in the area, (and hence, often their ire), those same people readily acknowledge that they are avid readers and are influenced by the paper's point of view.

Susan Cook, PrideFest Co-Director, com-

mented on the Shepherd's fresh approach to news articles.

"I am glad there is at least one newspaper in this town that will not shirk from reporting stories that may step on a few toes, but need to be told. It reminds me of the old Bugle-American, only the Shepherd has more finesse."

The Shepherd's news scope doesn't stop at the metro limits. The paper has won awards for environmental reporting on issues that concern the total environment of the state of Wisconsin, from Indian spearfishing to mining and endangered resources.

In the field of entertainment, the Shepherd has famed coverage of local music, arts and high culture. It also has the most complete calendar of events listings in town. Going beyond traditional entertainment coverage, the paper supports the local music industry through showcase performances and sponsorship of other events.

The Shepherd Express Rainbow Café is the newest entertainment venue at PrideFest. Located just inside the Main Gate, the coffee house style entertainment will include folk music, acoustical blues, poetry slams, and comedy.

Shepherd Express Rainbow Café Line-Up

Saturday, June 8

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1:00 p.m.—Mia Montenegro | 6:00 p.m.—Tracey Rose |
| 2:15 p.m.—Judii Lowe | 7:00 p.m.—Blues Show |
| 3:30 p.m.—Lisa Marie Caine | 8:45 p.m.—Booze Hags |
| 4:45 p.m.—Jerry Grillo w/Jack Grassel | |

Sunday, June 9

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1:30 p.m.—Kathy Priestly | 5:30 p.m.—Lojo Russo |
| 3:00 p.m.—Dykeappella | 7:00 p.m.—John Berg |
| 4:15 p.m.—Jeff Jennings | 8:15 p.m.—Julie Darrough |

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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.

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.

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Amendment 2 Is Merely an Attempt to Uphold Traditional Morality

In the landmark case in the battle for Gay civil rights, "Romer v. Evans," Associate Justice Scalia wrote the minority opinion. In this dissent, he was joined by Associate Justice Thomas and the Chief Justice.

The Court has mistaken a Kulturkampf for a fit of spite.

The constitutional amendment before us here is not the manifestation of a "bare... desire to harm" homosexuals, but is rather a modest attempt by seemingly tolerant Coloradans to preserve traditional sexual mores against the efforts of a politically powerful minority to revise those mores through use of the laws.



That objective, and the means chosen to achieve it, are not only unimpeachable under any constitutional doctrine hitherto pronounced (hence the opinion's heavy reliance upon

principles of righteousness rather than judicial holdings); they have been specifically approved by the Congress of the United States and by this Court.

In holding that homosexuality cannot be singled out for disfavorable treatment, the Court contradicts a decision, unchallenged here, pronounced only 10 years ago, see *Bowers v. Hardwick*, 478 U. S. 186 (1986), and places the prestige of this institution behind the proposition that opposition to homosexuality is as reprehensible as racial or religious bias.

Whether it is or not is precisely the cultural debate that gave rise to the Colorado constitutional amendment (and to the preferential laws against which the amendment was directed).

Since the Constitution of the United States says nothing about this subject, it is left to be resolved by normal democratic means, including the democratic adoption of provisions in state constitutions.

This Court has no business imposing upon all Americans the resolution favored by the elite class from which the Members of this institution are selected, pronouncing that "animosity" toward homosexuality, is evil. I vigorously dissent.

I

Let me first discuss Part II of the Court's opinion, its longest section, which is devoted to rejecting the State's arguments that Amendment 2 "puts gays and lesbians in the same position as all other persons," and "does no more than deny homosexuals special rights."

The Court concludes that this reading of Amendment 2's language is "implausible" under the "authoritative construction" given Amendment 2 by the Supreme Court of Colorado.

In reaching this conclusion, the Court considers it unnecessary to decide the validity of the State's argument that Amendment 2 does not deprive homosexuals of the "protection [afforded by] general laws and policies that prohibit arbitrary discrimination in governmental and private settings."

I agree that we need not resolve that dispute, because the Supreme Court of Colorado has resolved it for us. In *Evans v. Romer*, the Colorado court stated:

"[I]t is significant to note that Colorado law currently proscribes discrimination against persons who are not suspect classes, including discrimination based on age, marital or family status, veterans' status, and for any legal, off-duty conduct such as smoking tobacco.

Of course Amendment 2 is not intended to have any effect on this legislation, but seeks only to prevent the adoption of anti-discrimination laws intended to protect gays, lesbians, and bisexuals."

The Court utterly fails to distinguish this portion of the Colorado court's opinion which this passage authoritatively declares not to be affected by Amendment 2, was respondents' primary example of a generally applicable law whose protections would be unavailable to homosexuals under Amendment 2.

The clear import of the Colorado court's conclusion that it is not affected is that "general laws and policies that prohibit arbitrary discrimination" would continue to prohibit discrimination on the basis of homosexual conduct as well.

This analysis, which is fully in accord with (indeed, follows inescapably from) the text of the constitutional provision, lays to rest such horrors, raised in the course of oral argument, as the prospect that assaults upon homosexuals could not be prosecuted.

The amendment prohibits special treatment of homosexuals, and nothing more.

It would not affect, for example, a requirement of state law that pensions be paid to all retiring state employees with a certain length of service; homosexual employees, as well as others, would be entitled to that benefit. But it would prevent the State or any municipality

from making death-benefit payments to the "life partner" of a homosexual when it does not make such payments to the long-time roommate of a nonhomosexual employee.

Or again, it does not affect the requirement of the State's general insurance laws that customers be afforded coverage without discrimination unrelated to anticipated risk. Thus, homosexuals could not be denied coverage, or

charged a greater premium, with respect to auto collision insurance; but neither the State nor any municipality could require that distinctive health insurance risks associated with homosexuality (if there are any) be ignored.

Despite all of its hand-wringing about the potential effect of Amendment 2 on general antidiscrimination laws, the Court's opinion ultimately does not dispute all this, but assumes it to be true.

The only denial of equal treatment it contends homosexuals have suffered is this: They may not obtain preferential treatment without amending the state constitution.

That is to say, the principle underlying the Court's opinion is that one who is accorded equal treatment under the laws, but cannot as readily as others obtain preferential treatment under the laws, has been denied equal protection of the laws. If merely stating this alleged "equal protection" violation does not suffice to refute it, our constitutional jurisprudence has achieved terminal silliness.

The central thesis of the Court's reasoning is that any group is denied equal protection when, to obtain advantage (or, presumably, to avoid disadvantage), it must have recourse to a more general and hence more difficult level of political decision making than others.

The world has never heard of such a principle, which is why the Court's opinion is so long on emotive utterance and so short on relevant legal citation. And it seems to me most unlikely that any multilevel democracy can function under such a principle.

For whenever a disadvantage is imposed, or conferral of a benefit is prohibited, at one of the higher levels of democratic decision making (i.e., by the state legislature rather than local government, or by the people at large in the state constitution rather than the legislature), the affected group has (under this theory) been denied equal protection.

To take the simplest of examples, consider a state law prohibiting the award of municipal contracts to relatives of mayors or city councilmen. Once such a law is passed, the group composed of such relatives must, in order to get the benefit of city contracts, persuade the state legislature—unlike all other citizens, who need only persuade the municipality. It is ridiculous to consider this a denial of equal protection, which is why the Court's theory is unheard-of.

The Court might reply that the example I have given is not a denial of equal protection only because the same "rational basis" (avoidance of corruption) which renders constitutional the substantive discrimination against relatives (i.e., the fact that they alone cannot obtain city contracts) also automatically suffices to sustain what might be called the electoral-procedural discrimination against them (i.e., the fact that they must go to the state level to get this changed).

This is of course a perfectly reasonable response, and would explain why "electoral-procedural discrimination" has not hitherto been heard of: a law that is valid in its substance is automatically valid in its level of enactment. But the Court cannot afford to make this argument, for as I shall discuss next, there is no doubt of a rational basis for the substance of the prohibition at issue here.

The Court's entire novel theory rests upon the proposition that there is something special—something that cannot be justified by normal "rational basis" analysis—in making a disadvantaged group (or a nonpreferred group) resort to a higher decision making level. That proposition finds no support in law or logic.

II

I turn next to whether there was a legitimate rational basis for the substance of the constitutional amendment—for the prohibition of special protection for homosexuals.

The Court evidently agrees that "rational basis"—the normal test for compliance with the Equal Protection Clause—is the governing standard. The trial court rejected respondents' argument that homosexuals constitute a "suspect" or "quasi-suspect" class, and respondents elected not to appeal that ruling to the Supreme Court of Colorado.

And the Court implicitly rejects the Supreme Court of Colorado's holding, that Amendment 2 infringes upon a "fundamental right" of "independently identifiable class[es]" to "participate equally in the political process."

The case most relevant to the issue before us today is not even mentioned in the Court's opinion: In *Bowers v. Hardwick*, we held that the Constitution does not prohibit what virtually all States had done from the founding of the Republic until very recent years—making homosexual conduct a crime.

That holding is unassailable, except by those who think that the Constitution changes to suit current fashions. But in any event it is a given in the present case: Respondents' briefs did not urge overruling *Bowers*, and at oral argument respondents' counsel expressly disavowed any intent to seek such overruling.

If it is constitutionally permissible for a State to make homosexual conduct criminal, surely it is constitutionally permissible for a State to enact other laws merely disfavoring homosexual conduct.

After all, there can hardly be more palpable discrimination against a class than making the conduct that defines the class criminal. And a fortiori it is constitutionally permissible for a State to adopt a provision not even disfavoring homosexual conduct, but merely prohibiting all levels of state government from bestowing special protections upon homosexual conduct.

Respondents (who, unlike the Court, cannot afford the luxury of ignoring inconvenient precedent) counter *Bowers* with the argument that a greater-includes-the-lesser rationale cannot justify Amendment 2's application to individuals who do not engage in homosexual acts, but are merely of homosexual "orientation."

Some courts of appeals have concluded that, with respect to laws of this sort at least, that is a distinction without a difference.

[F]or purposes of these proceedings, it is virtually impossible to distinguish or separate individuals of a particular orientation which predisposes them toward a particular sexual conduct from those who actually engage in that particular type of sexual conduct.

The Supreme Court of Colorado itself appears to be of this view. ("Amendment 2 targets this class of persons based on four characteristics: sexual orientation; conduct; practices; and relationships. Each characteristic provides a potentially different way of identifying that class of persons who are gay, lesbian, or bisexual. These four characteristics are not truly severable from one another because each provides nothing more than a different way of identifying the same class of persons.")

But assuming that, in Amendment 2, a person of homosexual "orientation" is someone who does not engage in homosexual conduct but merely has a tendency or desire to do so, *Bowers* still suffices to establish a rational

basis for the provision.

If it is rational to criminalize the conduct, surely it is rational to deny special favor and protection to those with a self-avowed tendency or desire to engage in the conduct.

Indeed, where criminal sanctions are not involved, homosexual "orientation" is an acceptable stand-in for homosexual conduct. A State "does not violate the Equal Protection Clause merely because the classifications made by its laws are imperfect."

Just as a policy barring the hiring of methadone users as transit employees does not violate equal protection simply because some methadone users pose no threat to passenger safety, and just as a mandatory retirement age of 50 for police officers does not violate equal protection even though it prematurely ends the careers of many policemen over 50 who still have the capacity to do the job.

Amendment 2 is not constitutionally invalid simply because it could have been drawn more precisely so as to withdraw special anti-discrimination protections only from those of homosexual "orientation" who actually engage in homosexual conduct.

As JUSTICE KENNEDY wrote, when he was on the Court of Appeals, in a case involving discharge of homosexuals from the Navy: "Nearly any statute which classifies people may be irrational as applied in particular cases. Discharge of the particular plaintiffs before us would be rational, under minimal scrutiny, not because their particular cases present the dangers which justify Navy policy, but instead because the general policy of discharging all homosexuals is rational."

Moreover, even if the provision regarding homosexual "orientation" were invalid, respondents' challenge to Amendment 2—which is a facial challenge—must fail.

A facial challenge to a legislative Act is, of course, the most difficult challenge to mount successfully, since the challenger must establish that no set of circumstances exists under which the Act would be valid."

It would not be enough for respondents to establish (if they could) that Amendment 2 is unconstitutional as applied to those of homosexual "orientation"; since, under *Bowers*, Amendment 2 is unquestionably constitutional as applied to those who engage in homosexual conduct, the facial challenge cannot succeed. Some individuals of homosexual "orientation" who do not engage in homosexual acts might successfully bring an as-applied challenge to Amendment 2, but so far as the record indicates, none of the respondents is such a person.

The Supreme Court of Colorado stated: "We hold that the portions of Amendment 2 that would remain if only the provision concerning sexual orientation were stricken are not autonomous and thus, not severable."

That statement was premised, however, on the proposition that "[the] four characteristics [described in the Amendment—sexual orientation, conduct, practices, and relationships] are not truly severable from one another because each provides nothing more than a different way of identifying the same class of persons."

As I have discussed above, if that premise is true—if the entire class affected by the Amendment takes part in homosexual conduct, practices and relationships—*Bowers* alone suffices to answer all constitutional objections.

Separate consideration of persons of homosexual "orientation" is necessary only if one believes (as the Supreme Court of Colorado did not) that is a distinct class.

III

The foregoing suffices to establish what the Court's failure to cite any case remotely in point would lead one to suspect: No principle set forth in the Constitution, nor even any imagined by this Court in the past 200 years, prohibits what Colorado has done here.

But the case for Colorado is much stronger than that.

What it has done is not only unprohibited, but eminently reasonable, with close, congressionally approved precedent in earlier constitutional practice.

First, as to its eminent reasonableness. The Court's opinion contains grim, disapproving hints that Coloradans have been guilty of "animus" or "animosity" toward homosexuality, as though that has been established as Unamerican.

Of course it is our moral heritage that one should not hate any human being or class of human beings. But I had thought that one could consider certain conduct reprehensible murder, for example, or polygamy, or cruelty to animals—and could exhibit even "animus" toward such conduct.

Surely that is the only sort of "animus" at issue here: moral disapproval of homosexual conduct, the same sort of moral disapproval that produced the centuries-old criminal laws that we held constitutional in *Bowers*.

The Colorado amendment does not, to speak entirely precisely, prohibit giving favored status to people who are homosexuals; they can be favored for many reasons—for example, because they are senior citizens or members of racial minorities. But it prohibits giving them favored status because of their homosexual

Please Turn to Amendment 2 On Page 9

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Amendment 2

Continued from Page 8

conduct—that is, it prohibits favored status for homosexuality.

But though Coloradans are, as I say, entitled to be hostile toward homosexual conduct, the fact is that the degree of hostility reflected by Amendment 2 is the smallest conceivable. The Court's portrayal of Coloradans as a society fallen victim to pointless, hate-filled "gay-bashing" is so false as to be comical.

Colorado not only is one of the 25 States that have repealed their antisodomy laws, but was among the first to do so.

But the society that eliminates criminal punishment for homosexual acts does not necessarily abandon the view that homosexuality is morally wrong and socially harmful; often, abolition simply reflects the view that enforcement of such criminal laws involves unseemly intrusion into the intimate lives of citizens.

There is a problem, however, which arises when criminal sanction of homosexuality is eliminated but moral and social disapprobation of homosexuality is meant to be retained.

The Court cannot be unaware of that problem; it is evident in many cities of the country, and occasionally bubbles to the surface of the news, in heated political disputes over such matters as the introduction into local schools of books teaching that homosexuality is an optional and fully acceptable alternate life style."

The problem (a problem, that is, for those who wish to retain social disapprobation of homosexuality) is that, because those who engage in homosexual conduct tend to reside in disproportionate numbers in certain communities, have high disposable income, and of course care about homosexual-rights issues much more ardently than the public at large, they possess political power much greater than their numbers, both locally and statewide.

Quite understandably, they devote this political power to achieving not merely a grudging social toleration, but full social acceptance, of homosexuality.

By the time Coloradans were asked to vote on Amendment 2, their exposure to homosexuals' quest for social endorsement was not limited to newspaper accounts of happenings in places such as New York, Los Angeles, San Francisco, and Key West.

Three Colorado cities—Aspen, Boulder, and Denver—had enacted ordinances that listed asexual orientation as an impermissible ground for discrimination, equating the moral disapproval of homosexual conduct with racial and religious bigotry.

The phenomenon had even appeared statewide: the Governor of Colorado had signed an executive order pronouncing that "in the State of Colorado we recognize the diversity in our pluralistic society and strive to bring an end to discrimination in any form," and directing state agency-heads to "ensure non-discrimination" in hiring and promotion based on, among other things, asexual orientation."

I do not mean to be critical of these legislative successes; homosexuals are as entitled to use the legal system for reinforcement of their moral sentiments as are the rest of society. But they are subject to being countered by lawful, democratic countermeasures as well.

That is where Amendment 2 came in. It sought to counter both the geographic concentration and the disproportionate political power of homosexuals by resolving the controversy at the statewide level, and making the election a single-issue contest for both sides. It put directly, to all the citizens of the State, the question: Should homosexuality be given special protection?

They answered no.

The Court today asserts that this most democratic of procedures is unconstitutional.

Lacking any cases to establish that facially absurd proposition, it simply asserts that it must be unconstitutional, because it has never happened before.

As I have noted above, this is proved false every time a state law prohibiting or disfavoring certain conduct is passed, because such a law prevents the adversely affected group whether drug addicts, or smokers, or gun owners, or motorcyclists—from changing the policy thus established in "each of [the] parts" of the State.

What the Court says is even demonstrably false at the constitutional level. The Eighteenth Amendment to the Federal Constitution, for example, deprived

those who drank alcohol not only of the power to alter the policy of prohibition locally or through state legislation, but even of the power to alter it through state constitutional amendment or federal legislation.

The Establishment Clause of the First Amendment prevents theocrats from having their way by converting their fellow citizens at the local, state, or federal statutory level; as does the Republican Form of Government Clause prevent monarchists.

But there is a much closer analogy, one that involves precisely the effort by the majority of citizens to preserve its view of sexual morality statewide, against the efforts of a geo-

graphically concentrated and politically powerful minority to undermine it.

The constitutions of the States of Arizona, Idaho, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Utah to this day contain provisions stating that polygamy is "forever prohibited."

Polygamists, and those who have a polygamous "orientation," have been "singled out" by these provisions for much more severe treatment than merely denial of favored status; and that treatment can only be changed by achieving amendment of the state constitutions. The Court's disposition today suggests that these provisions are unconstitutional, and that polygamy must be permitted in these States on a state-legislated, or perhaps even local-option, basis—unless, of course, polygamists for some reason have fewer constitutional rights than homosexuals.

I cannot say that this Court has explicitly approved any of these state constitutional provisions; but it has approved a territorial statutory provision that went even further, depriving polygamists of the ability even to achieve a constitutional amendment, by depriving them of the power to vote.

The proposition that polygamy can be criminalized, and those engaging in that crime deprived of the vote, remains good law.

The Court cannot escape the central fact that this Court found the statute at issue—which went much further than Amendment 2, denying polygamists not merely special treatment but the right to vote—"not open to any constitutional or legal objection," rejecting the appellant's argument (much like the argument of respondents today) that the statute impermissibly "single[d] him out."

Amendment 2, of course, does not deny the fundamental right to vote, and the Court rejects the Colorado court's view that there exists a fundamental right to participate in the political process. Strict scrutiny is thus not in play here.

Finally, the Court's suggestion that 501 of the Revised Statutes of Idaho, and Amendment 2, deny rights on account of status" (rather than conduct) opens up a broader debate involving the significance of Bowers to this case, a debate which the Court is otherwise unwilling to join.

It remains to be explained how 501 of the Idaho Revised Statutes was not an "impermissible targeting" of polygamists, but (the much more mild) Amendment 2 is an "impermissible targeting" of homosexuals. Has the Court concluded that the perceived social harm of polygamy is a "legitimate concern of government," and the perceived social harm of homosexuality is not?

IV

I strongly suspect that the answer to the last question is yes, which leads me to the last point I wish to make: The Court today, announcing that Amendment 2 "defies . . . conventional [constitutional] inquiry," and "confounds [the] normal process of judicial review," employs a constitutional theory heretofore unknown to frustrate Colorado's reasonable effort to preserve traditional American moral values.

The Court's stern disapproval of "animosity" towards homosexuality might be compared with what an earlier Court, rejecting a constitutional challenge to a United States statute that denied the franchise in federal territories to those who engaged in polygamous cohabitation:

"[C]ertainly no legislation can be supposed more wholesome and necessary in the founding of a free, self-governing commonwealth, fit to take rank as one of the coordinate States of the Union, than that which seeks to establish it on the basis of the idea of the family, as consisting in and springing from the union for life of one man and one woman in the holy estate of matrimony; the sure foundation of all that is stable and noble in our civilization; the best guaranty of that reverent morality which is the source of all beneficent progress in social and political improvement."

I would not myself indulge in such official praise for heterosexual monogamy, because I think it no business of the courts (as opposed to the political branches) to take sides in this culture war.

But the Court today has done so, not only by inventing a novel and extravagant constitutional doctrine to take the victory away from traditional forces, but even by verbally disparaging as bigotry adherence to traditional attitudes. To suggest, for example, that this constitutional amendment springs from nothing more than "a bare . . . desire to harm a politically unpopular group," is nothing short of insulting.

(It is also nothing short of preposterous to call "politically unpopular" a group which enjoys enormous influence in American media and politics, and which, as the trial court here noted, though composing no more than 4% of the population had the support of 46 percent of the voters on Amendment 2.)

When the Court takes sides in the culture wars, it tends to be with the knights rather than the villeins—and more specifically with the Templars, reflecting the views and values of the lawyer class from which the Court's Members are drawn.



On May 28, 1996 Governor Tommy Thompson signed Senate Bill 621, legislation to regulate the viatical industry. Pictured with him are (l to r), Tom Burant, Curt Lamon, SEWAP Director, Michael Obinger, Rep. Tammy Baldwin and ARCW Executive Director, Doug Nelson. "This is a good piece of legislation that will help people with AIDS" said Thompson.

How that class feels about homosexuality will be evident to anyone who wishes to interview job applicants at virtually any of the Nation's law schools. The interviewer may refuse to offer a job because the applicant is a Republican; because he is an adulterer; because he went to the wrong prep school or belongs to the wrong country club; because he eats snails; because he is a womanizer; because she wears real-animal fur; or even because he hates the Chicago Cubs.

But if the interviewer should wish not to be an associate or partner of an applicant because he disapproves of the applicant's homosexuality, then he will have violated the pledge which the Association of American Law Schools requires all its member-schools to exact from job interviewers: "assurance of the employer's willingness" to hire homosexuals.

This law-school view of what "prejudices" must be stamped out may be contrasted with the more plebeian attitudes that apparently

still prevail in the United States Congress, which has been unresponsive to repeated attempts to extend to homosexuals the protections of federal civil rights laws, and which took the pains to exclude them specifically from the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990.

Today's opinion has no foundation in American constitutional law, and barely pretends to. The people of Colorado have adopted an entirely reasonable provision which does not even disfavor homosexuals in any substantive sense, but merely denies them preferential treatment.

Amendment 2 is designed to prevent piecemeal deterioration of the sexual morality favored by a majority of Coloradans, and is not only an appropriate means to that legitimate end, but a means that Americans have employed before. Striking it down is an act, not of judicial judgment, but of political will.

I dissent.

Victory for Rationality: An English Look at the High Court's Decision on Amendment 2

On frequent occasions an outsider can look into a society and see things a little more clearly than the residents can themselves. Case in point: Alexis de Tocqueville's Democracy in America. With that in mind, we reprint with kind permission, the following article from London's Economist.

For those who think America's government has more dignified things to do than look between people's bedsheets, election years can seem eternal. Homosexual marriage, despite existing nowhere in the country, is suddenly a popular topic for chat shows and political broadsides, and Congress is busy squabbling again about provisions to eject even healthy people from the armed forces if they carry the AIDS virus. Now comes something more significant; a major Supreme Court decision.

On May 20th, the court handed down a decision voiding as unconstitutional a Colorado law that excluded homosexuals from the state's proscriptions against discrimination. The decision, in the case of "Romer v Evans," is an important one. Where homosexuals are concerned, however, it implies rather less than meets the eye. And where limits on government powers are concerned, it may imply rather more.

In 1992, Colorado voters passed, by a ratio of 53-47, a controversial law called Amendment 2. This changed the state's constitution to overturn laws on the books in Aspen, Boulder and Denver protecting homosexuals from discrimination. It also, much more contentiously, pre-emptively banned the adoption of any other such Gay rights laws.

Homosexual-rights activists would have to change the state constitution in order to win anti-discrimination protections, whereas all other groups simply needed to persuade a city council or the state legislature. The law ignited a mainly ineffective national boycott against Colorado, as well as a court challenge which proved very effective indeed.

Writing for a surprisingly robust 6-3 majority, Justice Anthony Kennedy, a centre-right appointee of President Reagan, declared against Amendment 2 on two grounds.

First, he said, anti-discrimination protections were not "special rights," as Gay-rights opponents have argued. To the contrary, they "are taken for granted by most people either because they already have them or do not need them."

Actually, laws that extend legal protections only to particular classes are, perforce, special rights. In Colorado, much of the support for Amendment 2 was undoubtedly based on dislike of homosexuals, but much also flowed from a more generalized resentment against proliferating minority-rights statutes.

Fair enough, perhaps, if Colorado had

swept away all such statutes, or forbidden all new ones. But by fencing off only one particularly unpopular group, the court found, Colorado had gone too far, imposing "a special disability upon those persons alone."

It is the second ground for the decision, however, which is more interesting: Justice Kennedy declared that Colorado lacked a sufficiently sensible justification for its law. In American jurisprudence, a law must have a rational basis. But since the 1930s, the courts have said that "rationality" was for politicians, not judges, to determine. Indeed, the very fact that a law was passed by (ostensibly) sane legislators was generally taken as sufficient proof of its rational basis.

The last time the Supreme Court knocked down a law on grounds of irrationality was in 1985, when a local government tried to use zoning laws against a home for the mentally retarded.

A year ago, in "United States v Lopez," a centre-right majority of the Court used the Constitution's clause on interstate commerce—which had been neglected as an instrument for limiting the federal government since the 1930s—to overturn a restriction on guns. Now a centre-left majority uses the equally dusty "rational basis" test to overturn a restriction on homosexuals.

Although the politics of the issues were diametrically opposed, the gist was the same: the Supreme Court is reaching back to pre-New Deal doctrines to stop the politicians doing things they want to do.

"Viewed outside the tempestuous context of Gay rights," says Clint Bolick of the Institute for Justice, a libertarian legal organization in Washington, "this is very important in restricting all kinds of government actions. This is not about Gay rights, it's about individuality."

Indeed, in the long run, "Romer v Evans" may do as much to restrict government as to help homosexuals. The Supreme Court's ruling does nothing to change the fact that homosexuals who want anti-discrimination protections must persuade legislatures to adopt them.

As homosexuals gathered on Capitol Hill to celebrate their Supreme Court victory, their opponents vowed to give no ground. If social conservatives cannot ban Gay rights laws preemptively, they can still block or repeal them selectively.

America's culture war rages on.

**See Our Next Issue
For the Majority Opinion
In the Amendment 2 Case**



Action Wisconsin Leaders David Stacy, Juliette Brode, and State Rep. Tammy Baldwin met with Milwaukee Les/Bi/Gay leaders at the Miller Inn on Wednesday May 29.

Designing Men Announces On-Line Service on the Internet

Milwaukee—Designing Men (DM), a specialty shop serving the Gay and Lesbian community, announced on May 29th that it will be providing its catalogue of products via the Internet beginning June 7th, concurrent with Milwaukee's PrideFest celebration.

According to Bob Mazzacone, proprietor, DM has customers across the country who buy his custom leather products, embroidered shirts, flags, banners, cards and thousands of other items, all relating to Gay and Lesbian life.

"Jim Bigger and I see the World Wide Web as a great avenue to reach our customers throughout the year who only get to see us at festivals, rodeos, and other events," Mazzacone said.

Mazzacone said that DM's webpage will include the latest in Gay and Lesbian art, music, and clothes, as well as having special promotions.

"Our market research of customers in Milwaukee and across the country shows that more than half have access to the Web, and many will check the DM webpage frequently to see the latest gifts and jewelry to be offered."

ferred."

To get on the World Wide Web, DM has engaged the services of Dave Warren from Telekinetics, Ltd., a Gay-owned webpage design firm based in Milwaukee's Historic Third Ward, and web services will be provided by Crossroads BBS, a not-for-profit, Gay-operated corporation providing Internet and web services.

Designing Men is located at 1200 S. First Street in Milwaukee and can be reached at (414) 389-1200. The new web address is: <http://www.designing-men.com>

Planning for Milwaukee Center Progressing

Milwaukee—Work is continuing on the effort to establish a Community Center for Milwaukee's Gay Community.

A meeting was held on Saturday, June 1 at the Milwaukee Enterprise Center. As a result of that meeting, a telephone number (414)483-4710 and a mailing address PO Box 92722, Milwaukee, WI 53202 have been established.

The meeting included reports from the Feasibility, Public Relations, Board Development Committees.

Volunteers are needed with all types of skills are needed to help further this project. Those with expertise in counseling, public relations, fund raising, administration, accounting and legal issues are especially needed.

The name and site of the proposed Center have not yet been determined. Organizers urge everyone to get involved and help make these and other important decisions.

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Alternative Business Association Meeting

Milwaukee—Milwaukee's Alternative Business Association (ABA) will be meeting again Wednesday, June 12, 1996. The meeting will be held at the M&M Club meeting hall at 7:00 p.m. Newcomers are welcome. A special session will begin at 6:30 p.m. to fill them in on previous meetings.

Booth at PrideFest

The ABA will also have a booth at PrideFest. Anyone interested in learning more about the group and the businesses that make it up, should stop by and see what the ABA is all about.

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THE SPOTLIGHT

Celebrations On Tap All Summer Long

PRIDE IS BUSTING OUT ALL OVER!

By Bill Meunier

Pride is busting out all over Wisconsin and its neighboring states. Beginning with Milwaukee's PrideFest on June 7 and ending with The Rainbow Over Wisconsin Pride Celebration Labor Day weekend in Green Bay, thousands of Gays, Lesbian, Bisexuals and Transgendered people will take advantage of the opportunity to celebrate our community.

PrideFest Wisconsin's Biggest

Certainly the biggest Wisconsin celebration is PrideFest. It will be held at Milwaukee's Henry W. Maier Festival Park on June 7, 8 and 9. Hundreds of performers, authors and speakers will be on six stages. Add in fireworks, the pride parade, exhibits, the market place and you have quite an event. Organizers say they are expecting at least 20,000 people to attend.

Other Cities Joining In

In recent years, Milwaukee has been joined by other Wisconsin cities who want to celebrate pride locally. These smaller affairs may not be as large as PrideFest, but they are every bit as important to the communities producing them. Green Bay, Madison and the Superior/Duluth area all have their own celebrations. In addition to those Chicago and Minneapolis draw thousands of Wisconsinites to their big shindigs the last weekend in June.

Superior/Duluth

After Milwaukee's PrideFest, the next Wisconsin celebration is in the Superior Duluth area. Actually Twin Ports Pride has several events during the Summer.

Things kick off with a bonfire on the beach at Wisconsin point on June 14. On June 15 the annual Queer Block Party will be held at 2:00 between the East side of Duluth and Chester's Creek house 1306 E. Second St. (a lesbian co-op)

After the party the Main Club will host a Leather Levi night. On Sunday June 16 the fourth annual Pride Harbor Cruise will be held.

July 27 will see the annual Pride Parade which begins at 10:30 AM and is led by the Minnesota Freedom Band. The Parade is followed by a rally and entertainment at Erikson Park. The Pride activities end with an AIDS Vigil on August 10.

Kirk Nagel, Co-Chair of the celebrations promises that anyone attending will find it was well worth the trip.

Minnesota Pride

Two huge Pride Celebrations will take place in our neighboring states of Illinois and Minnesota.

The Minneapolis/St. Paul Pride Week attracts people from throughout the Northern Plain states including both Dakota's, Montana and Idaho as well as people from Minnesota and Western Wisconsin.

Organizers expect over 80,000 people to attend the annual pride festival held in Loring Park on Saturday June 22 and Sunday June 23. A giant pride parade will be held on Sunday June 23.

Chicago Pride

The Chicago Pride Parade is the longest running Pride celebration in the Midwest. This year's event will take place on Sunday, June 30.

The big parade steps off from Halsted and Belmont at 2:00 PM sharp. Thousands of marchers, dozens of floats and other surprises will be in store for an expected crowd of 200,000 lining the sidewalks.

While the parade is the biggest event in Chicago's Pride celebration it is by no means the only event. Last year there were over 84 official Pride events on the "Pride Month Calendar." Not to mention numerous bar parties.

Pride Chicago Chairman, Rich Pfeiffer,

wants to make sure that everyone in Wisconsin knows they are welcome, "What makes our celebration so special are thousands of people who come to Chicago from neighboring states including Wisconsin of course."

Madison Pride

Madison celebrates Pride the day after the Magic Picnic. The popular Saturday July 20 Magic Picnic fund raiser for Madison area organizations is combined with a Pride March on Sunday July 21.

A pre-March rally at the State Capitol begins at 1:30 PM. The March begins at 2:00 PM. The route will take marchers down State Street to the UW Library Mall.

A post March show is scheduled for 2:30 to 5:00 PM..

In addition to the March, the 10% Society will be holding a Pride Dance on Friday July 19 at the UW Memorial Union's Great Hall. And the UW Gay Alumni are sponsoring a brunch on Sunday, July 21.

Steve Starky from the Wisconsin Community Fund told *The Spotlight* "We expect over 2,000 people to celebrate Pride in Madison. With the Hotel Washington burning down and Ralph Ovadahl and other hate mongers working hard in Madison, a big crowd for this year's march is more critical than ever."

Fox Valley Pride

Rainbow Over Wisconsin a new non profit organization in the Fox Valley Green Bay area is sponsoring the final Pride events of the year. Their celebration, Rainbow Over Wisconsin Pride Weekend will be held during the Labor Day weekend.

The weekend will include a bowling tournament on August 31 at the Riviera lanes in Green Bay and a picnic on Sunday September 1 at Appleton's Memorial Park. The picnic will feature food, drink, booths and live entertainment.

"Our picnic will be like a mini PrideFest" according to a source within the organization.

With all of these celebrations, one might wonder if there are too many. But then again as someone put it "You can never have enough Pride in yourself and in your community."

Foundation Thanks Possum Queen Contest

Milwaukee—The Cream City Foundation (CCF) board wishes to thank Rodney Stockel, this year's winning Possum Queen, and all who worked so hard in helping our community.

Rodney and his partner, Rick F. Mankiewicz, along with Ballgame owner Rick Kowal, put in much time and energy and were able to raise over \$7,000 for our community.

This money was divided between the BestD Clinic and CCF. Ours is a designated contribution that was given to the Dental Clinic of the Milwaukee AIDS Project.

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Jerry Johnson

Reliving the days of yesteryear and the memory of bars that are no longer with us is a tradition at Milwaukee's B's. Among those on hand for B's annual "Reunion Party" held at the bar on Saturday May 25 are (l to r) Jerry Mierswa., Dee Dee Stasiak, Gloria Tamillo and Karen Van Laarhoven.

SpotLight Parties To Offer Fun, Surprises And More

The Wisconsin Light proudly announces a new addition to Wisconsin's social scene, **The SpotLight Party.**

SpotLight Parties will focus on people, places and just plain having fun. They will be held at locations around the state to help make our readers more aware of all the great places, Wisconsin's Lesbian and Gay community has to offer and as one of our party planners put it "To have a dam good time."

"Our SpotLight parties will be very special events that put the SpotLight on our outstanding Gay and Lesbian establishments," said Wisconsin Light Publisher, Jerry Johnson. "Our creative staff has been working overtime to come up with the perfect party ideas and we're sure that everyone is going to enjoy the festivities."

The first SpotLight party will be held on Thursday June 13th at This Is It, 418 E. Wells in Milwaukee. The popular cocktail bar is a favorite haunt of Wisconsin Light staff members because of its outstanding service and friendly atmosphere. Food, fun and special surprises will be in store for those in attendance.

Join Us For the First Spotlight Party at This Is It On Thursday, June 13

Everyone is welcome to join in the fun at as our very first SpotLight Party focuses on honoring a very special group of people, MAP's Thursday Night Volunteer Group.

The party will be held on **Thursday June 13 at This Is It, 418 E. Wells, Milwaukee 9:30 to close.** It will include food, a special presentation and some special fun.

The Thursday Night Volunteer Group has been a fixture at MAP for over three years. Without fail, approximately 20 to 25 of its 50 members are in evidence at MAP's offices every Thursday evening throughout the year.

The group stuffs envelopes, collates materials, and accomplishes numerous other tasks such as making condom roses, AIDS Ribbons, preparing condoms and dental dams for bar outreach, and just about any other work needed to help MAP make its special events and educational efforts work.

The party will honor the Thursday night Volunteer group of the Milwaukee AIDS Project.

A second SpotLight party, An Amendment 2 party" has been scheduled for Thursday July 4th at another popular Les/Bi/Gay Milwaukee night spot, Mama Roux, located at 1875 N. Humboldt. Known for its great food, wild parties and fun atmosphere, Mama Roux is always a great place to party.

A festive holiday atmosphere will prevail and attendees are encouraged to come as their favorite character out of American history. A Jeopardy Game, and other surprises are planned. (Rumor has it that Mama Roux herself may make an appearance and do her Kate Smith imitation).

Other parties are also being planned. Watch the SpotLight for details on our "Trailer Trash Party," "The Underwear Party" and much, much more.

Keep reading the SpotLight and we promise it will liven up your summer. And remember you never know where the SpotLight will fall next, it could fall on you!

Lil Lau, is one of the Thursday night volunteers, "I feel that what we do saves the agency quite a bit of money. If they had to farm it out they would have to pay a lot of money for the folding, stuffing, and stapling and other things that we do for them. This frees up MAP's money to pay for education, client services, outreach and so on."

Lori Sitzwohl, Lil's partner in life, also volunteers. "This group stands as evidence that you don't have to have a lot of money or a lot of technical expertise to help and make an impact."

Both Lil and Lori agree that the group is a lot of fun, "A lot of times it doesn't seem like work," said Lori.

But it is work, very important work that ensures the success of MAP's many programs. "We have seen these people in action. They have a very high level of commitment," said Jerry Johnson, Wisconsin Light Publisher. "That's why we

Please Turn to Party! on Page 12



Thinking of birthday spankings yet to come The Mama Roux birthday boys, Pat Huberty, Doug Reynolds, and Joe St. Claire, (l to r) were caught on film during their birthday bash at Mama Roux on Sunday June 2.

Jerry Johnson

GALVANize Summer Events

Madison— GALVANize (Gay and Lesbian Visibility Alliance) of Madison, WI enthusiastically announces its upcoming events for this summer:

June 15

The Human Rainbow Project

Be a part of Madison's first human rainbow flag at the Capitol Square at 2:00 p.m. T-shirts in "our" colors will be available prior to photo session and on sight. The commemorative shirts are just \$10. For more information contact Steve Starkey at (608) 251-6834.

June 22

Tammy Baldwin Fundraiser for the GALVANize Pride March

Hosted by State Representative Tammy Baldwin (D-Madison). From 4-7:00 p.m. at 525 Riverside Drive, Madison. Come and enjoy great schmoozing, enter-tainment and food. A \$15 donation is suggested. Contact Steve Starkey at (608) 251-6834 for reservations.

July 19-21 (Fri-Sun)

Madison Gay Pride Weekend

Friday—10% Society Dance at Memorial Union, 8:00 p.m. to midnight.

Saturday — Magic Picnic from 1:00 to 7:00 p.m. at Brittingham Park. Free admission. Bring your lawn chairs, coolers and blankets. For more information contact Gregg Scheel at (608) 257-3795.

Sunday — UW-Madison GLB Alumni Brunch from 1:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Great Hall. \$10 admission. Contact Paula at (608) 262-9630 for more information.

GALVANize Gay Pride March:

▽ Assemble at 1:00 p.m. at Capitol Square, State Street side.

▽ Pre-March Rally 1:30 p.m.

▽ March begins at 2:00 p.m., going down State Street to Memorial Library. The entertainment will begin from 2:30 till 5:30 p.m.

Contact Steve Starkey at (608) 251-6834 for more pride information and how your group or organization can participate. ▽

Jerry Johnson



While the Milwaukee Classic Softball Tournament was going on outdoors, another Milwaukee tradition, a sheephead tournament took place indoors at the 1100 Club.

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BestD Clinic Live!

A Half Hour to Stretch the Mind

June 6—Guests: Bro. Steve Braddock, Casey Reilly, Ross Walker—"United HIV Services"

June 13—Guests: Sheri Goldberg & Kevin Quader—"Rainbows Over Sherman Park"

June 20—Guest: Laurie Guilbault—"LAMM"

June 27—Guest: Patrick Flaherty—"Some New Rainbows Over River West"

July 4—Guest: Jon Aceto—"A Message for Teens"

July 11—Guest: Dr. Mike Thomas—"Impotence: Causes and Cures"

July 18—Guests: Steve Butler and Carol Ringo—"Bi All Means"

August 1—Guest: Health Commissioner Paul Nannis—"Picking Up Where I Left Off"

"BestD Clinic Live!" is seen on Milwaukee Cable Channel 47 on the above dates at 7:00 p.m.

CALENDAR

Friday June 7 PrideFest 6:00 to Midnight Summerfest Grounds	Saturday June 8 PrideFest 11:00 AM to Midnight Miss Gay Kenosha US of A Pagaent 10:30 Club 94, Kenosha	Sun. June 9 PrideFest 10:30AM to 10:30 PM	Mon. June 10 Book Club 7:00 Afterwords Books	Tues. June 11 Madison Business Social 3749 Country Grove Dr.	Weds. June 12 Let's Make A Deal In Between	Thursday June 13 The SpotLight Party A Gayla Evening honoring MAP's Thursday Night Volunteers. Group. Food, Fun, Surprises NO COVER CHARGE! 9:30 PM This Is It 418 E. Wells Milwaukee
Friday June 14 Duluth/Superior Pride Celebration Bonfire on the beach at Wisconsin Point. Dusk UW Madison 10% Dance 8:00 Great Hall of the Memorial Union	Sat. June 15^t Superior/Duluth Queer Block Party Chester Creek Coop 2:00 Life & Times Of Harvey Milk Video Showing East Library 1910 E. North Ave. Milwaukee Turnabout Night The Trading Company, Eau Claire. SEWAP Lake Cruise Benefit 5:30 at the Riveria Dock, Downtown Lake Geneva	Sunday June 16 Milwaukee SAGE Potluck 1 to 5, Just Us, CC Rae Show 10:30 Manoeuvres, Madison B's Spring Show Benefit for the BESTD Clinic 10:00 at B's in Milwaukee	Tuesday June 18 Authors Leslie Feinberg (Stone Butch Blues) & Craig Hickman (Rituals: Poety and Prose) 7:00 Afterwords Milwaukee DON'T FORGET! The Calendar deadline For Our June 20 issue MONDAY JUNE 17	Fri. June 21 Latin Dance Party 10 PM to Midnight Just Us, Milwaukee Saturday June 22 Softball Fund Raiser 3:00 In Between	Sunday June 23 Gay Single & Out Manoeuvres, Madison Benefit for the Manoeuvres Softball Team 10:30 Century Hall 20 th Anniversary Reunion Broadway Theater Center, 158 N. Broadway, Milwaukee	

PARTY!

Continued from Page 11

Keep reading the Spotlight for details on upcoming events and parties, brought to you by your most complete source of news and information for the Wisconsin's Les/Bi/Gay, the Wisconsin Light. decided to honor them with our very first SpotLight party."

Cheryl Lucas, MAP's Director of Volunteer Services agrees "They get a tremendous amount of work done in a very short period of time. They are truly an asset to the agency, and we could not accomplish or provide our services without them. I love them all I truly do."

Lucas adds "I am so happy that Wisconsin Light is recognizing our volunteers, and that the party is going to be at This Is It. This is going to be one fun evening."

It certainly will be. Join us at This Is It as we put the SpotLight on a very special group of people.



BAR Your
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& Alternative
GRILL



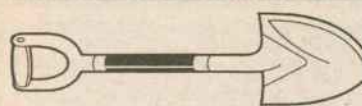
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Here's the dirt . . .

By Doktor Suzee Shovelit

By Docktor Susie Shovelit

If you'd like a recap of your event, or if you have some dirt to spread in "here's the Dirt," 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 may prescribe for you over the phone. Of you can "throw" your dirt into my e-mail box at Dshovelit@aol.com.

Recaps...

The Milwaukee Repertory Theater's The Nerd has outsold all shows in the Rep's 42 year history. More than 29,000 patrons attended, generating net sales of \$426,534. During the final week of the show, seats were added to accommodate patrons who en-counterd sold-out performances.

Did you read the interview in **Q-Voice** about "Wild" **Bill Meunier**? I absolute loved the picture and I thought the interview was very well done and very timely (considering the cloud over his...uh "removal") I'd have to agree that "Wild" Bill is not the easiest person to work with. He is determined, aggressive, resourceful, enthusiastic and COMMITTED. So is **Bo Black**, and I've heard from several sources that she can be a Bitch On Wheels-But you have to admit that Summerfest is her baby- and Bo "knows" how to get things done.

So does Bill and he's proven it. While you're enjoying yourself at PrideFest this weekend, here's one thing to remember-You can thank Bill Meunier for almost single handedly getting that festival to Henry W. Maier Festival Park.

Rick, owner of **The Ball Game** must be feeling pretty good. His team won the annual Milwaukee Classic on top of Rodney Stockel, the Ball Game's entry in the Possum Queen contest taking the crown.

Toronto's Remington Team was the "home run" of this year event. On Saturday night the entire Toronto team put on a strip show at the Ball Game. I was there after a long day of using my cleats to dig up even more dirt than usual. Man those boys could shake it... I mean boy those men could shake it.

At the banquet on Sunday while thanking Dr. Balliet for being the tournament physician, Tournament Director, Joe Appleman let it slip that Dr. Balliet had no new cases after Remington's got knocked out of the tournament.

Then when accepting their participation plaque, the Remington Coach thanked the players, fans and Milwaukee and he noted that Monday was Memorial Day. At the the mention of that, the entire Remington team stood up and waved small American flags, to the absolute delight of the crowd.

On Saturday June 1, one of my grave diggers stopped in at **Mama Roux's** where another of their wild and fun parties was in full swing. The event was the 1st Annual Mama Boy & Mama Girl contest. Their was some fierce competition and Mama Roux herself performed some magic tricks (rumor has it she made some totally rude people disappear!) Then it was time for the Battle of the Cartoon Character Tit clamps (you

Leather Weekend In Milwaukee

Milwaukee-Milwaukee will be the center of attention for Wisconsin's Leather community the weekend of June 28, 29 and 30. When MMWL/Ingenu Productions presents "The Wisconsin Leather Weekend."

The action starts with The Wisconsin Leather Ball. The ball will be held at B's, 1579 S Second St. It begins at 7:00 PM.

The ball will include prizes for Best Leather, Most Creative Leather Costume and Best Harness. Admission is \$4.00 or \$3.00 for those dressed in Leather.

The weekend continues on Saturday, June 29, with the Mr. Wisconsin Fantasy Contest, at the 1100 Club, 1100 S. First St. The contest begins at 9:00 PM. It includes raffles and door prizes. Admission is \$5.00.

Sunday, June 30 sees the grand finale with Mr/Ms Southeastern Wisconsin Leather Contest. The contest to be held at B's begins at 9:00 PM. Admission is \$5.00.

Applications for the Contests can be obtained at B's, the 1100 Club or by calling MMWL/Ingenu Productions at (608)222-9128.

had to see it to believe it) The winners: Mama Boy, Pokemycuntis (aka Jasmine aka Nellie Mae Jones), and Mama Girl: Jeannie.

On Sunday June 2, **Mama Roux** threw a birthday bash fit for not one, not two, but three people: **Co-Managers Joe St. Claire, and Pat Huberty** and cook and bartender **Doug Reynolds**. The house was packed, everyone anxious to see the birthday boys get their public spanking. The free beer which was supposed to end at 6:00 flowed well into the evening. (I know I was still laying directly under the tap at 8:30)

Rumor has it...

That Madison's City Council approved a liquor license for a new LesBiGay bar called **R Place**. Located right next to the **Shamrock**. The owner of the new bar is a former Shamrock Bartender. By the time you read this - they've had their grand opening.

That Neuter (OOPS, I mean...) **Newt Gingrich** will not be attending his sister, Candace's wedding. I am sure the blushing brides won't give a dam. The invited guests were disappointed when told to leave their rotten eggs at home (and bring their dental dams instead).

Coming Up...

PrideFest '96 starts tomorrow (June 7) with the Pre-Festival Ceremony and Ribbon Cutting at 5:30 on the Summerfest grounds. I'm sure some of you noticed the big white star on the front cover of the



Jerry Johnson

The Classic Tournament Committee at the Banquet following the hard fought contests on the field. From left to right are Front row (l to r) : Danny Nelson and Joe Appleman Back Row: Tracy Kriesman, Chuck Cic-erello, Jack Schul-tz, Jack Pike, Todd Muma, Dion (the blonde thang) and Rodney Stockel.

Pride Guide covering up the word "July." I guess the cover artist (listed on page 3 of the Guide) and the PrideFest Council never noticed this somewhat obvious error. By the time they did the Guide was printed and ready to be delivered. 10,000 "JUNE" stars later-the cover up (so to speak) was underway.

Did you see the article about PrideFest in the Sunday June 2, 1996 **Milwaukee Journal/Sentinel** Cue Section? Nicely written and somewhat timely.

The **Chicago Pride Parade** in Chicago on Sunday June 30 is expected to draw over half a million people, making it one of the largest parades in the United States. If you've never been-don't miss it.

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Reservations Encouraged.

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FRIDAYS - 10pm to Close

SATURDAYS - 10pm to Close

COUNTRY SATURDAYS - 7-10pm. Free lessons by Shoreline

FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS - Midnight to Close
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Milwaukee's Premiere Mixed LesBiGay Nightclub!

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Gay, Single & Out

This benefit takes its cue from a popular Cable TV Game Show with all proceeds going to **MANOEUVRE'S** own **Gay Softball Team**. \$1 chances to participate. Win fabulous prizes and you maybe that lucky person to win that **DREAM DATE!**

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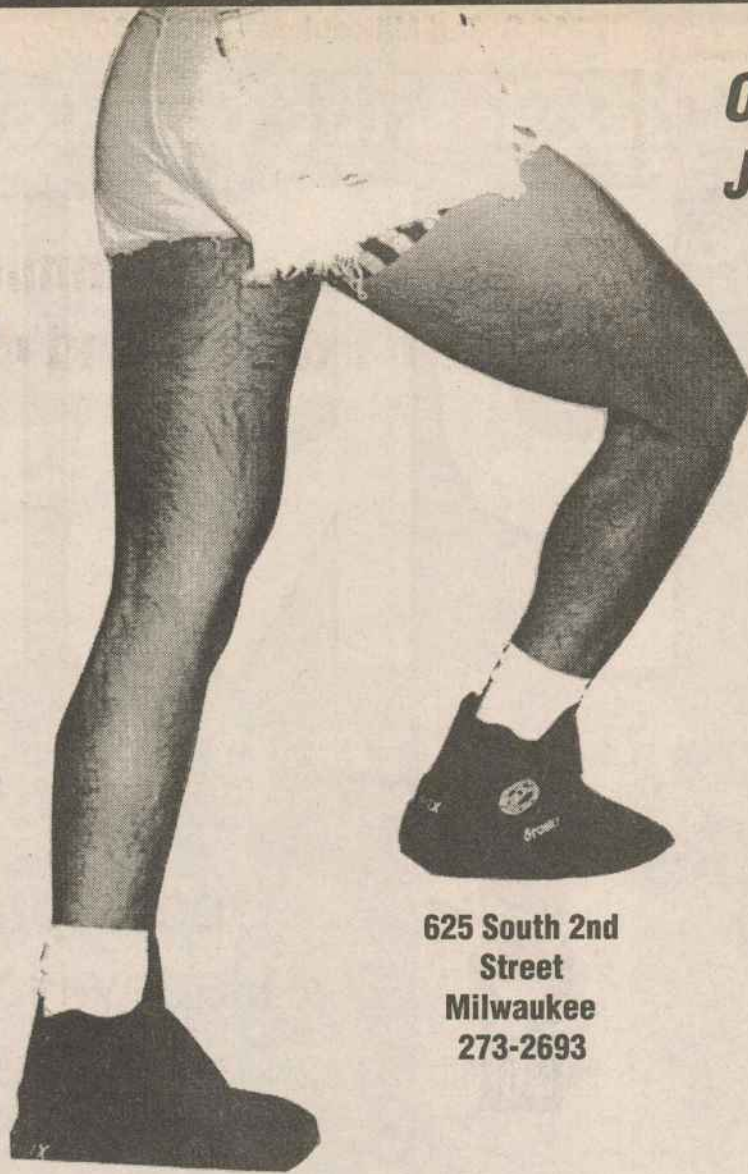


WELCOME PrideFest Celebrants!



LET'S MAKE A DEAL!!
Wednesday,
June 12

MAJOR SOFTBALL FUNDRAISER
Saturday,
June 22, 3pm



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OUR
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TEAM TO
ST. LOUIS



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GAMES

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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

Trading Company
304 Eau Claire St.
Eau Claire, WI 54701
838-9494

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

GREEN BAY

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

Laona Hostel
5397 Beech St. (HWY8)
Laona, WI, 54541
(715)674-2615

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

What About Me?
600 6th St.
Racine, WI 53403
632-0171

LA CROSSE

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

LAKE MILLS

Cross Roads Bar
W6642 Hwy B
Lake Mills, WI 53551
648-8457

MADISON

Room of One's Own
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
W13172 Hwy 188
Lodi, WI 53555
1-800-380-8427

R Place
121 W. Main Street
Madison, WI 53703
257-5455

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

B's
1579 S 2nd St
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 53204
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
135 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

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513 E. State St
Rockford, IL 61104
815-965-0344

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Sheboygan, 53081
457-1636

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The Platwood Club
701 Highway 10W
Stevens Point, 54481
341-8862

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Superior WI 54880
394-2580

The Main Club
1813 N 3rd
Superior, WI 54880
392-1756

Trio
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Superior, WI 54880
392-5373

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Wausau, WI 54401
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C'EST LA VIE

CONGRATULATIONS to all PrideFest Committee Members and Volunteers for your hard work and dedication!

EVERY SATURDAY • MALE STRIPPERS • 10:30^{PM}



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



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Tap Beer **25¢**



FRIDAYS
SHOWTIME WITH C'EST LA VIE's
Dazzling Divas!
11:30^{pm}

Performers needs for Friday & Saturday Shows CALL FOR AN AUDITION



OUT on Film

'I Shot Andy Warhol' is a Feast for Those Into the Myth of Warhol's Art

Reviewed by Glenn Bishop

Andy Warhol is a phenomenon that Glenn just doesn't understand. A Campbell Soup Can as art? Glenn does understand that within certain intellectual discourse, Warhol made a profound statement that within the everyday and the ordinary, art exists. Still, there's this little voice in the back of Glenn's head keeps telling him, "It's a Scam!"

Don't worry, dear readers of the **Wisconsin Light**, Glenn is on some new medication and of late there are fewer "little voices". Glenn's been told that they think they've caught it in time.

When asked to a screening of **I Shot Andy Warhol**, Glenn was initially dubious. Shouldn't someone with a higher regard of Warhol's contribution to modern art have the honor of screening this new film? Wouldn't they be more objective than Glenn?

No such creature could be found and Glenn found himself at the screening and must admit that he found himself pleasantly surprised at Mary Harron's effective **I Shot Andy Warhol**.

Andy's would-be assassin was one Valerie Solanas (Lili Taylor). Valerie was a minor, extraneous member of the curious Warhol coterie that formed the basis of the infamously legendary "Factory Years."

A brilliant, if troubled youth, Valerie would excel in psychological studies, ultimately theorizing that man is only a biological accident, that the Y chromosome merely an imperfect X. The fruits of her research would be her heart-felt "SCUM Manifesto." Glenn must add here that Valerie was an enthusiastic Lesbian.

Mary Harron, wearing director and co-writer hats, seeks not to present Valerie as the crazed madwoman who blindly calls for the death and destruction of all males. Instead, Harron positions Valerie as something of a heroine from hell: an outspoken ragamuffin, self-absorbed, mildly delusional, deeply committed but

with just enough trashy flash to gain her entrance within Warhol's fabled group.

As Valerie moves through the seedy street of Greenwich Village, filled as it is with an odd collection of transvestites, hookers and johns, hipsters and other assorted colorful low-lives, Valerie is in possession of an appealing vibrancy. She is befriended by a fabulously breathy Candy Darling (Stephen Dorff) who reluctantly allows Valerie to accompany her to the **FACTORY**. There, Valerie will encounter all manner of celebrity parasites and glamorous hanger-ons.

As crystal sharp as is Harron's lens on Valerie, it is correspondingly hazy in portraying Andy Warhol (Jared Harris). Perhaps the magnet that draws such diverse personalities as Paul Morrissey, Billy Name, Ondine, Viva, Ultra Violet, Candy Darling and Valerie Solanas herself, Andy is portrayed as a fey, colorless character, seemingly incapable of the genius often attributed him.

As Valerie falls prey to paranoid delusions, induced partly, according to Harron, by her excommunication from the Warhol clique, her botched assassination attempt emerges as a pathetic cry for help.

Sentenced to three years to three years in a psychiatric prison, a curtain would close on Valerie's 15 minutes of fame. But perhaps not for Lili Taylor who is absolutely sensational as the enigmatic Valerie.

As with the best independent films, **I Shot Andy Warhol** has a refreshing sense of spontaneity and the refusal to compromise purpose in order to appeal to mainstream America. **I Shot Andy Warhol** is certain to be a joy to all those obsessed with the myth of Warhol but manages to be quite a rollercoaster-ride of a film for all.

Rating \$\$\$\$ (Scale \$ to \$\$\$\$\$)

I Shot Andy Warhol is currently playing at Milwaukee's Oriental Theatre. It will open June 14th at the Orpheum Theatre in Madison.



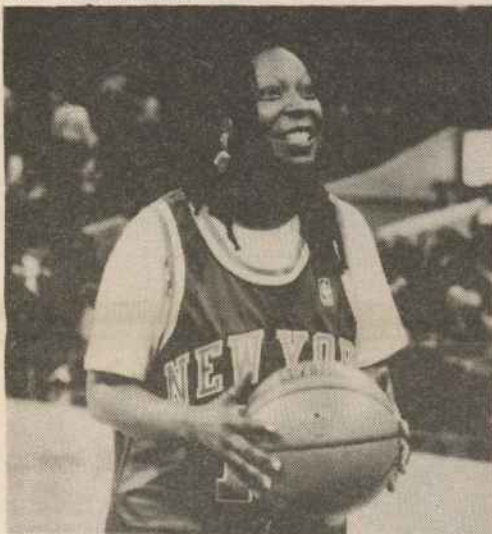
Rufus Sewell and Kate Beckinsale star in the critically acclaimed movie, **Cold Comfort Farm**. The comedy classic based on the Stella Gibbons novel contrasts the sparkling social life in 1930's London with that on a Sussex England farm by following the life of the eccentric Starksadder family. The film opens at Milwaukee's Oriental theater on June 7.

Despite Whoopi Goldberg, "Eddie" is a Dreary and Predictable Sports Flick

Reviewed by Glenn Bishop

What draws Glenn to see a particular major motion picture at the local multiplex?

Sure, Glenn is often on assignment. Sometimes a particularly attractive star might pique his interest, for instance, say Keanu Reeves. Certainly the prospect, even if just fleeting, to see male nudity will do it. On rare occasions, it might be the movie poster.



Whoopi Goldberg plays Eddie

In the case of the new Whoopi Goldberg vehicle it was as trite and silly as the film's delightfully intriguing poster which depicts a radiantly smiling Whoopi at the entrance of the basketball players shower room.

Glenn entered the theater with the expectations of seeing, even if just fleeting, some bare butts in **Eddie**. Alas, one cannot tell a movie by its poster (Glenn is sure to have this particularly apt cliché correct).

After screening **Eddie**, a routine and drearily predictable sports flick, Glenn must also ponder exactly what fool was put in charge. Glenn imagines he can actually see the rusty gears grinding slowly: Whoopi is big box office, if she can do it for nuns, she can do it for NBA basketball players.

Throw in a bunch of NBA basketball players playing ... well, NBA basketball players and there you have it. That's right, you guessed it. A bit of a flop. Apparently some folks forgot that before **Ghost** resurrected Ms. Goldberg's career, she was in a string of real losers.

Eddie (Whoopi) is a fanatic NY Knicks fan. Fate strikes and she ends up with the plum driving assignment of acting as chauffeur to new Knicks owner Wild Bill Burgess (a woefully miscast Frank Langella). He is so impressed by this passionate fan as to stack the deck in her favor and choose her as a contestant in the Honorary Coach Free Throw Contest. Kismet!

Somehow **Eddie** parlays this opportunity into becoming the Knicks full-time coach. Oh, by the way, the Knicks are a woefully bad team. They're bad. So bad! They'll never make it to the playoffs. Don't bet on it.

Predictable movie are a Hollywood staple and few movies tend to be less predictable than the rags-to-riches sports story, from the juvenile "Bad News Bears" to the wonderful "Breaking Away". Still it helps to have a gimmick and here it is up

to Whoopi to make it work. Unfortunately, Whoopi just doesn't seem to have her heart in it.

Eddie is most fun as the film opens as the over-the-top, foul-mouthed fanatic fan. Once garbed in Armani suits and offering marital advice to a lovelorn player, Whoopi is on less sure footing. Occasionally director Rash allows Whoopi a few moments to be ... well, Whoopi.

A perfect example is when upon rushing into the locker room, **Eddie** happens upon her showering team for the first time. Rather than play this well-worn scene to its normal, tediously embarrassed conclusion, Whoopi gets a fleeting moment to really shine. Sadly these sorts of scene are to few in number and ultimately the whole mess becomes bowled over by a tidal wave of sentimentality. (Glenn detests cheap sentiment.)

Eddie is a kind of sad puppy of a film. You know it's heart is in the right place but you also know what the characters are going to say before they do. It is amusing enough of a ride but the predominance of foul language might keep the kiddies out.

Glenn says, see **Eddie** if you're stalking Whoopi Goldberg, but listen to Glenn, don't expect any tantalizing shower room scenes to make things interesting.

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

Eddie is now playing at theatres everywhere.

Lesbian Avengers Announce Susie Bright's Appearance in Madison

Madison—The Lesbian Avengers are pleased to announce that nationally known writer and speaker Susie Bright will be appearing at the Concourse Hotel in Madison on Thursday, June 13th to promote her new book (co-edited by Jill Posener), **Nothing But the Girl: The Blatant Lesbian Image**, containing work from the most influential Lesbian photographers in the world.

Bright will be presenting slides of material from her book and discussing their relevance to Lesbian life and culture.

A book signing will follow her talk during which copies of the book will be for sale.

Tickets are available at Room Of One's Own (317 W. Johnson Street in Madison, (608) 255-7888) and The United (14 W. Mifflin Street in Madison (608) 255-8582) for a sliding scale fee of \$2-\$5.

Bright is widely known as a pioneer in the study of sexual politics and culture. She explains concerning this book, "If it hadn't been for feminism, there never would have been women making their own dirty pictures. This is the quintessential irony of the feminist pornography debate. Lesbian-made porn, erotic, you-name-it arose in the early 1980's as a renunciation of the commercial porn boys club, a slap in the face to heterosexism and the male gaze. It was and is a tribute to diversity, egalitarianism, and authenticity in the women's community."

For more information about this event or the Lesbian Avengers, contact Erin Hutchinson, the Avengers' media liaison, at (608) 242-4670.



Lili Taylor, plays a Lesbian in **I Shot Andy Warhol**.

'Dragonheart' is an Entertaining Film if, At Times, Somewhat Obscure

By Bob Thomas

Tough times for dragons in 10th-century England. Because of hostile, unthinking human beings or perhaps some genetic failure, the species seems to be going the way of the dinosaurs.

In fact, there is only one left, a fire-breathing but benign creature named Draco, who hides out from the hostile natives and speaks in a Scottish accent. By no means timid, Draco willingly joins a soldier of fortune to right the unspeakable wrongs of a vicious monarch, despite the risk of extinction for the world's dragons.

Dragonheart follows the pattern of **Rob Roy** and **Braveheart**: peasants rising against the tyranny of kings, broadswords clanging, hand-to-hand battles galore.

But the new film adds the dragon, which is alternately terrifying and cuddly, injecting a supernatural element that seems more appealing to the younger crowd than their elders.

Dennis Quaid plays Bowen, a knight of The Old Code of King Arthur, now assigned as mentor to the king's teen-age son. When the wicked king is killed in battle and the prince is wounded, the queen (Julie Christie) takes her son to a cave.

There she persuades Draco to share half of his life force with the prince in order to save his life.

As an adult, the king (David Thewlis) turns out to be even more evil than his father. Bowen, disillusioned and convinced that the dragon's spirit has wiped out his own teachings of honor and compassion, becomes a dragon bounty hunter.

Finally, Draco becomes the only dragon left for Bowen to slay. Instead of battling, they form an alliance. Bowen convinces villagers to pay him gold in return for riding them of a dragon. Draco then stages

a phony death, and the two tricksters move on to the next suckers.

They get serious when the daughter (Dina Meyer) of the leader of a peasant revolt persuades them to join forces to combat the dastardly king. Hence the climactic battle.

Director Rob Cohen (**Dragon: The Bruce Lee Story**) gets the most out of the buddy relationship between Bowen and Draco. Cohen also provides imaginative battle sequences, especially a pursuit through a forest. But the script, credited to Charles Edward Pogue from a story by Pogue and Patrick Read Johnson, sometimes veers into the obscure.

The mixture of American, English and Scottish accents doesn't help. Nor do lines such as, "Peace, o knight of The Old Order, witness the wonder of an ancient glory."

Except for Westerns, Dennis Quaid is known for contemporary roles, and his venture into a costume epic brings mixed results. He seems at home with the action, but the dialogue appears troublesome, even when he lowers his voice an octave.

Sean Connery enlivens matters as the voice of Draco, though you're always aware that this is Sean Connery on a lark. Pete Postlethwaite contributes much-needed humor. Julie Christie is impressive though hardly recognizable as the queen.

Draco itself is the work of the ubiquitous Industrial Light and Magic. He is an endearing creature, just what you'd want dragons to be. Thoughtful, too. When Quaid has trouble lighting a campfire, Draco finishes the job with his left nostril.

Rating: Three and a Half Stars
Dragonheart opened May 30th and is playing at theatres around the country.



Dennis Quaid and Friend in the movie Dragonheart.

Tickets for the benefit will be available prior to the event at a reduced rate, \$8.00 per person, through Harry W. Schwartz Book Stores, Milwaukee-area Exclusive Company outlets, the Broadway Theatre Center Box Office, or they can be charged by phone at (414) 291-7800. Tickets can also be purchased the day of the event for

\$10.00. A \$5.00 ticket is offered to children 12 and under.

Co-sponsors of the event include: Survival/Revival Resale Shop and Arts Action Committee of the Milwaukee AIDS Project, **Shepherd Express**, and WMSE.

For additional information on this event, call (414) 273-2729.



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"La Perla"



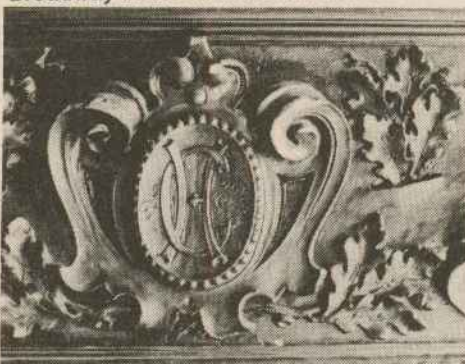
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The famous Milwaukee Land mark Century Hall as it looked in the 1950's. The popular East Side gathering place had several incarnations the last being Century Hall, a concert hall, tavern and restaurant which was destroyed by a fire in 1988. Its memory will live on at a 20 year reunion on Sunday June 23 at the Broadway Theater Center.

20th Anniversary Reunion of Century Hall to Benefit MAP

Milwaukee — The Century Hall 20th Anniversary Reunion Steering Committee has announced an exciting event to benefit the Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP), a service organization of the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin. The **Century Hall 20th Anniversary Reunion** will be held on Sunday, June 23, from 2:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. at the **Broadway Theatre Center** located at 158 N. Broadway in the Historic Third Ward.



Detail work was a trademark of Century Hall, as this fireplace tile shows.

The historic Century Hall was once located at the corner of Farwell and North Avenue on Milwaukee's east side. The highly eclectic theater, restaurant, tavern, hang-out was said to have established much of Milwaukee's current arts and entertainment community. Originally built in 1886 as a community hall, the gothic-looking building came back to life when Century Hall was founded in 1976 by Max Samson and several other arts &

entertainment enthusiasts. Century Hall thrived into the late eighties, drawing crowds from all walks of life.

In early 1988, Century Hall exploded with a rampant fire, leaving Milwaukee hall-less. Since then, the Hall has never been duplicated, until now.


To appropriately expose the energy and diversity once offered at Century Hall, four stages will feature a masterfully random display of performers including musicians, comedians, dance artists, poets, and other not-so-traditional entertainers.

The scheduled performances will include music by Jim Liban, Victor Delorenzo and Sigmund Snopek, poetry by Antler, Susan Firer and Miriam Ben Shalom, comedy by Will Durst, and performances by Ko Thi African Dance and Theater X.

In addition to performances, the reunion will offer cuisine from Saz's Steak House, original Hall Recipe Awesome Brownies, and beverages courtesy of Miller Brewing Co. and Pepsi-Co.

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

20th Anniversary Party
to benefit the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin



CENTURY HALL

Sun, June 23

2-10pm
Broadway Theatre Center
158 N. Broadway
3 Indoor Stages
1 Big One in the Sun

Start Time	Bar Stage	Cabot Theatre	Outdoor Stage	Studio Theatre
1:45pm	Tape Hotel Milw Radio Show	DARK	Ruthless Acoustics	DARK
2:45pm				Jean Small Dean
3:00pm	Jack Grassel Bill Camplin	Ko Thi Bauer Dance	Dale Rawson	Moby Dick Kortsch Miriam Ben Shalom
4:00pm	Cathy Nicholson	Piper Road w/ Bill Camplin	Puppets w/the Elastic Orchestra	Mitchell Lechtner Sue Firer Reggie Finlayson
5:00pm	Steve Tilton	Spenser Sisters Rip Tenor	Tony Brown	Jim Hazard Mitch Covic Angela Peckenpaugh
6:00pm	Juli Wood	Will Durst Sharp Stick	Mark Shurilla	Rick Ollman Louisa Loveridge-Gallas
7:00pm	James LaGrone	Sigmund Snopek & Present Music w/Irish Chorus	Jim Liban	David Lucht Mary Z Allen Leigh Cowan
8:00pm	Manty Ellis	Cohen/Roller	Victor DeLorenzo	Jeff Poniewaz Primitiva
9:00pm	Berkeley Fudge	Theatre X Deanna	DARK	Antler Larry Penn

Tickets: \$8 Advance • \$10 Door • \$5 Children under 12

Tickets available at Broadway Theatre Ctr. box office (291-7800) and Survival Revival Resale Shop (246 E. Chicago).

For information, call 273-2729 (AIDS Resource Center of WI)



MAP

Shepherd Express
Milwaukee's Weekly Newspaper

91.7



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Music by Michael Stockler

Book by Jim Morgan, Merle Hubbard

& John Schak

Featuring: David Flores & Kathleen Matts

Directed by Don Hoffman



July 12 - July 28 Friday through Sunday
All Seats \$12



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Call 277-9550

Benefitting MAP (Milwaukee AIDS Project)

Pride Celebrations This Summer

Below are brief descriptions of Pride Events being held in and around Wisconsin throughout the summer of 1996.

PrideFest

June 7, 8 & 9

Henry W. Maier Festival Park

Great entertainment and great food, lots to see, hear and do as PrideFest makes its debut at Maier Park. The three day event features six stages, a mass wedding, fireworks and more. Admission \$4.00 a day.

For more information call (414) 272-3378

Superior/Duluth Pride Events Throughout the Summer

June 12, the Northland Men's Center will celebrate Linda Beaty Night from 6:00 to 8:00.

A Pride Weekend will be held on June 14, 15 & 16.

Events include a Bonfire on the Beach at dusk at Wisconsin Point on Friday June 14, a Queer Block Party Saturday June 15, and a Harbor Cruise on Sunday June 16. There is also a Leather Pride Night at the Main Club on June 15, a Pride Parade and rally on July 27 and an AIDS vigil on August 10.

For more information call 218-728-4396.

Minneapolis/St. Paul Pride

June 22 and 23

Downtown Area/Loring Park

Events held throughout the week-end. The parade is on Sunday the 23rd. Over 80,000 people are expected to attend the Pride Festival which is held in Loring Park. The festival features one stage with entertainment and a vast assortment of merchandise.

The Parade and festival conclude a month of Pride activities.

For more information call (612) 288-BTLG

Duluth-Superior Summer of Pride

June 12

Linda Beaty Night at the Northland Gay Men's Center. In celebration of her effort and support through Journey's Marketplace. 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Music, and refreshments will be served.

June 14

Pride Bonfire on Wisconsin Point. Starts at dusk, near the lighthouse.

June 15

Garage opens at the Main Club. Leather-Levi extravaganza.

June 16

Fourth Annual Pride Harbor Cruise. 1:00 p.m. Vista Fleet Dock—Downtown Duluth. Afternoon scenic cruise of Duluth-Superior Harbor and St. Louis Bay aboard the "Vista King." Luncheon buffet included with ticket purchase. Cash bar on board. Tickets are now on sale. \$10 in advance, \$12 day of cruise. Call (218) 724-6961 or write: Pride Committee, P.O. Box 3198, Duluth, MN 55803.

Pride Barbeque at the Main Club. 4:30 p.m. Free with cruise ticket.

June 17

Northland Gay Men's Center Open House. 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. North Second Avenue East, Downtown Duluth. Free refreshments and door prizes. Open to the general public.

June 28

Film Fest and Ice Cream Social. 7:00 p.m. at the Northland Gay Men's Center. Admission is \$1. Open to the general public. Film offerings to be announced.

July 27

Pride Parade—Canal Park to Erickson Park, with the Minnesota Freedom Band. Starts at 10:30 a.m. in Canal Park.

Pride Awards and Rally—Features the annual awards ceremony and entertainment on the concert stage at Erickson Park. Begins at 11:30 a.m.

Tenth Annual Pride Picnic—Overlooking Lake Superior in Duluth's Erickson Park. This year's Celebration Picnic will feature entertainment on the Pride Stage all afternoon. Information booths hosted by local and regional organizations, food and beverages on site, flush toilet facilities and ample parking for your convenience.

Festivities begin at 1:00 p.m.

August 10

AIDS Candlelight Vigil—7:30 p.m., Lake Place Park, downtown Duluth.

Note: This is a list of primary events for the 1996 Summer of Pride. More events will be added as information becomes available.

Chicago's Pride Parade

June 30

Boys Town area

The oldest Pride celebration in the Midwest is also the largest. Over 200,000 people will line the streets to cheer on several thousand marchers, dozens of floats and more.

The weekend of June 29 & 30 is filled with parties and concerts.

For more information on Chicago's Pride events call (312)348-8243.

Madison Pride

July 21

State Capitol

Part of the Madison's Magic Picnic weekend. The Magic Picnic is on Saturday June 20th and the Pride Parade from the State Capitol is on Sunday July 21st. The parade is preceded by a rally and followed by entertainment.

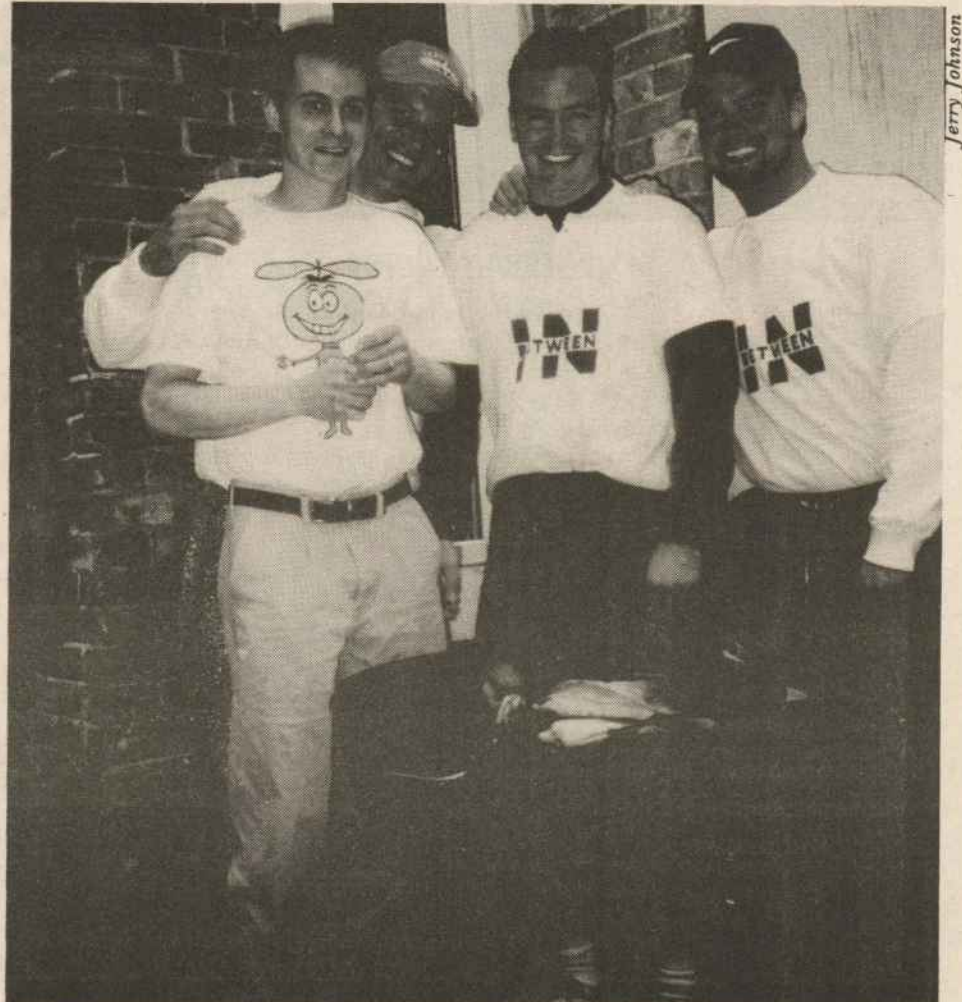
Festivities include a dance sponsored by the 10% Society on Friday July 19 and a UW Alumni Brunch Sunday July 21.

For more information contact The Wisconsin Community Fund at (608) 251-6834

Rainbow Over Wisconsin

August 31 - September 1

Bowling tournament at the Riviera Lanes in Green Bay will be held on Saturday the



Hot Dogs, Brats, and more were part of the Milwaukee Classic weekend. Shown above (l to r) are In Between Owner Curt joined by Ed, Tim and JR was joined in preparing a mountain for food for hungry players and fans during In Between's "Classic Cook out." Their culinary skills got an A+ from those in attendance.

31. On September 1 a Pride Picnic featuring entertainment, food, drink, and booths will be held in Appleton's Memorial

Park. For more information contact Rainbow Over Wisconsin (414) 347-7277.

MMWL/Ingenu Productions Presents

The Wisconsin Leather Weekend

June 28 thru June 30, 1996

2 Contests & More

June 28, 1996

3B's

1579 South Second Street
Milwaukee, WI

"The Wisconsin Leather Ball"

Prizes for Best Leather, Most Creative, Best Harness, etc.
\$4.00 Reg/\$3.00 in Leather Admission - Starts at 7:00pm

June 29, 1996

100 Club

1100 South First Street
Milwaukee, WI

"The Mr. Wisconsin Fantasy Contest"

Raffles, Door Prizes

\$5.00 Admission - Starts at 9:00pm

June 30, 1996

3B's

1579 South Second Street
Milwaukee, WI

"The Mr/Ms Southwestern Leather Contest"

Raffles, Door Prizes

\$5.00 Admission - Starts at 9:00pm

Applications for Contest can be obtained at:

3B's

100 Club

MMWL/Ingenu Productions
(608) 222-9128

There will be Vendors, Organizations, etc available at the locations during these events. If you want to have table space just contact MMWL/Ingenu Productions.

Let's make this the leather blow out of the year.

YOU'RE INVITED

SATURDAY JUNE 8

Club 94 Hosts Pageant

The Miss Gay Kenosha US of A Pageant will be held at Club 94. The star studded pageant includes Loretta La Mour, Miss Gay Wisconsin US of A 1995-96, Gloria Holloway-Miss Gay Kenosha US of A 95-96, Vickee, formerly Ms. Gay Wisconsin US of A and Josie Lynn- Miss Gay Appleton, US of A.

The pageant is scheduled to begin at 10:30 P.M. giving you plenty of time to reach the Club after the PrideFest fireworks. For more information or to enter the contest contact Todd (414)654-4982 or Lady Di (414)634-1294. Club 94 is located at Highway C and I-94 in Kenosha.

MONDAY JUNE 10

Afterwords Book Club

The Afterword's Literary Discussion Club will meet at 7:00 to discuss Felice Picano's "Like People In History." Everyone is welcome. Afterwords Book Store is located at 2710 N. Murray in Milwaukee.

TUESDAY JUNE 11

Madison Business Social

The L/B/G Business Alliance and Darren Kittleson of Sterling Concepts, along with the Madison Gay/Lesbian Resource Center is sponsoring a social gathering at 3749 Country Grove Drive (off HWY PD between HWY M & Verona Rd., watch for the signs)

All Madison area businesses, self employed individuals and professionals are invited to attend.

THURSDAY JUNE 13

SPOTLIGHT PARTY AT THIS IS IT

This Is It and the SpotLight will host a special party honoring the Milwaukee AIDS Project's Thursday Night Volunteer Group. Food, a presentation ceremony, and fun will all get underway starting at 9:30. The party provides a great opportunity to thank a hard working, dedicated group of volunteers helping in the fight against AIDS. There is no cover and everyone is welcome.

This Is It is located at 418 E. Wells in Milwaukee.

FRIDAY JUNE 14

Superior/Duluth Kick Off Pride Weekend

Superior/Duluth kicks off its annual Pride celebration with a big bonfire on the beach at Wisconsin Point on Friday June 14th. The weekend's activities continue with the annual Queer Block Party will be held at Chester's Creek House. The party begins at 2:00 on Saturday June 15th.

The weekend concludes with a Pride Harbor Cruise on Sunday afternoon. Other Pride related events will be held throughout the summer. For more information on Superior/Duluth's Pride celebration call Kirk at (218)728-4396.

UW Madison 10% Society Dance

UW Madison's 10% Society will be holding its June Dance in the Great Hall of the Memorial Union. The doors open at 8 PM. The event features great music provided by a DJ and a cash bar. Admission is \$3.00.

SATURDAY JUNE 15

SEWAP Cruise on Lake Geneva

The annual South East Wisconsin Aids Project (SEWAP) cruise on the Lake will take place. Donors will cruise Lake Geneva on the "Lady Of The Lake" while they listen to and enjoy the music of popular jazz artist, Jerry Grillo. The cocktail cruise leaves the Riviera dock in downtown Lake Geneva at 5:30.

Tickets are \$45.00 per person and can be purchased by calling SEWAP at 1-800-924-6601.

Turnabout Night at the Trading Company

The Trading Company, will be holding its first annual Turnabout Night. While the staff performs on stage, guest bartenders from other cities will serve the customers. The show begins at 10:30. There is no cover and everyone is welcome to attend.

The Trading Company is located at 304 Eau Claire Street, Eau Claire.

SUNDAY JUNE 16

Just Us Hosts SAGE Potluck

Just Us will host a SAGE potluck on from 1 to 5 PM. Everyone of all ages is welcome to spend a pleasant afternoon making new friends and eating great food. Bring a dish to pass if you can, but feel free to come anyway if you can't.

Just Us is located at 807 S. 5th Street, Milwaukee.

Wacky, CC Rae at Manoeuvres

Manoeuvres in Madison, will be the place to be when the outrageous CC Rae takes the stage. The hilarious performer brings her wild, and wacky one woman show to Madtown. The fun begins at 10:30. The cover is just \$3.00. Manoeuvres is located at 150 S. Blair Street, Madison

BESTD Benefit at B's

B's (formerly 3B's) will be holding its Spring show. The show starring the talented Brittany Morgan is a benefit for the BESTD Clinic. A cover charge of just \$2.00 will help the Clinic with its various programs. Show time is 10:00. B's is located at 1579 S. 2nd St., Milwaukee

TUESDAY JUNE 18

Nationally Known Authors At Afterwords

Nationally known authors, Leslie Feinberg & Craig Hickman will be appearing at Afterwords Books. Ms. Feinberg authored Stone Butch Blues. She will be reading from her new book, Transgender Warriors-Making History from Joan of Arc to Ru Paul.

Hickman is a critically acclaimed performance poet, lecturer, AIDS educator & author of Rituals: Poetry and Prose as well as the solo theater piece skin & ornaments.

Their appearance is co-sponsored by the A Job Is a Right Campaign. There is no cover.

FRIDAY JUNE 21

Latin Dance Party at Just Us

Just Us will be holding a Latin Dance Party on from 10 PM to Midnight. DJ Deb, will be spinning your favorite Latin Dance tunes. Members of Latin Pride will be on hand to enjoy the evening with their friends. There is no cover.

Just Us is located at 807 S. 5th.

SUNDAY JUNE 23

Manoeuvres Team Benefit

Manoeuvres will be holding a wild and wacky evening of entertainment with its "Gay, Single and Out" show a benefit for the Manoeuvres softball team. For those who may be unfamiliar with the show, its an X-rated dating show where sleazy questions get asked and even sleazier answers are given. The fun gets underway at 10:30 PM. There is a \$3.00 cover.

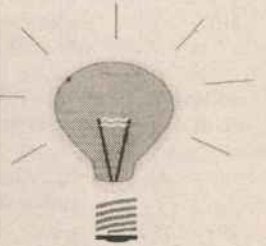
Manoeuvres is located at 150 S. Blair St. in Madison.

Century Hall 20th Anniversary Reunion

Do you remember Milwaukee's Century Hall? The popular East Side night spot burned down 20 years ago, but its memory is still alive and well. The Broadway Theater Center located at 158 N. Broadway will be hosting a 20th Anniversary Reunion of Century Hall staff, performers and customers.

Entertainment, food, Miller beers and great company will be provided. The event begins at 2 PM and continues to 10 PM.

The Night Light



By Dusty Sass

Yes, believe it or not I did survive the hectic schedule of the last two and half weeks. Whew! So much to do, so many men and so little time. Oh well if a few of the hotter hunks slipped by while I was otherwise occupied, I will just have to make up for it in the next couple of weeks.

Of course I will be in attendance at PrideFest '96. With all the great food, great acts and other happenings, I wouldn't miss it and neither should you! The fest runs June 7, 8th and 9th on Milwaukee's Summerfest grounds.

I may have to leave early on Saturday June 8 so I can catch the Miss Gay Kenosha US of A pageant at Club '94. With the theme "An Evening In the Tropics, it should be one hot night. (at least I hope so). The fun begins at 10:30.

Of course I will be back in Milwaukee in time for the big Pride Parade on Sunday June 9. This could be our biggest parade ever.

On Monday June 10, I'll pop on over to Afterwords for its monthly book club meeting. This month's discussion will be about "Like People in History" written by Felice Picano. Hey even I need some culture and education every once in a while.

After that experience I am sure that on Tuesday June 11, I'll be ready to take in the weekly "Brain Dead Revue" at Club 219.

In Between is holding a Let's Make A Deal Party on Wednesday, June 12, which also happens to be Dusty's Birthday. I'll celebrate by taking the men behind doors 1, 2, 3, 4, 5....

Then there is the BIG SPOTLIGHT PARTY AT THIS IS IT ON THURSDAY, JUNE 13. This is our first Spotlight Party so we hope for a big crowd. Joe and his staff are pulling out all of the stops (don't they always do that). There will be pizza, fun, awards and a chance to honor a hard working group of volunteers: MAP's Thursday Night Group. Don't miss it!

On Friday June 14, I'll be hitting the road (and not a moment too soon) for a weekend of fun around the state. I will start out in Superior for the beginning of their annual Pride celebration. That evening will see the annual Pride Bonfire. Talk about your flaming queens.... Speaking of which I should call and ask if I could bring some old boyfriends to throw in for kindling. The blazing inferno will be built and torched on the beach at Wisconsin Point at around dusk.

Then on the afternoon of Saturday the 15th, the annual Pride Block Party will be held near the Chester Creek House. This will be followed by a Leather Pride Night at the Main Club. Get out those harnesses. As long as I am there I will have to check out JT's, Superior's newest hot queer bar.

Being in Superior that day means that I will miss cruising (on a ship this time) at SEWAP's annual benefit. This swanky affair includes the popular Jerry Grillo (who I'll be catching at PrideFest) performing on the "Lady of the Lake" as it plies the waters of Lake Geneva. Get your tickets, a sell out is expected.

While I am in the Northern part of the state, I will simply have to take in The Trading Company's first annual Turnabout Show. The staff will be dressing up and doing a show while guest bartenders from around the state serve the customers. (and we do mean serve) The festivities get underway at 10:30 PM. The show will be followed by dancing where I am sure I can find some cute hunky farm boy to pass the time with until the wee hours of the morning. I just love that corn fed beef.

On the Sunday, June 16th, I'll be over at Manoeuvres for the CC Rae Show. I remember CC from the old Second City Comedy troupe. She's a real screamer (and not just in bed either). The show starts at 10:00 and its guaranteed to be a winner.

Of course being in Madtown to catch CC means I won't be on hand for B's annual Spring Show. The benefit for the BESTD Clinic starts at 10:30 and stars the ever fabulous Brittany Morgan. I hope they get a huge crowd and raise lots of money!

Tuesday, June 18 will find me back at Afterwords for the Feinberg and Hickman appearance. Meeting nationally famous people always gives me a lift. Carl and his staff are to be thanked for continuing their efforts to bring big name authors to Milwaukee.

On Wednesday the 19th, I hope you will all join me for La Cage's Super Bust. (and they don't mean my sex life) La Cage is always a hot place for dancing and the Super Bust is always a good bargain and a great way to break up the week.

The following night is Wisconsin Light distribution night at the bars in Milwaukee. Get those Miller Lite tappers and bottles ready for me! I am sure you my dear readers will be busting down the doors of various establishments to get a peek at my next column.

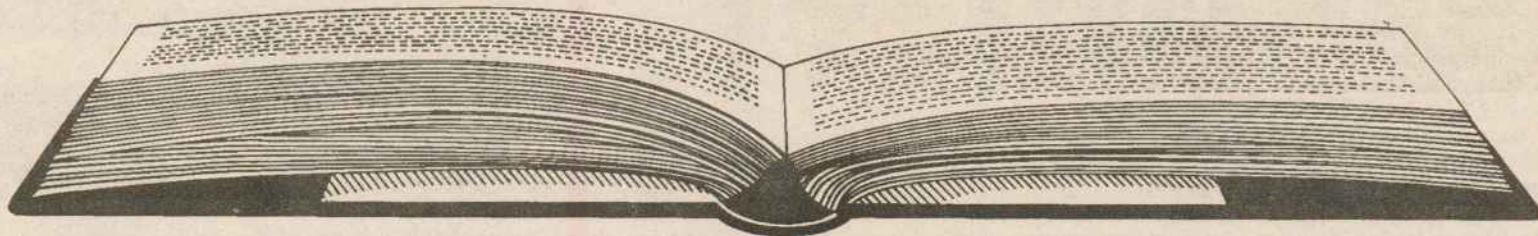
Then on Friday the 21st, I'll pop in at Just Us, for its Latin Dance Party. Co-owner and DJ extraordinaire, Deb, will be spinning all my Latin favorites. Okay some of those guys won't fit on a turntable, but give her an A for effort! BTW, Just Us also boasts a great fish fry every Friday night!

On Saturday June 22nd, I will be joining my teammates at Sijan Field for more thrills and chills on the softball diamonds. The games start at 11:30 and go until about 5:00. BTW, no I didn't win the MVP award in the Milwaukee Classic, but I do want to thank the many fans (both of them) who showed up to cheer me on. Hey how was I supposed to know that they didn't have an MVP award!

After the games, I'll be heading over to In Between for its big team fund raiser, and cook out which starts at 3:00. I am planning to bid on a few brats. (I hear that team has a some really juicy ones!) The money raised will send the team to St. Louis for its softball tournament. Hey, can I come too?

And you thought after PrideFest, that things would calm down. Summer is here folks and we are just getting warmed up!

book reviews



An Interview with Leslie Feinberg; Breaking New Ground for the Trans Community

By Carl M. Szatmary

Leslie Feinberg is going to be spending the next several weeks on the road, promoting **Transgender Warriors: Making History From Joan of Arc to RuPaul** (Beacon HC \$27.50). One of Feinberg's stops is Milwaukee. I was especially pleased to be able to catch her during a break on her busy schedule to chat about the book and about being one of the visible spokespeople for the burgeoning movement.

Many readers will remember Feinberg from the best-selling, **Stone Butch Blues**, a Lambda Literary award-winning novel. In **Stone Butch Blues**, Feinberg tells the story of a young butch growing up in the factories and the Gay bars of Buffalo in the early 1960's. It is a story that bears a striking resemblance to Feinberg's own story.

Curiously, Feinberg admits **Transgender Warriors** and **Stone Butch Blues** were planned together, "it's my one-two punch in the discussion about gender."

Stone Butch Blues was "conceived in response to the revival of butch/femme discussions." Feinberg's goal with **Stone Butch Blues** was "wanting to write something that would be accessible to everyone."

How well **Stone Butch Blues** has been praised as a piece of literature and that the novel is in its third printing for publisher Firebrand is a testament to the impact it has had within the community, a response that Feinberg found, "very gratifying."

Talking to Feinberg, it is immediately clear that **Transgender Warriors** is a deeply heartfelt work, one which Feinberg admits to having worked on her entire adult life. Although **Transgender Warriors** has only been on bookstore shelves for a few weeks, response to the this new book on transgender issues has likewise been enthusiastic. Its phenomenal response, according to Feinberg, "shows what a hunger exists for books on the subject."

Transgender Warriors is an impressive, visually stunning volume chronicling the role that transgendered individuals throughout history have played within the societies they lived. Many readers may be surprised to learn that there has been a long tradition of transgendered individuals battling injustice, including but certainly not limited to the celebrated Joan of Arc.

Works like Feinberg's **Stone Butch Blues**

Former Gay Inmate Of Hitler's Camp's Reveals Horrors of the Pink Triangle

I, Pierre Seel, Deported Homosexual

Pierre Seel
Frontline, \$14.95

Reviewed by Bill Steffenhagen

Pierre Seel is now 72 years old. Weariness drapes palpably over him in the photo on the jacket of his book. His secret has taken its toll. For forty years he harbored within himself the soul-searing memories of the Nazi terror visited upon him when he was 17. Pierre was not a Jew.

He was a devout Catholic. He was also a homosexual, and even before the Jews, hundreds of thousands of homosexuals were among the earliest victims of Hitler's mad dream of the perfect Aryan race. This is the story of his ordeal in one of the most evil socio-political inventions of human history.

Written simply and starkly, it is an easy read that you won't want to put down. Despite the loss of many details that the years and the pain have taken from him, Seel spins a well-connected tale from his initial arrest and Gestapo torture by rape with broken rulers, to his incarceration in a labor camp in his homeland of Alsace in northeastern France, to his inexplicable release and subsequent forced induction into the German Wehrmacht, his assignment to Berlin, then, for no apparent reason to a "liebensborn" camp, a contrived living environment of considerable luxury where beautiful young Aryan men and women were given the duty of creating the perfect race, then to the Russian front where, toward the end, he deserted, was captured by the Russians and eventually freed to make his way back through a ravaged Europe to his homeland and his family who had all survived.

and **Transgender Warriors**, along with Kate Bornstein's **Gender Outlaws** as well as works by Walter Williams and Will Roscoe can only hint at the potential impact that the transgender movement will have on literature, beyond even the discussion of a third, gender-neutral pronoun.

In writing on transgender issues, Feinberg admits that *his* biggest difficulty is "language with regard to the rigidity of gender." When working on **Stone Butch Blues**, Feinberg faced the particular difficulty of choosing a narrative voice, realizing that an omniscient impossible due to the arbitrariness of pronouns which "limits the narrative voice." A more personal first-person narration was the only viable option.

Feinberg feels that the transgender movement and the literature that will subsequently emerge, "will exert tremendous impact on language... focusing on and discussing the spectrums between 'he' and 'she'." "Neither she or he can adequately address my experience," claims Feinberg who hopes, in part, that the movement will, "bust down some doors."

Feinberg welcomes the opportunity of reaching a live audience, "opening a discussion that didn't begin with me and that won't end when I leave the room." In speaking to a variety of audiences, Feinberg reports that *s/he* encounters very little negative reaction, citing that generally these lone individuals often feel the pressure of isolation when facing a genuinely supportive audience.

With Gay Pride season almost upon us, it seemed appropriate to ask Leslie where *s/he* felt transgendered individuals fit into such celebrations. Feinberg took the opportunity to stress that trans individuals fought the police at Stonewall, that trans individuals have always been "on the forefront... forced to fight back."

Lesbians and Gay men, along with transgendered individuals have, Feinberg admitted, been targeted by a common enemy. Still, while Feinberg believes that trans individuals do have some different issues, "we can never narrow our movement for acceptance to our enemies."

Leslie Feinberg will be at AfterWords Bookstore on Tuesday, June 18th at 7:00pm reading with celebrated performance poet and trans activist Craig Hickman.

He writes of inmates being forced to build their own crematoriums, of victims of medical experiments (himself included) being used as human "dartboards" for German orderlies throwing hypodermic syringes, of the environments of hunger, fear, humiliation, death and madness that numbed his sense of humanity, of his agony as his young lover was stripped naked, hooded, and executed by being torn apart by dogs before his eyes, of the destruction of his spirit.

Surviving all, he returned to his family and homeland only to find himself trapped in yet another soul-destroying dilemma: the homophobic society of post-war Europe. Only his family, who refused to acknowledge it, knew why he was initially arrested and he had nowhere to turn to relieve himself of the terrible burden of the secrets that tormented his days and turned his nights to nightmares.

Determined to bury it all deep inside himself, he eventually married, raised three children, moved about Europe from job to job as depression drove him to alcoholism and more depression, marital separation and suicidal desperation until, at age 57, he began to tell his story to the growing Gay organizations that had begun to preserve the history of the "homosexual holocaust."

Only then did his wife learn the reason for his depression and impossible behavior, and she stood by him. And only then, with his coming out, did he begin to free himself of the demons of his painful secrets.

Bearing witness to an aspect of the Holocaust rarely seen, Pierre Seel provides us with an invaluable, stunning contribution to Gay and Lesbian history, saying, "If I do not speak, I will become the accomplice of my torturers." ▽



Lesbian Author, Shelly Roberts will be appearing at the Afterwords Book Tent during PrideFest on Saturday June 8 at 7:00. The popular Roberts is expected to attract a large crowd.

"Let's Face the Music" is a Good Book If You Don't Want to Use Your Brain

Face the Music and Die

Sandra Scoppetone

Harper, \$10.95

Reviewed by Cynthia Van Vreede

Let's Face The Music and Die by Sandra Scoppetone is the fourth outing of private investigator Lauren Laurano. This time around Lauren is called upon to help her friend, Elissa.

Elissa's Aunt Ruth was viciously murdered. The news media thinks it's the work of the "Granny Killer." The police think Elissa committed the murder because she stands to inherit a lot of money. Lauren thinks it may be a third party, especially after someone takes a shot at Elissa.

While Lauren is running around New York looking for a murderer, her relationship with Kip is falling apart. In the previous book, Kip's brother died of AIDS.

In **Let's Face the Music and Die**, Kip's having a hard time adjusting to her brother's death. So while Kip leaves the city for a month long conference, Lauren seeks refuge on the Internet.

On-line she meets a woman named Alex and they start e-mailing each other. Lauren wonders if women can be together just for the sex or must they always fall in love.

Added to the stress in Lauren's life is that the man who raped her many years ago is now out of prison and seeking revenge. He won't

be satisfied until she's dead.

Oh yes, and Lauren's cop friend is shot.

Whew! All the storylines in this book make it seem like the written equivalent of an E.R. episode. Except this is a book, not a TV show.

The book would have been fine with the story of the murder, Kip's leaving town, and Lauren's on-line flirting. The plot line around the return of the rapist is wasted here.

Scoppetone deals too lightly with it. The reader would be better served if the rapist story were a whole separate book. Then the author could delve into the psyche of Lauren as she tries to deal with the emotional aspects of having someone like that coming back into her life. As such, we are cheated. Also, the storyline that involves Lauren's cop friend is left open ended. And kids, that means another book!

As a mystery, **Let's Face the Music and Die** is pretty lame. It's the weakest of the four books by Scoppetone.

Jessica Fletcher would have guessed the murderer before the first commercial if this mystery were on *Murder, She Wrote*. Yet the characters of Lauren, Kip and their friends are appealing. And by the time the fourth book comes around you feel like you're visiting with old friends.

All in all, **Let's Face the Music and Die** is a okay summer read if you're not into using your brain.

'Touched' Provides a Shocking Story With a Disturbingly Human Face

Touched

A Novel by Scott Campbell

Bantam HC \$21.95

Reviewed by Glenn Bishop

Much of the finest contemporary American fiction seeks to expose the evil lurking in the homiest of hometown America, the dark cesspool of conflicting desires and raw emotions just barely concealed by the rhetoric of the Christian Coalition. Perhaps the deepest and the darkest secret is the sexual abuse of children, a topic certain to be controversial.

(See A. M. Holmes recent, **The End of Alice**.)

A year ago Glenn was urged to read **Mysterious Skin**, a marvelously stark first novel by Scott Heim. This deeply affecting novel left off the page, in vague and ultimately hazy tones, the man responsible for perpetrating sexual aggression against the novel's two young protagonists.

Yet **Mysterious Skin** proved to be less interested with the fetishism of pedophilia than with more compellingly universal themes of survival.

In Scott Campbell's debut novel, **Touched**, the topic again is the desire an adult man has for an adolescent boy.

"Oh, no," Glenn can hear a multitude of

groans, "Not another Gay pedophile novel." Strangely enough, at the heart of Campbell's novel, is a married man, otherwise presumably heterosexual, who is unable to contain his obsessive desire for adolescent boys at the threshold of manhood.

In this wise and deeply affecting novel, Campbell utilizes the voices of four of those characters inextricably involved in the story.

Robbie's mother Linda, riddled by doubts and guilt, reveals her son's devastating confession: "Jerry Houseman's been touching me." In that one infinitesimal, utterly irrevocable moment, a blinding light will forever change Linda's world.

The second and perhaps weakest section of **Touched** picks up the story, only in the words of Jerry Houseman. Perhaps portrayed as too average, too ordinary, Jerry appears to all the world as a good husband and kind father to his three little daughters.

Always wanting a son, no one thinks it odd that he spends ever increasing amounts of time with Robbie, a engaging youth whom most of the neighborhood has, on some level, adopted.

Following Jerry's arrest, the third section reveals the trial and the devastation of the Houseman family, in the words of Jeanette,

Please Turn to Touched on Page 23

June, Lesbian and Gay Book Month, Brings a Host of New Titles For Summer Reading

By Carl M. Szatmary

It possesses more than a touch of irony that just as the weather begins to turn a shade more humane, at least within the friendly confines of Wisconsin, Gay and Lesbian readers are faced with an embarrassment of riches. More books, not all of exceptional quality or interest, too be sure, begin to flood Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgendered, Women's bookstores just as soon as temperatures begin to rise significantly.

Gay Fiction

After a year-long dearth of Gay-male theme fiction, comes a stunning array of literary and commercial novels from both stellar names in the genre and a bevy of newcomers seeking a place on your bookshelf.

With the possible exception of Gay literary mega-star Amisted Maupin, only Andrew Holleran is more respected and read. His classic, **Dancer From the Dance** has influenced a generation of Gay writers and remains an essential read of the mad-frenzy era prior to AIDS and HIV.

Possessing vague autobiographical shades, Holleran has just released his third novel, **The Beauty of Men** (Morrow HC \$24.00). In **The Beauty of Men**, Holleran has crafted a brilliant and passionate story of a man ashamed to be mourning the loss of his own youth as so many friends around him are dying so young.

A surprise break-through on the various national best-seller lists is E. Lynn Harris's third novel, **And This Too Shall Pass** (Bantam HC \$23.95). This engaging page-turner brings Gay readers into the unusual world of professional football, following celibate rookie quarterback Zurich Robinson.

During the pre-Stonewall 1960's, John Rechy's **City of the Night** and **Numbers** shocked a nation for their unabashed look at the homosexuality and immediately became modern classics.

In his new novel, Rechy follows the plight of some of history's most tragic of fallen women in **Our Lady of Babylon** (Arcade HC \$23.95).

Sure to be the most discussed novel of the summer is Brad Gooch's **The Golden Age of Promiscuity** (Knopf HC \$24.00). Gooch, who recently penned the well respected biography of poet Frank O'Hara, has intended the novel to bring to life the subterranean Gay club scene in the 1970's, a world of drugs, dim lights, and the infamous back rooms.

Coming of age novels continue to claim a major portion of contemporary Gay fiction. Irreverent, sexy and unconventional are all adjectives to describe **Hey, Joe** (Simon & Schuster HC \$21.00), a debut novel by Ben Neihart.

Hardcover books, regardless of their interest and appeal tend to be dismissed for forays to the beach. Fortunately many titles have

been released in more user-friendly paperback editions.

Last summer's dueling epics by Ethan Mordden and Felice Picano are available (or soon will be) for surf-side reading. Like **People in History**, Picano's self-proclaimed Gay epic was released in May by Dutton at \$12.95.

Later this summer Ballantine will bring out Ethan Mordden's panoramic **How Long Has This Been Going On?** (\$12.95).

Those looking for something a little different might well turn to Laura Argiri's **The God in Flight** (Penguin Pb \$12.95), an extraordinary Gothic romance set in the late 1800's.

Fans of classic horror cinema should turn to Christopher Bram's **Father of Frankenstein**, (Plume Pb \$10.95), a fictional account of fabled film director James Whale.

An intriguing paperback original title comes from Bruce Morrow and Charles H. Rowell who have collected a fabulous collection of fiction by Gay Men of African Descent titled, **Shade**, (Avon Pb \$12.00). The collection includes works by such names writers as James Earl Hardy, Randall Kenan, Samuel Delany and many others.

Lesbian Fiction

Less bountiful this Pride season are Lesbian-theme novels. Still, there are many fascinating books to choose from.

Topping the list is best-selling mystery novelist Sandra Scoppettone with the publication of her fourth Lauren Laurano offering, **Let's Face the Music and Die** (Little, Brown HC \$21.95). Here Lauren finds herself in the middle of an investigation of the brutal murder of a friend's aunt while juggling further relationship crises with long-term lover, Kip. (See review in this issue.)

From Edgar Award-winning Laurie R. King comes her third Kate Martinelli mystery, **With Child** (St. Martin's HC \$21.95). In **With Child**, Kate is involved in a nightmare that begins in her off-duty life and turns into a crime for which she feels herself responsible.

The oh-so prolific Sneaky Pie Brown is back, once again in collaboration with Rita Mae Brown with the fourth Mrs. Murphy mystery, **Pay Dirt** (Bantam HC \$21.95).

We Are Gathered Here, (St. Martin's HC \$22.95) by first-time novelist is the story of two women caught in the rural America of the 1880s.

Regina and Olive share adventures that will allow them to explore the avenues open to women of their time and find a place for themselves.

Hood, (HarperCollins HC \$23.00) is Emma Donoghue's second novel, following the success of **Stir-Fry**. Pen must cope with the loss of longtime lover Cara while gradually beginning to share a relationship with Cara's older sister Kate.

"Different Daughters", Stories by Mothers of Lesbians, is a Must-Read for Both

Different Daughters
Louise Raffkin, ed.
Clies Press, \$12.95

By Linda Sedgwick

Cleis Press is pleased to announce publication of the second edition of **Different Daughters: A Book by Mothers of Lesbians**, a landmark title in Lesbian studies, originally published in 1987. The second edition of **Different Daughters** includes new stories — including entries from mothers of Bisexual and Transgendered daughters — and remarkable progress reports on old favorites.

When the original edition of **Different Daughters** appeared just in time for Mother's Day, 1987, Lambda Rising Book Report proclaimed, "Every Lesbian should have two copies of **Different Daughters**, one for herself and one for her mom..."

Many apparently followed Lambda Rising's advice, and the book sold printing after printing. **Different Daughters** was reviewed widely and favorably by Gay and Lesbian publications, mainstream newspapers, and trade journals. Library Journal reported: "The honest voices of these women are clear, as they come to terms with their offspring's lifestyle, providing a valuable perspective for others dealing with these complex issues."

Coming out to mom is a Lesbian rite of passage. In **Different Daughters**, edited by Louise Raffkin, mothers of Lesbians come together to trace their journeys towards acceptance of their daughters.

These remarkable women face their fears and confusion, prejudice and misunderstandings and speak honestly and bravely about the difficulties and joys of life with their "Different Daughters."

Different Daughters features twenty-five heartfelt personal essays, both original and revised, that explore issues of family, community, religion, grandchildren, bisexuality, transgenderism and coming out, and

raises questions shared by all mothers: how can we accept our children as who they are? How can we love our children even when they are different from us?

The emotional intricacies inherent in these questions are revealed as the women in **Different Daughters** examine their love for their children and their evolving relationships with them.

Raffkin originally edited **Different Daughters** when her own mother — whose story is updated in the new edition — could not find a book that would help her understand Lesbians, allay her anger and consternation and dispel her misconceptions. "In my newly come-out Lesbian zeal," Raffkin writes, "I imagined the book for mothers that would somehow make everything okay..." Raffkin, who lives in Massachusetts, writes for **The New York Times Sunday Magazine**, **Out** magazine, and **Boston Phoenix**. She was recently awarded an NEA grant. ▽

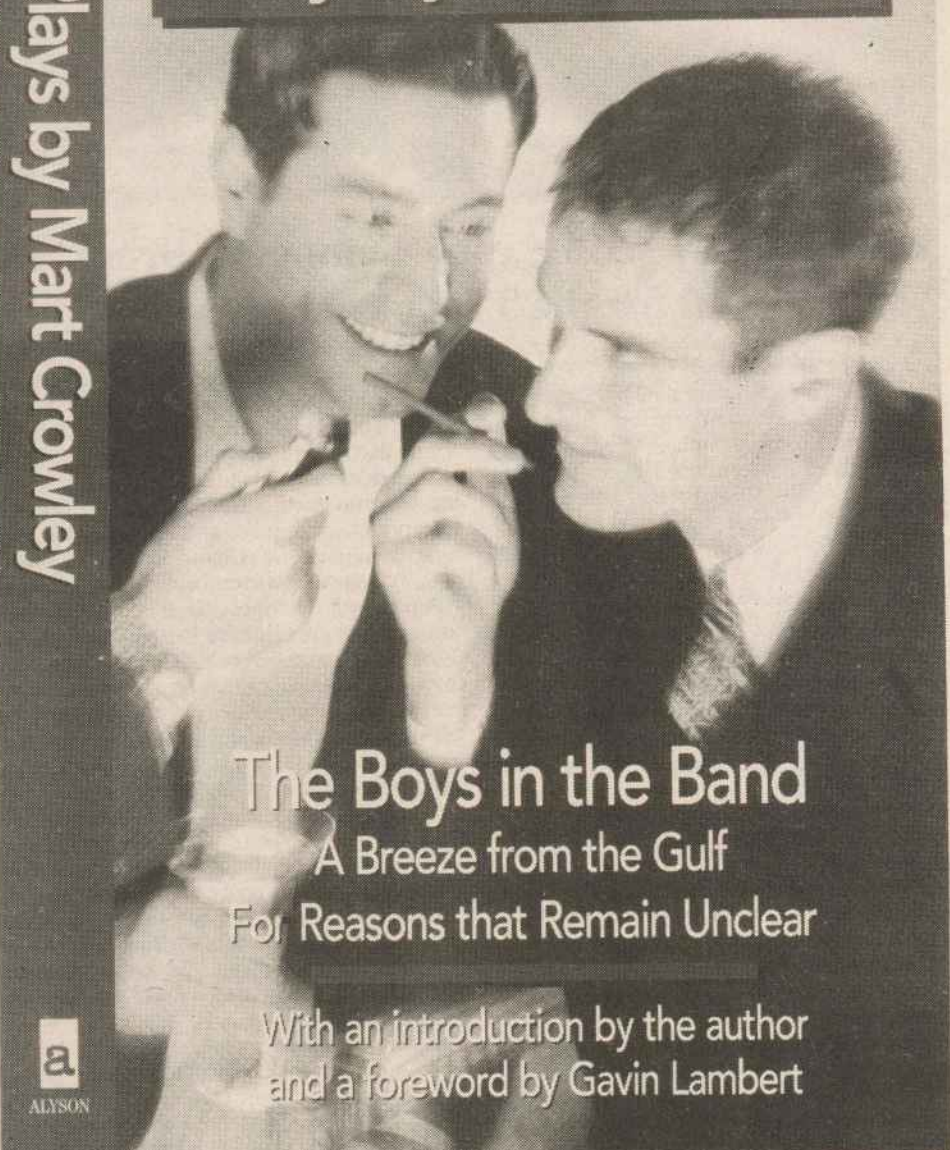
"Eros in Boystown" Explores Gay Sex in Verse

This unique collection of poetry by and about Gay men explores both the landscape of twentieth-century (modern and contemporary) literary verse and the relationships among love, romance, and desire. **Eros in Boystown** is highly erotic and sexy, the poets chosen for their willingness and ability to push poetry to its hottest limits.

In addition to lively new voices on the poetry scene, contributors include both living and posthumous masters of contemporary verse: Antler, W. H. Auden, Allen Ginsberg, Jean Cocteau, James Baldwin, and Thom Gunn, to name a few.

3 Plays by Mart Crowley

3 Plays by Mart Crowley



The Boys in the Band
A Breeze from the Gulf
For Reasons that Remain Unclear

With an introduction by the author
and a foreword by Gavin Lambert

From Naiad comes a long lost novel of romantic lesbian love, **Forbidden Fires** (HC \$21.95) by Margaret Anderson, the legendary editor of **The Little Review**. As remarkable is the account by Mathilda Hills who searched across two continents on her quest for the manuscript.

June has also brought the third entry into the very successful Lesbian anthologies, **Women on Women**, (Plume Pb \$12.95) edited by Joan Nestle and Naomi Holoch. Amongst the authors included are: Kate Millet, Sapphire, Leslie Feinberg and many, many more.

Many eagerly awaited novels have just been released in affordable paperback editions including Lisa Alther's **Five Minutes in Heaven**, (Plume \$11.95), **Mothers**, (St. Martin's \$12.95) by Jax Peters Lowell, **Murder at Monticello**, (Bantam \$5.99) and Randy Lordon's second mystery, **Sister's Keepers** (St. Martin's \$9.95).

New Non-Fiction

When one begins to plan reading for those holidays at the beach, titles that usually come to mind are light and mindless escapist fare. Nevertheless June is Lesbian and Gay Book Month and publishers are determined that anything and everything is fair game to be released to tie into various marketing schemes.

Amongst the first to be released is also perhaps the most intriguing: **Beyond Queer: Challenging Gay Left Orthodoxy** (Free Press HC \$25.00)

Love 'em or hate 'em Gay conservative celebrity Bruce Bawer (**A Place at the Table**) is back as editor of this collection in addition to supplying eight, yes that's right eight essays.

Former New Republic editor Andrew Sullivan and novelist John Weir are among other writers included by Bawer.

Frank Browning is a reporter for National Public Radio and the author of the best-selling, **The Culture of Desire**. In his new book, **A Queer Geography** (Crown HC \$24.00), Browning looks at the effect that geography — literally being in different geographical locations across the globe — has on the definition of sexuality and sexual roles.

Helen Eisenbach's **Lesbianism Made Easy**, (Crown HC 20.00) has a delightful cover to match its intriguing title. In **Lesbianism Made Easy**, Eisenbach has a decidedly irreverent tone to illustrating how to smooth the potentially difficult transition that a would-be daughter of Sappho might face.

One of the most appropriate titles for Gay Pride Month is Betty Berzon's **Setting Them Straight: You CAN do Something About Bigotry and Homophobia in Your Life** (Plume Pb \$10.95). Berzon is the author of the best-selling **Permanent Partners** and **Positively Gay** and here shows practical ways to respond to prejudice, take control of feelings and how to direct the outcome of any encounter.

If the naked men on the cover doesn't entice the gay male reader, the title of Douglas

Sadownick's probably will: **Sex Between Men** (Harper San Francisco HC \$25.00). Novelist Sadownick here seeks through candid interviews to present an intimate history of the sex lives of Gay men postwar to the present.

Richard Isay's **Being Homosexual** has been long been a standard on Gay book shelves. This June has seen the publication of **Becoming Gay: The Journey to Self-Acceptance** (Pantheon HC \$23.00). A deeply personal book, **Becoming Gay** is a timely and profound account of what it means to live authentically.

Given the proliferation of Gay and Lesbian films, it is no surprise to find a new guide published: **The Ultimate Guide to Lesbian and Gay Films and Videos** edited by Jenni Olson (Serpent's Tale Pb \$25.00). With a majority of entries taken directly from the pages of the catalogs of the San Francisco Gay/Lesbian Film Festival, **The Ultimate Guide** includes a surprising array of films, feature-lengths and shorts from across the globe.

Three new bio/autobiographical titles look particularly interesting. The first, Gay Olympian: **The Life and Death of Dr. Tom Waddell** (Konpf HC \$23.00) profiles the remarkable life story of an Olympic athlete, doctor and founder of the Gay Games.

A very different sort of memoir is Frank DeCaro's **A Boy Named Phyllis** (Viking HC \$22.95). Young Frank was, at six, already trapped in the Sears Husky Boys section, born to an Italian-American Edith and Archie Bunker in the wilds of suburban New Jersey and Gay. What's a boy to do? A delightfully angst-free memoir and perfect light summer reading.

Finally, from the infamous Judy Hill Nelson comes **Choices: My Journey After Leaving My Husband for Martina and a Lesbian Life** (Birch Lane HC \$21.95). Yes, another book about the fabled tragic romance between Judy and Martina.

No Lesbian coffee table need to be bare any longer! First came a delightful collection of Lesbian images from celebrated photographer Tom Bianchi titled **Among Women** (St. Martin's HC \$40.00). Even more exciting is **Nothing But the Girl: A Portfolio and Exploration of Lesbian Erotic Photography** edited by Susie Bright and Jill Posener (Cassell HC \$35.00)

(Bright will be appearing in Madison. See article, this issue.)

Finally, a classic Lesbian resource book has been revised and updated, **The New Our Right to Love** (Touchstone Pb \$14.00) edited by Ginny Vida.

Several popular titles have recently been released in paperback editions including Michelangelo Signorile's **Outing Yourself** (Simon & Schuster Pb \$11.00), **Friends and Lovers**, (Plume \$12.95) edited by John Preston, Joan Nestle and John Preston's **Sister and Brother**, (HarperSanFrancisco \$13.00) and **The Science of Desire**, (Touchstone \$13.00) by Dean Hamer and Peter Copeland.

Leslie Feinberg and Milwaukee Native Craig Hickman to appear at AfterWords

Milwaukee— AfterWords is especially pleased to present a literary-performance program on Tuesday, June 18th at 7:00p.m. with Transgender activist and novelist Leslie Feinberg and poet/performance artist Craig Hickman.

Feinberg is currently on tour with the recently published **Transgender Warriors: Making History From Joan of Arc to Ru-Paul** (Beacon HC \$27.50), a fascinating exploration of the sex and gender expression.

Coming of age as a young butch Lesbian in the factories and Gay bars of Buffalo, New York in the 1960's, Feinberg has a long been a grass-roots activist and journalist. Feinberg's first book, a novel titled **Stone Butch Blues** was published in 1993 by Firebrand to extraordinary critical acclaim in 1993 and is a LAMBDA Literary Award winner.

Along with partner, author Minnie Bruce Pratt, Feinberg has continued to be a major force in the Lesbian/Gay/Bi and Transgender movements. In this role, Leslie has toured the country with a slide program on transgender issues and also opened the Stonewall 25 Rally in New York City on June 26, 1994.

Craig Hickman

In his first book, **Rituals** (Parfait de Cocoa Press Pb. \$12.95) Craig Hickman brings together his musical verse, his unabashed autobiographical writings, short fiction and his

searing commentary on being Black and Gay in America.

Hickman's writing has been included in **Gents, Bad Boys and Barbarians**, and Michael Bronski's **Taking Liberties**.

Originally from Milwaukee, Hickman was a Harvard graduate and in 1992 joined the staff of Boston's Fenway Community Health Center in 1992 as an AIDS educator.

Recently Hickman has performed his solo theatre piece *skin & ornaments* Off-Broadway and to sold-out houses at the Boston Center for the Arts.

Hickman is currently working on his first screenplay, "Looking for Justin," a novel based upon characters from *SisterGirl!* and will appear in the upcoming feature film **Never Met Picasso**, by writer/director Steven Kijak, starring Margot Kidder, Alexis Arquette and Georgia Ragsdale.

This past February found Feinberg providing the introduction of Hickman's extraordinary performance piece at Outwrite 6, the annual conference for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender writers conference.

AfterWords is especially pleased to bring these to remarkable individuals, writer, activists both, to Milwaukee. For further information concerning Hickman and Feinberg's appearance at AfterWords, please call (414) 963-9089.

In "Switch Hitters", Lesbians Write Gay Erotica and Gay Men Write Lesbian Erotica

Pittsburgh, PA—Cleis Press is pleased to present **Switch Hitters: Lesbians Write Gay Male Erotica and Gay Men Write Lesbian Erotica** (June 1996, \$12.95, trade paper) edited by Carol Queen and Lawrence Schimel.

Switch Hitters gathers explicit, provocative and entertaining erotica — with a twist: Gay men have penned sexy stories about Lesbians, and lascivious tales about Gay men have been unabashedly composed by Lesbians and Bisexual women.

By presenting "cross-gender" Lesbian and Gay erotica, **Switch Hitters** performs a kind of literary drag. The result is a surprising, intriguing, boundary-pushing body of work.

"We used to play with dump trucks and Barbies, and some of us grew up to continue playing with out gender-identity," write Queen and Schimel of the gender "queering" premise behind **Switch Hitters**.

"Now, the writers in this anthology use fiction instead of drag and strap-ons, but the playful sense of shape-shifting, of seeing how the other half lives, is the same."

The editors of **Switch Hitters** set out to consider certain questions which are grounded in the nature of our Queer communities: does our erotic writing speak more to questions of gender — the male body, the female body — or to questions of sexual orientation? In cross-gender writing, do we explore different facets of eroticism and the erotic body than we do when writing porn for our own gender?

New Book Finds Parallels Between Spinsters and Lesbians In U.S. History

Spinsters and Lesbians

Trisha Franzen
NYU Press, \$45

By Melissa Bardouin

Americans have long held fast to a rigid definition of womanhood, revolving around husband, home and children. Women who rebelled against this stereotype and carved out independent lives for themselves have often been rendered invisible in U.S. history.

In **Spinsters and Lesbians: Independent Womanhood in the United States** (264 pp., \$45 cloth/\$15.95 paperback), to be published this month by the New York University Press, Trisha Franzen brings to light the remarkable lives of two generations of autonomous women: Progressive Era "spinsters" and mid-twentieth-century Lesbians.

While both groups of women followed similar paths to independence—separating from their families, pursuing education, finding work, and creating women-centered communities — they faced different material and cultural challenges and came to claim very different identities.

Many of the turn-of-the-century women were prominent in their day, from internationally recognized classicist Edith Hamilton through two early directors of the Women's Bureau, Mary Anderson and Freida Miller. Maturing during the time of a broad and powerful women's movement, they were among that era's "new women", the oft-single women who were viewed as in the vanguard of women's struggle for equality.

In contrast, never-married women after World War II, especially Lesbians, were considered beyond the pale of "real" womanhood. Before the women's and Gay/Lesbian liberation movements of the

1970s, they had no positive contemporary images of alternative lives for women.

Highlighting the similarities and differences between women-oriented women confronting changing gender and sexuality systems, **Spinsters and Lesbians** traces a continuum among women who constructed lives outside institutionalized heterosexuality.

A long-time political activist, Trisha Franzen is director of the Anna Howard Shaw Center for Women's Studies and Programs at Albion College in Michigan. ▽

TOUCHED

Continued from Page 21
Jerry's wife.
In agonizing hues, Jeanette reveals the virtually imperceptible layers of deception, spun into a complex web that provide the basis for her world.

Touched concludes many years later, when Campbell presents the adult Robbie, Jerry Houseman's long lost "golden boy", now merely another aimless adult seeking to find his place in the world.

The action finds Robbie returning home for a high school reunion, the climax to **Touched** occurring when he finally learns the secret as to what has happened to Jerry and in the process unearthing long buried feelings and emotions which inevitably, haphazardly come bubbling forth to the surface.

In the end, Robbie finally can exit from the seemingly endless road that for a lifetime has held him captive.

Eschewing bald stereotypes and easy, impossible solutions, **Touched** succeeds in putting a shockingly human, ordinary face to this sensational story. While not, perhaps, a gay novel by typical standards, **Touched** proves to have tremendous interest to Gay readers.

AfterWords

Come meet at

AfterWords PrideFest

Literature Tent

Saturday, June 8th

2:00pm

Noted Author &
Activist



Betty Berzon

SETTING THEM STRAIGHT:

You Can Do Something About Bigotry and Homophobia in Your Life

also the author of

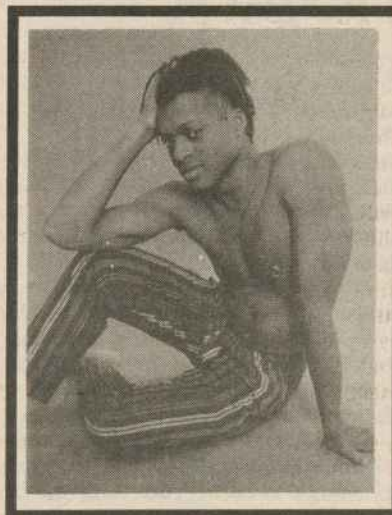
PERMANENT PARTNERS:

Building Gay and Lesbian Relationship That Last

AfterWords

Tuesday, June 18

7:00pm



Craig Hickman

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Poetry & Prose

&



Leslie Feinberg

TRANSGENDER
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Summer Offers Lesbian and Gay Travelers Guide Books to Help Out

Reviewed by Sasha Alyson

For years, Gay travelers had only two or three guidebooks to aid them, but the field has recently been booming. It takes only one bad experience at a hotel or restaurant — when a guide would have steered you to a better spot at a lower price — to realize how quickly these books pay their way. Here's a survey of what's available.

The thick, pocket-sized **Damron Address Book 1996** (668 pages, \$14.95) covers the U.S., Canada, Caribbean, and Mexico. This male-oriented guide is broken down by state and city. While the print is small, it's easy to read, and graphically well-presented. True to its name, the **Address Book** offers little detail beyond addresses and phone numbers, and no maps, but it's helpful if North America is your primary destination.

Damron's Women's Traveler (480 pages, 7th edition, \$11.95) lists most North American Lesbian and women's bookstores, bars, restaurants, hotels, and organizations. It also highlights festivals, tour operators, and a calendar of events. Particularly useful are the sections that describe various cities' attractions, including "where the girls are." An impressive guide, both graphically and editorially, though with no maps. Recommended.

The thick but compact **Ferrari for Men** (784 pages, 12th edition, \$16.00) is split between U.S. and foreign destinations and easily fits in a back pocket. Unlike guides that rely on extensive abbreviations, Ferrari uses symbols that are often easier to remember: a pacifier tells you an establishment is frequented by younger men! The book lists U.S. travel agents, as well as some abroad.

The international section focuses on Western Europe, with a smattering of other countries, but no maps.

Ferrari for Women (456 pages, 15th edition, \$14.00) contains 200 pages on the U.S. and 140 international destinations as well as 110 pages of travel agents, tour operators, events, and festivals. U.S. listings are divided by state, city, and then, for larger cities, by neighborhood — a helpful feature. Like Ferrari's men's guide, this book contains no maps and uses symbols rather than those puzzling abbreviations.

You know Gay travel has arrived when Fodor's publishes its first **Gay Guide to the USA** (300 pages, 1st edition, \$19.95). While most mainstream travel books are stodgy affairs, Andrew Collins has written a funny, informative guide to 41 American cities. This all-in-one guide for Lesbian and Gay travelers covers not only Gay venues, but also a wide-range of top tourist sights, museums, hotels,

and restaurants. Detailed descriptions and ample maps are included, and the book accepts no advertising, freebies, or paid inclusions.

On the downside are the inevitable first edition gaffs and omissions (no Mike's Gym in Boston or Unabridged Bookstore in Chicago) and the omission of many potential destinations, including Hawaii, Pittsburgh, Minneapolis, and Detroit. It's still an excellent new resource for Gay travelers. Recommended.

George Hobica's new **Gay USA** (168 pages, 1st edition, \$13.95) isn't the most comprehensive guide, but possibly the most personal. Hobica's witty and colorful descriptions give the run-down on 18 of our country's most popular Gay destinations for men and women. The book doesn't list every Gay venue, just the best or most popular. Also included are top restaurants, shopping arenas, and tourist sights. While the book features no maps and omits many cities, Hobica's insight and conversational style capture the heart of a town, and his "Ten Things Not to Miss" are usually on the mark.

The prize for hottest cover men goes to **Odysseus '96** (568 pages, 12th edition, \$25.00), even if they are only cartoons. Despite the cover, this U.S. and international guide is for both Gay men and Lesbians, with detailed descriptions of hotels and guesthouses, and simple listings for bars, restaurants, and other services. The book features useful maps of major cities and tourist areas.

The grand-daddy of Gay guidebooks, **Spartacus** (1194 pages, 25th edition, \$32.95) is the most complete guide to Gay travel from Albania to Zimbabwe, and nearly 200 countries in between. Printed on dictionary-thin paper, this primarily male guide utilizes a long list of abbreviations for each listing. The book's German origins are obvious: it contains 161 pages on the U.S. and 1578 on Germany. Useful for Gay men who travel overseas regularly, it contains maps for many major cities, a small map of nearly every country, and a summary of each country's laws retarding homosexuality. The book is far from perfect, however, as it contains little editorial description and too often entries are either outdated, sketchy, or simply wrong. The U.S. section would be better if broken down by state, then city.

Do you have questions about Gay travel that you'd like to see addressed? Companies that did a great or not-so-great job for you? Experiences you'd like to share? Send them to Sasha Alyson, Alyson Adventures, P.O. Box 101223, Boston, MA 02118. V

"Almanac of Gay and Lesbian America" Mirrors Shift in Gay Visibility

By Patricia Holt

Working on hundreds of historical facts and stories about Gay and Lesbian life that were being compiled by San Francisco researcher and author Lynn Witt, a young (age 22) editor named Arwyn Moore looked up in astonishment and asked, "When wasn't there a Gay and Lesbian community?"

The question stunned Witt, a mid-40s Lesbian activist who, with former San Francisco historian Eric Marcus and San Francisco Library Foundation director Sherry Thomas, has created a massive, informative and fascinating reference called **Out in All Directions: The Almanac of Gay and Lesbian America**.

"When I was growing up, there was little mention of Gay and Lesbian life in the press," Witt recalls, "and the few references you did see were negative. In Arwyn's life and that of many Gay people in their 20s, the whole conversation about Gays and Lesbians has changed—it's very public, often positive, and it reflects an explosion of activities and knowledge that has now visibly crossed over into the mainstream."

The word "visibly" is key, because the three editors contend that Gay people have always lived among and contributed to the general population in major and little-known ways.

"One reason we wanted to compile this almanac," says Witt, "was to show that historically, Lesbians and Gay men have been in every region, class, ethnicity, age group, profession, sport and any other category you can name."

Change in Coverage

But the editors also agree that a definite "shift" has occurred in the last five or so years. Says Thomas, "The advent of the National Gay and Lesbian Journalists Association seems to have changed the way the press is

covering Gay and Lesbian issues. You can see a watershed beginning about four or five years ago when the **New York Times** stopped using the word 'homosexual' and adopted the term 'Gay' where Lesbians and Gay men were quoted without being identified with such sensational terms as 'self-avowed'—all of that disappeared in a very short time. Soon it became routine journalism to cover Gay-related events all the time rather than once a year in June (to coincide with Gay Pride parades and celebrations).

Marcus' own book, **Making History**, an oral history of Gay and Lesbian life in America, was the first Gay book to be featured on the cover of Sunday book review sections at the **New York Times**, **Washington Post** and **San Francisco Chronicle** at the same time.

"That was 1992—the first June that a lot of attention was paid to the Gay and Lesbian parades," Marcus recalls. "Then came the 1993 March on Washington, and a million Gay and Lesbian people showed up. This got network as well as print attention, and the shift was on."

Out for Years

The almanac shows that with or without press attention, Gay life and its many expressions have been out of the closet for years. Here are hundreds of short essays on the experience of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender life (from "Wedding Belles" to "If Gays Have No Choice, Why Are They So Hated?") as well as a browser's treasury of items about Gay and Lesbian sky divers, rodeos, kite-fly-'zines,' a computer game called **Gay Blade**, "Dyke TV," Gay and Lesbian neighborhoods, "homo-economics," and so many Gays and Lesbians discussed on the talk-show circuit that it's worth going back to study "Phil Donahue's First Lesbian" in Chapter 2.

Witt found much of the information combed Gay and Lesbian communities, archives, but-ton collections, even attic and basement storage boxes on month-long trips throughout the country.

But an equal amount, she says, came from "putting the word out on the Internet. I'd ask a

WOMAN'S BEST FRIEND

A CELEBRATION OF DOGS AND THEIR WOMEN



Barbara Cohen and Louise Taylor

AUTHORS OF *DOGS AND THEIR WOMEN*

question and be deluged with answers, especially from Gay people in the South and in small towns in the Midwest—any place where there isn't a visible enough community that people can find each other easily 'above ground.'"

Political Perspective

In the process, the editors believe they've discovered "a phenomenon that would seem to belie the Gays-in-the-military controversy," says Thomas. "Ordinary straight people are much more comfortable discussing Gay and Lesbian life than the Right would have us believe. So, the ongoing dialogue in national life that might easily have embraced Gay issues has become skewed by a certain political perspective."

Restoring the balance is another reason that they took on the almanac. "It shouldn't matter, of course, that Gay people invented K-rations and camouflage, but if you're going to kick us out of the military, you should know who invented the tools you use."

For all its publicity, Marcus' 1992 book, **Making History** sold only 11,000 copies in hardcover and since then, 11,000 in paperback. That would mean a relatively small audience of "out" Gay people are interested in buying "out" books. Meanwhile, book reviewers, accustomed to receiving five to ten Lesbian and Gay books a year, have been surprised to see 30 to 50 (including reprints) in

1995 alone.

Market Glut?

Since historically only two Gay books have ever crossed over to the mainstream audience—Randy Shiels' **And the Band Played On** and Greg Louganis' **Breaking the Surface** (the latter co-written by Marcus), the question is whether enough readers, Gay or straight, are out there to make a book like **Out in All Directions** succeed; or have book publishers once again glutted a fledgling market?

It's true, says Marcus, that "the book industry has taken media interest in Gay issues to mean there is a market for all these Gay books. I don't know if there is. My hope as co-author is that this book will be here for people 50 to 100 years from now."

"It's hard to understand from afar how the publishing community puts its toe in the water and pulls it right back out again," Thomas adds. "The fact is that if we as Gay people don't buy these books now, they won't be there in four or five years. It's the same with film—there were great expectations for such Gay movies as **Jeffrey** and **The Incredibly True Adventure of Two Girls in Love**. But if we don't go to these movies in substantial numbers, the next ones won't get made. It's a testing process in a capitalist marketplace—and a very interesting way to make decisions about culture."

"Gay & Lesbian Online" is the Travel Guide to Queerdom on the Internet

Gay & Lesbian Online

Jeff Dawson

Peachpit Press, \$12.95

By Thomas Bartlett

Gay & Lesbian Online, a book by Jeff Dawson, released by Peachpit Press, is a travel guide to the Gay world online, offering a tour of the rich spectrum of Gay interests; from those narrowly tied to the culture (such as dating clubs, Gay adoptions, legal areas, clubs and organizations) to the more general online features that Gays, like any other group, find useful (travel, cooking, music and news).

There are resources for AIDS, activism, bears, books, dating, erotica, gardening, Madonna, movies, politics, sex, television, travel, women's groups, zines. Destinations range from eminently useful (disability advice) to brilliantly silly (cure-alls for bad hair days). C's, for example, contain everything from City Guides to Catalogues to Chubby's & Chasers and Cooking. You'll meet Max, at the Fat Girl home page, "For Fat Dykes and the women who like them." Or the nun whose collection of AIDS information is larger than the government's.

Then there's Hein in Canada with his awe-

some list of links, Lady Bunny of Wigstock fame, and a group of wonderfully talented web trailblazers like Amy Goodloe, Bob Skepsis and David Casti. Of course, there is also the flock of over-achievers at the QRD (Queer Resource Directory), a vast archive of queerology that's so large and grows so quickly that every description is dated the moment it's typed up. Even jaded cybernauts are impressed.

It's an astonishing world, this Queer cyberspace, and **Gay & Lesbian Online** covers it for both the novice and skilled cybernaut. Most of the sites are on The Web. That's where the action is. But whatever your current online account, you'll find traces of pink you hadn't suspected. America Online, the most Gay friendly service, has a particularly deep range of Gay topics. Think of this book as a map for your journeys.

One word of caution. Information is a strong cocktail. And this one is pink as hell. You may be modified. Cheers to queers.

Author Jeff Dawson is a journalist and freelance writer. Formerly Associate Editor for **PC Home Journal** and Senior Editor for **MacHome Journal**, Dawson has been a regular contributor to a variety of computer and lifestyle publications. V

Celebrate Gay Pride Month by the book!



Read All About It!

Barnes & Noble has the books that make Gay Pride something special. Come discover these titles—and the many other fascinating choices in our Gay & Lesbian Studies section. But that's just the beginning. Throughout the store, you'll find an extraordinary selection of books, including works from local authors and hard-to-find titles from independent and university presses. We have all the books you'd ever want or just the one you need!

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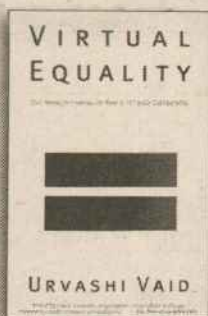
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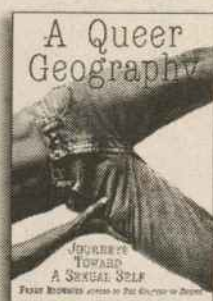
Virtual Equality

by Urvashi Vaid

A landmark critique of the true nature of the gay presence in the American main-

stream. Veteran gay activist Urvashi Vaid tackles tough questions with a unique combination of visionary politics and earned pragmatism.

Anchor Books \$14.95



A Queer Geography

by Frank Browning

From the author of the bestselling *The Culture of Desire* comes this ground-

breaking look at the effect of geography on sexuality. From the streets of Brooklyn to a small town in Kentucky, Browning uncovers the roots of today's gay rights movement.

Crown \$24.00

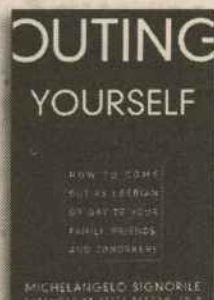


And Say Hi to Joyce

by Deb Price and Joyce Murdoch

Nationally syndicated columnist Deb Price and journalist Joyce Murdoch offer this warm chronicle of their life as a couple. An honest look at the day-to-day realities of a permanent, monogamous and loving gay relationship.

Main Street Books \$12.95



Outing Yourself

by Michelangelo Signorile

A sensitive 14-step program for coming out, written by the author of *Queer in America*. This no-nonsense book includes exercises, meditation notes and anger checks, along with anecdotal coming-out accounts from all over the country.

Fireside \$11.00



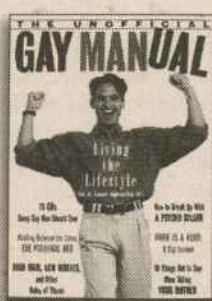
Choices

by Judy Nelson

Deeply personal and frank, this is the autobiography of the former Texas beauty queen who left her husband for a much-

publicized relationship with Martina Navratilova. A heart-felt story of one woman's choices—and their powerful results.

Birch Lane Press \$21.95



The Unofficial Gay Manual

by Kevin Dilallo and Jack Krumboltz

The owner's manual for the gay male. This fresh guide takes a wild and witty look at the world of men who are creative, often outrageous and always thoughtfully accessorized.

Main Street Books \$12.95

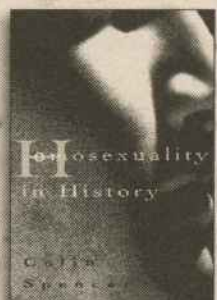


Sex Between Men

by Douglas Sadownick

A sexual odyssey through the last fifty years of gay history. Combining personal testimony and thoughtful commentary, this book tracks the sexual history of the modern gay man—from the trenches of World War II to the clubs of the 90s.

HarperSanFrancisco \$25.00

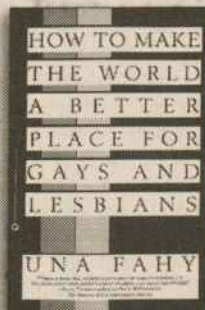


Homosexuality in History

by Colin Spencer

British author Colin Spencer cuts through myth and misunderstanding to examine same-sex love and its place in society throughout history—from the ancient world to today's gay pride parades.

Harcourt Brace \$29.00



How to Make the World a Better Place for Gays and Lesbians

by Una Faby

How can you make a difference in the fight to help homosexuals achieve basic civil rights and respect? This practical guide offers 50 simple strategies and tips to help you battle homophobia at all levels of society.

Warner Books \$9.99

AfterWord's Bestsellers

Lesbian Non-Fiction

- 1 **Women's Traveler 1996** Damron, Odysseus Pb \$11.95
- 2 **Among Women** Bianchi, St. Martin's HC \$40.00
- 3 **The Zenith Of Desire** Gerry G. Pearlberg, Crown Pub. HC \$12.00
- 4 **What the Bible Really Says?:** Daniel Helminiak, Alamo Square Pb \$9.95
- 5 **Lesbian Couples: Creating Healthy Relationships for the '90s** Merilee D. Clunis, Seal Press Pb \$12.95
- 6 **Amazon Spirit: Daily Meditation for Lesbians in Recovery** Eleanor Nealy Berkley, Pub. Pb \$10.00
- 7 **Jodie Foster: A Life on Screen** Philippa Kennedy Carol, Pub HC \$19.95
- 8 **Making Out: The Book of Lesbian Sex & Sexuality** Nina Rapi Routledge, Pb \$24.00
- 9 **The New Our Right to Love** Ginny Vida, Simon & Schuster Pb \$14.00
- 10 **The Lesbian Parenting Book:** D. Merilee Clunis Seal Press Pb \$16.95

Lesbian Fiction

- 1 **Five Minutes in Heaven** Lisa Alther, NAL/Dutton HC \$11.95
- 2 **Herotica 4: A New Collection of Erotic Writing by Women** Marcy Scheiner, NAL/Dutton Pb \$12.95
- 3 **Art & Lies** Jeanette Winterson, Random House Pb \$11.00
- 4 **Sister's Keeper** Lordon, St. Martin's Press Pb \$9.95
- 5 **Coffee Will Make You Black: A Novel** April Sinclair, Avon Books Pb \$10.00
- 6 **Best Lesbian Erotica 1996** Tristan Taormino, Cleis Pb \$12.95
- 7 **Breathless: Erotica** Kitty Tsui, Firebrand Pb \$9.95
- 8 **Riding Shotgun** Rita Mae Brown, Bantam HC \$22.95
- 9 **Rat Bohemia** Sarah Schulman, NAL/Dutton HC \$19.95
- 10 **A Ghost in the Closet** Mabel Maney, Cleis Pb \$10.95

Gay Non-Fiction

- 1 **Breaking the Surface** Greg Louganis, NAL/Dutton Pb \$12.95
- 2 **Damron Address Book 1996** Damron, PDC Pb \$14.95
- 3 **What the Bible Really Says?:** Daniel Helminiak, Alamo Square Pb \$9.95
- 4 **You Know You're Gay When...** Joseph Cohen, Contemporary Books Pb \$9.95
- 5 **The Celluloid Closet: Homosexuality in the Movies** Vito Russo, Harper Collins Pb \$14.00
- 6 **A Queer Geography: Journeys Toward a Sexual Self** Frank Browning, Crown Pub Hc \$24.00
- 7 **Wrestling with the Angel:** Brian Bouldry, Riverhead Pb \$14.00
- 8 **Uncharted Lives: Understanding the Life Passages of Gay Men** Stanley Siegel, NAL/Dutton Pb \$10.95
- 9 **Spartacus 1996-1997**, GMUB Pb \$32.95
- 10 **Heaven's Coast: A Memoir** Mark Doty, HarperCollins HC \$24.00

Gay Fiction

- 1 **The Man of the House: A Novel** Stephen McCauley, Simon & Schuster HC \$22.00
- 2 **Mysterious Skin: A Novel** Scott Heim, HarperCollins Pb \$12.50
- 3 **B-Boy Blues:** James E. Hardy, Alyson Pb \$10.95
- 4 **The Birdcage; the Shooting Script**, Elaine May NEWM Pb \$14.95
- 5 **Tricks: Twenty-Five Encounters** Camus, Serpent's Tail Pb \$13.99
- 6 **Best Gay Erotica 1996** Scott Heim, Cleis Pb \$12.95
- 7 **And This Too Shall Pass: A Novel** E. Lynn Harris, Doubleday HC \$23.95
- 8 **Nightswimmer** Joseph Olshan, Berkley Pb \$6.99
- 9 **The God in Flight** Laura Argiri, Viking Penguin Pb \$12.95
- 10 **The Father of Frankenstein**, Christopher Bram, Plume/Penguin Pb \$10.95

New Book in "Cutting Edge" Series Sets Out to Define Lesbian Literature

Heterosexual Plots and Lesbian Narratives

Marilyn Farwell
NYU Press, \$24.95

By Melissa Bardouin

What is Lesbian literature? Must it contain overtly Lesbian characters, and portray them in a positive light? Must the author be overtly (or covertly) Lesbian? Does there have to be a Lesbian theme and must it be politically acceptable?

In **Heterosexual Plots and Lesbian Narratives**, recently published by the New York University Press, Marilyn Farwell, associate professor of English at the University of Oregon, examines the work of such writers as Adrienne Rich, Marion Zimmer Bradley, Jeanette Winterson, Gloria Naylor, and Marilyn Hacker to address these questions.

Dividing their writings into two genres — the romantic story and the heroic, or quest, story — Farwell explores some of the most problematic issues at the intersection of literature, sex, gender, and postmodernism.

"Because many Lesbian writers have been closeted and silenced by a patriarchal system that coordinates its oppression of women and Lesbians," Farwell says, "the Lesbian nature of their works is problematic. Because silence is not simply the space in language which women are accorded but also the lived experience of writers like Willa Cather and Elizabeth Bishop, is a critic justified in reading their works as coded Lesbian texts? Is the use of codes acceptable or unacceptable?"

Illustrating how the generational conflict between Lesbian feminists of 20 years ago and the Queer theorists of today stokes the critical fires of contemporary Lesbian and literary theory, **Heterosexual Plots and Lesbian Narratives** argues for a broad and generous definition of Lesbian writing.

Heterosexual Plots and Lesbian Narratives is published as part of the NYU Press series, **The Cutting Edge: Lesbian Life and Literature**. The series is under the general editorship of Karla Jay, professor of English at

Pace University, and has two primary aims: to make representative examples of long-neglected Lesbian literature available to a broader audience by reissuing selected classics and publishing for the first time Lesbian diaries, letters, memoirs, and novels; and to present "the cutting edge" of contemporary scholarship about the Lesbian experience across a wide range of disciplines. ▽

Author Seeking Same-Sex Married Couples for New Book

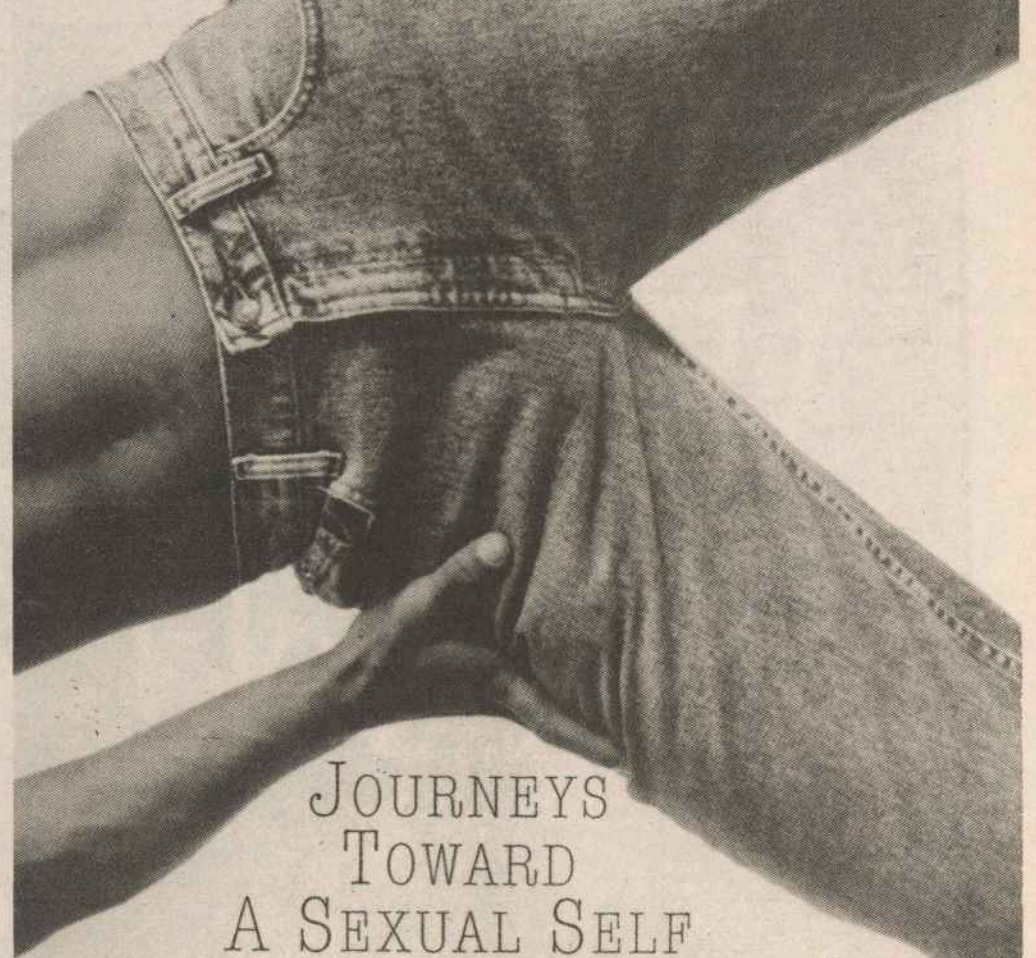
Santa Monica, CA—Gay and Lesbian couples who have celebrated a wedding-commitment ceremony are cordially invited to share their experiences for an upcoming book. Author Ed Karvoski, Jr., is currently interviewing couples from coast to coast, discussing everything from warm and fuzzy moments to Wedding Day disasters.

As a comedy writer, Karvoski has written for Jay Leno and radio deejays at CBS, NBC and the BBC. As an entertainment journalist, his work as appeared in national magazines such as **The Advocate**, **Out**, **Poz** and **The Guide**. He has also written for numerous regional publications including **Frontiers**, **Bay Windows**, **Windy City Times**, **Southern Voice**, **Front Page** and **Gay People's Chronicle**.

Karvoski is the author of **A Funny Time to be Gay**, a book honoring openly Gay and Lesbian stand-up comics, which will be published by Fireside.

Wedded couples who would like to be contacted for an interview should write: Ed Karvoski, Jr., 7985 Santa Monica Blvd., #109-488, W. Hollywood, CA 90069.

A Queer Geography



JOURNEYS TOWARD A SEXUAL SELF

FRANK BROWNING AUTHOR OF *THE CULTURE OF DESIRE*

"Gay USA" is a Straight-Talking Guide to Gay Travel

Gay USA
George Hobica
First Books, \$12.95

By Martin Bower

Gay USA by George Hobica, is the first multi-city Gay guide book to the United States that contains no advertising or paid listings of any kind. Written by nationally-syndicated travel writer George Hobica — a frequent contributor to **Travel & Leisure**, **Good Housekeeping**, **Out**, and **Men's Health** — the book offers first hand guidance to major Gay hot spots across the U.S.

According to **Time Magazine**, Gay men and Lesbians spend \$17 billion on travel each year. That alone is newsworthy. yet, perhaps even more remarkable is that most of the guide books used by these travelers contain page after page of advertising or paid listings, sometimes written by the very people who own and run the establishments listed. Even worse, many of these "guide books" refuse to list non-advertisers altogether.

With his witty and irreverent style, Mr. Hobica offers personal recommendations to resorts, restaurants, bars, night life, gyms, bookstores, tourist sites and other attractions of interest to Gay visitors. He describes such sites with unusual candor. For example, he writes of one Gay-owned inn in New York City, "this is not the only Gay guest house in New York City, but it's the only one I'd recommend." (Ironically, this is the only New York City Gay B&B not listed in one of the best-known paid-listing Gay guides currently available.)

His travels and recommendations include well-known Gay neighborhoods such as San Francisco's Castro District, and New Orleans' French Quarter, as well as not so well known (to non-residents, that is) but happening spots in Provincetown, MA, and New Hope, PA, to name a few.

Each of **Gay USA's** 17 chapters covers one Gay destination, and begins with an overview of the city or resort area. Accommodations are described first, followed by things to do, places to eat, nightlife options, notable shopping, and lastly a resources section describing Gay publications, Gay book stores, and Gay drop-in centers. Throughout, the emphasis is on Gay venues and facilities; in the interest of conciseness, only essential mainstream information, such as the best way to get into and around the city or resort, is included.

David Kelly's New "Steven's Comics" Collection Published to Rave Reviews

Steven's Comics: We Are Family
David Kelly
DK Press, Yell Comics, \$10.00

By Stephen Spender

DK Press and Yell Comics are pleased to announce the release of the third issue of **Steven's Comics**. **Steven's Comics**, "We Are Family", is the award-winning collection by David Kelly.

Steven's Comics is a coming-of-age series about life seen through the eyes of a Gay pre-teen growing up in a flawed suburban family in the 1970s.

"David Kelly captures the solitude and magic of Queer childhood with an eerie realism," says cartoonist Alison Bechdel, creator of **Dykes To Watch Out For**. Robert Kirby, creator of **Curbside**, writes, "David Kelly draws **Steven's Comics** with charm, skill, and quietly subversive sensibility."

Kelly was awarded a grant from the Xeric Foundation last fall to help produce and distribute **Steven's Comics**. The Xeric Foundation was founded by Peter Laird, co-creator of the **Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles**, to assist comic creators in self-publishing their own books.

Kelly, who recently relocated to Chicago from Seattle, began drawing **Steven's Comics** in 1992. The bi-weekly strip is self-syndicated to Gay and alternative publications nationwide.

"The strips aren't autobiographical, but a lot of the feelings Steven has are based on how I felt as a kid, somewhat isolated from the world," remembers Kelly. "My comic isn't just about growing up Gay; it's about growing up period. Growing up with uncertainty is something that many children face, Gay and straight."

Besides his comic strip **Steven's Comics**, Kelly produces a monthly strip, **Erratic Behavior**, and is publisher of **Boy Trouble**, an annual comic anthology he co-edits with cartoonist Robert Kirby.

Kelly's work has been featured in numerous publications including the **Washington Blade**, San Diego's **Update**, Phoenix's **Western Express**, Chicago's **Nightlines**, **Gay Comics**, Seattle's **Just Out**, **2002**, **Stranger**, and in numerous zines. ▽

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SMILE FOR THE CAMERA I'm an exhibitionist and I'm looking for others to have fun with. If you are interested please call me. I'm discreet. (Appleton) #1837

OSHKOSH ENCOUNTERS GWM, 6'3", 195, brown hair, blue/green eyes, smoker, very masculine and straight appearing/acting, varied interests, seeks GWM, 30-40, for friendship, companionship and more. (Appleton) #16286

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

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

MANS BEST FREIND I'm a 40 year old Gay White male, 6ft, 185lbs, and I'm HIV positive. I have a wide variety of interests. I seek other men 30 plus for friendship and companionship. If you are interested please call. (Eau Claire) #4327

LEATHER MASTER SEEKS BOY I'm a 5'10, 165lb, Leather Master. I'm looking for a bondage boy under 5'10, less than a 30 inch waist, who enjoys being totally submissive. Call me now Boy! (Fox Valley) #42939

SINCERE AND HONEST GWM, 28, 5'8", 165, body builder, varied interests, seeks GWM, 28-40, semi professional and local, for friendship and more. Please leave a message. (Green Lake) #15317

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

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

SHOW AND TELL I'm a 19 year old Gay White male looking for people to show me the Gay lifestyle. Call me. I'm new at this. (Kiel) #1366

STRAIGHT BUT BENDS GWM, 34, 6', blue eyes, long blonde hair, masculine, seeks GWM, 18-36, who are straight acting/appearing, and who know what they want from life. Please leave a message. (LaCrosse) #11450

GIVE AND GET LOVE I'm a Gay White male, 24 years old, 6ft, 205lbs. I seek attractive, straight acting men 18 to 32 for friendship, or a boyfriend for sport. Any hunk out there? I'm willing to travel. (Madison) #4267

YOUNG AND SMOOTH I'm 5'7, 150lb, Asian male. I'm solid, smooth, and tone. I'm looking for masculine White men for a casual friendship. If you are interested please call me. (Madison) #42659

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

BOTTOM TO TOP GWM, 5'9", 165, 30 something, brown hair, very good looking, aggressively dominant seeks submissive's only for mutual pleasure and excitement. Discretion a must. Call me now! (Madison) #14481

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

WILLING TO NEGOTIATE GWM, 20, student, good shape, blonde hair, blue eyes, 5'7", 140, seeks in shape and dominant men, 23-35, professional, open for new ideas. Leave me a message. (Madison) #15019

BUDDY BONDING GWM, 27, 5'2", 125, brown hair, blue eyes, seeks other GWM, 21-32, for fun and adventure. I have varied interests as I hope you will. Please leave a message. (Madison) #11802

DADDY CAN BE A BOY GWM, 46, 5'11", 160, seeks fraternity hazing with other frat boys under 25. Please leave a message. (Madison) #11816

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

LET'S PLAY DOCTOR GBM, 24, 5'11", 140, brown hair and eyes, nurse, variety of interests, seeks others for friendship and more. Please leave a message. (Milwaukee) #17820

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

MASCULINE AND WELL BUILT! GAM, 22, 5'5", 120, brown eyes, black hair, very gorgeous, seeks others, 30-35, masculine and well built, for pleasure and relationship. Please leave me a message. (Milwaukee) #15149

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

SENSUAL SPANDEX GWM, 27, 6'1", 160, brown hair, hazel eyes, seeks GWM's, 21-45, attractive and in good shape, for submissive spandex pleasure. Groups and couples a plus. Please call. (Milwaukee) #13226

LET'S TALK GWM, 22, 125, 5'6", blonde hair, blue eyes, musician and artist, seeks other GWM's with similar qualities and interests for fun. Please leave me a message. (Milwaukee) #13411

RELATIONSHIP MINDED GWM, 38, sincere and romantic, seeks a sincere relationship with GWM, 25-40, hairy a plus. Let me share my life with you. (Milwaukee) #13772

LONG TERM COMMITMENT GWM, relationship oriented, seeks GWM, 20-30, drug and smoke free, for serious relationship. Please leave a message. (Milwaukee) #13835

WHERE ARE YOU? GWM, 5'9", 150, seeks other males for fun. Please leave a message. (Milwaukee) #14216

BOYS WILL BE BOYS GWM, 26, 5'10", 165, blonde hair, blue eyes seeks GWM under 30 for friendship and possibly more. Please leave a message. (Milwaukee) #11276

BI BOYS 18, blonde hair, blue eyes, 5'9", BiWM, seeks other young WM's between 18-21, for friendship, camping and hiking. Other things possible as well. Please leave me a message. (Milwaukee) #11307

NOT TYPICAL GWM, 23, 6'2", 170, blue eyes, long brown hair, not into the bar scene at all, seeks other GWM's between 18-30 for friendship and possibly more. Please leave a message. (Milwaukee) #11725

SIR, THANK YOU SIR! GWM, 27, 6'2", 230, brown hair, brown eyes, seeking a dominant master into CBT, TT, WS, FF, shaving, S&M, B&D, and humiliation. Nothing I won't do for you sir! (Milwaukee) #11529

DEEP NEED GWM, 24, 6', 150, brown hair and eyes, seeks new friends with relationship possibilities. Please leave a message. (Northern) #12761

FRIENDSHIP FIRST! GWM, 23, 5'11", blonde hair, hazel eyes, cute, 160, varied interests, good shape, seeks other Non smoking GWM's, 21-24, local preferred, for friendship and more. Please call me! (Oshkosh) #16127

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

THE TIME IS RIGHT I'm looking for a friend. If you would like to spend some time together this summer call me. I have many interests. Lets talk. (Phillips) #1262

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

LITTLE BEAR TYPES SOUGHT 47 year old, 5'7, 175lbs, looking for comparably built cubs with furry pelt. I'm open minded and like to experiment. I only play safe, and I'm an expert at body shaving. (Wausau) #3544

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

MILITARY ORIENTED GWM, 27, 5'7, brown hair, blue eyes, ex-Marine, varied interests, seeks other straight acting GWM, 18-27, with similar interests. Please leave a message. (Wisconsin) #16491

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

RELATIONSHIP ORIENTED GWM, 24, 5'4", blonde hair, blue eyes, varied interests, seeks others, 20-27, for friendship and long term relationship. Please leave a message. (Wisconsin) #17624

ALL AMERICAN CREAM GWM, 30, 6'2", 200, brown hair, blue eyes, boy next door, seeks same, 25-45, for friendship and more. Please leave a message. (Wisconsin) #46088

COCKED AND LOADED GWM, 6'2", 170, attractive, seeks GWM's, under 35, for friendship and relationship. Please leave a message. (Wisconsin) #12577

YOU AND ME GWM, 27, 160, 5'8", enjoys sports, seeks GWM, 18-28, for outings and friendship. Please leave a message. (Wisconsin) #12286

PLEASURE SEEKER GWM, 30, 5'8", 150, attractive, new to area, seeks other local GWM's. Please leave a message. (Wisconsin) #1095

WHY CANT WE BE FRIENDS I'm 23 years old, 6'2, 170lbs. I have long blonde hair, and Blue eyes. I'm looking for cool guys to hang out with for friendship only. Straight acting guys only. Call me. #1889

Illinois

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

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

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

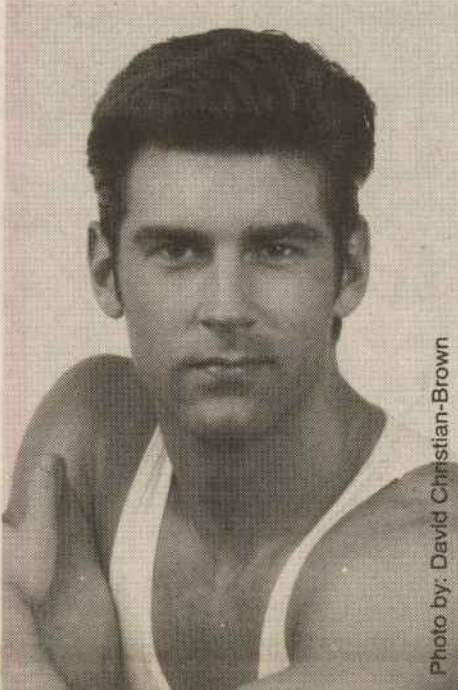


Photo by: David Christian-Brown

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

NEW KID ON THE BLOCK I'm a 44 year old Gay Black male. I'm new here and I'm looking for hot Black Gay men into music. No drugs. (Evanston) #5546

ARE YOU BEING SERVED? I'm a 30 year old Gay Black male bottom with HIV. I love to service. If you are in need call me. (Evanston) #3400

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

OLDER MAN North suburbs, looking for someone younger who would appreciate someone older, I'm 59 give me a call lets talk- (Glenview) #8820

CONFIDENT AND OUTGOING I'm a Gay White male, 54 years old, Gray hair, Brown eyes, 5'10, 215lbs, clean shaven, discreet, and drug free. I'm masculine, educated, and outgoing. I have a wide variety of interests. If you would like to know more, please call. (Lansing) #3587

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

Minnesota

TRAVEL TRAILER FEVER 30, GWM, brown hair, blue eyes, hairy chest, interested in fishing and travelling, seeks GWM, 21-41, for fun and laughter. Please leave me a message. (Brainard) #11613

NEW KID ON THE BLOCK 30, GWM, muscular, attractive, new to area, seeks other GWM's for friendship and to tour the area with. Please leave a message. (Central) #11522

TUBE RIDER GWM, 6', 175, 35, trim, shoulder length dark hair, beard, pierced, seeks brown and yellow hanky fun from masculine men who can be aggressive and submissive. Let's get together. HIV- a must! Leave a message. (Minneapolis) #12898

TONIGHT YOUR A STAR I'm a 42 year old, 6ft, 170lb, White collar type looking for a boy toy. Lets get together and see what we can produce and direct. Call me boy! (Minneapolis) #6345

FEATURE PRESENTATION I'm a 36 year old Gay White male. I'm 5'10, 180lbs, and handsome. I'm interested in meeting handsome men with dark features. Call me. (Minneapolis) #7440

PRIME TIME TV TOP WANTED I'm a Gay White Transvestite in St. Paul. I'm looking for a Top Transvestite 30 to 45, or Transvestite in training for real good times. Call me. (Minneapolis) #7154

ONLY WE'LL KNOW HOW MUCH FUN I'm a Gay White male, 36 years old, 5'10, 183lbs, 31" waist, 45" chest, and clean shaven. I'm seeking similar well built men for hot safe fun. If you are interested please call me. (Minneapolis) #7440

NEW TO THIS, ARE YOU TOO? I'm a 45 year old Hispanic male, 5'10, 240lbs, with a nice muscular build. I would like to meet a Black or White male of any age for friendship, possibly more. I like hairy chests and nice big legs. (Minneapolis) #9484

ARE YOU BEING SERVED? I'm a Gay White male, 6'1, 185lbs, 36 year old slave. I'm looking for a master to serve. I'm into anything sir. Call me. I'm ready to serve you. (Minneapolis) #5253

TOP THIS BIG BOY Lets get down. I'm a Bi White male, 6ft, 300lbs, and Brown curly hair. I'm a bottom seeking a top of any age or race. (Minneapolis) #5664

LET ME SERVE YOU I'm a tall, attractive, slim, 6'3, 180lbs, tight, thin, bottom. I'm looking for a dominant top to please. I'm into Greek, French, and anything else sir. I prefer big, uncut men into intense kink. (Minneapolis) #5855

LETS GO HIKING I'm 6'2, 180lbs, short Brown hair, Green eyes, 40 years old. I'm into hiking, biking, fitness, exercise, landscaping, and more. I'm looking for a guy in his 30's to have fun with. (Minneapolis) #5788

LEATHER DADDY I'm a 42 year old Gay White male. I'm a dominant leather daddy, 5'9, 180lbs, Brown hair, and Green eyes. You should be 18 to 50, very submissive, and in shape. Call me. (Minneapolis) #2477

CLOSE ENCOUNTERS I'm 32 years old, 5'9, 165lbs, short blonde hair, Blue eyes, clean shaven bottom. I'm looking for men 25 to 40 for close encounters. I'm open to the possibility of a friendship, and relationship. (Minneapolis) #43115

CHUBBY CHASER? I'm a GWM, overweight, light Brown hair, Blue eyes, mustache, and a hairy chest. I'm new at this and looking for a fit guy into heavy guys. If you are interested please call me. (Minneapolis) #36440

READY FOR A STEADY I'm a 23 year old GWM, 5'6, 135lbs, washboard abs, clean cut, clean shaven. I like clubs, dancing, rollerblading, and more. I'm looking for someone around my age for a relationship. (Minneapolis) #42646

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

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

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

KINKY KID GWM, 24, 5'10", 130, clean shaven, into piercings, BD, S&M, W/S fun and more. If you're cool and interesting, call me and let's do it! (Minneapolis) #16753

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

BIG BEAR CUBS GWM, 35, 180, blonde hair, beard, seeks masculine and hairy men, husky and 200+, under 35, for fun and excitement. Please leave a message. (Minneapolis) #14448

COMPANION WANTED GWM, 45, tall, blonde hair, blue eyes, varied interests, seeking same. Please leave a message. (Minneapolis) #14519

STRAIGHT BI DAY Bi Curious WM, married, 23, tall and slender, seeks other masculine Bi WM's for first time experience. Please leave me a message. (Minneapolis) #14678

TIRED OF KISSING TOADS GWM, 20's, blonde hair, blue eyes, 160, 5'8", varied intrests, seeks other GWM's, 20-30, for good times and friendship. PRINCE CHARMING preferred. Please leave a message. (Minneapolis) #14890

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

FILLER UP WITH PREMIUM WM, 40, long hair, brown eyes, very Bi curious, seeks an older man who would be interested in teaching me the ropes. Please be over 40 and sincere. Leave a message. (Minneapolis) #13129

MUSCLEMANIA GWM, body builder, 40, 5'11", 180, handsome and hairy, seeks muscle studs for submissive encounters. Please leave a message. (Minneapolis) #13317

DADDY'S HOME GWM, 6', 35, HIV-, very safe, blonde hair, blue eyes, muscular, attractive and financially secure, seeks discrete relationship with other GWM's, 18-25, firsttimers a plus. Please call. (Minneapolis) #13791

PEARLS OF THE EAST BiWF, 23, brown hair, blue eyes, seeks attractive BiWF for friendship and possible relationship. Please leave a message. (Minneapolis) #12421

COCKED AND LOADED GWM, 32, 5'8", 160, very good build and aggressive, seeking other submissive dudes under 35 for mutual pleasure and satisfaction. Please leave a message. (Minneapolis) #11404

UP AGAINST THE WALL GWM, 6', 170, 37, black hair, brown eyes, law enforcement, seeks GWM, 18-40, non-smoker, any race, but GBM a plus! Long term relationship a possibility. Please leave a message. No DRUGS! (Minneapolis) #11959

YOUR COMMAND IS MY DESIRE GWM, 26, submissive, blonde hair, seeks a very dominant and muscular top/master who's ready to command me at their desire. Your complete service is my only desire in life. Leave a message. (Minneapolis) #11605

BI GOLLY BiCuriousWM, 28, well built and tanned, seeks Bi or GWM's 18-32, for friendship and possibly more. Must be masculine and well built. Leave a message. (Minneapolis) #11377

ME AN YOU GWM, 29, 5'9", 145, average looks, seeks GWM's, relationship oriented, for conversation and friendship. Please leave a message. (Minneapolis) #12529

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

CUSTOMER SERVICE GWM, masculine, 45, 6'1", 175, brown hair, brown eyes, 'stached, seeks masculine and well built truckers or construction workers for pleasure and satisfaction. Drug/Disease free a must! Leave a message. (Rochester) #12789

SIoux FALLS STUDS I'm 30 years old, 5'10, 180lbs, short Raddish Blonde hair, and I have a smooth body. I'm looking for good looking studs in the Sioux Falls area. (Sioux Falls) #7091

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

WILD ONE BiWM, 22, baby face, dark hair, 5'9", 180, seeks slim partiers and pleasure seekers. Leave me a message. (St. Cloud) #12705

HAPPY TO BE GAY I'm a Gay male, 46 years old, 199lbs, clean cut. I love romance, dancing, and more. I'm looking to meet someone who is happy to be gay. (St. Paul) #5782

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

MUSCLE MADNESS GWM, 34, 5'10", 140, seeks other GWM's, into working out and friendship. Please leave a message. (St. Paul) #13503

CASUAL White male looking for a few good friends for casual encounters. Leave a message for immediate response. (St. Paul) #10393

DINNER, DRINKS AND ME 35, GWM, 6', 175, brown hair, green eyes, seeks GWM 25-40 for fun and evening get togethers. Please leave a message. (St. Paul) #11750

North Dakota

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

WHERE'S THE BEEF? GWM, 26, 6'2", 175, clean cut, seeks GWM, 20-26, in the local area. Please leave me a message. (Bismarck) #12139



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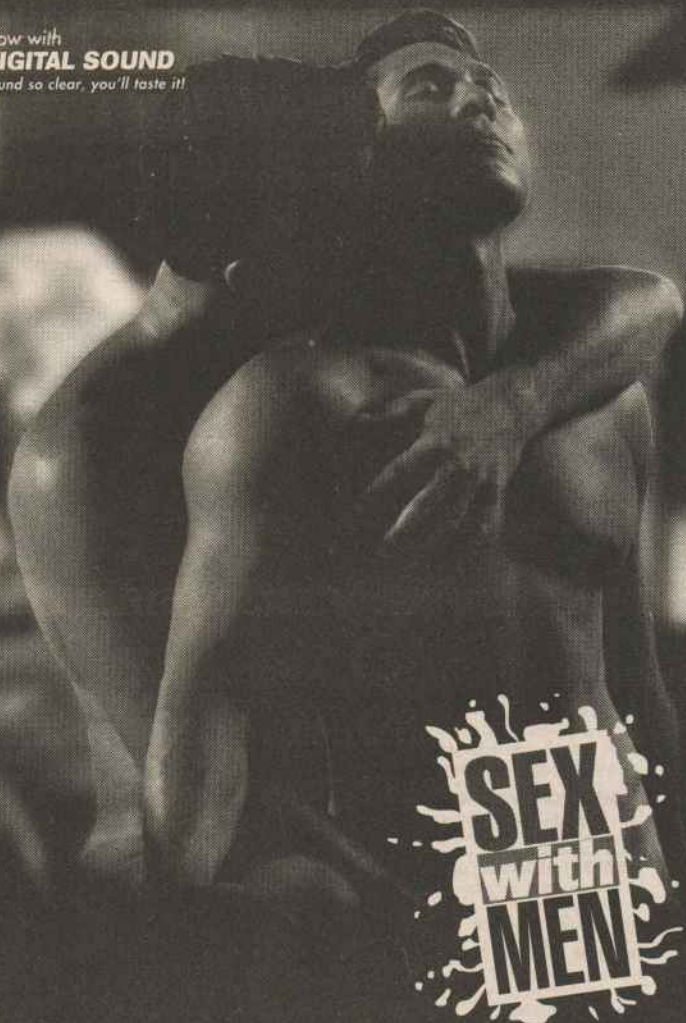


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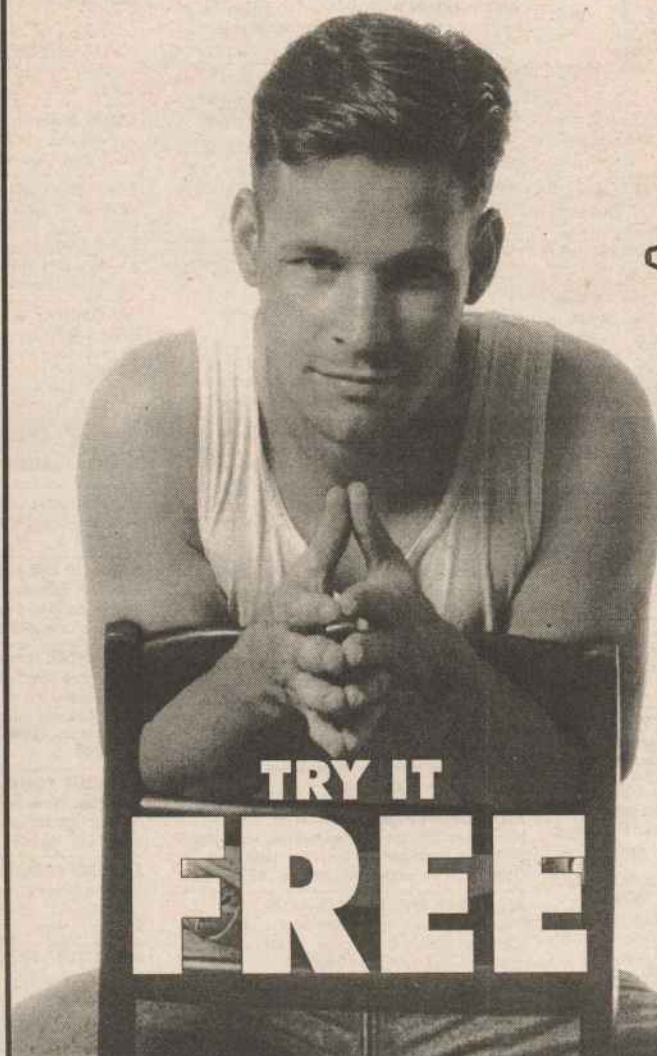
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MAP Hosts Black Forum on June 22

Milwaukee-The Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP) will host an African American Community Forum on Saturday, June 22 from 10:00 AM to 12 PM at the DNR Building, 2300 N. Martin Luther King Drive. The purpose of the forum is to allow members of the African American community a formal opportunity to provide input and feedback on MAP's programs and services.

"There is such a high incidence of HIV infection with the African American community that a check in with community members is an invaluable tool to MAP in the shaping of our programs," said Monica Pope, co-organizer of the forum and MAP's Director of Housing Services. "Our purpose is to hear what people have to say about the agency, and about HIV and AIDS, and to learn from the information that is shared."

The African American Community Forum is the second three scheduled forums. The first, involving the Gay and Lesbian community occurred last November. A third forum for the Hispanic/Latino community will be scheduled for later this year.

The forum will include informational presentations about HIV and AIDS and MAP programs and services, and will include a question and answer session with MAP staff.

"As a multicultural agency, MAP is committed to direct, open communication with the communities we are serving," said Doug Nelson, AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin, Inc., (ARCW) Executive Director. "The devastation of HIV and AIDS is widespread and affects all segments of our community. We must be able to identify community needs and shape our programs accordingly."

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Zimbabwe At A Glance

The Republic of Zimbabwe is located in southeastern Africa and is about the size of Montana. It has a population of 10,975,000.

Britain took over the area in 1889. It was named Southern Rhodesia after Cecil Rhodes, a man who, as at least one of his recent biographers says, was Gay or Bisexual.

As Rhodesia, the country, led by Ian Smith, declared itself independent in 1965, although this was not recognized by Britain. Independence was formally granted by the Crown in 1980.

Though legally a parliamentary democracy, Zimbabwe has been ruled since 1988 by President Robert Mugabe.

The capital is Harare.

With only 7% arable land, the country has been suffering from a devastating drought. In addition, President Mugabe's economic readjustment program has caused widespread hardship.

Source: "The World Almanac and Book of Facts."

ZIMBABWE

Continued from Page 1

the morality and health of our nation" and reaffirmed the government's commitment to "protect the bodies and souls of our people from these abominable and destructive ideas."

Besides his stodgy Catholic upbringing, rumor has it that Mugabe was raped while in Rhodesian prison which may in part "explain" (though it hardly excuses) his virulent homophobia.

In the wake of his foregone election triumph

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over two feeble discredited opponents in April, Mugabe has continued his political vendetta against the Queer community, telling the rest of the world to "go to hell."

Other conservative forces in Zimbabwe have since jumped on the bandwagon to scapegoat Gays, Lesbians and Bisexuals.

The Zimbabwe Catholic Bishops' Conference issued a pastoral statement which preached: "There is no 'right' to a 'homosexual lifestyle.' Homosexuality is a disorder...Christians must not practice a 'homosexual lifestyle.' African culture abhors homosexuality and considers it abnormal."

In an editorial clearly inspired by Mugabe's diatribe, the **Bulawayo Chronicle**, on February 7, 1996 wrote: "we trust the law enforcement agencies will step up their campaign against these social misfits and remove them from our midst before they contaminate our young people with their inverted sexual habits. Better still, the 'homos' might like to do us a favour by emigrating to those countries where their kind are made welcome in the name of 'human rights.'"

The apologist remarks of David Mungoshi, a well-known Zimbabwean writer, are also common in elite circles: "This human rights business has almost become an ideology that Africa does not need because Gays and Lesbians are castaways of a decadent western society which is self destructive."

One letter to the editor (**Financial Gazette**, February 22, 1996) even suggested that Queers were just being "bitchy" for no good reason: "if homosexuals keep their habits under wraps rather than constantly attempting to publicly justify their behaviour, stop molesting and corrupting all ages and stop elevating homosexuality to a sublime level of self-delusion, all would be silent."

Do Whites Really Do That Kind of Thing?

While it does not make sense to waste space reacting to the all-too-familiar rationalizations of Zimbabwean homophobia, one which is more bizarre and worthy of a response is the notion that Queer identity is an African "import" of "Western" origin.

Of course, as already indicated, it is difficult to deny the traditional existence of homosexuality in a place like Zimbabwe when indigenous languages have terms for it that predate western colonialism by several centuries.

In a hard-hitting essay in the March 1996 issue of **Southern Review**, Marc Eprecht swiftly demolishes this ignorant attempt at cultural revisionism. A similar self-defense exercise was undertaken by the African Studies Association (ASA) at its conference last November, which devoted an entire panel to the obviously rhetorical question: "Is there homosexuality in Africa and why should it matter?"

In fact, as history clearly records, it was European invaders who were more "scandalized" by homosexuality than the African societies they conquered — hence the widespread colonial attempt to outlaw "sodomy," "immorality," etc., now being conveniently "rediscovered" by cultural "traditionalists."

As an example of just how accepted Queer culture can be in Africa, one northern Nigerian reportedly was surprised to hear that it also existed in Europe: "do whites really do that thing?"

Whatever African sexual insecurities may have existed before the arrival of prudish Victorian values, they soon became horribly distorted and exaggerated by processes of industrialization and imperialism as well.

Many black males in particular, degraded as "kaffirs" and "boys" by their white masters, often found Queer bashing to be an accepted avenue to reassert their "maleness" and "virility" within a denigrating process of cultural assimilation.

As one writer in the April 1995 GALZ newsletter retorted: "To suggest that Zimbabwean men had to be told how to have fun together by repressed colonials wearing spine-pads and pith-helmets is an insult to their imagination and intelligence!"

Unfortunately, daily life in such an atmosphere of fear and hatred is anything but "carefree" for Gays, Lesbians and Bisexuals in modern day Zimbabwe. Not only is it officially illegal for consenting adults to engage in "unnatural sexual acts," but it is a criminal offense for Queer couples to kiss or otherwise show affection in public — a subjective allegation since it is perfectly acceptable for friends of the same sex to hold hands in Zimbabwe.

The recent case of one "out" Gay man who was arrested, brutally beaten, and imprisoned by police is now being taken to court by GALZ, though at enormous expense in terms of their meager legal defense resources.

Another horror story involved a fourteen year-old who was committed by his parents, at the behest of the government, to a psychiatric institution for electroshock torture to "cure" him of his "disease" — reminiscent of medieval medical attitudes and practices common in the U.S. not that long ago.

As "unapprehended criminals," Gays, Lesbians and Bisexuals in Zimbabwe are

often vulnerable to blackmail when disreputable characters threaten to reveal their closeted identity to authorities, employers and relatives. Many Queers are compelled to adopt heterosexual roles at work, in marriage, etc., simply to avoid social ostracism — others become so distraught with this delusional conformity that they take their own lives.

In Zimbabwe the Queer community also faces an imposed conspiracy of silence. Magazines, books, movies, and even "safe sex" HIV/AIDS awareness materials geared towards Gays, Lesbians and Bisexuals are routinely seized and destroyed as "pornography" by authorities.

The GALZ resource center has been raided so many times by police that it is now secretly relocated outside of Harare, Zimbabwe's capital. Oddly enough, while it is illegal to sell or buy GALZ's quarterly newsletter in a regular bookstore under the Printed Publications Act, the Zimbabwean National Archive nonetheless insists that it receive a copy of every issue for its own library!

The **Herald**, Zimbabwe's major newspaper, has refused to run a classified counseling advertisement for GALZ, ostensibly because it's a "family paper." There is a self-imposed blackout on any positive portrayal of Queer culture on ZBC, Zimbabwe's state-run television.

Even the film version of E. M. Forster's book, **Maurice**, was banned by Zimbabwe's Board of Censors, despite GALZ's appeal effort. Agents of the Central Intelligence Organization (CIO) — Zimbabwe's hybrid version of the FBI/CIA (themselves both notorious for homophobic discrimination and surveillance against Queers in the U.S.) — frequently stake out the GALZ office and otherwise monitor the group's activities.

The GALZ members I met with were only half joking when they mentioned that my earlier phone calls were probably being recorded.

"Karen" is an older white woman who has long been active in the Zimbabwean Queer rights movement. She is also the heart and soul behind GALZ's "hotline," counseling people about issues of sexual identity, HIV/AIDS, Queer harassment, etc. A few days after our chat I even saw her on a ZBC talkshow, advocating more accessible "safe sex" materials for young people.

"Chipo" is a younger black man who willingly admits he's new to the Queer activist scene, but has been clearly politicized by recent events. In fact, they both agreed that the ZIBF incident was probably the "best" thing that could have ever happened to GALZ since it made them extraordinarily "visible" in a country where homosexuality is a taboo subject for mainstream culture.

With each press expose and vicious crackdown, the GALZ office receives a fresh wave of inquiries and members — such "outing" makes outreach so much easier! Government persecution has also helped erode many of the internal race, gender, and class barriers that have existed within Zimbabwe's Queer community.

According to "Karen," GALZ used to be a largely wealthier, whiter group, but the level of commitment and sacrifice on the part of the black members has left an indelible impression, and their "home" in the community is now secure.

"Chipo" also welcomed the recent trend to "Africanize" social events, such as the annual "Pride Week" and the "Jacaranda Queen" drag shows. As one article in the June 1995 GALZ newsletter noted, partying itself can be quite "political" in Zimbabwe.

While some nightclubs have acquiesced to the government and tried to "straighten" their clientele, others have remained quite defiant and Queer-friendly.

While the Queer rights movement still faces draconian government repression, as well as stifling mainstream homophobia, the members of GALZ and their supporters remain optimistic that the "freedom struggle" will eventually come around to embrace the whole rainbow that comprises independent Zimbabwe.

An anonymous contributor to GALZ's guide to being Gay and Lesbian in Zimbabwe, **Sahwira**, expressed this lingering revolutionary optimism well: "A glorious tolerance of differences embued all of Zimbabwe in those early days, and a liberated attitude towards feminists, Lesbians and Gays appeared to be part of the whole move towards equality between the races and the sexes ... I refuse to accept that the hopes and dreams of Zimbabwe at independence were mere pipedreams and unattainable goals ... (and) to work for the attainment of those goals of racial, economic and sexual equality is in itself liberating. So for me, Zimbabwe remains the land of liberation."

Pamberi neChimurenga! Pamberi neKodzero dzevangochani! — "Forward with the struggle! Forward with Queer Rights!"

People are encouraged to send supportive letters and financial contributions in solidarity with the Queer rights struggle in Zimbabwe to: GALZ, Private Bag A 6131, Avondale, Harare, Zimbabwe. ▽

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Wisconsin Episcopal Bishop Joins 9 Others in Hinting at Schism Over Gays

Dallas, TX—Ten bishops representing about 10 percent of all U.S. Episcopalians hinted Tuesday, May 28th, that they might break away from the church because of a controversial ruling that allows the ordination of Lesbians and Gay men.

"We will take steps to create a fellowship of Episcopal parishes and dioceses which uphold Scriptural authority," the bishops said in a document issued Tuesday, adding that they would refuse to ordain, admit, or license Gay clergy.

The document was signed by the bishops of the dioceses of Dallas and Fort Worth, Texas; Memphis, Tennessee; Orlando and Jacksonville, Florida.; Albuquerque, New Mexico; Sacramento, California; and Eau Claire, Wisconsin; and the retired bishop of Houston.

Those dioceses comprise about 250,000 of the church's 2.5 million members.

Bishop James Stanton of Dallas stopped short of saying the group planned to break off from the church.

"We certainly have not talked about it," he said. But "if the other side continues to press this thing ... they are really inviting division.

The seeds of disunity and division are there and they are growing."

In a decision that averted the first heresy trial of an Episcopal bishop since the 1920s, a church court ruled May 15th that church doctrine does not explicitly bar the ordination of practicing homosexuals. It also declared a 1979 resolution against the ordination of non-celibate Gays is non-binding.

The decision was condemned by church conservatives, who said it could result in many lay people abandoning a nationwide flock that has dropped to 2.5 million from a high of 3.6 million in the 1960s.

The now-retired Bishop Walter Righter had been charged with heresy for ordaining the Rev. Barry Stopfel as a deacon in 1990, even though he knew Stopfel was involved in a long-term Gay relationship. Stopfel has since become a priest and is rector of a church in Maplewood, New Jersey.

Like many retired bishops, Righter, 72, still performs confirmations, delivers sermons and conducts other priestly duties. Had he been tried and found guilty of being a heretic, he would not have been allowed to continue.

Righter said he hoped the decision meant "there are no outcasts in the Episcopal Church."

The ruling by the panel of eight bishops said the issue should be dealt with by the full membership, possibly at its next general convention, scheduled for July 1997 in Philadelphia.

Before the ruling, the Episcopal Church allowed only the ordination of married heterosexuals, celibate single heterosexuals and celibate homosexuals. The ruling did not say whether the church now condones the ordination of Gays.

Bishop John S. Spong of the 40,000-member Episcopal Diocese of Newark said the church should realize that people cannot control their sexual orientation.

"They are not evil," Spong said after the ruling. "It's a given like being left-handed is given or being redheaded is given, and the church has got to learn how you live with the givens of life."

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LETTERS

Continued from Page 4

Thanks

TO THE EDITOR:

Thanks again for a wonderful issue of *Wisconsin Light*—for insightful writing and inspirational prose.

There should be more like you who are willing to speak up and stand out. Hopefully that will happen.

See you on the Summerfest Grounds.

Elna Hickson
Milwaukee

Women and HIV

SISTERS:

On behalf of my partner and myself I would like to thank LAMM for inviting us to participate in the first Woman's Health Fair on 4 May 96. Both my partner and I attended separate workshops and agree that the speakers and topics were interesting, informational and timely. It was hard to decide which workshops to attend, therefore we both hope to attend future Health Fairs.

I attended Session #3 Obstetrical/Gynecological Health Issues-Reproductive Health, surgical topics and STD's. It was a very informative session however, there was a statement made at this workshop that implied because there are only 6 documented cases of women to women transmission of the HIV virus, we should consider ourselves safe and to not be concerned about contracting the virus through Lesbian partners.

I did not challenge the statement at the time it was made and have agonized ever since. I am not sure if I did not challenge the statement because my shock and anger at the statement kept me from making a rational reply or because of my shock at hearing the statement came from another woman. I do not know if the speaker is a Lesbian nor do I care.

What does concern me is that she IS a woman that considers 6 cases to be an acceptable number of infections and is nothing to be concerned about. Throughout the history of the HIV virus, Lesbians have been to believe that we do not have a need to be concerned about woman to woman transmission of the virus.

Two years ago transmission of woman to woman HIV viral transmission was unheard of. This year we are hearing of 6 cases. I only hope that next year that we do not hear of more cases because of inaccurate statements such as this one.

I urge all women be tested for the HIV virus if at any time there was the slightest possibility of exposure to this virus. Exposure could have occurred through rape, bisexuality, intravenous drug use or multiple partners. An important issue to remember with multiple partners is that you are also sleeping with your partner's previous partners.

I would like to end this letter by saying "THEY" are right, that Lesbians need not be concerned about the HIV transmission woman to woman, however, I cannot. I am afraid that if we continue to follow this belief, 6 documented cases is only the beginning.

In Sisterhood
Lori Sitzwohl, ACT-UP MILW
Milwaukee

Editor's Note: A copy of the above letter was sent also to the Lesbian Alliance of Metro Milwaukee (LAMM).

PrideFest Accountability

TO THE EDITOR:

Once again it's time to go to PrideFest and show our pride. But just a minute, what happened, the dates were wrong on the PrideFest Guide, how come half of the guides are so badly assembled that they can't be opened, who is this straight couple that has been chosen grand marshal, and what happened to the coordinator of PrideFest? are just a few questions I've been asked.

There seems to have been a big shake-up in the PrideFest camp and when confronting Ms. Cook or Ms. Klein they don't want to respond to letters, or refuse to discuss anything involving Mr. Menuier or PrideFest.

For years Mr. Menuier has coordinated the PrideFest Celebration and parade to the success we enjoy today. Now just a few weeks before our 1996 celebration a few members of the committee have limited his authority, or removed Mr. Menuier from the committee with out an explanation. In an attempt to get to the root of what has happened, it seem that a power struggle has developed and only select members of the committee were involved in the decision making process.

You can't say our deadlines are unknown when they are printed in every issue.

It is true that stories can come in past deadline, but ordinarily those are concerned with breaking news. This certainly wasn't a breaking story. It was known at least a week in advance. That was time enough, it would seem to me, to either get a story written that was appropriate to its importance—and pictures—something worthy of the front page—or call us in time to get someone to do all that. Neither was done.

Also, it was known that this was the Pride issue. That too had been printed. All stories dealing with PrideFest were to be in that issue.

What you might want to do is to discover why we were informed—for the first time—so "late in the day." Why the discourtesy and sheer negligence?

You're right. The Grand Marshals are a splendid couple, a bridge between the Gay and straight and AIDS communities. Thanks to a highly talented interviewer, we have been able to find that out—and pay them the honor they do not seek, but that they so richly deserve.

However, interviews take time. They are not done on layout night—especially one in which there was a breaking story going on. Especially, too, when there is no information that one needs to be done.

What this all brings into high relief is a woeful lack of understanding on the part of some about how the media functions and how it is to be used.

Sometimes, it is enough to wait for the media to discover you, but you can't count on it. Most of the time, you (whoever "you" may be) are not the only "show" in town. That's the reason for press releases—sent out in a timely fashion, may I add, and news conferences.

In passing, let me say that a great many people and organizations in this community understand all this very well.

However, there are three I can cite who do not seem understand it at all. They seem to operate under the illusion that says, "Send it in any old time and keep it as brief as possible. Since I'm so full of virtue and since I know what I'm doing and how important it is and I am, everyone else must know all this too. And if all that isn't known, then they're just stupid—or maybe are out to get us or something."

Or something.
It just doesn't work that way.

This paper does indeed exist to present information to the Gay and straight communities. But it can only report what it knows. We don't read minds.

I consider the way this thing was handled to be in the nature of an insult to the Grand Marshals and to this paper as well.

Finally, when it comes to spelling and grammar, please be aware of the beam in your own eye before you worry about the mote in the eye of another.

My concern as a community sponsor is the loyalty and respect that has been built between the businesses, organizations, and individuals with PrideFest over the years. Yes there may be bigger corporate sponsors, but let's not forget who attends the event and makes it successful.

It's been rumored that this takeover has hidden agendas and that some of them may not be in the best interest to the Gay/Lesbian community. What are these agendas? Can we afford to let nature take its course, or should we first get the PrideFest committee reorganized and the closet cleaned out?

I am not happy with the committee's aloof attitude over the past week's events. PrideFest has become too big of a community event to have it dismissed as just another organizational squabble. Among solving the problems that exist with PrideFest, this year there better be an accounting made to the "Proud Crowd" of sponsors and supporters.

Your comments are welcomed, and will be forwarded to those that are concerned. Write in care of W.L.M.A., P.O. Box 897, Milwaukee, WI 53201 or write to the Gay Press.

Si Smits
Boot Camp Saloon
Milwaukee

I Am Appalled

TO THE EDITOR:

Although I cannot be considered a regular, every issue reader of *The Wisconsin Light*, I thought that I understood it to be a paper of integrity with a mission of presenting information to the Gay community in an honest and forthright manner. Therefore, I was quite surprised to find a "column" in the May 23, 1996 June 5, 1996 issue of *Wisconsin Light* which was, at best, mean-spirited.

The column to which I refer is entitled "Here's the dirt..." It contained a paragraph about the "mystery" (? ... there was one?) of the Pridefest Parade Marshal and informed us, in a tone suggesting the reader should be appalled, that the marshals will be a STRAIGHT (Horror of Horrors!) couple from Delafield. This gossip monger, reminiscent of Goody Gotwick in *The Scarlet Letter*, should perhaps check his/her facts before making sniping remarks about an issue. (He/she might also check his/her spelling and punctuation.)

If my memory is correct, Karen Lamb was honored by being a Parade Marshal not too many years ago for the work she had done for the Gay community. Perhaps this is not the only precedent in Milwaukee. Certainly portions of the funding for the Pridefest have come from non-Gay sources. However, the "columnist" does not take issue with this aspect of the STRAIGHT community.

However, the worst viewpoint of the commentary came from the writer's rationalization as to how a STRAIGHT couple could be considered for the honor. "Apparently, they had a Gay son and caught hell for it" was the only conclusion he/she was capable of reaching and then he/she had the temerity to suggest that there was no one else available. Coming from a community which too often endures insult, cruelty,

and physical bashing, is this the best we can do when people who work hard to put together a festival manage to find warm, loving, caring people who are active in PFLAG, who open their home and hearts to people of the Gay community, who take care of those in the community who must endure the illnesses brought on by the HIV virus, and who lovingly supported a son who died from that illness?????

I am ashamed that the newspaper for which I had respect would stoop to the level of a tabloid. In my opinion, kindness, support, and good will are considerations which should be extended by the Gay community to ALL people to offer us courtesy and respect.

Karen Weiss
Milwaukee

Editor's Reply: Perhaps there's a little too much political correctness here. If you can get around that tyranny, you might be able to understand that someone might object to a choice of straight people to represent the Lesbian and Gay community. Rightly or wrongly, there are those who at certain times like to be exclusive—among their own. That opinion is out there and it is valid—not necessarily true or false, just valid.

As to why and how the choice was made, perhaps the columnist spoke with one of the parade coordinators and that's what she was told. That's most certainly what he told me.

As to their being in PFLAG, that information—along with a great deal else—was not available to the paper at the time—9:30 p.m. on layout night, well, well past deadline.

In fact, what was received was 3 sentences and a skeletal fact sheet. That's all! Why such brevity and why so late?

You can't say our deadlines are unknown when they are printed in every issue.

It is true that stories can come in past deadline, but ordinarily those are concerned with breaking news. This certainly wasn't a breaking story. It was known at least a week in advance. That was time enough, it would seem to me, to either get a story written that was appropriate to its importance—and pictures—something worthy of the front page—or call us in time to get someone to do all that. Neither was done.

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THE UNITED
Continued from Page 1

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The United offers a range of services, including support services, information and referral, a speakers bureau and office space for organizations. It also houses the Madison Gay/Lesbian Resource Center Library.

A reception will be held to introduce De Ette Tomlinson on Thursday, June 13 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at The Cardinal Bar at 418 W. Wilson Street. The reception is free and everyone is welcome to attend.

The United has offices on Madison's Capitol Square at 14 West Mifflin Street, and can be reached at (608) 255-8582. ▽

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Milwaukee Immediate E. Townsend, 3 br, lwr owner/up, spacious, appls, oak built ins, stained glass, laundry hook ups, garage \$600/mo. Serious inquires only Call (414)264-6263.

CLASSIFIEDS

CLASSIFIED ORDERS: Completely fill out this form and mail to WISCONSIN LIGHT, 1843 N. Palmer, Milwaukee, WI 53212.

RATES ARE \$2 for each line. Each line can contain up to 42 characters, (including spaces). Indicate if you would like a **BOLD HEADLINE** of up to three words above your ad for an additional \$2.50. Also indicate classification under which your ad is to be run.

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

NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE
CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE

PLEASE CHECK THE ISSUE(S) IN WHICH YOU WOULD LIKE YOUR AD TO APPEAR.

June 20; July 1; July 18; Aug. 1; Aug. 15; Sept. 12



Our photographer captured the spirit of the Sixteenth Milwaukee Classic with the above pictures taken during the early rounds on Saturday morning May 25, 1996. Shown above are players from the Club 219 Pride, New York's Buddies, the St. Louis Shooters, Remington's from Toronto, and the Minneapolis Bombers. Two Milwaukee teams, the Club 219 Pride and the Ball Game Rangers finished first in the B and C Divisions respectively. The M & M Club won a Third Place trophy in the C Division. Twenty-three teams including seven from Milwaukee competed in the weekend long tournament. The SSBL will resume play on Saturday June 15 at Sijan field in Milwaukee.

Dykes To Watch Out For



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR TEAM
#1 IN THE CLASSIC TOURNAMENT



THE GREATEST COCKTAIL HOUR EVER

2-9pm Monday - Friday,
1/2 PRICE DRINKS!

THE BALL GAME

196 South Second Street
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Party Room Available
Pizza Served Any Time
Satellite Dish

MONDAYS, 10pm-Close
Domestic Beer \$1.25 • \$1.50 Rail

TUESDAYS, 10pm-Close
\$2.50 Top Shelf • \$1.50 Rail

WEDNESDAYS, 10pm-Close
Beer Bust \$3.50 or, 70¢ glasses of beer

THURSDAYS, 10pm-Close
\$1.50 Rail Cocktails

SATURDAYS & SUNDAYS
Tap Beer 70¢ till 6pm and
Bloodys, Screws, Greyhounds
- \$2 till 6pm