



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

# The Wisconsin Light



With the State Capitol in the background. A group of marchers proudly carried a large Rainbow Flag down State Street in Madison's Pride March on Sunday, July 21.

## HIV+ Military Discharge Measure Defeated

**Washington**— Congressional negotiators nixed a provision in the 1997 Defense Authorization bill that would have discharged military personnel who tested positive for HIV, the virus that causes AIDS.

House and Senate conferees also rejected an amendment that would have overturned the "don't ask, don't tell" military policy and that would have made anti-gay witch hunts the law.

Winnie Stachelberg, Human Rights Campaign staff member lauded those who refused to back Dornan. "Extremists were dealt a setback today and common sense prevailed. We hope this atmosphere lasts until the end of the session." Rep. Bob Dornan, (R-Calif) personally attached the amendments to the bill when it was before his National Security subcommittee.

The Senate version of the authorization bill contained an amendment sponsored by Senator

John Mc Cain (R-Ariz.) mandating uniform treatment for all service members with chronic medical conditions. The Senate bill did not address the "don't ask don't tell" policy.

"Congress has already rejected both of these policies" said Stachelberg. "The Conference Committee was right to repudiate these unnecessary, spiteful measures."

Another Dornan amendment outlawing abortions at overseas military hospitals was passed by the conference committee.

Last week, House GOP leaders denied Dornan a seat on the conference committee, ostensibly because he openly supports Joseph Dioguardi, the conservative Republican, who is challenging Rep Sue Kelly in the New York GOP primary.

Dornan has also staged several angry tirades on the House floor directed against fellow

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## Registration For September's AIDS Walk Wisconsin Now in Full Swing

**Milwaukee** — More than 4,100 people and 510 teams have already registered to participate in the seventh annual AIDS Walk Wisconsin on Sunday, September 22, beginning at Milwaukee's lakefront. Bette



Melinda Paras, Executive Director of the National Gay Lesbian Task Force was Grand Marshal of the Madison Pride March. For complete coverage of the March and all the Magic Picnic weekend events see the SpotLight section in this issue

Midler is this year's Honorary Chair. AIDS Walk Wisconsin is produced by the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin, Inc. (ARCW) and benefits 16 AIDS education and service providers throughout the state.

Beneficiaries include Milwaukee AIDS Project, Madison AIDS Support Network, Center Project, Inc. - Green Bay, Southeast Wisconsin AIDS Project - Kenosha, Northwest Wisconsin AIDS Project - Eau Claire, Wisconsin AIDS Research Consortium, Camp Heartland, East Central Wellness Project - Oshkosh, The Counseling Center of Milwaukee, Visiting Nurse Association of Wisconsin, Sheboygan County AIDS Task Force, Milwaukee Indian Health Board, Planned Parenthood of Wisconsin, Great Lakes Hemophilia Foundation, AIDS/HIV Ministry-Wisconsin Conference of Churches, and Northern AIDS Network - Superior/Rhineland.

Pre-registration is required. Those who wish to walk, for a team, volunteer, or pledge should call 1-800-348-WALK. Once

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## Two Green Bay Clergy Agree to Preside Over Same-Sex Unions

**Green Bay**—Clergymen who notified their congregation about plans for a same-sex wedding ceremony said they believe "homosexual persons are God's good creation."

Wisconsin law does not recognize same-sex unions. Congress is considering similar legislation that President Clinton has said he would sign into law.

Pastors Chuck Mize and Kay Krejci of Green Bay's Union Congregational Church,



Tom Reed, Director of Public Affairs for Miller Brewing Company presents a check for \$10,000 to Tony Rhodes, President of the Cream City Foundation. The Miller grant will allow CCF to continue its important work of providing grants to Gay and Lesbian groups.

which is affiliated with the United Church of Christ, have agreed to preside over a service in a park.

Mize, Krejci and pastor emeritus Charles Bagby sent a letter to their congregation last month, summarizing their opinion.

"We believe that homosexual persons are God's good creation; fully equal to heterosexual humanity and fully capable of practicing

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## Philadelphia AIDS Ride Proved To Be Somewhat Less Than Successful

**Milwaukee**—In an update to an earlier story, both the **Philadelphia Inquirer** and the **Philadelphia Gay News (PGN)**, are reporting that the Philadelphia to Washington, DC bike ride held in June, is expected to net far less than its sponsors had hoped.

The AIDS Ride was organized by California-based promotional company, Pallotta and Associates headed by Dan Pallotta. The ride, which drew 2,100 riders, was one of several held, including one from the Twin Cities to Chicago.

According to the **Inquirer**, the net proceeds, to be divided among four local AIDS service organizations (ASO), are likely to be "between \$500,000 and \$650,000," Chris Cole, ride director and a Pallotta employee, is quoted as saying. That's about half as much as the groups had anticipated raising.

About \$1.4 million was raised in pledges and donations at the June event, but \$1.3 million was incurred in expenses, the paper said, according to a preliminary ride summary.

Cole is reported as saying that of the \$1.3 million in expenses includes Pallotta's fee and advance money which totals \$380,000.

While final figures won't be available until August 8, if Cole's projections hold up, only about 30 cents of every dollar raised by a bike rider will go to ASOs to fight AIDS, **The Inquirer** said.

By contrast, **The Inquirer** reports that 85 cents of every dollar raised by the Philadelphia AIDS Walk held in the fall, goes to the

**Please Turn to AIDS Ride - Page 27**



A large crowd turned out for the Post Pride March Show held in Madison on Sunday, July 21. Madison Police estimated that a record crowd of over 5,000 people attended the March, Rally and Show. For complete coverage see our SpotLight section.

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Dozens of Full Color and Black & White Photos from Madison's Magic Weekend

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## News Briefs

### Court Sets Precedent for Same-Sex Couples

**Barcelona, Spain—AP—** In a major boost for Gay rights in Spain, a court has ruled that a Colombian Gay man was entitled to Spanish residency papers because he and his Spanish partner were a stable couple.

The High Court in Barcelona ordered the government to review the necessary laws so that foreigners wishing to live with their Spanish partners can seek visas regardless of the sex or marriage status of the couple.

The ruling came after a Spaniard contested an Interior Ministry rejection of a residency visa petition from his Colombian spouse.

The ruling follows others in recent months that are leading to a gradual increase in rights for Gays in Spain. A San Sebastian court recently ruled that Gays were entitled to life insurance payments from policies opened by their deceased partners.

### Gays Win Discrimination Awards

**Boston, MA—AP—** A Gay man and two Lesbians who were ejected from a nightclub after kissing and dancing with same-sex partners have been awarded \$10,000 apiece by the Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination. MCAD Commissioner Charles E. Walker Jr. said heterosexual couples were behaving in similar ways, but it was the Gays who were physically thrown out of the now-defunct nightclub.

Commission officials said the award was the first in a case of anti Gay discrimination in a public place.

"What we're saying is, if you open your business to the public, then you must serve the public and not just one segment of the public," Walker said.

The three who were ejected were among about 12 Gay men and Lesbians at the Stocks & Bonds Restaurant and Dance Bar on State Street in Boston Oct. 6, 1990.

George Varoudakis of Danvers, who owned the Stocks & Bonds, was ordered to pay each of three who were ejected \$10,000.

Cresswell said he will donate his \$10,000 award to a Gay and Lesbian legal advocacy group.

### Lesbian Advisor Sued Over Alleged Affair

**Tuscaloosa, AL—AP—** A court fight over an alleged Lesbian affair between a University of Alabama student and her faculty adviser threatens to disclose the professor's past love life. A federal judge has ruled against the introduction of evidence concerning a relationship the professor had with another woman on the faculty. But lawyers filing the sexual harassment suit say the information will eventually enter the case record.

In her suit filed in December, Dale Gray, 40, a former graduate student, contends Alice Parker, a professor in the women's studies department, wrongly made their 13-month sexual relationship a basis for judging classroom performance.

During the gathering of evidence, U.S. District Judge Edwin L. Nelson on July 16 blocked attempts to reveal an earlier alleged relationship. Trial is not expected until next May.

### Germans Split on Same-Sex Marriage

**Hamburg, Germany—AP—** Germans may be generally more tolerant than Americans when it comes to allowing same-sex couples to marry, but the question is still divisive, according to a recent survey.

The Emnid poll, conducted last month for *Spiegel-Special* magazine, found 49 percent of Germans supported official recognition of Gay marriages, while 48 percent were opposed.

In the United States, where an election-year debate on the subject is raging, a June Associated Press poll found 30 percent of Americans favored granting Gays the right to marry, while 57 percent were opposed.

The Emnid poll also found 93 percent of Germans said homosexuals should have equal access to the job market. The AP poll found 85 percent of Americans support equal rights in terms of job opportunities.

### Zimbabwe Again Bans Gay Books

**Harare, Zimbabwe—AP—** The government banned a Gay rights exhibit from Zimbabwe's annual book fair citing the "moral repulsiveness and deep distaste" with which Zimbabweans view homosexuality.

Spokesman Bornwell Chakaodza said his government reacted with "dismay and consternation" to a decision by organizers of the five-day Harare International Book Fair to allow the small Gay and Lesbian Association to participate.

A similar exhibit was banned at last year's event, and this year's announcement was expected to provoke another debate over censorship and civil rights at this year's fair, that opened in Harare on July 30.

The fair's organizers are independent, but the government has veto power because the event takes place at a state art gallery.

Keith Goddard, spokesman for the Gay rights group, said the group will not withdraw. No immediate response was available from the fair's organizers.

### Sheriff Dismisses Minister in Anti-Gay Dispute

**Orlando, FL—AP—** Outspoken televangelist John Butler Book will no longer serve as the sheriff's office volunteer chaplain because of his strident condemnation of Gays.

Book, a longtime supporter of Orange County Sheriff Kevin Beary, recently argued that the department violated its own policy by allowing a patrol car and deputy to be part of a Gay-pride parade in downtown Orlando.

Book called the parade a political event, and said the sheriff was quietly reversing his stand on Gay rights.

Beary responded by sending the preacher a letter, telling Book his public stand against Gays means he is no longer fit to be a counselor for deputies and their families. Those who work with the sheriff's office must serve all people and not show bias against any group, sheriff's spokesman Steve Jones said.

"If they had a Jewish parade, the sheriff would be involved even though he's a Christian," Jones said Monday in Beary's absence. "He's not endorsing the parade. . . The sheriff is the sheriff for all people."

Book said he had been so dismayed by the handling of the Gay-pride parade that he sent the sheriff's department a letter of resignation before Beary told him to step down.

### Taylor Not Shy About Twisting Arms for AIDS

**Washington, DC—AP—** Elizabeth Taylor, a longtime AIDS activist, says she has no problem asking her fellow celebrities to open their checkbooks.

"I'm very crass when it comes to that," she said Monday night on CNN's "Larry King Live."

Taylor said she planned to ask House Speaker Newt Gingrich to open the federal checkbook when she meets with him. She's in town to lobby for more funding for AIDS research, better access to expensive, effective drugs and the repeal of federal and state bans on needle exchange programs.

The actress cautioned against letting scientific advances in AIDS research make people complacent about the disease.

"It might seem that we can relax and resume business as usual," she said earlier Monday at the National Press Club. "But this progress, gained at such great cost . . . is precisely why now is not the time to turn back."

Taylor said she was proud that her fame had helped her raise money and awareness.

"I think it's the only reason to have clout. I think it's the only reason to have fame . . . if you can use it to do somebody some good," she said on CNN.

### President and First Lady to Co-Chair Quilt

**Washington, DC—** President Clinton and the First Lady, Hillary Rodham Clinton, have agreed to serve as Co-Chairs of the Honorary Host Committee for the display of the entire AIDS Memorial Quilt in Washington, DC, which will occur October 11-13, 1996. This is the first time a U.S. President has served in such a capacity for the display of the entire Quilt.

The Honorary Host Committee includes notable American figures from the worlds of entertainment, the arts, politics, sports, religion, and AIDS research. Among those participating are: U.S. Senators Barbara Boxer, Dianne Feinstein, Orrin Hatch and Edward Kennedy; U.S. Representatives Nancy Pelosi, Gerry Studds, Steve Gunderson and Barney Frank; figure skating champion Rudy Galindo; philanthropist James Hurdell; Olympic diving champion Greg Louganis; entertainer Lily Tomlin, among others.

Major sponsors for the display are American Express and Stadlanders Pharmacy.

### Paper Sued to Print Lesbian Wedding News

**Portland, OR—AP—** A judge is considering a lawsuit filed by a Lesbian couple seeking to force Oregon's largest daily newspaper to publish a same-sex wedding announcement.

Sandra Linebarier and Charlene Morris argued in court that restricting such announcements to state-licensed marriages is discriminatory.

But Sandra Mims Rowe, editor of *The Oregonian*, said the newspaper does not discriminate against Gays and Lesbians.

The newspaper, in choosing to publish wedding announcements, follows "the state's definition of marriage as a contract between a man and a woman, requiring a license from the state," she said.

Joe D. Bailey, Multnomah County circuit judge pro-tem, said he will rule in the case by Aug. 5.

### Colorado Town Faces Gay Rights Fight

**Fort Collins, CO—AP—** Eight years after the city rejected a controversial anti-discrimination ordinance in an emotional battle over Gay rights, Fort Collins officials prepared for another debate on the issue.

City officials have proposed a law updating the city's 1972 Human Rights ordinance to prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation in employment, housing and public accommodations.

The ordinance also would prohibit sexual harassment, gender-specific dress codes for businesses and discrimination based on a person's appearance and political activity.

But city officials concede the sexual-orientation provision will be the law's most controversial element.

Already coalitions are forming on both sides of the issue.

"I think it's a validation that discrimination is a problem in this town," said Eric Delehey, director of the Lambda Community Center, a service organization for the Northern Colorado Gay and Lesbian community.

Colorado for Family Values, the group that wrote anti-Gay rights Amendment Two that was ruled unconstitutional, vowed to fight the ordinance.

Alma Vigo-Morales, the city's former human rights officer, said she hopes people will be more understanding this time.

"It saddens me that protecting people's sexual orientation would be offensive to anyone," she said. "But I imagine it will be controversial."

### Jenny Jones Show Murder Trial Postponed

**Pontiac, MI—AP—** The murder trial of an Oakland County man accused of killing a Gay associate who told a talk-show audience that he had a crush on him has been postponed again. Oakland Circuit Judge Francis X. O'Brien postponed the trial at what he said was the request of attorneys for both sides. He did not schedule a new trial date.

Jonathan Schmitz, 26, is charged with first-degree murder in the March 9, 1995, shotgun killing of Scott Amedure. Three days before the shooting, the two Orion Township residents taped a "Jenny Jones Show" segment about secret admirers. Amedure, who was Gay, told the audience he was sexually attracted to Schmitz and described fantasies involving him.

Schmitz has said he is heterosexual and believed he was going to meet a female secret admirer. He also told police after his arrest that he shot Amedure after they returned from the taping in Chicago and found a sexually suggestive note that Amedure admitted leaving on his doorstep.

The "Jenny Jones" segment never aired.

At least three trial dates have been set, but various motions by both sides and a crowded court docket have repeatedly delayed the trial's start.

O'Brien also ruled Wednesday that Schmitz's attorneys would not be allowed to call Jenny Jones as a witness.

### For Those with HIV Disease, Be Careful of Kitty's Fleas and Claws

**San Francisco —** While a cat scratch may be the most common vehicle for transmitting cat scratch disease (CSD) from felines to humans, the common cat flea is probably the most frequent way of transmitting the infection between cats, say researchers at the University of California, San Francisco and UC, Davis.

Jane Koehler of the UCSF, Bruno Chomel from UC, Davis, and their colleagues report on a controlled experiment which demonstrates that the cat flea is a competent vector for *Bartonella henselae* (the cause of CSD) and that direct cat-to-cat transmission could not be demonstrated in the absence of fleas. The results appear in the August 1996 issue of the *Journal of Clinical Microbiology*.

These data suggest that control of flea infestation may reduce the number of insects capable of transmitting *B. henselae* from cat to cat, and that in turn will reduce the feline reservoir from which humans can become infected via a cat scratch," says Dr. Koehler.

CSD has been recognized since the 1950s but the bacterium that causes it has only recently been identified. The most common mode of transmission to humans is a scratch from an infected cat. Infections apparently cause no harm to cats and they display no symptoms. Symptoms in humans begin with an inflammation around the scratch site, which progresses to swelling of the lymph nodes and a low-grade fever.

"Our real concern is infections in AIDS patients," says Dr. Koehler. *B. henselae* infection in people with weakened immune systems can lead to a potentially fatal disease called bacillary angiomatosis (BA), which looks like Kaposi's sarcoma. "But, because so few HIV-infected people acquire this infection from their cats and cat ownership is so beneficial, we do not recommend giving up pet cats. Instead, HIV-infected individuals should make their care-givers aware that they have a cat, control flea infestation as much as possible, avoid getting scratched and if they do get scratched, wash the scratch immediately."

In a study of BA patients published in the *Journal of the American Medical Association* in February 1994, Dr. Koehler and her colleagues identified the cat as the reservoir of *B. henselae*, and went on to determine the number of cats that were bacteremic (had the bacteria in their bloodstream). The study estimated that 41% of the cat population in the greater San Francisco Bay area could be bacteremic.

"Additional studies in other regions of the United States have demonstrated that feline *B. henselae* infection is very common. This prompted the question 'How did this

tremendous number of cats get infected?'" says Koehler. "The identification of the factors contributing to this large reservoir is essential for developing strategies to prevent human and feline infection."

Drs. Koehler and Chomel discourage the mass screening and treating of infected cats as an effective control method for several reasons. "First, although there appears to be a huge number of cats infected, the number of people who actually get CSD is relatively small." There are over 50 million cats in the United States and approximately 22,000 cases of CSD each year, she says, and CSD in people with intact immune systems is almost always a benign infection that resolves without antibiotic treatment. Secondly, cats who are treated for *B. henselae* bacteremia often relapse.

In the first experiment, Drs. Koehler and Chomel and their colleagues evaluated the ability of the cat flea to transmit *B. henselae* by removing fleas from infected cats and transferring them to two uninfected kittens in a controlled flea-free environment. Both became infected with *B. henselae*. The experiment was repeated 10 months later with three more uninfected kittens, with the same results. Additionally, in both experiments fleas were collected from the infected cats and tested for the presence of *B. henselae* DNA. The researchers estimated that *B. henselae* was present in 80% of the fleas used in the first experiment and 45% of the fleas used in the second.

The second experiment involved putting infected and uninfected kittens together in a flea-free environment for 21 days. In contrast to flea-borne transmission, direct cat-to-cat transmission among kittens could not be demonstrated in the absence of fleas, says Dr. Koehler.

Individuals shouldn't worry about acquiring CSD infection directly from a flea, though.

"Although the flea-borne transmission of *B. henselae* to cats appears to be very efficient, epidemiological data do not support efficient transmission from cat to human via the cat flea," says Koehler. "Most case series of CSD patients report that CSD symptoms developed after the individual received a scratch, and in 93% of cases in one large series, the inflamed cat scratch was still visible at the time of the initial diagnosis of CSD."

Dr. Koehler does not rule out the potential for flea-borne cat-to-human transmission but says it requires further investigation. ▽

## Dying Lover Calls for His Spouse, But the Law Keeps Them from Each Other's Side

**Long Beach, CA**—When Juan Navarrete came home from the market, he found his partner lying on the concrete, his head covered with blood.

He and LeRoy Tranton had been building a sun room, and Tranton had fallen off a ladder. At the hospital, he slipped into a coma.

"I tell him to come back, we need him," recalls Navarrete, a 36-year-old hotel waiter.

Tranton, 54, did come back four days later. But he remained in the hospital, and nine months after the March 1989 accident, he went away again when his brother transferred him to a nursing home and prevented Navarrete from seeing him. Unable to legally prove his relationship with his partner, Navarrete lost him.

Gay rights advocates hope to use Navarrete's story to help pass into law a proposed domestic partnership ordinance that allows homosexuals to visit their partners in the hospital or in prison.

After the accident, Navarrete visited Tranton twice a day at St. Mary Medical Center, feeding him ice cream and soup, determined to stay with him despite his brain damage.

"As long as he's alive, I'm happy with him," he says.

Tranton's parents were dead, and his brother, who has since died, lived in another state and didn't visit, Navarrete says. But several months after the accident, the brother, who didn't approve of the Gay relationship, sought to become Tranton's conservator.

Frightened, Navarrete went to court to challenge the conservatorship. He says he was unfamiliar with a durable power of attorney for health care, and he had no proof he'd been Tranton's partner for eight years. The judge rejected his challenge because he wasn't a relative.

Twice, the brother transferred Tranton to nursing homes without telling his partner, Navarrete says.

Although the first nursing home returned Tranton to the hospital, Navarrete was unable to find out where he went the second time until he received an ambulance bill listing the destination. When he went to the Canoga Park nursing home shortly before Christmas, he says Tranton was asleep and his hands and legs were tied to a chair, purportedly to keep him from falling off.

When Navarrete tried to visit him, a nurse stopped him, saying she'd been ordered to keep him away by the brother.

"I love him a lot," he told her. "He needs me."

The nurse acknowledged Tranton had been calling, "Juan, Juan, Juan." But he left after she threatened to call the police.

"This statute is used every day to encourage discrimination against Gay people," said Franz. "Every day, good, law abiding people are declared felons."

Smith also said the deviate sex law does not violate privacy or equal protection guarantees, contrary to what Sherlock said in his ruling.

"States and governments have regulated sexual conduct of all kinds since there have been states and governments," Smith said.

"Same sex sexual conduct does not touch upon a fundamental right."

Another part of the argument touches on preventing the spread of AIDS. The state maintains that the anti-Gay sex law discourages sex between Gay men, who are at the highest risk of contracting the deadly disease.

The plaintiffs, in contrast, say the law is intimidating and prevents people from being open about their sex lives and from being tested for the virus that causes disease.

The plaintiffs will have a chance to respond to the state's brief; and the court isn't expected to begin weighing the case until year's end.

## MAP Sponsors Health Fair For African-American Women

**Milwaukee** — Milwaukee AIDS Project's Dennis Hill Harm Reduction Center will host a free health fair for African American women on Friday, August 16, 1996 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Although the health fair is designed to meet the needs of African American women, all members of the community are invited to attend. The Dennis Hill Harm Reduction Center is located at 4311 West Vliet Street.

The program will feature many different seminars on Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP) programs including cooperative therapies, early intervention program, support groups and mental health counseling, case management, Loving Spoonful food pantry, clinical drug trials, as well as seminars about HIV and AIDS and alcohol and drug treatment.

"Because MAP is a multicultural agency that serves a diverse client population, the Dennis Hill Harm Reduction Center is a key location for African American clients to access services," said Maggi Cage, Ph.D., MAP Director of Health Services. "This event is important as part of a larger effort to educate the communities we serve about our programs and services."

Health care providers and professionals will be on hand to provide information and advice. The fair will also feature food, a raffle, free condoms, and demonstrations on acupuncture, massage, condom use, and HIV testing. Seminars will take place throughout the day at no charge, so interested members of the community may attend any or all of the programs.

Organizations participating in the health fair include Healthy Women and Infants Project, Wholistic Health Center, Rainbow Community Health Center, Institute for Child and Family Development - HIV+ Women of Color and Northwest General Hospital.

For more information, please contact Dorothy at (414) 225-1580. V

## Politically Speaking

### Clinton's Re-election Not a Sure Thing

By Bill Meunier

With a good sized lead in nearly enough states to clinch his re-election, most observers think that President Bill Clinton is a safe bet to retain the White House.

They are forgetting that the only thing that you can count on politics is that nothing stays static. That especially applies to standings in the polls.

Clinton is to put it simply, not a "sure thing." The reason is equally simple, the GOP propaganda machinery is going at full tilt. His lead is built in large part on dissatisfaction with his Republican opponent.

If Bill Clinton looked out the window and said "Hey it looks like a great day out there and what nice shade of blue the sky is today," House Speaker Newt Gingrich and Senator Alfonse D'Amato would insist that he was doing drugs and call for hearings to find out if Hillary had supplied them.

Gingrich, D'Amato and company have raised the tactic of using taxpayer money to get at an opponent to the level of a fine art. The only good thing about the Whitewater hearings is that they finally ended.

The Whitewater hearings were such a waste of our money that the Republicans were left to claiming that some of the witnesses who had passed lie detector tests had lied.

In other words, if a witness doesn't fit in with your preconceived notions and refutes your theory about crimes that didn't exist, just accuse her of lying. Of course, being a United States Senator, you can legally do it without worrying about anything trivial like a slander or libel suit.

Plus you get on the network news and some people will probably believe you. Big deficits in the polls become the big reasons for big lies.

Then there is the Hillary factor. Nancy Reagan openly consorted with an astrologist and admitted that she made decisions of state based on the woman's charts and predictions. Not much was said about it. But let Hillary have an imaginary conversation with Eleanor Roosevelt and every Rush Limbaugh wanna be is calling her a "Satanist."

What the Republicans don't understand is that they don't understand. We remember that George Bush's own son was involved up to his neck in an S & L scandal that made Whitewater look like a picnic. We also remember that there was no GOP outrage or investigation into that one.

We don't care what Bill Clinton did as Governor of Arkansas 10 or 15 years ago. What we do care about is what he is doing as President now.

We don't care about his alleged affairs. After all didn't the American people make Grover Cleveland President in the last century despite his admission of having fathered an illegitimate child?

While we may not fully trust him, most of us believe that in the end Bill Clinton will do the right thing as often as political circum-

stances allow him to. We also believe that those circumstances will ease considerably in a second and final term.

Last but no means least, we prefer a young energetic President to an old insider who's main claim to fame seems to be the length of time he has pandered to special interests in Washington DC.

Dole would be funny if a Presidential election wasn't such serious business. It's frightening to think that this man has a chance to be the leader of the free world.

He endorses a platform plank that would put every woman who has an abortion in jail for murder. Then he says the "Democratic position on abortion is an extremist one."

Dole says that smoking isn't necessarily addictive. When C. Everett Koop, arguably the most popular Surgeon General ever objects, Dole says that Koop was "brain washed" by the liberal media.

When questioned about his stance by a milquetoast reporter, in a live interview, Dole threatened to sic the FCC on her for pushing the Democratic party line.

As if those statements weren't unbelievable enough, he also (with a straight face mind you) claimed the millions given to his party by the tobacco industry had nothing to do with his comments.

Outside of his verbal missteps, the only hard news surfacing from the Dole campaign was his quitting his job and his appearance without a tie in Cleveland.

You know you're not being taken seriously when the press reports what you wore (or didn't wear) rather than what you said.

Once the euphoria of Dole's farewell to the Senate party had worn off, people began realizing why he left.

Staying would have meant voting on issues that Dole doesn't want to vote on. Vote one way and the conservatives he needs to win in November get upset. Vote the other way and the American people are angry.

If Dole didn't have the energy and/or guts to stay in the Senate and campaign, how can we expect him to have the energy and/or guts to be President?

Despite Clinton's lead and his ability (up to this point) to deflect Republican attacks he is not yet home free. Expect Clinton to run against Newt Gingrich and expect Dole to run against Hillary. Ross Perot will run against everybody and everything.

Don't be surprised though if the supposedly "independent" Whitewater Prosecutor, Ken Starr, and/or Gingrich and D'Amato make some new accusation in the waning months of the campaign.

As things stand now, Clinton should win. But the election isn't now, it's in November. Dole could still wake up and realize that his opponent is Bill Clinton and not Clinton's wife. He could, but lets hope that he doesn't. He needs all the naps he can get.

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## Editorial

### Cream City Foundation and Miller

The grant by Miller Brewery of \$10,000 to the Cream City Foundation (CCF), could not have been better placed. Though CCF seldom promotes itself, it is, in our opinion, one of the most worthwhile, beneficial organizations in our community. It funds or helps to fund scholarships, events such as PrideFest, film festivals, concerts, organizations and a whole lot more. So often it is said, "Well, let's see if we can get a grant from the Foundation," for this or that project or event. CCF is there when we need it—and we need it more frequently than many people know.

The same is true of Miller. It too, is there when we need it. Miller Brewery's record of giving to this community is without peer. Festivals, concerts, LesBiGayTrans events of all kinds, are bigger and better because Miller has given its support. Miller, too, is in the forefront of the struggle against AIDS.

We should thank the Foundation and give it our support by giving generously when asked and by remembering it in our wills.

We should thank Miller Brewery, too. Have a Miller beer or another of the company's fine products. Supporting Miller is giving support to ourselves.

## Letters

### An Open Letter to the Community and to The Board of Pridefest

Commentary By Eldon E. Murray

Recently the Board of Directors of Pridefest Inc. issued a press release announcing the resignation of Bill Meunier as Co-Chair which was printed exactly as issued in several Gay publications. I had been waiting for a satisfactory explanation by the Pridefest Board for their actions in stripping Meunier of his duties just seven weeks before the event was to take place.

The press release, with its ambiguous statements, did not explain, let alone justify or excuse such shabby treatment of one of the most dedicated, hard working, and honest persons in our community. Such statements as "...members of the Pridefest Board lost confidence in Meunier's ability to represent the organization or enter into contract negotiations...", "decisions by the Board were business related", and "best interests of Pridefest!", which can be interpreted in several ways, all of them reflecting on Bill's character, do him a great disservice.

Vicious rumors began to circulate in our community as soon as the word got around on the grapevine that Bill had been "dumped." In the interests of justice, I began to track down the sources of these rumors and to contact the persons outside of Pridefest who were supposedly demanding Bill's resignation. I also talked to persons on the Pridefest Council who should have been involved in any decision of such magnitude. I found that Pridefest Council members were not consulted concerning the action and that they had been told by Sue Cook (PrideFest's Co-Chair) and/or Chris Klein (Cook's lover and PrideFest's Treasurer) that Miller Brewing and Cream City Foundation had both demanded Bill's removal and threatened to withdraw their financial support if he were not removed from power. Both sponsors categorically denied any such statements. Both stated that Bill had done a fine job and they were pleased. People from Cream City even asked me to please try to scotch such rumors because aside from being untrue, they made the Foundation look bad.

Another rumor stated that Bill had been "fired" because many of the vendors and persons renting sales tables were threatening to withdraw from Pridefest and hold their own rump festival if Bill were not removed from office. This one was also traced back to Ms. Cook and Ms. Klein. I was only able to find one vendor who was unhappy with Bill. Bob Mazzacone, of Designing Men, was very vocal in public concerning the increased fees for sales tables since the event was to be at Summerfest grounds instead of War Memorial Park. He was also unhappy because he would not be allowed to sell T-shirts with the words "Wisconsin Pride" or "Milwaukee Pride" on them as he had last year. Indeed, I was told that he not only frequently wailed against Bill publicly, but actually tried to get other businesses and bars to join in a boycott of Pridefest. When he was unsuccessful in those efforts he managed to secure the best outside locations in the table area and then was heard to be loudly complaining when it rained on his merchandise.

I checked out several other rumors including one that Bill had categorically turned down a large cash contribution that was to pay for nationally known name entertainment for the festival. That one really didn't make sense and of course, it was untrue. As near as I could come was that someone, whose name I never found out, was bragging about his connections to both money and national talent a few weeks before the event. Top name talent could not possibly have been booked at such a late date even if this person had been able to raise the funds. Needless to say funds for this endeavor never materialized and the name entertainment, although advertised, never performed.

I had not spoken out about my findings earlier because I was told that *The Wisconsin Light* had hired an "investigative reporter"

who would contact me and others who had done some checking on the lies and rumors when preparing his article. When I read the article by John Kusch that finally appeared I was appalled. Apparently Mr. Kusch contacted everyone who had a grudge against Meunier and but a few of his supporters. I know that I was not contacted and I was prepared to give him the information I had gathered. I understand that several others who took it upon themselves to check the stories that were circulating were not contacted either, even though Mr. Kusch had been given their names and phone numbers. So much for "investigative" reporting.

As far as Mr. Kusch's article in *The Wisconsin Light* is concerned, I think he did the best that he could with the information that he had. Unfortunately he did not dig deep enough or look for motives for some of the scurrilous statements that he quoted. For example, Miriam Ben-Shalom has been an implacable enemy of Bill Meunier ever since she tried, unsuccessfully, to replace him as director the minute it was obvious that a small salary was to be given to Bill since he had no other employment. She wanted the position because of the salary that was to accompany it. I was a member of the Pride Council at that time and had been concerned for some time by the backstabbing and ax-throwing that occurred at nearly every Board meeting. Ms. Ben-Shalom's dog-in-the-man ger politics was the last straw for me and I resigned in disgust. My letter of resignation should be in PrideFest's files.

I continued to watch Pridefest as best I could from a safe distance. Little information was available, but it was obvious that after Ms. Klein's lover, Ms. Cook accepted the position as Co-chair and voting Board member, the power began to shift and a process to undermine Bill was at work. His modest salary was paid for only a few months before being cut off. It was to be restored, interestingly

Please Turn to PrideFest - Page 27

### Applause for Bill

TO THE EDITOR:

Miriam Ben-Shalom as arbiter of dress and decorum? Bob Mazzacone on the virtues of teetotaling? PrideFest as a Fortune 500 Company? Has the new millennium already dawned? Have I missed something?

Or did John Kusch, investigative reporter extraordinaire, miss just about everything? With greater enthusiasm than my hunky neighbor's Labrador on a romp through the park, he seems to have sniffed every trace of "evidence" he could find to impugn Bill Meunier's record as Co-director of PrideFest. That's what you get when you send a Lab to do a Poodle's work. No brains. Where's Glenn Bishop when you really need him?

Let's look at some facts. Bill Meunier turned a local Milwaukee parade into a major Midwestern event. No small feat when you recall that a noted Gay author once described Milwaukee as being 90 miles and four light years north of Chicago. Because of Bill's marketing skills, he brought more Queers to Veterans Park last year than this year's amateurish take over crew managed to draw to the largest festival grounds on Lake Michigan.

Yes, I suppose Bill could stand to read "Miss Manners," and maybe *Dress for Success*. Couldn't we all? But with more than 20 years of fund-raising experience, I assure you that Bill's a professional with the best of them. A Fortune 500 executive would be proud to have done what Bill did with PrideFest.

But then he'd (definitely a he) probably be a card-carrying member of the Log Cabin Club, assuming they carry cards, and although he'd wear the Gucci loafers Miriam now deems *de rigueur*, he certainly wouldn't smoke or drink or allow condoms to be distributed in public. Just what we need.

Kusch's collection of rumors and innuendo and "sources" must have made Joe McCarthy sit up in his grave. Mix lies and slander with honest praise from a few real community leaders like Doug Nelson and Tony Rhodes and Si Smits and you forge one sharp

journalistic stiletto. Then slip it in after you let your subject bare his guts.

Kusch's cruel article is unworthy of *The Wisconsin Light*. It must not be allowed to be the last word on Bill Meunier's contributions to our community. *The Light* owes Bill more.

And we owe Bill more too. We still need Bill's talents as a first-rate organizer, PrideFest builder, and just plain decent human being:

- He was kind (yes, kind!) enough to turn the other cheek and continue to work as a volunteer rather than moon the motley gang that engineered his ouster—illegally—so we could enjoy still another PrideFest with fireworks and flags;
- He was gracious (yes, gracious!) enough to accept a Lifetime Achievement Award from people who were too timid to stand up for him when he needed their support;
- And finally, he was gentleman (yes, gentleman!) enough to resign rather than risk ruining PrideFest for the rest of us.

Throw the bums out! We want Bill back! Mustache and shorts and cigarettes and all! Yes, he may be kind of queer, but he's our kind of queer! And besides, we're used to him.

Bruce J. Mikel  
Milwaukee

### Hooray for Bill

TO THE EDITOR:

I was shocked to see the July 18-26 issue of your paper quoting members of the PrideFest Board saying that they had "no confidence" in Bill Meunier's ability to represent them. As President of the Council of Festival Committees, Inc., I can attest to Bill's professionalism and ability.

Bill is well-respected in Milwaukee Festival circles. It was his involvement with PrideFest that prompted many of our vendor members, and even some of our festival members, to get involved with PrideFest. His ideas, genius, commitment, and professionalism have always shown through.

There is not a festival chairperson from Bo Black on down, who doesn't have their share of critics. People don't usually understand the difference between a good festival and a great one, let alone how to make a festival into a great event. That lack of understanding doesn't make the critics right and the chairman wrong. The real test is the success of the festival, not the loudness or political position of the naysayers. PrideFest went from nothing to the Summerfest grounds in four years. Regardless of what anyone else thinks, I'd say Bill Meunier passed that test with flying colors.

Janice Pelczynski  
President, Council of Festival Committees  
Milwaukee

### Wisconsin Outdoor Women

TO THE EDITOR:

As long time members of the Wisconsin Outdoor Women's (WOW) group, we were wondering why in a previous editorial it was stated that WOW is not a success. Someone who evaluates WOW in this manner may not be aware of the organization's mission statement which is "to provide high quality women's outdoor trips in a manner that is environmentally sound". WOW has successfully conducted over the years, skiing, camping, biking, fishing, canoeing, high ropes courses, horseback riding, picnics, educational seminars and more. All women are invited to attend these activities at low cost—members and non-members alike.

Although we empathize with the point of view that finding our way into the community is unusually difficult, it is not part of WOW's mission to be a social club. In spite of the fact we have offered picnics as purely social activities. Socializing has been encouraged through potluck dinners which have become a traditional part of all of our trips. In our opinion, it is not necessarily the organizations responsibility to ensure that everyone has a good time. WOW is an entirely volunteer run organization and success or failure depends upon the members involvement in the group and its activities.

We would like to invite women of all lifestyles to participate, get involved, and then make your own evaluation.

Trudy Farrell  
Margaret Ruscetta  
Milwaukee

### Gunderson and DOMA

TO THE EDITOR:

Those who have heaped praise on Republican Steve Gunderson for his "stand" on Gay marriage should inform the public that he was ready to vote for the "Defense of Marriage Act" (DOMA) that defines marriage as being between a man and a woman and thus makes Gay marriage impossible.

We are indebted to a straight newspaper, the *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*, for making us aware of Gunderson's perfidy.

Apparently local Gay publications are operated by Republicans who chose to cover up his treachery.

A vote for DOMA by Gunderson would have provided powerful propaganda for bigots such as Pat Robertson and Pat Buchanan—both former candidates for the Republican Presidential nomination, I might add.

Just think of it: an openly Gay member of the House of Representatives who has lived for many years in a "relationship" with another man votes to exclude Gays from the federal definition of marriage. Why, if even a "married" Gay legislator votes against Gay marriage, surely that must prove it's wrong.

No, Gunderson didn't vote against Gay marriage in

the end, because his condition, an amendment to the bill to finance a study of the differences in benefits received by married people and Gay couples, wasn't included. But he came close, and had Newt Gingrich accepted his amendment, no doubt our wonderful Republican would have lived up to his end of the bargain and voted against Gay marriage. That study would have provided interesting information, to be sure, but would it have outweighed the propaganda victory for the Religious Reich in having an openly Gay, "married" legislator vote against the recognition of Gay relationships?

I think those who have heaped praise on Gunderson owe it to their readers to tell the full and true story of what he did.

Al Geiersbach  
Milwaukee

### Deadlines

August 15<sup>th</sup> Issue

Articles - Aug. 9<sup>th</sup>  
Ads - Aug. 13<sup>th</sup>

August 29<sup>th</sup> Issue

Articles—August 21<sup>st</sup>  
Ads—August 24<sup>th</sup>

Note: Please Note the change in deadlines for the August 29<sup>th</sup> issue. This is due to the Democratic Convention.

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## The Wisconsin Light



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## The Truth Be Told

A response to the so-called "investigative" report on the "resignation" of Bill Meunier from the PrideFest Board.

Commentary by Roberta Niggemeier

My name is Roberta Niggemeier and for those of you who may not have known, I was the Co-director of PrideFest, along with Bill Meunier, since its inception.

You may not have heard my name or known of my involvement simply because I felt no need to publicize - rather I let Bill be the main spokesperson. Why? Because he was and still is a great spokesperson, motivator and activist for this community.

Bill and I, along with the rest of those involved with PrideFest, fought hard to make PrideFest what it is today and it is with this in mind that I must finally speak out against the injustices done to Bill in the months since my resignation from the board.

I resigned from the PrideFest board in October of 1995. Rumor has it that I resigned because of Bill, however that is the furthest from the truth.

Obviously, names need to be named, so here goes.

The original PrideFest board was composed of Bill and myself as Co-Chairs, Miriam Ben-Shalom as Vice President and Michael Lisowski as Secretary. In 1994, we brought Scott Gunkel on as Treasurer. He resigned shortly after PrideFest '94. We ran without a treasurer until the beginning of 1995, when Chris Klein was recruited to be acting treasurer.

Ms. Klein volunteered to be our acting treasurer only through PrideFest '95 and though there was some controversy regarding her possible position with us, at the time we found the allegations unfounded and voted her on the board.

Around this same time, we felt the need to have a Legal Advisor on the board, since we were looking at going into contract negotiations with World Festivals, Inc. (Summerfest).

Steve Brondino seemed perfect for the position and he agreed. Thus we amended the by-laws to include the position of Legal Advisor on the board and Mr. Brondino was voted onto the board.

We all thought that things would look up for PrideFest. I mean, hey, we had all of our bases covered. We were wrong. Dead wrong. In-house power struggles began.

Bill's job performance was suddenly questioned, as well as his personal and professional conduct. My God, I began to think that Bill was running for President! Every move that Bill made was questioned and decisions he made as Co-director were fought against. In no instance did Bill abuse his position or make any deals with anyone that the board was not aware of.

Bill was doing his job and unfortunately, some people wanted it. Personally, I could not take the in-house struggle any more and I resigned. After 4 PrideFests, helping to bring our celebration out of \$12,000 in debt, charging over \$2,500 onto my personal credit cards to keep the first PrideFest running and spending thousands of hours on the fest so we had something to be proud of, I resigned. No, I did not resign because of Bill. If he were the reason, I would have resigned years before. So, get the facts right.

Speaking of getting the facts right, I am outraged by the so-called "investigative" report written by John Kusch and published in Volume 9, issue 209 of the *Wisconsin Light*. Never have I seen, with the exception of articles in the *National Enquirer*, a more biased, poorly researched piece of reporting.

I guess for those of you not involved in all of this mess, it probably read truthful. However, from one who was involved, I am sickened by the personal attacks on Bill, as well as the implications that Bill even had a choice in his resignation. Please read on, this is going to get quite good.

After I resigned in October of 1995, Susan Cook took my place as Co-director. She seemed the natural choice, except for the fact that she and Ms. Klein are lovers. Somewhat of a conflict, yet nonetheless we felt that this would not be a problem. Yet, a mere 3 months later, Bill's job is on the line.

As stated in the by-laws, each position on the board has certain job responsibilities and limits. Decisions were re-made behind Bill's back. Everything Bill had normally done in his realm of Co-director was now under scrutiny and in most cases - re-done.

There was no reason for this follow up on Bill - he had done his job and as always, done it well. Bill was responsible for the grants given to PrideFest in excess of \$20,000.

Bill was responsible for achieving the largest dollar amount raised from any fundraiser for PrideFest - \$12,000. So, you ask, why the problem? Power hungry people.

It simply amazes me that as an investigative reporter, Mr. Kusch was not able to find any answers. My belief is that he did not take the time or effort to find out the truth. Take me for example - I was never questioned. Instead Mr. Kusch felt the need to question Bob Mazzacone - a vendor at PrideFest.

Mr. Mazzacone had no idea what was going on - he never was on the PrideFest board nor was he ever a sponsor nor a volunteer. Mr. Mazzacone was a vendor for the first time at PrideFest '95, having rented booth space to sell his wares. Yet, Mr. Kusch found his comments important enough to this "investigative" report. Come on people, wake up and smell the shit.

It was also implicated that Bill had a choice in this decision. Well, what would you do?

All of Bill's responsibilities were stripped from him - illegally by the way. (There is no provision in the by-laws for this kind of action.)

Yet by the kindness in the board's heart, his title alone still remained. Would you resign if this happened to you? Bill had no choice in any of this because these decisions were made during secret, illegal board meetings without Bill's knowledge.

It is right here that I am calling for a publication of PrideFest's by-laws. When all of you have a chance to read these by-laws for yourself - you will be as outraged as I am regarding the treatment of Bill Meunier and the Nazi type actions made by this board.

If you think I am being harsh, you are right, because I am scared. Scared for our community. Scared that we have allowed ourselves to treat each other in our community in such a manner.

Insinuating that Bill has a drinking problem, dresses poorly, smokes cigarettes in public and has a grooming problem are the most ridiculous and ignorant charges.

Were these facts, or simply angry words out of people who just do not like Bill? When was the last time you read or heard charges such as these in the straight world?

Imagine it, Peter Jennings calling for the impeachment of President Clinton because he forgot to flush after using the bathroom at a press conference.

If you are going to investigate, Mr. Kusch, I suggest you do it right next time. Bill Meunier's record with PrideFest stands alone because he made it by himself. Obviously, some people just could not stand the fact that Bill did it and did it well.

To question is a good thing. To believe everything you hear and read is not. Bill Meunier deserves at least that.

## Wisconsin Cancer Screening Project Targets Older Lesbians

**Madison**—The Wisconsin Women's Cancer Control Program is a project dedicated to providing women who are over the age of 50 and meet the income guidelines with free health screenings. This project covers tests such as mammograms, clinical breast exams, and Pap and pelvic exams for women who do not have insurance that covers these screenings annually.

Although this program has always been targeted toward ALL women who meet the program's guidelines, the Wisconsin Women's Cancer Control Program in Dane County has just launched a new effort that specifically targets the Lesbian population.

The Lesbian community has all-too-frequently fallen victim to neglect within the medical system and it is recognized that, along with the general risk factors, Lesbians also face insensitivity and homophobia in the medical community, which may put Lesbians at an increased risk.

The program's focus is on promoting early detection via screening. According to the Wisconsin Division of Health, when breast cancer is detected early, meaning that it is localized breast cancer or non-invasive, survival rates increase 94 percent.

Regular mammograms and monthly breast self-exams (BSE's) increase the chances that breast cancer will be detected early. This program is of particular interest to Lesbians on Medicare, since Medicare does not cover these tests annually.

This program is not only a means of assuring that older Lesbians receive the screenings they need, but a means of education.

Kathleen Krchnavek, the program coordinator, states, "The Wisconsin Women's Cancer Control Program is about empowerment. It is a way for women to learn about and take control of their health."

If you are a Lesbian age 50 and older, with little to no health insurance, and meet the income guidelines, you may be eligible to receive free screenings.

For more information about obtaining free screening tests for breast and cervical cancer, contact: Kathleen Krchnavek, Dane County Human Services Department, Division of Public Health, at (608) 242-6392. Kathleen can also be contacted if you are interested in attending monthly Lesbian Health Issues Workgroup meetings. V

## Several Gays Offer to Go to Montana and Have Sex to Test State's Sodomy Law

**Helena, MT**—Montana should reinstate its ban on Gay sex, a law that has never been enforced and doesn't violate personal privacy, Montana's attorney general told the state Supreme Court on July 24.

The appeal by state Attorney General Joe Mazurek is against a February ruling by a district judge in Helena that struck down the Montana law making sex between Lesbians and Gay men a felony. The ruling came in a lawsuit by six Gay people last year who argued the "deviate sexual conduct law" was unconstitutional.

"These kinds of questions, such as whether same sex sexual contact should be legal, are difficult policy questions that should be left to the Legislature and not decided in the courts," Clay Smith, the state's lead attorney in the case, said Wednesday, July 24.

Holly Franz, a Helena lawyer who represents the plaintiffs in the lawsuit, said the state is presenting the same arguments on appeal that it used in defending the law before District Judge Jeffrey Sherlock. It was Sherlock who ruled that the law violated the privacy provision of the Montana Constitution.

"We believe the Supreme Court will agree that consenting sex between adults is a very private matter and the state has no right to regulate it," Franz said.

The deviate sexual conduct law made sex between same-sex partners a felony punishable by up to 10 years in prison and \$50,000 in fines.

Gov. Marc Racicot encouraged Mazurek to appeal the ruling, saying a state Supreme Court decision would bring finality to the debate. Some of the Gays and Lesbians who filed the suit also want the final say of the court.

Several attempts to abolish the law have failed in the Legislature.

In its appeal, the attorney general's office says the case should be thrown out because the six people suing the state aren't accused of breaking the law.

"The statute has never been enforced, no one's ever been prosecuted," Smith pointed out. "If they want to challenge the law, they should wait until there's a prosecution."

The attorney general's office said that it had received several letters from Gay people offering to come to Montana and have sex so that they could be arrested and the law put to

the test.

Smith said none of the writers said where or when they would engage in sex, but that they would notify the police before they did it.

The plaintiffs say that, although the law was never enforced, it fostered a climate of intolerance.

After a second unsuccessful attempt, Navarrete hired a lawyer to help him obtain visitation rights. The morning of the court hearing, the brother's lawyer called to say the session wouldn't be necessary.

Tranton died four days earlier, and his body had already been shipped out of state.

"I was so disappointed," Navarrete says. "Where is the human part there? Where is the human part?"

A city domestic partnership ordinance wouldn't supersede the rights of a conservator, who can bar visitors, says Thomas Coleman, Navarrete's attorney. But a partnership registration statement could be used in a court hearing challenging the conservatorship or seeking visitation rights.

"This could be very powerful evidence," Coleman says.

Navarrete is convinced a partnership statement would have persuaded a judge to let him visit his partner, to make it clear he hadn't abandoned him, possibly even to take him home.

"If I had a certificate to prove I was with him, it wouldn't have happened," Navarrete says. "He died quick because he didn't see me. If I had that certificate, he would still be alive."

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## On The Road to the Conventions

### Buchanan's Out, Gingrich Fades, Gay Hollywood Ponders, Reed Scents Victory, While the Religious Right May Split Away

**San Diego**—As political insiders have long predicted, Pat "Culture War" Buchanan has said he may lead a walkout from the GOP convention.

Ostensibly, Buchanan's reason for the walkout would be the GOP's refusal to retain an extreme anti-choice, anti-Gay stand. Buchanan says publicly that if Dole picks a pro-choice running mate the anti-choicers "would likely break, and part of it would leave the convention. I don't think that's even arguable."

However, Buchanan's promised walkout from the convention is not just about being anti-choice or anti-Gay. Rather, it is in response to his being declared persona non grata by the GOP. At this point, (late July) convention planners aligned with the Dole campaign do not plan to let Buchanan speak or even invite him inside the convention hall.

According to the *Washington Post*, Paul Manafort, in charge of planning next month's San Diego convention for the Dole campaign, said party officials would block any effort to put Buchanan's name in nomination and that he "will not be a presence" at the convention.

On July 16th, Buchanan snubbed a unity luncheon hosted by Dole for his vanquished primary rivals. One senior campaign strategist called Buchanan's refusal to attend "a mistake" and "a pretty strong statement that he's still a candidate. People are laughing about that."

Of course, some people are laughing about Bob Dole too, which is why Buchanan is still a candidate. GOP officials, speaking on the condition of anonymity, said late Wednesday, July 24, that the snub annoyed Dole and all but ruled out any high-profile convention role for Buchanan.

Buchanan is demanding a prime-time speaking slot. "I am going to be heard at that convention," Buchanan vowed on July 15th. Short of an armed take over of the podium, Buchanan will probably not be heard.

#### Gingrich

Another interesting note is that Newt Gingrich's role in the convention has been greatly reduced. Custom dictates that the party's congressional leader serves as the convention chair. That means wielding the gavel and being the most visible person at the convention.

However, Gingrich is so unpopular with the American people that the Republican party passed over Gingrich and named governors Christie Whitman of New Jersey and George W. Bush of Texas to be co-chairs.

While Gingrich will have some air time, his exposure will be sharply diminished.

Out There, the entertainment industry's Gay and Lesbian activist/support group held a recent meeting to debate whether it would throw its support behind Clinton in '96 as it did in '92.

As with most current debates involving the president and the Gay community, much of the group's focus centered on Clinton's support for the Gay marriage ban now barreling its way through Congress.

*Variety* quotes Out There co-chairperson, Bruce Cohen, a DreamWorks producer, as saying Clinton's early retreat on the Gays on the military issue in 1993 came as a blow, but that his position on same-sex marriage "throws everything into question."

Co-chair Nina Jacobson concurred. Both, however, see danger in the degree of Gay apathy towards the Democratic ticket this year.

Both acknowledged that dissension among the wealthy and influential Gay powerbrokers in Hollywood gives the Republican ticket a boost it desperately needs, especially in California.

And regardless of Clinton's lukewarm sensitivity to Gay and Lesbian issues, as Clinton's long-time friend, David Mixner indicated, it's a good deal better than the hostility showed by the GOP.

The group's mission is to decide whether to formally sit out the election, or rally for Clinton to let Dole know his attempt to stir trouble between Clinton and Gay powerbrokers won't work, said Cohen. Between 300 and 400 of Hollywood's "Best and Brightest" were at the power pow-wow.

One thing of interest: While the female stars went in through the front door, most of the males in that category slipped in through the back.

Meanwhile, according to *The New York Times* Ralph Reed, executive director of the Christian Coalition, is pushing Congress to send President Clinton legislation by Labor Day that would deny federal recognition of same-sex marriage.

Reed said he doubted Clinton would actually sign the legislation, as the President has said that he would. If he does, however, Reed said he expects a politically embarrassing showdown between the president and his Gay supporters.

"The organized Gay lobby will go into orbit," *The Times* quotes Reed as saying. Reed added he was counting on a series of disruptive and embarrassing demonstrations against Clinton just as the presidential campaign got underway.

Although the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) has yet to pass Congress, Clinton's aides said his announcement of support for the bill was meant to prevent Sen. Bob Dole from using the Gay marriage issue against him in the campaign.

Reed's remarks seem to signal a shift in strategy for the Christian Coalition, which in recent months has tried to tone down its emphasis on Gay issues. Reed has said focusing on Gay related subjects is seen by too many in the electorate as divisive and is therefore politically unproductive. The issue of Gay marriage, however, seems a win-win proposition for the group.

Reed has activated the Christian Coalition network to win approval of the legislation, though he readily admits that it wasn't necessary. Congressional support for the bill is so overwhelming that even Gay organizations are convinced it will reach the President's desk.

#### Right Wing Third Party?

As many political observers have been predicting for months, the Religious Right has drawn up contingency plans in the event that the GOP doesn't fulfill their demands.

Howard Phillips, president of the Conservative Caucus has surfaced as the front man for the Religious Right's attempt to mobilize a religious reactionary party if the GOP doesn't nominate a VP and write a platform to its liking.

Phillips says: "It is possible constitutionally and legally to be on the November ballot in all 50 states in 1996, and to withhold a decision about the identity of an independent, pro-life, anti-sodomy ticket until after the Republican convention in San Diego."

The new religious party has already been formed, called the "U.S. Taxpayers Party," and headed by reconstructionist theologian R.J. Rushdoony, who supports what he maintains is the Biblical death penalty for Gays.

Phillips is rounding up support for the new party among Religious Right leaders.

In a June 2, 1996 memo from Phillips to James Dobson leaked to the press by someone inside Dobson's organization, Phillips describes the new party mobilization plan a "political insurance policy." The memo states that Pat Buchanan is Phillips' first choice for the new party's presidential ticket, and the first objective is to get the U.S. Taxpayers Party on the ballot in all 50 states.

Phillips's memo is attempting to elicit Dobson's support in this objective.

Dobson has already said he would support a third party if the GOP "fails to address the things that matter most."

Dobson wrote a letter last March to Republican National Committee Chairman Haley Barbour.

Dobson complains that Barbour is focusing on economic issues and ignoring "the great moral issues of our time.... In your smoke-filled think tanks somewhere in the bowels of Washington, you have concluded that those who put you in power can be snookered... Remember, 43% of your votes last November came from evangelical Christians. They trusted Republicans to deal with their deepest longings and fears.... If Republicans fail to address the things that matter most... you leave us with no recourse but to consider a third party candidate for President in 1996."

The primary issue of the U.S. Taxpayers Party is to ban all abortions. It is this issue, along with anti-Gay rights, which is at the heart of the secession from the GOP.

In his memo to Dobson, Phillips says, "the Reagan and Bush administrations, in significant respects, advanced abortion by approving hundreds of billions of dollars in subsidies for Planned Parenthood."

Phillips goes on to outline how the new party, if granted the Presidency would quote - "appoint only anti-abortion judges...veto funding for all pro-abortion programs and services... instruct U.S. attorneys to prosecute 'abortuaries'... withhold funding for courts and judges who have violated the laws of God with respect to abortion."

It is unclear how much support Phillips will be able to muster. What is clear is that he wishes to establish a fundamentalist theocracy in this country, and if the GOP won't do it, a third party will.

Given how much noise Pat Robertson, Ralph Reed, James Dobson, and others in the Religious Right have made the past three months about splitting from the GOP and forming a third party, Phillips' vision is not that far from being a reality.

## Judge Rules RNC Effort to Block Free Speech at Convention Unconstitutional

**San Diego, CA** — Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender VOICES '96 scored a historic victory on July 19 in United States District Court in San Diego against the Republican National Committee (RNC) which had sought to move the "free speech zone" for demonstrations during the week of GOP convention. In a ruling that will dramatically bolster the right to free speech at future political conventions, Federal Judge Rudi Brewster ruled that the City of San Diego acted unconstitutionally when it moved the designated "free speech zone" 300 yards away from the San Diego Convention Center simply to placate the contractual demands of the Republican Party. The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) Foundation of San Diego and Imperial Counties represented VOICES '96, the San Diego County Chapter of the National Organization for Women (NOW) and the Chicano Federation of San Diego County, co-plaintiffs in the suit filed June 20 against the RNC and the City of San Diego.

In February, the San Diego Police Department announced that it had selected a parking lot adjacent to the trolley tracks directly across from the Convention Center as the designated site for the Special Events Area where demonstrations would be held during the Republican National Convention in San Diego, August 12-15. The site was selected by the Police Department because it met security, logistical and constitutional criteria. The FBI and Secret Service endorsed the selected site.

The RNC has a contractual agreement with the City which allows the RNC authority to approve the security plans for the convention. In what the court determined was a partisan political endeavor to move protests as far away as possible from the convention, the RNC proposed that the Special Events Area be relocated to a parking lot one-third of a mile further south. In an attempted compromise, the City moved the "free speech zone" to a lot three full city blocks away from the originally designated site.

At a June 20 press conference announcing the filing of the suit, Jordan Budd, Managing Attorney for the ACLU affiliate cited previous federal court cases that have determined that protesters must be allowed within eyesight and earshot of convention delegates. Budd noted, "The national convention of a major political party is one of the greatest moments in the political life of our nation. If the First Amendment means anything, it should mean that people may stand close enough to such an event to be seen and heard." Speaking immediately after the July 19 court hearing, Budd stated, "Today Judge Brewster ruled that the RNC's veto of the Police Department's designated speech venue was an unconstitutional act of censorship, and struck it down. The judge strongly endorsed the First Amendment principle of 'scrupulous neutrality' in the regulation of free speech, and ruled that [the] City of San Diego could not give the RNC the right to relegate its critics to a more distant venue, simply to divert attention from their message."

Tony Valenzuela, Co-Chair of VOICES '96 was elated at the decision. "This is a victory for the First Amendment," proclaimed Valenzuela. "Groups exercising their rights to free speech within the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender communities felt we could not effectively convey our message of justice and equality from the site that the City and the RNC had selected. This time around, the RNC has not been successful in censoring differing points of view."

The judge left the determination of the actual demonstration site to the City of San Diego. "Now that the decision will be placed in the hands of the City," Valenzuela observed, "we are confident that they will make the best decision that will meet the constitutional requirement of free speech for all interested groups. Considering that the site at 4th Avenue and K Street is the only other site that has been considered and approved for security reasons by the San Diego Police Department, the FBI and the Secret Service, it seems as if the City will once again propose that site."

#### VOICES '96

LGBT VOICES '96 (Lesbian Gay Bisexual and Transgender Voters Organized in Coalition for the Elections) is a San Diego-based grass roots coalition of local and national organizations coordinating political action, educational forums, and cultural arts prior to and during the Republican National Convention. Organizations involved in the coalition, in addition to approximately 20 local groups, are the Human Rights Campaign (HRC), the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF), Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD), National Latino Lesbian and Gay Organization (LLEGO) and the Los Angeles Gay and Lesbian Community Services Center.

VOICES '96 has adopted a platform which identifies five issues that will be the focus of the coalition's activities: (1) Legal protection

against discrimination based on sexual orientation; (2) Recognition of the rights of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender families including the right to adoption, child custody, foster parenting, and the freedom to marry; (3) Social acknowledgment and condemnation of anti-Gay prejudice, intolerance and violence based on sexual orientation; (4) Increased funding for research and quality, accessible health care for people with AIDS/HIV, breast cancer and other serious diseases; (5) School- and community-based support for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender youth.

In addition, VOICES '96 has also adopted a Statement of Solidarity with communities fighting to: keep Affirmative Action; preserve federal assistance programs as entitlements; end the scapegoating of immigrants as the cause of our economic woes and the LGBT communities as a threat to "family values"; uphold the separation of church and state; and protect a woman's right to choose.

#### A Week of Activities Planned

The coalition has secured permits for four events at the designated "free speech zone." On Monday evening, August 12, the opening night of the convention, a Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Rally will be held at the "free speech zone" from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., preceded by a march from nearby Pantoja Park (north side of G Street, between Columbia Street and India Street). Planned speakers include Melinda Paras, Executive Director, NGLTF; Candace Gingrich, spokesperson for the HRC; Donna Red Wing, National Director of Community Affairs for GLAAD; and Urvashi Vaid, Former NGLTF Executive Director and author of *Virtual Equality*. In addition the Flirtations will be performing a special tribute to Michael Callen, a former member of the singing group who died of AIDS.

On Tuesday evening, an AIDS rally is planned at the site from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m., again with a pre-march from Pantoja Park. Planned speakers include Derek Hodel, Public Policy Director, Gay Men's Health Crisis; Joe Zuniga of the AIDS Action Council; Elizabeth Birch, HRC Executive Director, and Sean Sasser of the HRC. The Flirtations will be performing on Tuesday night as well.

Wednesday afternoon, from 12:45 to 1:45 p.m., a Queer Youth SpeakOut will be held in the "free speech zone." Among those invited to speak is Kelli Peterson, who founded the Gay-Straight Alliance at a Salt Lake City high school, setting off a statewide move to ban Gay clubs from schools.

On the closing night of the convention, VOICES '96 will be part of the "Voices for Justice Coalition March and Rally" which will protest against the politics of scapegoating from religious political extremists within the Republican Party. Sponsoring organizations include VOICES '96, San Diego County Chapter of NOW, the Chicano Federation, the ACLU, the San Diego County Democratic Party, the Green Party Council, the Poor People's Party, the Coalition for Reproductive Choice, Handgun Control, and others. Melinda Paras, NGLTF Executive Director, will be addressing LGBT issues. Other speakers will address issues such as the rights of organized labor, reproductive choice, Affirmative Action and the California Civil Rights Initiative (which would abolish Affirmative Action programs in state programs, agencies and institutions). Following a march, the rally is to be held at the "free speech zone" site from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Other VOICES '96 events include a Town Hall Meeting, at 6:00 p.m. on Sunday, August 11 at the Spreckels Masonic Lodge (3585 Front Street at First Avenue). Urvashi Vaid will moderate a critical dialogue with some of the movement's most well-known and respected leaders and community members around issues such as civil rights, AIDS, coming out, violence and harassment, Gay/Lesbian family issues, and youth suicide.

Wednesday afternoon, from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. at the Cypress Room, 3665 Park Boulevard (catered by California Cuisine), an "Honoring Our Voices" fund raising reception will be held to honor the many movement leaders who will be in town for the convention. Later that evening, starting at 9:00 p.m., a "Politics of Dancing" party will be held at Rich's, a popular dance club located at 1051 University Avenue in the Hillcrest area of San Diego.

Hotel and motel rooms will be scarce during the convention. Limited community housing will be available on a first-come, first served basis.

Call (619) 296-1179 for more information. "Men on Vacation" has secured a block of hotel rooms for VOICES '96, with prices starting at \$104 per night. To make a reservation, call (800) 854-7688.

The mailing address for LGBT VOICES '96 is P. O. Box 3128, San Diego, CA 92163-1128; phone (619) 296-1179; FAX (619) 296-2462; e-mail at LGBTVOICES@aol.com; and World Wide Web at <http://www.rainbow-mall.com/sandiego/voices/>. V



**Jim Steakley, Barbara Cox and Richard Uspel** received awards for their outstanding work on behalf on the community at the Les/Bi/Gay Alumni Brunch held in Madison on Sunday July 21. Around 250 people including openly Lesbian State Rep. Tammy Baldwin and Madison Pride March Grand Marshal, Meldina Paras, Executive Director of the National Gay Lesbian Task Force, attended the event. For complete coverage of Madison's Magic Picnic/Pride Weekend see The SpotLight Section in this issue.

## I'm Not Really Gay... I Just Have Sex With Men—All Kinds of Men, Lots of Men.

Commentary by Chris Margolis

That's not really as silly as it sounds at first. For me, being "Gay" is about identifying with a recognizable subculture. Being Gay means hanging out at Gay hangouts, joining organizations run by and for Gay men, having Gay friends, and most importantly perhaps, "dating" Gay men, whatever the heck dating means...

Being "Gay" is more than just about what body parts you choose to stick where and with whom, i.e. it's not so much about who you fuck as about who you love.

I've had sex with countless numbers of men, if I had to guess, I'd say upwards of a hundred. If I had sex with the same guy twice, it was an accident, unless I was raped. I'm not counting that, only consenting events. I started cruising in my mid teens, I am counting that as consenting, I sure as hell believed I consented whether it was legal consent I could care less.

I didn't cruise the spaces where guys who identify as "Gay" cruised, I did the restrooms, bus stations, parks, the McDonald's near the Gay bars. Part of this is due to looking so young and New Jersey not having picture IDs back then.

The bouncer at the leather bar in Montreal wouldn't let me in, so I had no choice but to cruise the crowd around the bar.

When I say I've had sex with a lot of men, and hardly any of them were Gay, people laugh, but it's true. For one thing, because I could easily pass for "chicken" till my late 20s, the strangers who believed they were getting a blow-job from a real 13 year-old boy weren't Gay or straight, they were pedophile. Most of them were married business farts. The guys I actually was stupid enough to go somewhere like a hotel room with, were almost universally psychos, but that's another story.

Also, I was a primary bottom, I sucked guys, sometimes they fucked me. Though I never let them fuck me for money. Somehow, that made me feel like more of a whore than just selling blow-jobs. Maybe that's why I'm still HIV-, I have no clue why I'm still alive... Anyway, the point I was wandering towards is, it's real common among some cultures, esp. Latin American ones (i.e. Puerto Ricans, this was New York and New Jersey, remember), that exclusive tops don't identify as Gay, you're not a fag unless you take it up the ass.

### We Lost One of Our Own in TWA Flight #800

**New York, NY**—On July 15th, Trans World Airlines Flight 800 met a tragic end when it exploded over the New York coastline. One of the victims of the fatal accident was 47-year-old Jed Johnson, an openly Gay interior decorator from New York who, with his life partner architect Alan Wanzenberg, designed the homes of such celebrities as Richard Gere, Mick Jagger and Andy Warhol.

Johnson made many friends during the course of his life, including Good Morning America host Joan Lunden, who delivered a memorial at the end of the popular morning show on July 19th. Her sensitive and heartfelt memorial to Jed Johnson and her acknowledgment of Alan Wanzenberg as his life partner when none of the mainstream press had the courtesy or decency to do so, afforded him the dignity and respect so often reserved only for heterosexual spouses, particularly by the media. In one simple and touching act, Lunden made a significant contribution to Gay visibility and Gay and Lesbian civil rights.

The tragedy has a nation grieving. We should commend Joan Lunden for her act of compassion, acknowledging the significant pain felt by Mr. Wanzenberg for a lost loved one. ▽

It's not a mere linguistic coincidence that there's two separate words, "maricon" for bottom, "cacorro" for top, and "maricon" is the one that's used as the insult. I've noticed in plain old English from the culture I'm familiar with, if you suck dick, you're a cocksucker but you might not necessarily be a faggot. There's a subtle difference between the two, being a cocksucker isn't quite as bad as being a faggot, perhaps because everything short of anal or vaginal penetration isn't considered actual "sex" in American culture.

Obviously this might vary with experience, my Jerseyboy pals made this distinction, but I'm sure lots of guys will disagree.

The one time I did pick up an actual self-identified Gay man, an older co-worker, when I was around 19, he was sweet and gentle, and I flipped out. What did he think I was some sorta fag?? I just wanted to get my rocks off, I didn't want him to... love me, respect me, treat me like a boyfriend for God's sake! I wasn't nasty to him, I'm at least proud to say I was never the sort of Gay-bashing closet-case we all know and hate.

But I did flip out, started crying and shit, it was a big mess, the poor man... 27 year-old kid, in reality... he seemed old, at the time. He was afraid he was going to have to call the white-coats, I'm sure. I was a blithering mess, rocking and crying, a big wet fetal blob.

I don't remember how I made it back to my parents, I only remember I spent the rest of the weekend, all day Saturday and Sunday, lying on my back on my parents couch trying to decide if I should kill myself, I was so non-functional that even my mother asked me if I was OK.

Somehow though, he and I survived the experience, though God knows I went from being completely uncertain about my orientation to vehemently denying I was Gay, I was just "experimenting", obviously I couldn't really be Gay, why else did I freak out??

We certainly never tried anything again, for one thing, he had a boyfriend he was living with... yeah well. I'm not proud of that, either. He came to visit me in the hospital later that year, what a decent guy. I ran into him years later, home from college, exchanged pleasantries in the Toys R Us doing Xmas shopping.

I graduated college in '83, moved to Texas ostensibly to go to graduate school, but really, I believe now I moved here in an attempt to scare myself straight. I desperately didn't want to be Queer, and maybe some unconscious part of me was trying to get me out of my old stomping grounds before the odds caught up with me and I either picked up a Jeffrey Dahmer or a deadly disease. I somehow managed to survive New York and spent the rest of the '80s jerking off with men's underwear catalogues and trying off and on to date women, mostly off.

Vacations back east with my parents were rough, though. Same-o same-o trolling the greyhound stations, that one in New Brunswick got a lot of hot young sailors through it, and they all seemed to like it rough and quick, which suited me fine.

Just a day or two ago I was talking to this old buddy of mine, an old childhood friend. He's been visiting, and you know how you get reminiscing; I was asking after some guys we knew.

Dead. AIDS.

And it hit me, how, being a closet case these past ten years, I didn't make any new Gay friends, and didn't have to deal with the whole AIDS crisis by watching friends die. I split that scene, left my friends and acquaintances behind to die.

Jesus that hurts me to paint that picture of myself, what a coward, what a chickenshit thing to do, fuck my reputation as a bad butch bottom into serious rough trade. Split town, but always, in the back of my mind, for the last ten years, every sore throat... wondering, is this the beginning of the end? Afraid to get

tested. And still, for all my great resolve to not be a homo, every time I was back in New Jersey, I'd find myself on hands and knees in some stinking restroom with some guy's dick down my throat, and there was never any thought of safe sex, good God, carrying an unlubed condom would imply that I was intending to suck some guy's dick, that I was some sort of faggot, and I wasn't one of them, by god I was just an opportunist is all...

Oh, I did get tested recently, admitted to myself I'm Queerer than a 3-dollar bill, and I owed it to the guy I've been sleeping with to get myself tested.

What a relief, that I'm negative. No traces of hepatitis-B, either. I must have a guardian angel, I dunno. Maybe I was spared just so I could tell my story?

## President Lauds Greg Louganis' Appearance at Centennial Olympics

**San Francisco**—President Clinton concluded his late July \$5 million fund-raising trip out West with a promise to seek extra money for AIDS patients, an obvious gesture to Gay voters.

Speaking before a Democratic Party fundraiser Tuesday night, July 23, Clinton said he would increase his fiscal 1997 request for state AIDS drug assistance programs by \$65 million, for a total of \$117 million. The funds must be approved by Congress.

Clinton said the AIDS funding increase represents the type of function the federal government ought to perform, contrasting that against earlier calls in Congress that some federal agencies or functions ought to be eliminated.

"Is this an area where the government is a problem? I don't think so," Clinton said. "It's a good thing that we cut back on the deficit, but it's also a good thing that we're continuing to spend money on things that make a difference."

States use ADAP funds to provide prescription drugs and new methods of treatment to AIDS sufferers who otherwise would not have access to them. The White House estimated that the programs have helped 69,000 people with the HIV virus.

Clinton made the announcement during a campaign fund-raiser that netted \$500,000 for the Democratic National Committee. That event, plus a smaller, \$25,000-per-couple reception that also raised \$500,000, capped the fund-raising tour expected to collect \$5 million for the Democratic National Committee.

He wove his AIDS funding announcement into a message of inclusion tailored to the Gay community, even citing past Olympic gold medalist diver Greg Louganis' participation in opening ceremonies at the 1996 games in Atlanta without regard to the fact that he suffers from AIDS.

"The Olympics had Greg Louganis stand up there as a hero, and said we're not excluding people because they're HIV positive, because somebody might not like it," Clinton said. "That whole show was about how we're stronger when we're together than when we're looking for ways to be divided."

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Members of the Milwaukee Brewers and local celebrities will join the fight against AIDS for the second annual Athletes against AIDS Golf Tournament. Pictured above (L-R, back row) are Jim Paschke, Scott Karl, Bill Schroeder, (front row: Mike Potts, Jeff Cirillo). - Photo by Joe Picciolo.

## Clinton's AIDS Advisors Say He is Being Too Timid in Pushing Needle Exchange

Washington, DC—President Clinton's handpicked AIDS advisers say his administration may be the best so far in battling AIDS, but it still is "overly timid" in pushing aggressive prevention programs such as needle exchanges for drug addicts.

Overall, the Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS endorsed Clinton's efforts. In a

report issued Monday, July 9<sup>th</sup>, the 30 advisers said he had made "an unprecedented and laudable investment," including increasing AIDS funding by 43 percent and blocking efforts to dismantle government-funded health insurance programs used by half the nation's AIDS patients.

But the report did urge Clinton to display "moral and political courage" in strengthening the fight against AIDS, and criticized a continuing ban on federally funded programs for drug addicts to exchange dirty syringes for clean ones.

An estimated one-third of AIDS patients catch the HIV virus through intravenous drug use.

(See article on needle exchange in this issue).

The ban "is not consistent with current knowledge regarding the impact of such programs," the report said.

"Clearly our job is not yet finished, and it won't be as long as there is a single infection, a single diagnosis or a single death," said White House AIDS coordinator Patsy Fleming.

But AIDS activists seized on the report to blast Clinton, who promised in his 1992 campaign to fund needle exchanges. Congress outlawed the programs until they are proved to reduce HIV's spread without increasing illegal drug use, proof the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the independent National Research Council both say is in hand.

"How many men, women and children are now HIV positive, or have AIDS, because of Clinton's cowardice?" asked Steve Michael of ACT-UP, the AIDS activist group. "He's more concerned about winning re-election than saving lives."

But a senior administration official said Monday that Clinton's main holdup is that the law requires proof that needle exchanges reduce drug use. Government-funded studies are under way in an attempt to prove that.

Needle exchanges funded by private or other nonfederal funds already operate in 55 U.S. cities, including those in Wisconsin, and some 8 million needles were exchanged in 1994.

Clinton is moving on several of the council's recommendations, the White House said. Among them:

• A national AIDS action plan will be released in August, 1996.

• Clinton is seeking a \$34 million increase for the CDC's AIDS prevention programs. The House recently approved \$15 million, but the Senate hasn't acted.

• Clinton is preparing to seek at least \$52 million more in 1997 funding to buy AIDS drugs for the uninsured or patients who don't qualify for Medicaid, the government health insurance program for the poor.

## LGBT VOICES Emerges to Respond to the GOP Convention in San Diego

San Diego, CA — A nonpartisan grassroots coalition of San Diego organization activists have initiated a nationwide mobilization to ensure that the voices of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender community are clearly heard during the Republican National Convention in San Diego, August 12 - 15.

LGBT VOICES '96 (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Voters Organized in Coalition for the Elections) was formed to provide a coordinated positive response to the religious political extremists threatening to dominate the GOP convention.

The official VOICES '96 kickoff was held April 16 outside of the Lesbian and Gay Men's Community Center in San Diego. Representatives from local organizations were joined by Melinda Paras, Executive Director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) and Daniel Zingale, Political Director for the Human Rights Campaign (HRC) in addressing the crowd of approximately 300.

The national rollout of the VOICES '96 campaign continued April 25 in Washington, DC at a press conference hosted by the NGLTF Policy Institute at the National Press Club to unveil the Policy Institute's survey report, **Power at the Polls: The Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual Vote.**

Brenda Schumacher and Tony Valenzuela, LGBT VOICES '96 Co-Chairs, were invited by NGLTF to make a national announcement of the VOICES plans for political, cultural and educational activities during the Republican National Convention.

The trip to Washington provided an opportunity for Schumacher and Valenzuela to meet with representatives of a variety of national organizations to inform them of the work that VOICES is doing and to discuss ways that VOICES could collaborate in exposing the agendas of the political religious extremists. Productive meetings were held with representatives of NGLTF; HRC; People for the American Way; Log Cabin Republicans; Gay and Lesbian Parents Coalition International; the National Latino/a Lesbian and Gay Organization (LLEGO); AIDS Action Council; Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG); the Interfaith Alliance; Out There (an organization of open Lesbians and Gays in the Hollywood entertainment industry), and the office of Congressman Barney Frank.

Organizations that have already committed resources and support for the VOICES '96 efforts include NGLTF, HRC, the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD) and the Los Angeles Lesbian and Gay Services Center, in addition to approximately 20 local San Diego organizations.

Other groups can become a "supporting organization" by contacting VOICES (see contact information below).

VOICES has adopted a platform which identifies five issues that will be the focus of the coalition's activities: 1) Legal protection against discrimination based on sexual orientation; 2) Recognition of the rights of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender families, including the right to adoption, child custody, foster parenting and the freedom to marry; 3) Social acknowledgment and condemnation of anti-Gay prejudice, intolerance and violence based on sexual orientation; 4) Increased funding for research and quality, accessible health care for people with AIDS/HIV, breast cancer and other serious diseases; and 5) School- and community-based support for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender youth.

VOICES has also adopted a Statement of Solidarity with communities fighting to: keep Affirmative Action; preserve federal assistance programs as entitlements; end the scapegoating of immigrants as the cause of our economic woes and the LGBT communities as a threat to "family values"; uphold the separation of church and state; and protect a woman's right to choose.

Contingent on approval of permits, tentative VOICES activities for the week include:

- ▽ A LGBT VOICES '96 March and Rally on the opening night of the convention, Monday, August 12.
- ▽ On Tuesday afternoon, August 12, VOICES will host the National Youth SpeakOut, in which youth, through their own words and experiences, will voice their demands for safety and education within their schools and communities.
- ▽ On Tuesday evening, a dramatic AIDS candle light march will be held.
- ▽ Wednesday evening, VOICES is planning an "Honoring our Voices" reception to recognize national movement leaders and "out" celebrities.
- ▽ Later Wednesday night, a VOICES '96 Dance Celebration is planned.
- ▽ On the closing night of the convention,

Thursday, August 15, VOICES will be participating in a Progressive Coalition March and Rally which will bring together a multitude of communities under attack by the religious political extremists, including people of color, women, labor, immigrants rights groups, welfare rights groups, and others.

In addition to events relating to the Republican National Convention, VOICES will be coordinating a massive voter registration drive in the San Diego area. In November, VOICES plans to follow-up with a "get out the vote" drive to ensure that LGBT voters and their allies get to the polls. Most political analysts agree that California is critical to the outcome of the presidential election, so there will be an opportunity for the LGBT vote in San Diego and other cities in the state to vote and have a real impact.

The NGLTF's Power at the Polls survey results, based upon 1992 and 1994 exit polling data collected by the Voter News Service (VNS), shows that the Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual vote will play a critical role in the 1996 elections.

The exit polls indicate that 3.2% of the voters self-identified as Lesbian, Gay or Bisexual, although the actual percentage is likely to be substantially higher since many Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual people are afraid to reveal their sexual orientation to a pollster. Significantly, in large urban areas with a population of 250,000 or more, the percentage of self-identified Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual voters exceeded 8%.

Dr. John D'Emilio, director of the NGLTF Policy Institute, points out that "eleven states with urban areas and well-organized Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual communities — such as California, New York, Illinois, Michigan and others — together provide 49% of the total electoral vote." While the VNS data shows that 72% of the Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual voters supported Clinton in 1992, D'Emilio cautioned that their votes cannot be taken for granted in 1996.

In 1992, the LGBT community was galvanized by the hate-filled rhetoric of the GOP convention in Houston. Pat Buchanan declared a "cultural war" in this country in which he accused Gays, feminists, environmentalists and others as having stolen America from its rightful heirs. The 1992 GOP platform claimed that Gays and Lesbians were a threat to "family values", opposed legislation providing protection from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, and opposed legislation that legally recognizes same-gender marriages and allows Gay or Lesbian couples to adopt children or provide foster care.

"This year", Schumacher said, "VOICES aims to expose the religious political extremists and their attempt to control the GOP convention, the Republican Party, and our country. We will challenge and respond to divisive rhetoric and attacks on the LGBT community in the party platform and from the podium. We will support the democratic principles of fairness, justice and equality and invite all fair-minded people to join with us in San Diego this August as we counter intolerance and defend democracy."

Hotel and motel rooms will be scarce during the convention. Community housing will be available to visiting activists on a first-come, first-served basis. Call Cathy at the VOICES '96 Housing Hotline at (619) 280-4304, Monday - Saturday, 8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. (Pacific Daylight Savings Time). Be sure to leave your phone, fax, email and/or address. Limited hotel rooms are available. Call (800) 854-7688 and mention VOICES.

The mailing address for LGBT VOICES '96 is P.O. Box 3128, San Diego, CA 92163-1128; phone (619) 296-1179; email: LGBTVOICES@aol.com; World Wide Web: <http://www.rainbow-mall.com>. ▽

**Editor's Note:** Wisconsin Light will be sending 5 reporters to the Democratic National Convention in August and will have first-hand reports from the GOP convention as well.

## Obituary

### Chris Komar

Chris Komar, assistant artistic director of the Merce Cunningham Dance Company and a leading Cunningham dancer, died on Wednesday, July 17, 1996 at Beth Israel Hospital in Manhattan. He was 47. He was buried in Milwaukee on Monday, July 22, 1996.

According to his life partner, Art Becofsky, Chris succumbed to complications due to AIDS.

Chris was born in Milwaukee on October 30, 1947. He matriculated at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee as a music student, but switched to dance. He was a charter member of the Milwaukee Ballet, which began under the auspices of UWM.

Chris was a small, slightly built dancer with a big jump and an unfailingly serious demeanor. He stood out for his terse way of moving and the clarity of thought and physical attack that he brought to Cunningham's choreography. He became intrigued with the Cunningham repertory and style early in his dance training and remained a devotee, commenting eloquently on the dances over the years.

Susie Bauer, a well-known Milwaukee dancer and choreographer, met Chris when they were students at UWM. They kept in touch through the years.

"He had incredible strength, extension and power," she said. "He was a fantastic choreographer, though he gave that up because he loved Merce's work so much. He was a fantastic person. He was my best friend."

Chris began teaching at the Cunningham studio in 1973, and was Cunningham's assistant, helping with repertory workshops throughout the U.S. and Europe. He staged Cunningham dances for companies around the world, among them, the Theatre du Silence in France, the Ohio Ballet, American Ballet Theatre, the Paris Opera Ballet and Mikhail Baryshnikov's White Oak Project.

At the time of his death, he was working on a book of Cunningham's combinations of classroom steps, which Chris had been transcribing into dance notation since 1988.

In addition to Becofsky, Chris is survived by Pearl Graef, his mother; sisters Nonna Sue Komar and Eunice Weber; and brothers Joseph Jr., Charles and James, all of the Milwaukee area.

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Dykes To Watch Out For by Alison Bechdel



YoungQueer

When are We Going to Wake Up and Realize That We Are Not "Just Like Them?"

Commentary by Dan E. Boy

Whatever happened to Queer Activism? Where are all the drag queens, leather boys, dykes on bikes, and Queer Nationers? It seems that we are seeing fewer and fewer "radical" activists who really want to make a change in this country, and more of the "political" activists who band together only when they are attacked.

This doesn't mean that those who work to organize the fight against the religious right and their like are not doing good work, or that this work is unnecessary, yet at what cost does it come?

Those in "power" in the "lesbigay" community are constantly working to present the image that we are "just like them." They try to show how we are exactly the same as everyone else, that we all strive for the same things. Whether it's saying that we too have "family values," or that we are all "upstanding" citizens of the community, it is all an effort to make the point that we are "normal."

Instead of focusing on the fact that we are all people, and that all people have cultural, religious, and other differences, this viewpoint tries to drive home a point that we are just like those who are attacking us.

But what happens to those who do not fit this stereotype? We are asked to change, to conform to the way we should act for the "common" good. Or we are forced to remain in the background.

The gay press, local and national, blatantly ignores us or projects us in a negative light. The political groups we have worked for distance themselves from us. The families we have created in the Queer community desert us.

This push for conformity IS having an affect -- it's pushing us back into a closet, a new kind of closet. It is a closet in which we all have to act in a certain way, or we cannot be a part. It is no better than the military's "Don't Ask -- Don't Tell" Policy. It is another way to hide us from the world, so that we are not seen as a stain on the image of this "great country of freedom."

Where will this new political move take us? Will it win us the freedom to love others, a freedom granted us by our birth? Or will it only force us further back, back before Stonewall and into the 50's, a place Pat Robertson yearns to be. And who will be forced to change next? Maybe transsexuals and cross-dressers, because they give us a bad name, or men and women being asked not to wear leather because it makes "them" think that all we are interested in is sex.

It wasn't good little men in suits and submissive women in dresses that took the first

step at Stonewall. It was drag queens, dykes and fags.

It was people who weren't going to take it anymore.

It was people who refused to have to hide themselves away and be ashamed.

We are NOT all alike, we are all completely different. Every one of us has their own hopes and dreams. Every one of us has longings for completely different things, but we are ALL being repressed -- and not just by others.

We all need to be able to have our place in this country, and we won't get that place "at the table" by becoming lesbigay clones. Queers are a very vital and necessary part of this revolution, and to force us away from you will only lead you further into the mold that the religious right is creating for you, a mold created in their own image.

Wisconsin AIDS Deaths

Milwaukee—Wisconsin's official death toll from AIDS has reached 2,000 with reports of deaths arriving with increasing frequency, state health officials said Thursday, July 25<sup>th</sup>.

Since it began keeping count, the state took 10 years to record its first 1,000 deaths from acquired immuno-deficiency syndrome.

The next 1,000 were reported in just 3 1/2 years.

"It's a sobering moment," Doug Nelson, executive director of the Milwaukee AIDS Project, said. "It says that this epidemic is in full force in our state."

More than 3,350 AIDS cases have been reported in Wisconsin since 1982, when records were first kept, the Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services said.

Medical professionals are required to report cases of HIV, the virus that is blamed for the contagious disease.

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Why Not Recognize Same-Sex Marriage Since There is Already Same-Sex Divorce?

Commentary by Angela Asmodeus

In the Transgender community, same-sex marriages do exist. A heterosexual couple gets married, one of them discovers they are a transsexual, goes through the transition, and becomes a member of the opposite sex. In this situation, the state does not revoke the marriage.

Sometimes one or the other no longer wishes to be married, usually the one that didn't go through the transition. The couple goes through divorce, and the state recognizes this couple, and grants the divorce.

So why don't these states recognize a same-sex marriage, when they recognize a same-sex divorce? Is that too much like thinking for them?

Oh, that's right, the Religious Right wing is putting the pressure on them. They claim it as a perversion, they would be the ones who are experts on being perverted.

The religious right wing has a unique way of twisting the scriptures in the bible to justify their hatred for ANYONE different from them. There is no disclaimer in the ten commandments.

It is "Love thy neighbor", no conditions here.

It's not really us, had we been socially accepted thousands of years ago, right now they would have a witch hunt on a different group of people. It is the NEED to hate that the Religious Right wing has in common with the Hitler mentality.

There is some scientific proof of a difference in the brain structure with heterosexuals, homosexuals and transsexuals. ( See Nature, Vol. 378, Nov. 1995, The reference there shows a heterosexual male, heterosexual female, homosexual male and a male to female transsexual ).

Scientists speculate that this difference in brain structure occurs in the womb during the period when the brain develops. What does all this mean? It means we really don't have a choice about being Gay or transsexual.

I pointed this fact out to somebody, but their response was as if they (the fascists) were to find out about this, they may come up with some way to prevent this from occurring. Wrong!

They can't even be right about whether a baby is going to be a boy or a girl, let alone examine the brain structure of a fetus in the womb. They told me that my last child would

be a boy. She's four and a half now. ( Kids these days, they can't cooperate with anything! )

Furthermore, if it were remotely possible to do anything like that, the March of Dimes would be screaming "You can resolve homosexuality and transsexuality in the womb, but not prevent birth defects?" It's much cheaper for them to print lies and brainwash people, than to try and prevent the inevitable.

Since homosexuality and transsexuality is something we are born with, and not necessarily a choice, it becomes more obvious that god intended for some people to exist like this.

And thus, we ARE a part of god's plan. Perhaps our existence is part of god's plan to help curb overpopulation, since Right Wing-ers tend to reproduce like cockroaches.

The Religious Right wing denouncing us as perverts, are in turn, questioning god's judgment for making us a reality in the first place.

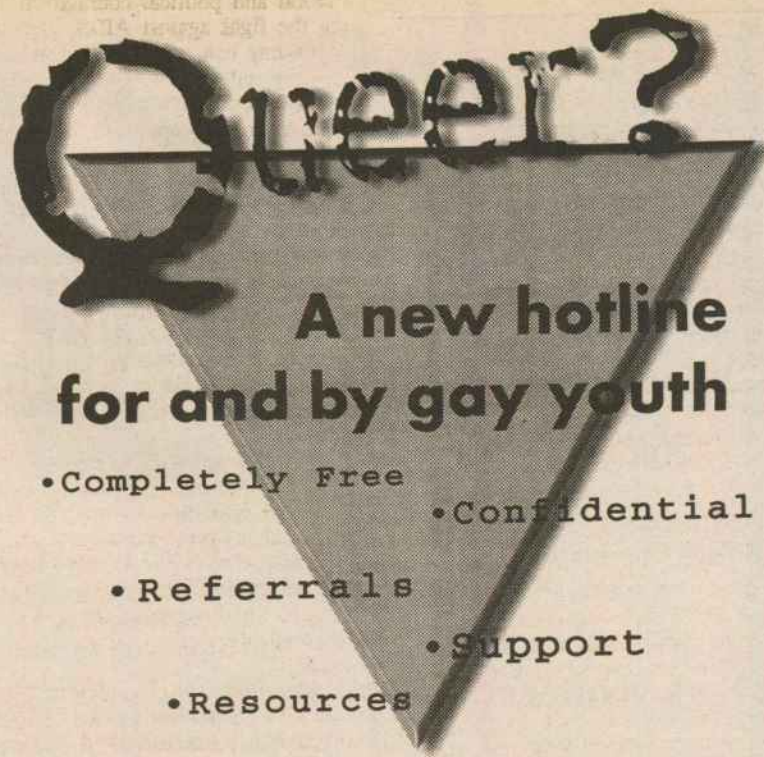
I really don't think something like Amendment 2, will be decided against us. It based on the Religious Right Wing's mentality, and an amendment based on religious ideas is unconstitutional. The Religious Right Wing is composed of the very people the forefathers of this country had in mind when they wrote separation of church and state into the Bill of Rights.

They claim that sex outside a marriage is a sin against god, yet won't allow us to a same-sex marriage. Since they are afraid of accepting us, they will try anything to prevent us from heaven. This is probably the basis for them not wanting us to be allowed to marry. They are systematically deterring us from any sort of dignity. They have to be stopped, just like any other disease.

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## Living As a Gay Person in Rural America Is Hard to Do, Author Finds

Lincoln, NE—Gay men often move away from small hometowns because they fear rejection, says a Wisconsin man who has written a book about Gays growing up in rural areas.

And in the age of AIDS, when Gay men suffering from the fatal disease come home to family, many rural communities extend only qualified support, Will Fellows said.

"Often the gesture does not extend to a change in a world view about sexual orientation issues," Fellows said. "It's a gesture of smug Samaritans who are extending support to wayward souls who have come home to die. It's troubling, but maybe it's a step toward a breakthrough."

Fellows, a Gay man who grew up on a farm in south-central Wisconsin, now is a health and nutrition educator in Milwaukee. He said he felt like a misfit in the urban Gay community and he wondered if his feelings might have something to do with his rural upbringing.

Fellows could not find any literature on the subject, so he collected biographical information from Gay men who grew up on farms in eight Midwestern states. The result is a collection of distinct stories that Fellows stressed is not a statistical survey or an educational pamphlet.

It is titled **Farm Boys: Lives of Gay Men from the Rural Midwest** and will be published in October by the University of Wisconsin Press.

"It's turned out wonderfully," said Fellows, 38, during a recent visit to Lincoln to talk about the book. "I feel very fortunate to have been able to collaborate with these men in

telling about their lives."

One message from the book is that "homosexuality is not an exclusively urban thing, and Lesbians and Gay men come from all kinds of communities and families," Fellows said.

Fellows said he found that many of the men who now live in cities had not wanted to leave their rural communities and would still live there if they felt they could live honestly and openly.

Fellows also found that many of the men grew up feeling a sense of social isolation, and feeling deprived of information about their sexuality.

"Many of these men felt growing up in rural areas hindered their ability to recognize being Gay," Fellows said, "their ability to deal with sexuality in general and homosexuality in particular."

One of the men Fellows interviewed grew up on a 160-acre farm in southeast Nebraska and now lives in southern Wisconsin. Born in 1951, he is a writer and used the pseudonym Martin Scherz in Fellows' book.

Scherz described an emotional tie to Nebraska: "When I go back home, I feel a real connection with the land—a tremendous feeling, spiritual in a way. It makes me want to go out into a field and take my shoes off and put my feet right on the dirt. I get homesick a lot, but I don't know if I could ever go back there and live. It's not the kind of place that would welcome me if I lived openly. I would be shunned."

The stories are about men born between 1909 and 1967. The men who participated had responded to information about Fellows' project that appeared in Gay and Lesbian publications. Fellows heard from 120 men, interviewed 75 and selected 25 for first-person narratives.

About half of the men agreed to have their names used in the book. Fewer than six still live in rural areas, and only a couple of them are still farming. One of the men described his desire to eventually tell people in the agricultural community that he is Gay.

Said James Heckman of Indiana, who used a pseudonym: "Agriculture is my life. I like working with farm people, although they don't really understand me. When I retire I want the word to get out (that I'm Gay) to the people I've worked with, the dairy producers, the veterinarians, the feed salesmen, the guys at the co-ops. They're going to be shocked, but their eyes are going to be opened."

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# T H E S P O T L I G H T

## Record Crowds, The Picnic, The Parties, The March And More IN MADISON THEY DID IT ALL!

### Madison's Magic Weekend Is the Best Queer Party Ever!

By Bill Meunier

**Madison**--It wasn't supposed to happen this way. The Hotel Washington had burned down, and the local bigots had mounted vicious attacks on the Les/Bi/Gay community.

The rumor was that the community morale was down. Adversity often breeds strength. On the weekend of July 19, 20 and 21 the strength of a community under attack came to the fore.

Madison's Queer community rose to the occasion by putting on their biggest and best ever Magic Picnic/Pride weekend.

#### Something For Everyone

There was something for everyone to enjoy. If you liked parties, there were plenty of those. If you liked bar hopping there were some great places throwing out the welcome mat. If politics is your thing there was plenty of that too.

#### 10% Dance

The weekend started out with a big blast off courtesy of UW-Madison's 10% society.

#### "Step by step we are winning."--- Melinda Paras Grand Marshal of the Madison Pride March

The group's monthly dance was overflowing with men and women of all races and age groups. Organizations and vendors set up booths outside of the crowded dance floor. It was a fitting start.

#### The MAGIC Picnic

Next up was the MAGIC picnic. The annual fundraiser for Madison organizations attracted around 3,000 people.

As usual there was great food and great fun. The drag race and purse toss games were a real scream and had hundreds of revelers doubled over with laughter.

The "Homophobe Game" which awarded necklaces to those who threw a dart hitting a picture of a homophobe ran out of prizes.

Picnic organizer, Greg Scheel, told **Light**, that the picnic grossed a little over \$15,000. The funds will be divided between participating organizations. Scheel gave some of the credit for the large turnout to **The Wisconsin Light**. "I have no doubt that the **Light's** advance coverage helped us tremendously."

#### "The Party of the Weekend"

Saturday evening saw the party of the weekend, the Hotel Washington Reunion. Held at the Depot, a restaurant located next to the Hotel Washington site, the party attracted over 800 people.

By the time Cass Marie and Big Daddy stood on the bar to perform their numbers the mood was one of total celebration.

"We are very appreciative of the people who turned out and showed support for our rebuilding efforts," said Greg Scheel, Hotel Washington owner. "From the reaction I saw, everyone seemed to be having a great time."

#### Parties Everywhere

But even the Hotel Washington Party couldn't keep Madison's Queer bars from being crowded. R Place, Manoeuvres and the Shamrock all had large crowds throughout the night. It certainly seemed like everyone in Madison was out to party.

Sunday morning began with the Gay and Lesbian Alumni Brunch. Jim Steakley, Barbara Cox and Richard Uspel received awards for their outstanding work on behalf on the community, while ap-

proximately 300 people in attendance applauded.

#### Madison Pride Rally

Then came what for many is the main event, the Madison Pride March and Rally. With the State Capitol as a backdrop, over 1,000 people cheered three excellent speakers.

De Ette Tomlinson, Director the United, spoke of the importance of following the "footprints of those who have come before us," and of "leaving footprints for those who will follow."

Paul Wesselman, Board member of MASN and co-host of WORT's "Inside Out" radio show gave a moving speech. Paraphrasing the famous words of Anti-Nazi Pastor Nimoller, he reminded those in the crowd of the importance of supporting each other lest the day come when no one is there to support them.

Then came Melinda Paras, Executive Director of the National Gay Lesbian Task Force and grand marshal of the Pride March.

Paras grew up in Madison and returned as a heroine. She told the crowd her first "action" came when she led a protest against a Madison West rule barring girls from wearing pants. Paras went on to talk about how much stronger the community is now and declared "Step by step we are winning."

#### The Pride March

The Paras speech set the tone for a raucous march. Led by a huge "GALVANIZE banner" about 1,000 marchers cheered on by 4,000 watchers lining State Street displayed their pride.

As the parade stepped off a deafening roar went up from the on lookers crowding the sidewalks. Except for a handful of protesters everyone along the route even the straights waved and cheered.

The Rodney Scheel House van was there. So were floats from R Place, Manoeuvres, and Geraldines. They were joined by contingents from The United, MASN, GLADE, the Dykes on Bikes, the Wisconsin Community Fund, the New Harvest Foundation and at least a dozen other groups. The march also included a car from the Gay Lesbian Police Officer Association and the **Wisconsin Light** car, a beautiful convertible splendidly decorated by Allan Eslinger.

#### As the parade stepped off a deafening roar went up from the on lookers crowding the sidewalks.

#### Post Parade Show

The post parade show featured some fine entertainment that was as varied as Madison itself. The hot Dykapella was excellent. So was drag star, Patty Cakes who brought the house down more than once. They were joined by Mary Wairovich, Mable Kane, Dana Beilke and others.

#### A Pageant and A Porn Star

For those not tired out from three days of fun two of Madison's Queer bars, R Place and Manoeuvres offered special shows on Sunday evening.

The Miss Capitol City Pageant at R Place attracted a packed house. The crowd cheered Duwanna Moore, Sage La Rue, Lorretta LaMohr and Cass Marie as they took to the stage. They were joined by four contestants. The climax came when Susie Saran Wrap was crowned as Miss Capitol City. Kitty Liq-



Bill Meunier

A packed dance floor did the Y-M-C-A during the 10% Society Dance the opening event of Madison's Magic Picnic/Pride weekend. Hundreds of people of all ages attended the Dance held at the UW Memorial Union.

uore finished as the runner up in a closely fought contest.

Meanwhile over at Manoeuvres, porn star/ singer David Burrill was performing. Burrill generated plenty of heat in a bar crowded with hot men, often pulling members of the audience out on the floor to dance with him.

All told it was spectacular success. There was something for everyone and every taste. By the end many people were already talking about next year when Madison Does It All, all over again.

### Cream City Chorus Sets Stage for its 10th Anniversary Season

**Milwaukee**--Planning for the Wisconsin Cream City Chorus 1996-97 season is already well underway, and includes three major concerts, plus several community appearances. This year, which marks the chorus' 10th anniversary, includes a few changes for the chorus, including new locations and a new schedule.

The first major concert of the season will be a truly traditional winter concert, a tribute to and revelry in the diversity of holy days and holidays at year's end. Christmas, Hanukkah, Winter Solstice and more, plus good old winter itself, will be celebrated in song.

April will find the chorus performing a classical concert, featuring Faure's **Requiem** and other pieces of remembrance for those who have left us due to AIDS. This event promises to offer music that will touch the hearts of all who attend.

The final concert of the season, held at the MCPA's Vogel Hall, will be our festive Gay Concert. Look forward to another night of Gay pageantry, humor, and the Second Annual Cream City Chorus silent auction. A true celebration of our 10th anniversary, this concert will be one to remember for years to come!

But, true to its roots in the community, the Cream City Chorus has also set aside time in its schedule to continue its outreach to Milwaukee's people, including appearances at many local fund-raisers, community activities, and churches. Organizations interested in hiring the chorus' talents for an event during the '96-97 season should contact the chorus office as soon as possible.

The chorus is also auditioning new

members to help fill out its strong core ensemble. Particularly desired are individuals who bring diversity to the musical heritage of the organization, as well as those who are interested in offering quality music to the many peoples of our community.

Rehearsals will begin on August 7, 1996, at the First Unitarian Society on N. Astor Street. To arrange for an audition, contact the Wisconsin Cream City Chorus office at (414) 344-WCCC or write to P. O. Box 1488, Milwaukee, WI 53201-1488. ▽

### Lesbian Alliance Education Fund Holds Annual Variety Show

**Milwaukee**--The Lesbian Alliance of Metro Milwaukee Education Fund (LAMMEF) proudly presents its annual variety show **Starry Starry Night**, on August 24 at 7:30 p.m. at the Broadway Theatre Center, 158 N. Broadway.

In its third year, the show's an annual who's who of Lesbian and Gay entertainment.

Some acts scheduled to appear include: The Shoreline Dancers, Lo Jo Russo, Linda Smith, Stardust and Lu Shanti.

There will also be a special sneak preview screening of **Visible Women, Invisible Lives**, a short educational video produced by the Lesbian Alliance of Metro Milwaukee. An after party will be held upstairs at the Broadway Theatre, so plan to stay out all night and watch the stars.

The show is traditionally a sell-out, so get your tickets soon. Call the Lesbian Alliance of Metro Milwaukee Education Fund at (414) 264-2600 and charge tickets by phone or send a SASE to the Lesbian Alliance of Metro Milwaukee Education Fund.

Tickets are available from LAMMEF by sending a SASE to P. O. Box 93323, Milwaukee, WI 53203 with your check for \$15.00 per ticket (charge orders require a \$1.00 per ticket transaction fee).

Tickets at the door will be \$18. Tickets may also be purchased at Just Us, Designing Men, Outpost Foods, High Winds Bookstore and Afterwards book store. ...

**DON'T MISS OUR NEXT ISSUE FOR COMPLETE COVERAGE OF THE LAMM VARIETY SHOW AND THOSE PERFORMING IN IT.**

# Curtain Calls



Racine Native, Ray Friedeck shown above as Ubaldo Piangi in a scene from "Phantom of the Opera" will be one of the Phantom cast members performing at a special "non-Phantom" show on Monday, August 5. The show will be held at the Milwaukee Repertory Theater's Powerhouse Theater. Proceeds will benefit MAP and Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS.

## 'Phantom of the Opera' Lives Up to, and Exceeds All Expectations

Reviewed by John Arthur Jahn

If you've watched the local news or read the paper at all during the past couple months or so you're well aware of all the hype and hoopla surrounding the Milwaukee run of the Andrew Lloyd Webber-Charles Hart musical, *The Phantom of the Opera*.

For the many readers of *The Light* who have or plan to get tickets to this show, I'm pleased to inform you that *The Phantom* will live up to, or even exceed, your expectations.

After a brief opening auction scene, containing virtually the only spoken dialog of the entire work, the powerful overture bursts forth, and accompanies the dramatic hoisting of the massive 1,000 pound, 10-foot-high chandelier. All of what follows is pure delight, and a feast for the eyes and ears.

The costumes are the most colorful and elaborate I've ever seen, and superbly choreographed scene changes make for some startlingly quick costume changes as well.

*The Phantom* contains scenes from three operas (*Hannibal*, in which a large, very realistic elephant makes its brief appearance, *Il Muto*, which *The Phantom* thoroughly sabotages, and *The Phantom's* own *Don Juan Triumphant*). It is mainly due to these three operas-within-the-musical that the 230 different costumes can be seen.

There is also the fabulously rich *Masquerade* (Act II, Scene One) which not only contains the full company in splendid costumes, but 11 life-sized mannequins and a 1.5 ton staircase.

The staging and choreography (Gillian Lynne) were, in a word, flawless. The entire production is about two and one-half hours long, involving two acts containing 19 different scenes.

More conventional productions of musicals or "real" operas containing so many different scenes could take two or three times this long to perform, but thanks to the technical prowess of the 60 crew members and the mechanical wizardry, the scenes flow together

seamlessly and with nary a pause in action and music.

And what glorious music! The 15-member orchestra, including not only conventional instruments but also a synthesizer, performed beautifully.

Act One is particularly musically rich, containing the two, big hit songs of *The Phantom*, namely *The Music of the Night* and *All I Ask of You*.

Act Two's musical highlights are the aforementioned *Masquerade* scene and Christine's lovely lament, *Wishing You Were Somehow Here Again*.

Of course all the of the fabulous costumes, the wonderful music, and the technically brilliant choreography and staging would mean nothing without an equally fine cast to wear the costumes, sing the songs, and effortlessly and effectively move about the stage. Here, too, I was very impressed.

*The Phantom* is a musical and an opera, and much of the singing is actually closer to romantic opera than to the standard American musical theater.

All three of the principal characters have much singing to do, and the three performers filling those roles lived up to their tasks: Diane Fratantoni (Christine), John Schroeder (Raoul), and by far the best performer in the cast, Thomas James O'Leary (thankfully, he's *The Phantom*). The six principal supporting cast members also gave fine performances.

I've attended countless plays, musicals, operas, ballets, and symphony concerts over the past 15 years here in Milwaukee. The performance of *The Phantom* I attended on Saturday, July 20 was the most exciting and technically flawless live performance I've ever been to. If you haven't already arranged it, do try to catch this *Phantom* before he disappears once and for all. On a scale of 1 to 10, this show rates a 10.

*The Phantom of the Opera* is playing at the Marcus Center in downtown Milwaukee through August 24. For remaining tickets, call Ticketmaster at (414) 276-4545.

## Milwaukee's Theatre X Hires Its First Producing Director

**Milwaukee** — After a nation-wide search, Theatre X has hired Michael Ramach as its first Producing Director.

Ramach was the founder and Producing Director of Triangle Theatre Company in New York City for eight seasons.

At Triangle he produced premieres of *Unchanging Love* and *Democracy and Esther* by Romulus Linney, *More Fun Than Bowling* and *Painting It Red* (which he also directed) by Steven Dietz, *Playing With Fire (After Frankenstein)* by Barbara Field, *The Last Resort* by Tom Ziegler, and many others.

At La Mama Experimental Theatre Club in New York, where he also worked as an administrator, he directed various original works including *Brecht's Berlin*, which he also wrote. Ramach has directed

extensively throughout the United States. As an administrator, he has worked as Producing Director of Timber Lake Playhouse, General Manager of the Kentucky Shakespeare Festival and Production Manager of Opera Theatre of Saint Louis. Ramach has an M.F.A. in directing from Webster University and a B.F.A. in theatre from Illinois Wesleyan University.

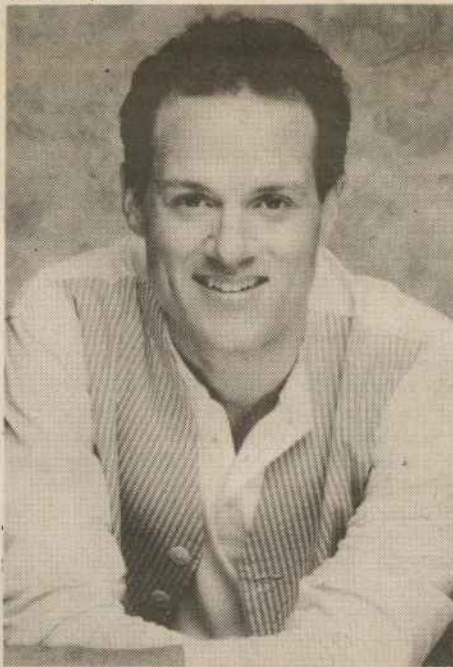
"I am happy to be with Theatre X and to be in Milwaukee," said Ramach. "I look forward to working with the Company and Board of Directors to continue the 27 years of excellence at Theatre X. The 1996-1997 season will be unusual and exciting, but I think that is what Theatre X is all about." ▽



Racine Native Ray Friedeck in "Phantom of the Opera."

## Special Performance by "Phantom" Cast Members Will Benefit MAP

**Milwaukee** — *Phantom of the Opera* cast members will host an enchanted benefit, *Phantom Voices*, to be held at the Milwaukee Repertory's Powerhouse Theatre on Monday, August 5 at 7:00 p.m. Proceeds from the performance will benefit the Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP) and Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS. MAP is a service agency of the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin, Inc. (ARCW).



Christian Nova

The evening of first-class entertainment will feature opera, musical theater, and dance performances by members of the cast of *Phantom of the Opera*. The artists, who select their own pieces for the benefit, welcome the opportunity to give fans of *Phantom* a chance to view their talents in another light. The benefit allows the cast members to express themselves outside of their *Phantom* personas.

Knowing that *Phantom of the Opera* reaches so many people, the cast appreciates the occasion to raise both money for and awareness about AIDS. Christian Nova, Mark Agnes and Ray Friedeck, with the help of many others, organize the *Phantom Voices* events across the country.

### Racine Native

**Milwaukee**--Racine native Ray Friedeck, performing the part of Ubaldo Piangi in *Phantom of the Opera*, was coaxed into the theater by a junior high school English teacher. Friedeck, a Racine Horlick High School graduate, will perform a piece entitled *Sara Lee*, composed by Kander and Ebb in *Phantom Voices*. Friedeck studied vocal performance at the University of Wisconsin - Eau Claire, where he appeared in *Carnival* and *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*, among others.

Theater, however, is not all that important to him. Family, and the chance to do something for the community, including the one that he called home for many years are perhaps his biggest motivation.

His work has positively affected many, not only in Milwaukee but in communities across the country where Friedeck helps to organize the *Phantom Voices* benefits. Although Friedeck lost an uncle to AIDS and understands the disease all too well, he feels that there is still a lack of education about AIDS.

"People are still unwilling to embrace other people and life, but the loss of life due to AIDS is amazing," noted Friedeck. "It's hard to believe that there is still such a stigma against the disease."

He performed for two seasons with the *Skylight Opera*, and has appeared at *Music Under the Stars* and the *Florentine Opera*. The casting director for the ever-popular *Phantom of the Opera* discovered Friedeck while he was auditioning for *Guys and Dolls*. He welcomes the opportunity to use his notoriety from *Phantom* to help others.

"*Phantom Voices* can reach out and touch many people," Friedeck added. "From that, I can gain some sense of doing something that's right."

"What is most important is keeping people aware that money and help are still needed," said Christian Nova, *Phantom* understudy. "The cast is very dedicated to the mission to raising awareness about AIDS. We can use everybody's help."

Nova's vocal performance was selected from an off-Broadway musical. The selection, titled *What You'd Call a Dream*, was written by a friend of his, Craig Carnelian.

"The cast members of *Phantom of the Opera* have shown a strong commitment to the fight against AIDS," said Jim Moore, ARCW special events production associate. "I am very grateful to them for putting on *Phantom Voices* on one of their few days off in Milwaukee."

Following the performance, a reception will be held with the cast which will include a silent auction featuring *Phantom* memorabilia. The reception is sponsored by local restaurants and caterers.

Tickets are still available for *Phantom Voices* and are \$10, \$15 and \$20; with an additional \$15 for the reception. Tickets may be purchased through the Milwaukee Repertory box office, located at 108 East Wells Street or by phone at (414) 224-9490. ▽

Read  
The Wisconsin Light Online  
Our Internet Address is:

<http://www.gayuniverse.com/news3.html>





Who won? These four entrants shown in the picture above finished at the top of the heap in The Miss Gay Milwaukee US of A pageant held at B's on Saturday, July 27. After announcing one winner (Vanessa Torrez) at the pageant, the organizers contacted Light and told us that a second person (Janice Erkel) had actually won. We were promised that an explanation would be sent by fax. As of press time, we were still waiting.

Meanwhile the Light received complaints that some contestants were given judges score sheets that had comments but that did not have scores listed in every category. One of the judges told Light the sheets given to the contestants were comment sheets and not the actual score sheets. According to this Judge separate score sheets were filled out for each contestant. While some of these comment sheets had scores listed on them, some did not.

Any of the four pictured above (l-r) Helen A Handbasket, Vanessa, Aja Night, and Janice Erkel would be an outstanding representative for Milwaukee. From what we understand, Vanessa who was crowned at the end of the pageant is really the First Runner Up and Janice Erkel is the winner. Both performers qualified for the Miss Gay Wisconsin US of A pageant. Whoever won we congratulate them and the other contestants all of whom did a fine job. Our hats are also off to B's for doing a great job in hosting this event.

The Miss Capitol City Pageant capped a great weekend at Madison's R Place, where an enthusiastic crowd and staff welcomed hundreds of out of towners during the MAGIC Picnic/Pride weekend. Shown above (l to r) are 2<sup>nd</sup> Runner Up Lacy J Cox, 3<sup>rd</sup> Runner Up Tina Devine Peterson, 1<sup>st</sup> Runner Up, Kitty Liguore, the new Miss Capitol City, Susan Saran Wrap, and performers Lorretta LaMour, Miss Gay Wisconsin US of A and Duwanna Moore. Our photographer didn't get Sage La Rue (not shown), Miss Great Lakes US of A At Large also performed a great number. Sage was off doing something (or someone)

Frontiers will have a picnic at Devil's Lake.

On Tuesday August 6, a field trip to see the Splendors of Imperial China at the Chicago Art Institute will leave at 7:30 AM. Wednesday August 7, the group will gather for the final Summer concert on the Square. Look for the Blue Tarp to join in the fun.

The Bridge Club meets on Saturday August 10. This month the Bridge Club meets in Baraboo. On Sunday August 18, Frontiers will be biking the Military Ridge Trail from Verona to Mt. Horeb.

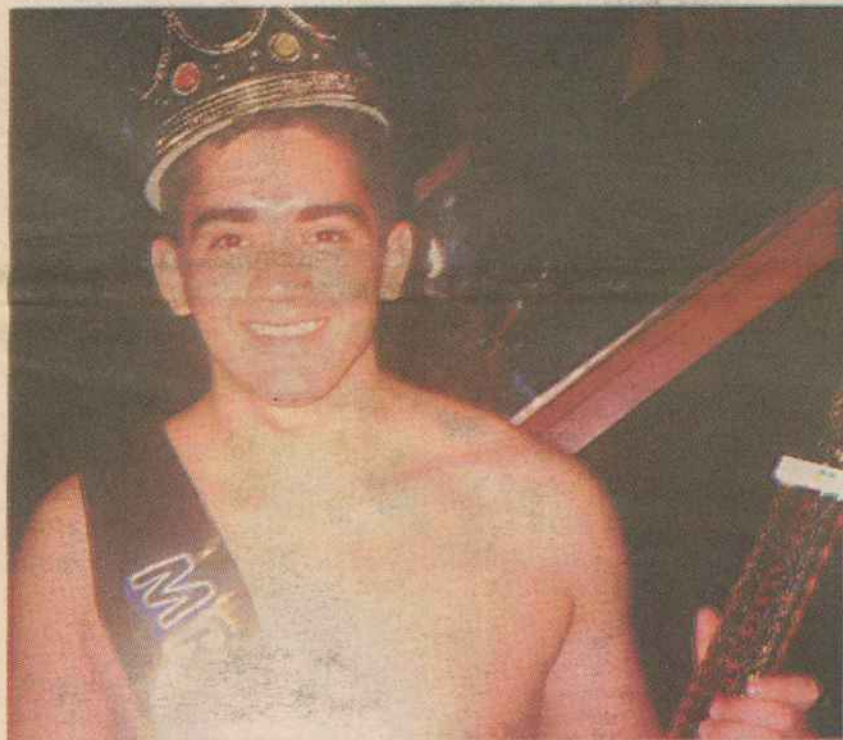
Wednesday August 21 is Movie Night. The critically acclaimed "Strawberry and Chocolate" will be shown. Sunday August 25, a trip to door County including sailing and dinner is on tap. Wednesday August 28 features dining at Muskie's Lounge and Crab house. Last but not least the group will be going to Minneapolis August 30 to September 3.

## Madison's Frontiers Announces Activities For August

We hope you have some room on your social calendar for the month of August. Frontiers, a Madison social group has announced a full slate of activities for August. Come to one or come to all of these fun events.

For information on these and other activities call Frontiers (608)241-2500.

On Saturday August 3, the group will be rafting/canoeing. Sunday August 4,



Gilberto Botello from Balistreri's Softball team won the coveted title of Mr. SSBL during the League's annual fund raiser at Club 219, Saturday July 27.

## Despite Hang Ups Midwest Womyn's Autumnfest is Full Steam Ahead

DeKalb, IL—Organizers of the Midwest Womyn's Autumnfest experienced frustration and discrimination when looking for this year's festival site. Last year's camp was unavailable because "Our values were not in accordance" with the camp.

Another location in our area was found, and after lengthy negotiations, the owners agreed to rent the land. We jumped through many hoops, including purchasing an unreasonably large insurance policy.

Only nine weeks before our event, the land owners backed out of our rental agreement citing their fear of "women driving after dark" as the primary reason for canceling the contract. We were devastated. We had spent months preparing for and promoting the festival. We were financially and spiritually committed to the fest.

After much soul searching, we found another location to hold the festival, only 15 minutes from the other site.

The festival will be held on Sunday, September 1, 1996—Labor Day weekend.

If you are planning to attend this year's festival, please pick up the new directions at any of the ticket outlets (see below), or send us a SASE to: Athena Productions, 217 S. 2<sup>nd</sup> St., #193, DeKalb, IL 60115, or call (815) 748-5359.

This year's festival features an all-star cast of performers. These include: Alix Dobkin, Deidre McCall, Susan Herrick, Jamie Anderson, and many more.

Volunteers are needed for all aspects of the festival. To volunteer, please write or call the address or phone number given above.

Tickets are \$25 in advance, \$32 at the gate. This price includes admission to all performances, workshops, movies and the market place. Ticket price does not include food, which will be on sale throughout the day.

Tickets are available at A Room of One's Own in Madison and AfterWords in Milwaukee. Tickets may be purchased by mail order or with VISA/Master Card through Athena Productions.

## Helping Hands AIDS Benefit at Club 94

Zion, IL—Helping Hands Outreach AIDS Ministry (HHOAM) will be holding a fundraising event at Club 94 in Kenosha (hwy 94 & hwy C). "One Night Only—the Drag-O-Rama Reunion '96" will feature a variety of people in an assortment of comedic acts. Most of the performers are not professional impersonators, some are firemen, hairdressers and office workers, getting dressed up to raise funds for a good cause.

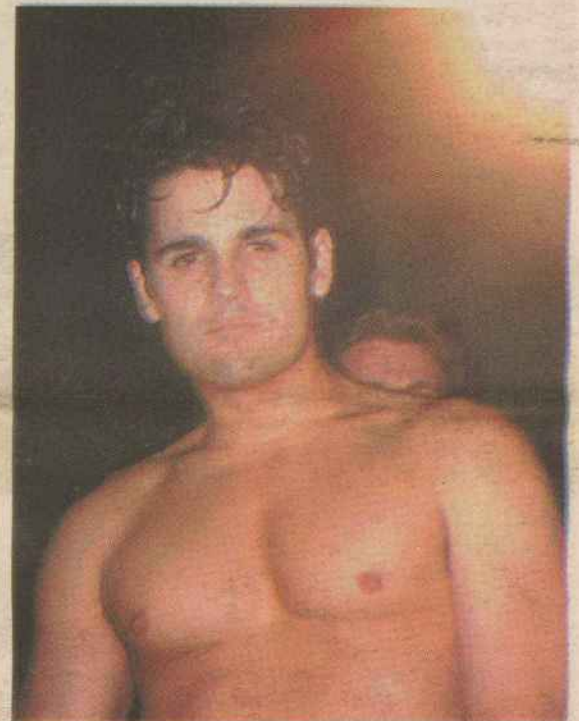
Some of you may remember the troupe from a couple of years back.

A raffle will also be held that evening. The \$3 cover is being donated by the bar directly to the event.

HHOAM is a service of the Joy of Life Metropolitan Community Church in Waukegan, which provides support groups, transportation and assistance to those persons infected and affected with HIV.

They have also been working in conjunction with HIVCO to deliver food through the Hand to Hand program. This is a new group and as such, is badly in need of funding. With the cut-backs at the federal level, there were no grant moneys available this year.

For information on the event or how to contribute to HHOAM, please call (847) 623-3550 and leave a confidential message. Corporate sponsorships are welcome and tax deductible.



A hot show at a hot bar! Porn Star/Singer David Burrill put on a hot show at Manoeuvres in Madison on Sunday July 21, as part of the MAGIC Picnic/Pride Weekend celebration.

## Second Annual Gay & Lesbian Bar Competition Kicks Off for AIDS Walk

Milwaukee — Register for AIDS Walk Wisconsin as a member of your favorite bar's Walk team and help win the second annual Gay and Lesbian bar competition. Last year the friendly competition among Milwaukee's Gay and Lesbian bars raised over \$17,000 and over 400 individuals participated.

Walk organizers are hoping that this year will be even more successful with several new bars signed-up for the competition. Bars that participated last year include Mama Roux, M&M Club, Just Us, This Is It, Kathy's Nut Hut, Fannies, Triangle, B's, La Cage, Renez Coz-Corner, 1100 Club, Cafe Melange and Loose Ends. Similar competitions are in place in Madison and Green Bay.

More than 6,500 people and 735 teams have already registered to participate in the seventh annual AIDS Walk Wisconsin on Sunday, September 22, beginning at Milwaukee's lakefront. Bette Midler is this year's Honorary Chair. AIDS Walk Wisconsin is produced by the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin, Inc. (ARCW) and benefits 16 AIDS education and service providers throughout the state.

In addition to the prizes available to individual walkers, the Gay and Lesbian bar competition features a grand prize of two roundtrip tickets to South Beach, FL and hotel accommodations for the bar team member who turns in the greatest amount of money on September 22. The team which raises the most money will be honored with a plaque, and a prize will be awarded to the top team captain.

To register, contact your favorite bar or call 1-800-348-WALK and ask to be registered with a bar team. If you have already registered for the Walk, you may be added to a team roster by calling 1-800-348-WALK.

Check out our web site at: <http://www.netgains.com/aidswalkwisc>. ▽



In the Flesh! Miss Francesca made her annual appearance at the Mr. SSBL contest held at Club 219 on Saturday July 27. As usual her performance drew rave reviews from those in attendance. No word yet from Mr. Blackwell as to what he thought of her dress.

# OUT on Film



Wallace and Gromit speeding down the street in this scene from "Close Shave" 1996 winner of an Academy Award for Best Animated Short. "Close Shave" and eight other animated short films including several other award winners can be seen at Milwaukee's Downer theater in "Wallace & Gromit: The Best of Aardman Animation."

## 'Supercop' Is an Action Film You Can Wait to See on Video

Reviewed by Glenn Bishop

It took some convincing to get Glenn to **Supercop**. First, Glenn has a celebrated aversion to big, senselessly bloody action films. Unless it's an Arnold Schwarzenegger classic action title.

(Glenn just loved Arnold's signature line from this summer's **Eraser**: "You're lug-gage." How does he come up with these great lines?)

Glenn has an even greater aversion to badly-dubbed foreign films. Actually badly-dubbed seems to be a bit of an oxymoron. Still, given the modest numbers of scenes containing dialogue of any sort, Glenn was left to ponder why Miramax didn't just leave **Supercop** subtitled.

Somewhat Glenn was successfully convinced and one evening was to be found in the audience for Jackie Chan's **Supercop**. In a line, Jackie Chan ain't no Arnold Schwarzenegger.

Still, **Supercop** does have its moments.

Glenn isn't really sure how the film started. First, Glenn began by obsessing

over how the actors talked without moving their lips and vice versa. Then, when Glenn finally tuned into dialogue, voices at turns ranging from an affected "English" accent to California "Valley Girl" speak, **Supercop's** mission was already well underway. Matching voices with characters seems to be a skill beyond the grasp of the producers of this film.

As with most other entries into the action pic genre, **Supercop's** plot is secondary to the action of the...well, of the action.

Chan's Chen Chiachu, an unconventionally self-styled "Supercop", is sent on a mission from his Hong Kong home for a bit of espionage in China. Some such nonsense about cracking some evil international drug ring. His partner turns out to be a beautiful but tough, strong but still feminine Director Wang (played by the beautiful but tough, strong but still feminine Michelle Yeoh).

Bad guys get blown up, good guys save the day, you know the score. Familiar stuff. The film's raging implausibilities are deftly sidestepped by a delightfully light, tongue-firmly-in-cheek tone that was sadly missing from this summer's disastrous **ID4 (Independence Day)** for those not lost in that film's overblown hype).

Although martial arts is the specialty here, and some truly spectacular martial arts to be sure, there should be sufficient explosions, blood, car chases and other assorted acts of daredevil destruction in **Supercop** for even the most jaded action man. One might think that Chan copied the train/helicopter sequence from this summer's **Mission Impossible** except that **Supercop** was actually filmed in 1991. Who copied whom?

Jackie Chan is an appealingly if unlikely "Supercop" and his scenes with Michelle Yeoh possess an refreshingly engaging charm. Few other characters are developed beyond the cannon fodder stage.

Be forewarned to stay for the film's closing credits which include a delightful sequence of out-takes from the **Supercop** -- see just how the film's thrilling sequences are actually filmed.

**Supercop** is a pleasant enough cinematic diversion but if you are like Glenn, you might want to wait until **Supercop** is available at your local video emporium -- badly-dubbed films are far less annoying on the small screen.

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

**Supercop** is currently playing at Milwaukee's Oriental Theatre.



Oliver Platt, Sandra Bullock and Mathew McConaughey star in the thriller "A Time to Kill" a new movie based on the best selling novel by John Grisham

## 'A Time to Kill' is a Melodramatic Rollercoaster; Take Lots of Hankies

Reviewed by Glenn Bishop

Although Glenn hasn't himself read John Grisham, Glenn is familiar with the fact that John Grisham is a book selling machine, seemingly patterned after Stephen King (another author Glenn has not read). Both sell books in the millions, if not zillions, of copies. And since both write immediate best-sellers, you're a fool if you ever pay full price for one of their books.

Be that as it may, Glenn has not read Grisham's **A Time to Kill**, the book from which the film is based. A historical note is that **A Time to Kill** was Grisham's first book and not an immediate best-seller and only became so once he achieved author stardom.

Glenn only mentions this touch of trivia because Mr. Grisham is on record as saying that this is his favorite book and that because so, he was determined to make sure that there would be a faithful cinematic adaptation.

As is the case with any summer blockbuster, **A Time to Kill** has had more than its share of media hype. Swirling around the making off **A Time to Kill** was the celebrated casting of the (then) virtually unknown actor Mathew McConaughey in the pivotal role of Jake Brigance, the small-town lawyer who becomes embroiled in a racially-charged murder case.

But Grisham and director Joel (Batman) Schumacher also cast America's latest cinematic sweetheart, Sandra Bullock, in a relatively secondary part that defies her top billing.

Bordering on over-heated Southern melodrama, **A Time to Kill** focuses on the small Mississippi town of Clanton. As the film opens two of the slimiest good ol' boys to hit the screen since **Deliverance** turn up in Clanton, drive drunk through town and finally encounter an adorable 10-year-old Black girl along a quiet little backroad where they subsequently beat, rape and attempt to murder her.

Recognizing the fact that in the past, incidents involving white youths accused of raping and/or murdering Blacks generally led to acquittals, Carl Lee Haily (Samuel L. Jackson), the girl's father takes matters into his own hands. His subsequent murder trial electrifies the previously sleepy-eyed town.

Grisham's protagonist is Carl Lee's lawyer, Jake Brigance (the aforementioned Mathew McConaughey). Saddled with a less-than thriving practice, little actual trial experience, a rehab home and a beautiful wife and an equally beautiful young daughter, Jake accepts his assignment with a vengeance that borders on obsession.

Briefly seen in a small role in John Sayles' **Lonestar**, McConaughey clearly has a "can't miss" label written all over him. Blond with matinee-idol good looks and a voice that melts even the most cynic movie critic's heart, Mathew McConaughey heats up the screen in any scene he's in.

Clearly aware of his abundantly apparent physical attributes, McConaughey at times seems to be playing more to the camera than to his co-stars.

Conversely, Sandra Bullock who captured the hearts of America in **Speed** and then again in **While You Were Sleeping** here has a throw-away part as an energetic young law student seeking to help Jake on the case. A little long in the tooth for the part perhaps but Ms. Bullock does a credible job holding her own with Mr. McConaughey.

Grisham and Schumacher pull out all the stops in **A Time to Kill**, delivering a melodrama of near epic proportions and with a running time of 2 hours 25 minutes, near epic length.

Yet despite some appropriately dramatic scoring and some fabulous cinematography which beautifully, if occasionally stereotypically, evokes a southern community ripe for an explosion of racial tensions, Glenn was left to ponder if the packaging wasn't masking simplistic solutions Grisham offered.

Acting throughout the film is first-rate with special mention to Oliver Platt as Jake's morally bankrupt best friend, Chris Cooper (star of Sayles' **Lonestar**) as the deputy Carl Lee accidentally maims and especially to Samuel L. Jackson mesmerizing in Carl Lee's too few scenes.

Take some tissue and be ready for melodramatic rollercoaster with McConaughey and Bullock in **A Time to Kill**

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

**A Time to Kill** is playing at theatres everywhere.



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## 'Kingpin' is a Blah Film Where the Hairstyles are Funnier than the Movie

Reviewed by Glenn Bishop

At best, sports movies are an anomaly. Occasionally directors seek to elevate sports mythology into existential metaphors for life. See, for example, Kevin Costner's weepy, *Field of Dreams*. "If only I'd have played catch with Dad...sob, sob."

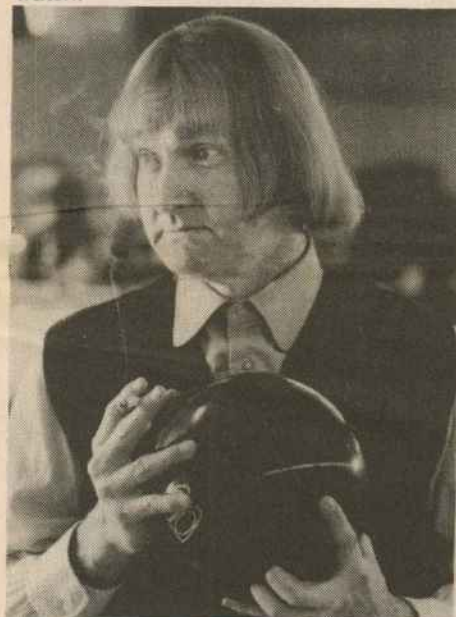
More often sports flicks are some kind of variation on the "Bad News Bears" theme. You know the routine. Poor group of underachieving misfits somehow learn to work together, believe in themselves...blah, blah, blah.



Woody Harrelson

Whoopi Goldberg's recent *Eddie* or Rhea Perlman's *Sunset Park* are recent (unsuccessful) examples, neither of which was redeemed by generous helpings of superfluous shots of male flesh.

As the title might suggest, *Kingpin* is a bowling flick. Glenn is at a loss at coming up with titles of any other bowling flicks. Perhaps there's a good reason for this: Bowling is pretty gosh darn boring to watch.



Randy Quaid

*Kingpin* begins with a young Roy Munson (Will Rothhaar) bowling in the backyard (that's right, in the backyard) with Dad. Dad tells young Roy that bowling is his gift.

Jump ten years and a grown up Roy (Woody Harrelson looking a wee bit old) is defeating Ernie "Big Ern" McCracken for the 1979 Oder Eaters Championship. A bad sport, "Big Ern" takes his revenge on the gullible Roy, conning Roy into a cheesy bowling hustle that goes sour.

Jump even more years and Roy is a drunken has-been with a hook for a hand,

a career of selling condom novelties for bowling alley vending machines and way too many regrets. In a word, he's bitter. "Big Ern" on the other hand is a beloved bowling hero. Fate, what can you say?

Roy thinks his luck has changed when he discovers a ditz Amish bowling whiz named Ishmeal (Randy Quaid) who is a sure bet to win a million dollar winner-take-all bowling tournament in Reno. Let's introduce really bad sports flick to the tried and true "road picture".

Along the way to Reno (and fame and fortune), the boys pick up a street-smart beauty named Claudia (Vanessa Angel). Bad things continue to happen to our hapless heroes but, as is the way with these summer comedies, you just know that all will live happily ever after.

As might be suggested from the Farrelly brothers last film, *Dumb and Dumber*, *Kingpin* is a no brainer. The jokes are rude and crude and vomit does seem to be the bodily fluid of choice. The few truly inspired comic bits, the Jeffersons on Ice for example, are simply too few and too far between. Special meritorious mention must be given to hairstylists Melissa A Yonkey and Betty Lou (Betty Lou!!) Skinner for some truly inspired comic hair bits. Yes, that's right, comic hair bits. *Kingpin* is just that kind of flick.

Leads Woody Harrelson, Randy Quaid and Vanessa Angel seem to be awfully good sports and Bill Murray probably can play a snidely slimy scumball like "Big Ern" in his sleep. Glenn's question is how Chris Elliot such some high billing for a couple of throw-away scenes.

Glenn doesn't imagine that anyone can possibly have any real expectations for a bowling movie, so *Kingpin* doesn't actually disappoint but with a running time of 113 minutes, it seems awfully long for thing sort of thing.

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

*Kingpin* is currently playing at theatres everywhere.

### Gunderson and Morris at Borders Book Shop

Madison—Congressman Steve Gunderson and his partner, Rob Morris, will discuss and sign copies of their new book, *House and Home* at Borders Book Shop, 3416 University Avenue in Madison, on Sunday, August 18 at 7:00 p.m.

*House and Home* is the remarkable memoir of Gunderson, the only openly Gay Republican congressman, and his life partner, Rob Morris, a Washington architect.

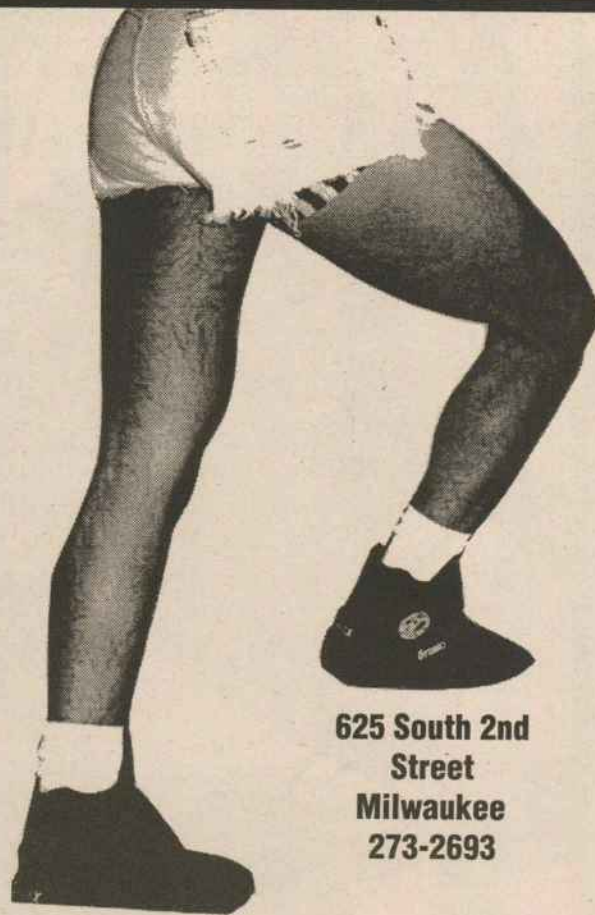
Skillfully written from the point of view of both men, *House and Home* recounts the pressures on the two men as they strive to build a home for themselves in the pressure cooker that is inside-the-beltway politics.

Yet, in a larger sense, *House and Home* is the story of so many couples in our community as they try and put their lives together to make of "you and me" an "us."

According to Newt Gingrich, *House and Home* "provides the clearest evidence of how people from widely varied backgrounds and ideological perspectives are able to work together to produce historic results."

For more information, call Borders at (608) 232-2600.

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### FRI/SAT/SUN

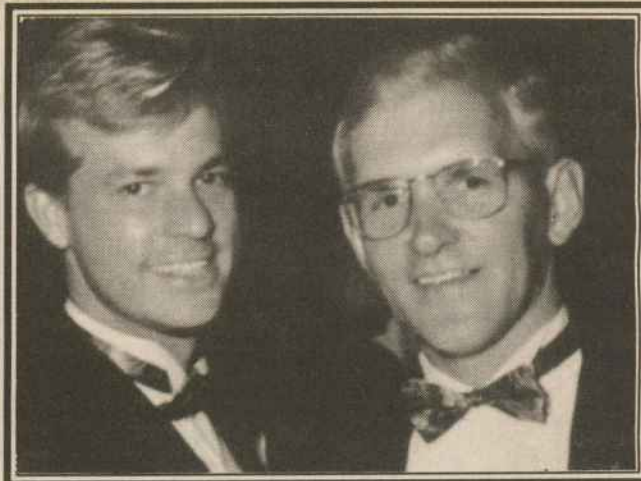
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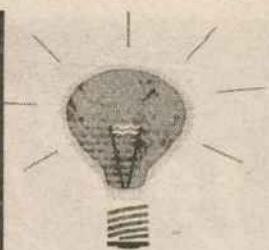
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# The Night Light



## DUSTY DOES MAD TOWN

By Dusty Sass

Okay I admit it. When they first said, "Do you want to go to Madison and cover the whole Magic Picnic Pride Weekend?" I acted cool. After all its always best not to let them know that they are doing you a favor by sending you to one of the best parties in the state. "Sure I guess it'd be okay" I mumbled.

Course soon as I was out of ear shot, I let out a yell. YES YES YES. All those parties and all those hot men.

The MAGIC picnic, and all those hot men. The Pride Parade, and all those hot men.

The David Burrill show and all those hot men! The Miss Capitol City pageant and all those hot men. Melinda Paras, and all those hot men!

Of course there is always the problem of moving to another city for a weekend. I packed lightly. Only two suitcases one for clothes and one for um, er let's just say a few entertainment devices Dr. Susie Shovelit lent me. (Don't worry I bleached them all)

So what happened?

Was it worth the trip and all those walks from one site to another definitely.

Here are a few sidelights, highlights and midlights.

The 10% Dance was a real trip. I was surprised to see so many teens there. Perhaps other cities should consider holding events in venues where those who are not of legal drinking age can attend.

I was also surprised to see so many people out on the Union concourse. There was a lot of mouth watering eye candy. Mindful of my crucial assignment, however, I pressed on.

Another nice thing about the dance was the mix of people. Older lesbians were joined by young straight men. The DJ did a first rate job.

The bars on Friday night were packed. I enjoyed a great burger at the Shamrock. Eli and his crew give great

service and they are pretty good bartenders and cooks too!

Manouevres a few blocks away was hot and steamy. There were so many good looking guys that it was almost enough to give me a case of the vapors.

After an hour or two of that it was a real pleasure to go back to R Place where Rich and his staff awaited. These guys go out of their way to make you feel at home. I really enjoyed sitting on the couch in the Fire Place room and chatting with some of the many hunks there.

The MAGIC Picnic was the best I'd been to yet. First off it didn't rain. (That's because I packed an umbrella just so I wouldn't need it.)

As usual the Miller Lite was the first beer to run out. Just to show you how popular Miller Lite is, when they changed the barrel going down to two taps, a large crowd jostled its way to the spigots ignoring the open taps at the other beer trailers.

The games were a lot of fun. The drag race was a real scream. There was one guy who was yelling to the women asking for advice on how to attach his bra.

After the race each contestant came out to sashay for the crowd. Can you say "attitude?" Yes they showed it. The winner of the most coordinated outfit was a 10 year boy who could barely keep from tripping over his dress.

Greg and Sherry Scheel, along with Mark Mueller and the rest of the Hotel Washington crew did a fantastic job.

The Hotel Washington Party at the Depot was a must-go-to. The crowd was so large that to the delight of many of the women in attendance, for most the evening, there was line to get into the men's room.

The Hotel staff did an unbelievable job in converting the Depot into a Queer disco for the night.

DJ Ty, kept the crowd hopping all night long.

Everywhere you looked people were

smiling and having fun. Of course Dusty was busy working the crowd, I mean working for the Light taking pictures so he didn't get to dance. BUT he did meet some very nice people and offers special thanks to bartenders John and Joe for helping him with those photo ops.

Its a good thing that the Scheels threw this bash. Madison's Queer bars were all very crowded that night. I don't know where the 800 plus people at the Depot would have gone.

I ran into openly Gay Madison Alderman, Mike Verveer at the Depot. Being the public servant that he is, Mike was holding a series of meetings with his constituents. They of course were so grateful that they tried to help him adjust his clothing.

The Pre-Parade Rally was great. Everyone was there. There were some great speeches. Melinda Paras really got the crowd going and I bet even the Guv heard the cheering (not that he wanted to)

The Pride Parade was a whole lot of fun. I finally got to ride in Allan Eslinger's fabulous 1957 T-Bird convertible which was used as The Wisconsin Light Car.

We especially appreciated all those people who waved and yelled that they love The Light. (We never hear enough of that)

The R Place Float wins Dusty's prize as the group having the most fun. These boys know how to party. They boogied and partied the whole route to the delight of the crowd. It was just like being in the bar except you were moving down State Street.

Manouevres also had a great entry with manager Charlie a former Mr. Wisconsin Leather awardee, riding in the back. You can never see enough of a hot butch man on a sunny day. Dusty was tempted to tell Charlie to roll up the windows, pull the top up and head for the nearest park, but alas duty called.

There was one accident in the march. One of the Dykes on Bikes reved up her engine (on the motorcycle) and it popped a wheelie flying into the rear of the Geraldine's float. Fortunately neither the rider, the bike or the float were hurt.

Of course there were obligatory protestors. Does Wisconsin have some kind of law that requires picketing whenever a few thousand of us get together? I don't know about anyone else but I saw those signs and they didn't make me want to run off and get married to a woman.

The Post Parade show was very good. I especially enjoyed Dyke-A-Pella. These gals can sinnnnggg! Yes they sing Lesbian music, but the themes are universal and they are very good.

So was Mary Waitrovich and Patty Cakes. Ms. Cakes brought the house down with her "Stuff Like That There!" number and then again when she twirled a drill rifle around while doing another number later in the show.

The one thing that I noted during the show was that the men listened and cheered for the Lesbians and the Lesbians listened to and cheered for the men. That doesn't always happen everywhere else.

The Miss Capitol City Pageant was very good. Some fine title holders like Sage La Rue, Duwanna Moore, Lorreta LaMohr and Cass Marie were on hand to help crown the winner. The crowd was large and very enthusiastic and rightly so. The contest was very close. Both of the top contenders, Susie Saran Wrap and Kitty Liguore, had large rooting sections on hand.

The David Burrill show at Manouevres was equally worth while. The audience got into the act, literally. Burrill kept pulling audience members out onto the dance floor where he helped them out of their tight fitting clothes.

After all that it was a relief to get back to Milwaukee. Of course I told the editors that the weekend was all work, work, work. Well actually it was work, but thanks to some great people at the Shamrock, R Place, Manouevres and the Hotel Washington it was fun too.

In conclusion there are several things I simply have to say.

1. The people of Madison are first rate. That goes double for the staffs at R Place, Manouevres and the Shamrock. And it goes triple for Rich at R Place, Charlie at Manouevres and Eli at the Shamrock.
2. You don't need a car in Madison. To party in Mad Town, just about everything is within easy walking distance.
3. Lest any editor reading this gets the wrong impression, Dusty did not have fun. He worked his butt off all weekend. (NOT!)
4. Every city should have a family like the Scheels. They are truly wonderful people.
5. Dusty can't wait for next year's "tough assignment." when he covers the Magic Weekend again.

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&

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Miss Gay USofA At-Large

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# Entertainment Guide

## APPLETON

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

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

## DOOR COUNTY

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

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

## EAU CLAIRE

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

**The Wolfe'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

**Cavaller 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

**A Room of One's Own**  
317 W. Johnson  
Madison, WI 53703  
257-7888

**Geraldine's**  
3052 E. Washington  
Madison, WI 53704  
241-9335

**Green Bush**  
914 W. 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  
Milwaukee WI 53211  
963-9089

**B's**  
1579 S 2nd St  
Milwaukee WI 53204  
672-5580

**Ball Game**  
196 S. 2nd  
Milwaukee WI 53204  
273-7474

**Boot Camp Saloon**  
209 E. National  
Milwaukee WI 53204  
643-6900

**Cafe Melange**  
720 N. Old World St.  
Milwaukee WI 53203  
291-9889

**Cest La Vie**  
231 S. 2 St  
Milwaukee WI 53204  
276-8890

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

**1100 Club**  
1100 S. 1st St.  
Milwaukee WI 53204  
647-9950

**Gargoyles**  
354 E. National  
Milwaukee WI 53204  
225-9676

**Fannies**  
200 E. Washington  
Milwaukee WI 53204  
643-9633

**In Between**  
625 S. 2nd St  
Milwaukee WI 53204  
273-2693

**Just Us**  
807 S. 5th St.  
Milwaukee WI 53204  
383-2233

**Kathy's Nut Hut**  
1500 W. Scott  
Milwaukee WI 53204  
647-2673

**La Cage**  
801 S 2nd St.  
Milwaukee WI 53204  
383-8300

**Station 2**  
1534 W. Grant  
Milwaukee WI 53204  
383-5755

**10% Club**  
4223 W. Fon Du Lac  
Milwaukee WI 53216  
447-0910

**Popular News**  
225 N. Water  
Milwaukee WI 53202  
278-0636

**This Is It**  
418 E. Wells  
Milwaukee WI 53202  
278-9192

**Triangle**  
135 E. National  
Milwaukee WI 53204  
383-9412

**Walkers Point Cafe**  
1106 S. First St.  
Milwaukee WI 53204  
384-7999

**Zippers**  
819 S 2nd St.  
Milwaukee WI 53204  
645-8330

## RACINE

**JoDees**  
2139 Racine St.  
Racine, WI 53403  
634-9804

**La Perla Mexican Restaurant**  
734 S. Fifth St.  
Milwaukee WI 53204  
645-9888

**Mama Roux**  
1875 N. Humboldt  
Milwaukee WI 53212  
347-0344

**M & M Club**  
124 N. Water  
Milwaukee WI 53202  
347-1962

**Nomad**  
1401 E. Brady St.  
Milwaukee WI 53202  
273-3866

**Rene's Cozy Corner**  
3500 W Park Hill  
Milwaukee WI 53208  
933-RENE

## ROCKFORD, IL

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

## SHEBOYGAN

**Blue Lite**  
1029 N. 8th St.  
Sheboygan, WI 53081  
457-1636

## STEVENS PT.

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

## SUPERIOR

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

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

**Trio**  
820 Tower  
Superior, WI 54880  
392-5373

## WAUSAU

**The Mad Hatter**  
320 Washington  
Wausau, WI 54401  
842-3225



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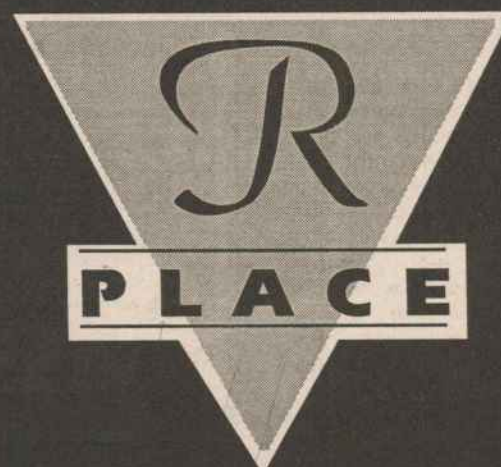
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## Madison's Repertory Theatre Offers the Smash Hit "Nunsense II"

Madison— The Little Sisters of Hoboken grace Madison with their presence in Madison Rep's "habit forming" production of **Nunsense II: The Second Coming** by Dan Goggin. This hilarious musical runs from July 19 through August 25 at the Isthmus Playhouse of the Madison Civic Center, 211 State Street.

**Nunsense II: The Second Coming** picks right up where the original **Nunsense** left off. Having tasted the thrill of the stage in the original **Nunsense**, the five Sisters band together to stage another variety show to thank the audiences who made the first one such a success.

Their thirst for stardom peaks with a rumor of a "Star Search" talent scout in the audience. Meanwhile, trouble looms large as their convent is threatened by a health inspector and a visiting order of Franciscan nuns who come to claim one of the sisters as their own.

Both the original **Nunsense** and **Nunsense II: The Second Coming** are extremely popular across the U.S. and abroad. **Nunsense** opened in Greenwich Village in 1985, and became one of the longest-running hits in Off-Broadway history.

**Nunsense II** premiered in 1993 and met with immediate success. According to one review, **Nunsense II** is "...integrated with double entendres and other peppy hits and surprises that will probably knock you right out of your seat from laughing so hard." Through the years, some productions have even invited real nuns to perform in the show.

The idea for **Nunsense** began when playwright Dan Goggin hit on an idea for greeting cards with nun themes. The humorous notes, with their comic puns punctuated by make-believe Sisters, caught on and evolved into a musical revue which became the first **Nunsense**. Goggin, who attended Catholic school as a child, remembers that "...many of the nuns who taught me were funny people...Every nun in the show is based on someone I knew growing up. Of all the people who attend the show, the greatest fans are priests and nuns."

**Nunsense II: The Second Coming** opened on Friday, July 19 at 8:00 p.m. and runs through Sunday, August 25th. Single ticket prices are \$17 for Wednesday, Thursday and Sunday performances and \$20 for Friday and Saturday performances.

Discounts are available for groups of 15 or more. Group information is available by calling the Rep at (608) 256-0029.

Discounted rush tickets may be purchased by request on the day of the show. Tickets are available through the Madison Civic Center ticket office at (608) 266-9055.

All are welcome. The Sunday, August 11 performance will be interpreted in American Sign Language. TTD: (608) 267-2674.

Madison Repertory Theatre's production of **Nunsense II: The Second Coming** is

supported in part by The Shubert Foundation, the Madison Civic Center Foundation and the Wisconsin Arts Board with funds from the State of Wisconsin. Corporate sponsor for the production is J. H. Findorff & Son.



Bill Meunier

Madison's Paddy Cakes brought the house down with two well performed numbers during the post Pride March show in Madison, Sunday July 21.

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# STARRY STARRY NIGHT

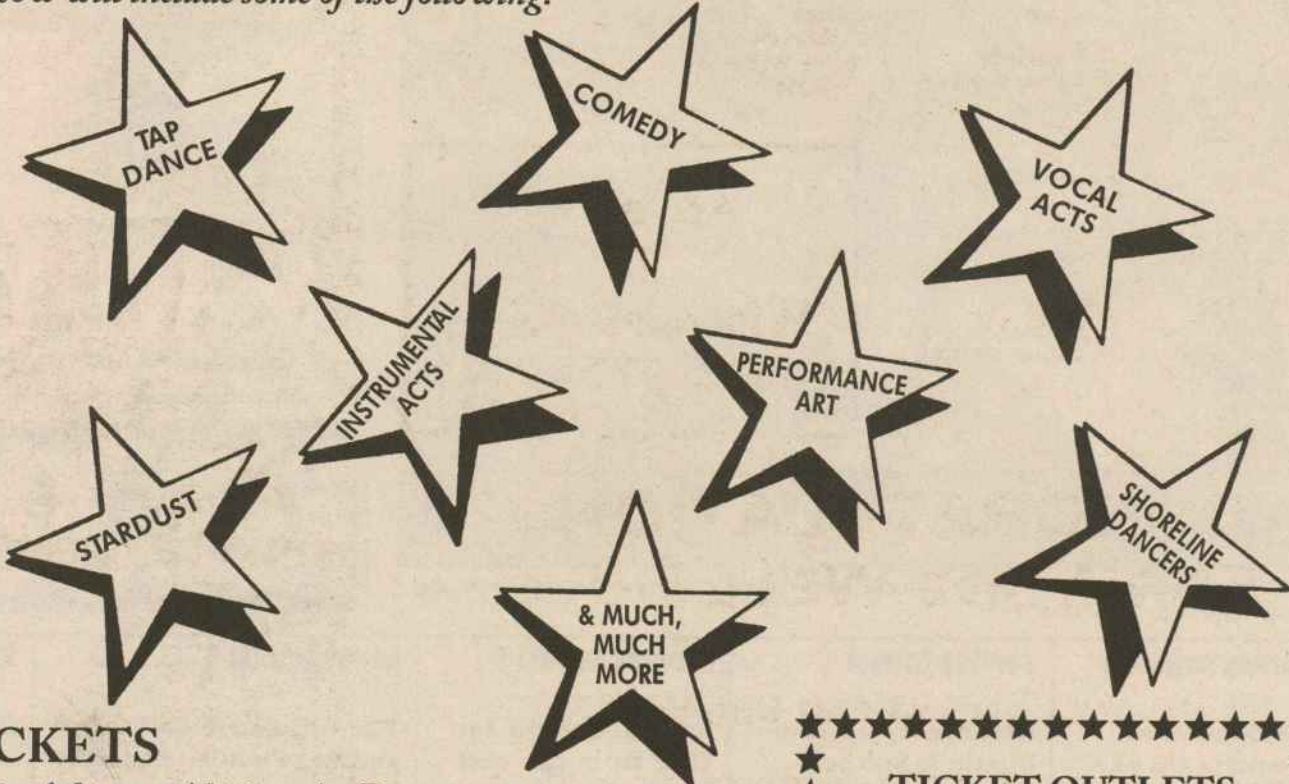
Saturday, August 24

Broadway Theatre Center • 158 North Broadway

**SHOWTIME: 7:30pm** (Doors Open at 7pm)

— After Show Party with LuShanti —

*Show will include some of the following:*



### TICKETS

\$15 in Advance / \$18 at the Door

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## Broom Street Theater Presents "Please, Please, Please Love Me"

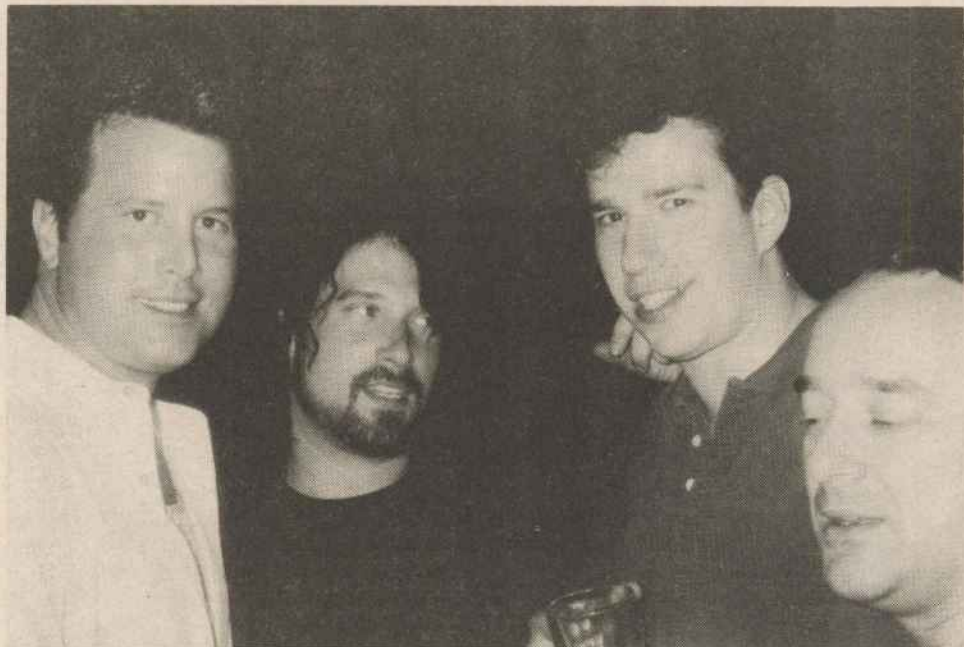
Madison— Everyone's desperately looking for love and they'll do anything to get it. ANYTHING!! How they get it is all part of the action in **Please, Please, Please Love Me**, a new comic-drama about neurotic love, written and directed by Rick Vorndran. **Please, Please, Please Love Me** opens on Friday, August 2 at 8:00 p.m. at Madison's Broom Street Theater.

**Please, Please, Please Love Me**, set in the mythical region of Palm City, California, revolves around a group of needy people who will do everything to get the love and affection they think they deserve. The play has nine characters, each of whom is self-contradictory in some sick and twisted way. **Please, Please, Please Love Me** is a startling and significant departure for author-director Rick Vorndran who created last summer's Broom Street hit **I Am Star Trek**.

All shows of **Please, Please, Please Love Me** are at 8:00 p.m., Friday, Saturday and Sunday evenings from August 2 through September 8 at the air-conditioned Broom Street Theater, 1119 Williamson St., Madison, WI. Tickets are \$6.00 at the door only (sorry, no reservations). Call (608) 244-8338 for more information. ▽



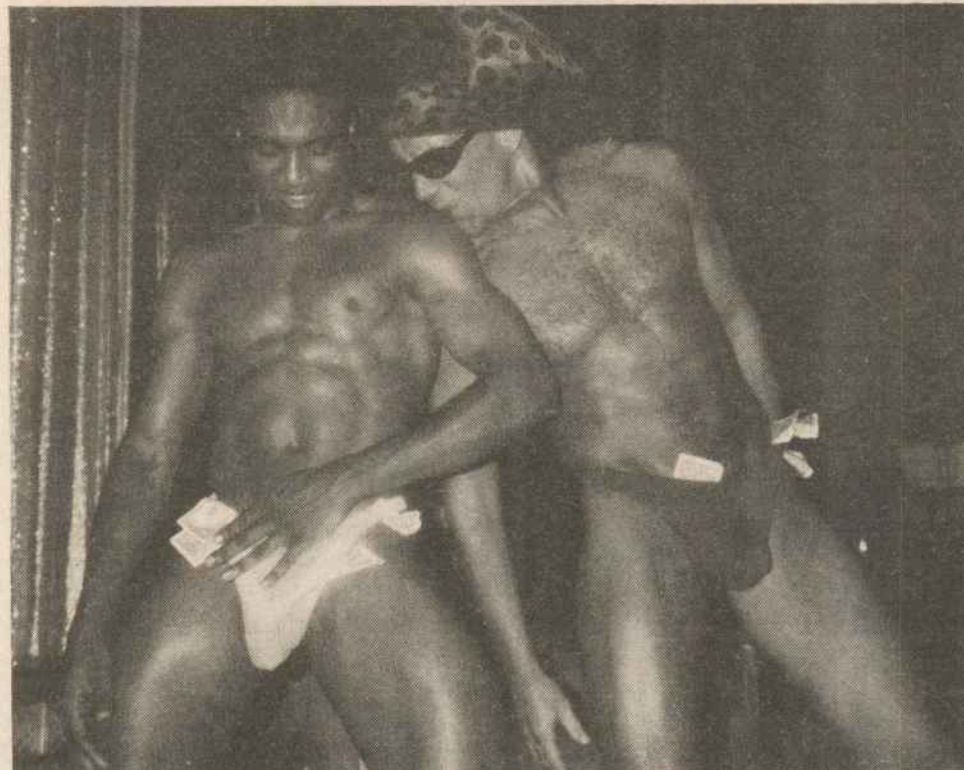
# OUT & About



Our photographer caught these guys while they partyed at Milwaukee's This Is It Bar, 418 E. Wells. They are (l-r) Todd Richards, Rici Collins, Mark Hager and Jeff Schell.



We found the folks at a table in C'est Le Vie, 231 S. Second St., Milwaukee, were all smiles. They are (l-r) Jonathon Mayer, Playwrights Studio Artistic director, Michael Nevill, Joan Collins and Ave Casale.



Seeing if he measures up? Two dancers from the Nine Inch Males caught on film while performing at Club 219. Anyone got a tape measure?

# YOU'RE INVITED

## Saturday August 3

### Miss Southeastern Gay Wisconsin At Kenosha's Club 94

Club '94 will be the site of the Miss Southeastern Gay Wis US of A pageant. Loretta Lamohr, Miss Gay Wis. US of A, Mary Richards Miss Gay Wis, '96, Kylie West, Miss Gay Kenosha, US of A, '96 and Vickee Ms. Gay Wis, '95 will be on hand to help liven things up and celebrate with the winner.

## Sunday August 4

### Riverwest Rainbow Picnic

The new Riverwest Rainbow Association a group of Lesbians and Gays living in the Milwaukee's Riverwest area will hold a picnic and softball game at Kern park from 2 to 5 PM.

Everyone is invited to come out and make some friends. The event will held at Picnic area 4 which is the area closest to the River. For more information call (414)225-1645.

### Miss Gay WI America Pageant at Manoeuvres in Madison

Manoeuvres, 150 S. Blair St., Madison will host the Miss Gay Wis. America Pageant. Special performances from Kerri Nochols Miss Gay America'96 & Trisha Reese, Miss Gay Wisconsin '96 will add to the fun! There is a \$5.00 cover or you can reserve a table for just \$25.00.

### National Night Out On Celebration On Milwaukee's East Side

Milwaukee's National Night Out celebration for the City's lower East Side neighborhood will take place this evening.

The fun starts with a pot luck at 6:30 at St. Hedwigs Hall 1150 E. Brady (Brady and Humboldt). Singational will perform and local and state officials are expected to be in attendance.

## Monday August 5

### Phantom Cast Theater Does Benefit Show for MAP

The cast of the "Phantom of the Opera" will be putting on a special benefit for the Milwaukee AIDS Project and Broadway Care/Equity Fights AIDS.

The show which will NOT include material from "Phantom" will be held at the

1506 North 3rd Street • Superior, WI



Thursday • Karaoke  
Friday & Saturday • DJ  
Sunday • Country Night

Milwaukee Repertory Theater's Powerhouse Theater, 108 E. Wells Street.

A food and drink reception with the cast will follow the show and a silent auction featuring Phantom memorabilia will also be held.

Tickets range from \$10.00 to \$20.00. Tickets may be purchased at the Milwaukee Rep's box office located in the theater lobby. The reception is an additional \$15.00.

## Friday August 9th

### Red Party & Sage's Birthday At Appleton's Fabulous Pivot Club!

The Ultimate Red Party will be held at Appleton's Fabulous Pivot Club, 4815 W. Prospect Ave, in celebration of Sage La Rue's 30th Birthday!

Miss La Rue will be waiting to welcome you and her special guest, Porn Star, Alex Austin.

The evening will also feature a great show. This is a wonderful opportunity to help a great performer celebrate the big 30 and to get a good look at another great performer, Alex Austin.

## Saturday August 10th

### Sass In Green Bay Holds Car Wash for the Center Project

Sass, 840 S. Broadway, Green Bay, will be holding a car wash from 1 Pm to 5 PM. Get your wheels washed while you wait. The \$5.00 price includes something you'll never get at one of those automated car washes, a free drink plus all proceeds go to the Center Project's Gurnsey Gala.

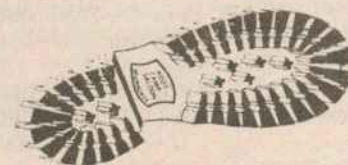
## Sunday August 11

### Miss Gay Great Lakes At Large Pageant at the Pivot Club

The Miss Gay Great Lakes US of A At Large Pageant will be held at the Pivot Club.

Special performances from Sage La Rue, the reigning Miss Gay Great Lakes US of A At Large and Chelsea Pearl, Miss Gay US of A At Large will highlight the evening.

There is a \$5.00 cover or you can reserve a table for \$10.00. To reserve a table call the club at 1-800-401-2748.

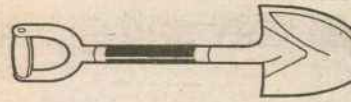


**BOOT CAMP SALOON**  
MILWAUKEE'S  
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# CALENDAR

Saturday August 3	Sunday August 4	Monday August 5	Friday August 9	Saturday August 10	Tuesday August 13
<p><b>Miss Southeast Wisconsin US of A Pageant</b> Kenosha's Club 94, Hwy C &amp; 194</p> <p><b>HIV Kills! Get Tested</b> Call Your Local AIDS Group or STD Clinic For Sites And Times</p>	<p><b>Riverwest Rainbow Picnic &amp; Softball</b> Kern Park, Area 4 Milwaukee</p> <p><b>Miss Gay WI America Pageant</b> Manoeuvres, 150 S. Blair St. Madison</p> <p><b>National Night Out</b> St. Hedwig's Humboldt and Brady, Milwaukee</p>	<p><b>Special Benefit for MAP from the cast of Phantom.</b></p> <p>Songs and dance from non-Phantom material plus a reception and silent auction.</p> <p>Milwaukee Repertory Theater, 108 E Wells, Milwaukee</p>	<p><b>The Ultimate Red Party and Sage's 30th Birthday Party</b> With Alex Austin</p> <p>The Pivot Club, 4815 W. Prospect, Appleton</p> <p><b>Deadline for Articles and Announcements for the August 15 Edition of The Wisconsin Light</b></p>	<p><b>Car Wash for The Center Project</b> Sass, 840 S. Broadway, Green Bay</p> <p><b>Sunday August 11</b></p> <p><b>Miss Great Lakes At Large US of A Pageant</b> Pivot Club 4815 W. Prospect, Appleton</p>	<p><b>Ad Deadline for the August 15 Issue of the Wisconsin Light</b></p> <p><b>For Up to Date Event Information CALL</b></p> <p><b>The Wisconsin Light SPOTLINE</b> (414)299-0857</p>



## Here's the dirt . . .

By Doktor Suzee Shovelit

BY Doktor Suzee Shovelit

If you would like a recap of your event or if you have dirt to share in "Here's the Dirt" call the *Wisconsin Light* at (414)372-2773 and make an appointment. Or call the *Spotline* at (414)299-0857 and leave a message. I don't make house calls but I will listen to your cough and may prescribe for you over the phone. Or you can throw your dirt directly into my e-mail box *Dshovelit@aol.com*.

Well its time to accept the facts—August is upon us, Summer is almost over, and the season of drag shows has once again descended on us like a tone of foam rubber padding.

From *The American Family Association Journal* for August, 1996 the headline, "Families Shocked by Homosexual Celebration at Magic Kingdom" "The 1996 Gay Day at Disney provided few surprises for those who watched the infamous gathering over the years. But for unsuspecting families who happened into the lair of depravity, shock would be an understatement."

## Gay Leaders Denounce Clinton's Decision to Sign Anti-Marriage Bill

Washington, DC—A Republican-sponsored drive to make same-sex marriage illegal under federal law was inspired by concerns about morality, not politics, says Rep. Henry Hyde (R-IL), chairman of the House Judiciary Committee.

Supporters of a bill defining marriage as a "legal union between one man and one woman" aren't engaging in election-year maneuvering, he said Thursday, May 30<sup>th</sup>, as the panel's constitution subcommittee approved the idea.

"Don't assume people are doing this for political profit," said Hyde. "Some of us believe that same-sex unions sanctioned by the government trivialize marriage and condone public immorality."

The subcommittee voted 8-4 along party lines to approve the bill, bringing it a step closer to a vote on the House floor. The Senate has not yet begun work on a similar bill introduced by Sen. Don Nickles, (R-OK).

During the subcommittee hearing, Hyde claimed that the timing of the bill "is dictated by the courts," referring to the case in Hawaii.

"What action by what court, and when did it happen?" shot back Rep. Barney Frank (D-MA).

Hyde offered no answer.

A spokeswoman for the Human Rights Campaign (HRC), Kim I. Mills, disagreed. "The fact that proponents of this clearly unconstitutional bill couldn't even articulate why they think it's necessary, just demonstrates that it's a cheap political ploy."

Mills added, "No state recognizes same-sex marriage, and Hawaii—the only state that might—is at least two years away from that decision."

Meanwhile, Ralph Reed, executive director of the Christian Coalition—which has been pushing anti-same-sex marriage bills in state legislatures—said his group would put its full force behind getting the Defense of Marriage bill to President Clinton's desk before Labor Day.

President Clinton and congressional Democrats have accused Republicans of coming up with the plan to whip up anti-gay sentiment and better their chances of winning the White House in November.

But the president has said he'll sign the bill if it remains in its current form.

The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) voiced outrage at Clinton's statement.

"We are deeply disappointed and dismayed at the announcement that the President is willing to sign into law anti-marriage legislation. In making this decision, the President has abandoned his commitment to tolerance, compassion, and fairness and has also made a serious political misstep," said Tracey Conaty, an NGLTF spokeswoman.

Conaty called the President's decision to sign the bill "a slap in the face of Gay and Lesbian families across America."

Elizabeth Birch, HRC's executive director, called the Clinton decision "a capitulation to religious extremists."

Birch went on to say, "This bill is a ploy by the floundering Dole for President campaign to drive a wedge between the Gay community and President Clinton."

David Mixner

According to *Light's* sources inside the Beltway, the Clinton decision came as no surprise. Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual leaders had known that it was coming "for weeks;"

Another revealing first hand account comes to us from the Disney Diary column in the *Orlando Weekly* newspaper. In it writer Jeff Truesdell recounts the day. "Take away the Gay workers and Disney World becomes the planet's largest self service theme park."

I understand the *Miss Capitol City* pageant had its share of technical problems. a) It started an hour late, b) the CD player brought in by the promoters didn't operate properly. The enthusiastic crowd and the professionalism shown by the performers, contestants and the staff at R Place carried the day and brought about a fine show.

The *MAGIC* picnic recently held in Madison reported its biggest crowd ever. The organizers were swift to thank Bill Meunier and *The Wisconsin Light* for its expanded advance coverage. Miller Lite was the first beer to run out. Then even tho there were only two taps of it and open taps of other beers (with no waiting line) the Madison crowd (which loves its Miller) waited in long lines to get a glass. But alas, Miller Lite finally ran

that word had been passed to Rep. Frank and HRC that the President would sign the bill.

One high and well-placed White House source, speaking on condition of anonymity, said, "What are you people out in the Midwest surprised about? This is an election year and this whole thing by the President is political, pure politics."

The source, interviewed by phone, went on to explain that what Clinton was trying to do was to "blunt a wedge issue" before the GOP could use it.

"What do you want in November?" the source asked. "President Clinton or President Dole?"

David Mixner, a friend of Clinton's for 25 years, and an openly Gay man and leader, expressed his outrage at the decision. "It's reprehensible and cowardly," he told *Newsweek* magazine.

However, Mixner added that "It was politically smart."

(Mixner will be coming to Milwaukee in late summer to sign copies of his forthcoming book.)

*Light's* source said that "overall" Gay leaders have been "outraged, but calm."

"Okay," he said, "Gays poured a lot of money into the (Clinton) campaign, but Mr. President plays to the numbers and the Gay leaders understand the numbers."

The reference was to the fact that according to a recent poll, only 33% of the country approves of same-sex marriage.

The House bill, sponsored by Rep. Bob Barr, (R-GA), would define marriage for federal purposes, keeping same-sex couples ineligible for a wide range of federal benefits, including Social Security payments.

It also would give states the authority to reject the validity of same-sex marriages performed in any other state. But it wouldn't block any state from conferring its own legal status on same-sex unions, according to the bill's sponsor.

Supporters say the legislation is necessary because of a court case that could make Hawaii the first state to recognize same-sex marriages. If that happens, the Constitution may require that all other states accept same-sex marriages performed in Hawaii as legal, they say.

Democrats said the bill was politically motivated and unnecessary because it would give states no more power than they have today.

Congress has more important issues to work on, such as employment, health care, crime and the economy, said Rep. John Conyers, (D-MI).

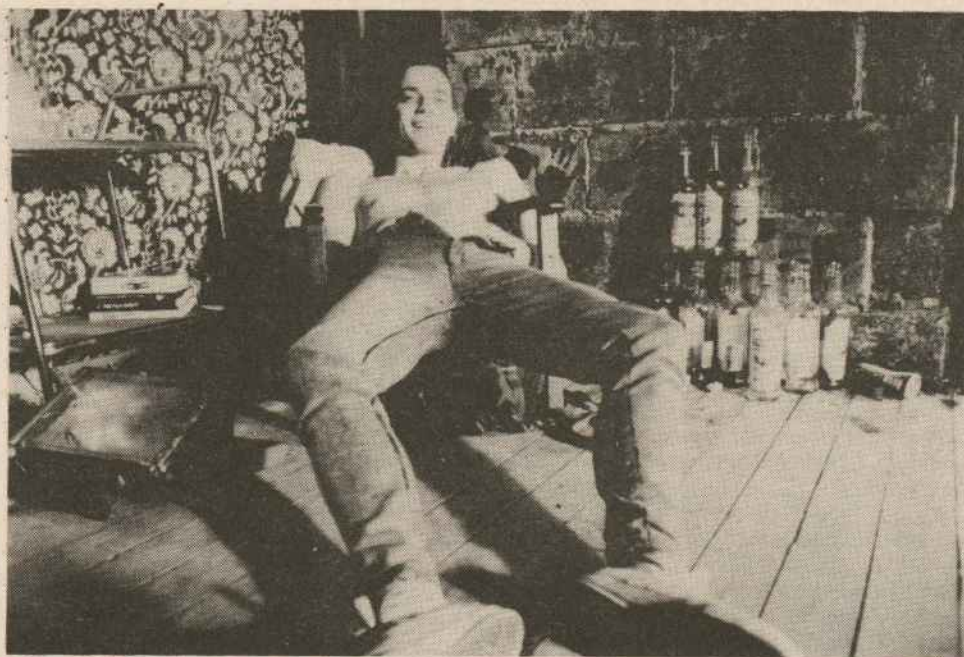
"Here we are, 160 days before an election, and this committee ends up with nothing to do but this," Conyers said. "If we don't have anything to do, we probably shouldn't be meeting."

Democrats—led by Rep. Frank tried repeatedly to amend the bill's language Thursday, May 30<sup>th</sup>, but they were outvoted by the majority Republicans.

Freshman Rep. Michael Patrick Flanagan, (R-IL), voted for the bill despite reservations about the intrusion of the federal government into marriage, which traditionally has been regulated by the states.

"The federal government has never defined marriage, but that it was always understood what that meant," he said. "But now we find it necessary to say that out loud."

Flanagan also said that since some parts of the bill have tax implications, the House Ways and Means Committee should study it.



Evan McGregor stars in "Trainspotting." The film opens August 2 at Milwaukee's Downer Theater.

dry. How sad, how sad.

### Recaps

The *Federal Election Commission* is suing the *Christian Coalition* for allegedly making illegal contributions to help former President Bush and other Republican candidates win federal office.

Apparently the Coalition made "in kind" contributions by distributing voter guides and conducting "get out the vote" efforts for specific candidates. The Coalition is a Virginia based corporation and because it is a corporation is barred by federal election law from spending for or contributing any service to any candidate or group involved in a federal election.

The Coalition is vowing to fight what it calls a baseless and frivolous suit.

### Rumor Has It

That a Madison alderman was nearly "departsed" during a meeting with his constituents. To avoid this em-bare-assing problem, meetings will no longer be held during the Rod's Reunion party at the Hotel Washington.

That Milwaukee's *PrideFest* Committee was not represented at this year's *MAGIC* Picnic in Madison. Shame, shame, how soon we forget the golden rule of "you scratch my back, I'll scratch yours."

That the reason, the *PrideFest* Committee was not represented at this

year's *MAGIC* Picnic and *Pride* March is because they were busy celebrating *PrideFest* Treasurer Chris Kleins 40<sup>th</sup> Birthday at Just Us. Its too bad Ms. Klein thinks solidarity with her friends in a bar is more important than showing solidarity with Madison's *Pride* Committee (which has consistently shown support for *PrideFest*.) I'm stunned she missed this opportunity to walk around and show off who's boss.

That a certain *Wisconsin Light* editor in chief is thoroughly enjoying his souvenir photo of porn star David Burrill from his recent show at *Manoeuvres* in Madison. We can't say exactly what David wrote on the photo, but we can say that Dr. Boughner insists that its true.

That Kevin at Club 219 was literally stomped by one of *Dino's Teasers* male strippers during a recent appearance at the Club. The stripper (who claims to be straight) alleged that a customer stuck his finger up his ass while he was performing. Apparently there were no witness to this ass-ualt, even though it allegedly happened during his performance to a crowded house.

After throwing an ashtray at Kevin, the stripper left the bar only to return and blindside Kevin. *Dino's* has apologized and promised that it won't happen again.

# Think...

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# & Think Again!

## When are We Going to Wake Up and Realize That We Are Not "Just Like Them?"

Commentary by Dan E. Boy

Whatever happened to Queer Activism? Where are all the drag queens, leather boys, dykes on bikes, and Queer Nationers? It seems that we are seeing fewer and fewer "radical" activists who really want to make a change in this country, and more of the "political" activists who band together only when they are attacked.

This doesn't mean that those who work to organize the fight against the religious right and their like are not doing good work, or that this work is unnecessary, yet at what cost does it come?

Those in "power" in the "lesbigay" community are constantly working to present the image that we are "just like them." They try to show how we are exactly the same as everyone else, that we all strive for the same things. Whether it's saying that we too have "family values," or that we are all "upstanding" citizens of the community, it is all an effort to make the point that we are "normal."

Instead of focusing on the fact that we are all people, and that all people have cultural, religious, and other differences, this viewpoint tries to drive home a point that we are just like those who are attacking us.

But what happens to those who do not fit this stereotype? We are asked to change, to conform to the way we should act for the "common" good. Or we are forced to remain in the background.

The gay press, local and national, blatantly ignores us or projects us in a negative light. The political groups we have worked for distance themselves from us. The families we have created in the Queer community desert us.

This push for conformity IS having an affect -- it's pushing us back into a closet, a new kind of closet. It is a closet in which we all have to act in a certain way, or we cannot be a part. It is no better than the military's "Don't Ask -- Don't Tell" Policy. It is another way to hide us from the world, so that we are not

### MILITARY

Continued from Page 1

Republican, Rep Steve Gunderson, an openly Gay congressman from Wisconsin. Gunderson is a close friend of House Speaker Newt Gingrich.

The battle started when Dornan attached an amendment to the 1996 Defense Department Authorization bill. While signing that bill into law, President Clinton announced that he ordered the military not to enforce any provisions that required them to oust HIV+ personnel and vowed to seek their repeal.

In April Congress passed a budget bill that did repeal the discriminatory HIV discharge measure. Almost immediately, Dornan introduced a slightly modified version of his amendment to kick out service members who are HIV+.

Stachelberg said that Dornan's second try to was worse than his first. "That version was even meaner in that it ordered service men and women to be kicked out two months after diagnosis, as opposed to six months. Dornan tried to make it more palatable by allowing these people to retire with full benefits, but he couldn't mask his underlying bigotry."

Currently service members with HIV are allowed to continue the military duty as long as they are able to perform their duties, but they are not deployed overseas.

That same policy applies to service members who have other chronic medical conditions such as diabetes, asthma, heart disease or cancer.

The Conference Committee report must now go before the Senate and the House for approval. Such reports are routinely approved and sent to the President for his signature.

seen as a stain on the image of this "great country of freedom."

Where will this new political move take us? Will it win us the freedom to love others, a freedom granted us by our birth? Or will it only force us further back, back before Stonewall and into the 50's, a place Pat Robertson years to be. And who will be forced to change next? Maybe transsexuals and cross-dressers, because they give us a bad name, or men and women being asked not to wear leather because it makes "them" think that all we are interested in is sex.

It wasn't good little men in suits and submissive women in dresses that took the first step at Stonewall. It was drag queens, dykes and fags.

It was people who weren't going to take it anymore.

It was people who refused to have to hide themselves away and be ashamed.

We are NOT all alike, we are all completely different. Every one of us has their own hopes and dreams. Every one of us has longings for completely different things, but we are ALL being repressed -- and not just by others.

We all need to be able to have our place in this country, and we won't get that place "at the table" by becoming lesbigay clones. Queers are a very vital and necessary part of this revolution, and to force us away from you will only lead you further into the mold that the religious right is creating for you, a mold created in their own image.

## David Clarenbach Resigns From Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund

Washington, DC—Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund Executive Director David Clarenbach announced his departure on July 30 from that position. Clarenbach's resignation is effective August 9<sup>th</sup>.

In his letter of resignation to the Victory Fund Board, Clarenbach gave his desire to pursue "professional opportunities" as the reason for his sudden resignation.

The Victory Fund Board of Directors has appointed Board member and former Victory Fund candidate Jonathan Wilson as Interim Executive Director while a search for a permanent Executive Director is being conducted.

Wilson, a successful corporate attorney, served on the Des Moines, Iowa School Board for 12 years. He gained national attention when he came out as a Gay man during a contentious school board discussion concerning more uniform implementation of the school district's long-standing sexual orientation non-discrimination policy.

According to Victory fund co-chair Joy Tomchin of New York, "In his year as our Executive Director, David provided the Victory Fund with essential administrative and financial management and austerity. He has accomplished much toward ensuring that the Victory Fund is a highly successful, effective, and well-run organization with a healthy and stable financial condition. David will be sincerely missed and the board of directors wishes him well."

In a phone interview, among many other things, Clarenbach praised Wilson as a cru-

sader for the rights of Gay people. "He will do very well and I wish him the best of everything," Clarenbach said.

"The Victory Fund is in good hands, and I look forward to working with Jonathan," Clarenbach said.

Clarenbach, a veteran of 18 years in the Wisconsin State Legislature, where he pushed through the nation's first "Gay Rights law", said that he was "very proud" of the Victory Fund's growth in the year since he became Executive Director. He said that such is the Fund's energy and dedication that he fully expects that after the 1996 elections, "half the states and one third of the state legislatures will have openly Lesbian or Gay elected officials serving."

Clarenbach said that while he misses Wisconsin, he has "no plans" to return to his native state. "I'm going to stay in Washington," he said.

The Victory Fund Board has asked Clarenbach to serve as a management and policy advisor to the Fund during the transition and search process.

As members of the Victory Fund delegation to Chicago during the Democratic National Convention, Clarenbach and Wilson will take part in joint Gay and Lesbian community activities.

Clarenbach will also participate in activities surrounding the Republican National Convention in San Diego, including LGBT VOICES '96 and the National Log Cabin Club Convention.

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**608 SBF 32.** Looking for a White female. I have 3 kids. Leave me a message if you are interested. Call Ext. **33312**

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Men Seeking Men

**414 SM 28, 6'**, brown hair, brown eyes, straight-looking, young-looking. I'm looking for someone who is outgoing & likes animals. Preferably someone between the ages of 25-35. Someone to spend time with. Call Ext. **32579**

**414 SM 6'**, brown hair, blue eyes, clean-shaven, mustache. I'm looking for someone similar, 30-40. Must be clean, safe & discreet. For fun, I'm the one to call. Call Ext. **33339**

**608 SWM Professional, 42**, fit, attractive, brown hair & green eyes. I have a Fu-Manchu mustache. I'm looking for young White males, 18-45. Must like to have a good time. I'm a Harley-Davidson driver. I enjoy sports. Looking for a pal to have fun with. Call Ext. **32361**

**608 SM 6'**, 165 lbs., brown hair, blue eyes. I enjoy hiking, swimming, watching TV, dining out & movies. I would like to meet someone 18-30, to talk to & develop a relationship with. Leave a message if you are interested. Call Ext. **32929**

**715 SWM** I am looking for some other White males who are between the ages of 20-40 years old, who would like to have a fun time getting to know each other. I'm a smoker & a social drinker. I like quiet evenings at home, going to the movies & being spoiled. Please give me a call. Call Ext. **33098**

**715 SM 30** years old, I'm new to the area. Looking for other males, who are between 25-45 years of age, who are very confident in their lifestyle. I love quiet evenings at home & spoiling that special someone. I like to fix a home-cooked meal & treat a man the way he should be treated. Please call and leave a message. Call Ext. **33714**



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(Wisconsin Light, Milwaukee, WI)

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### Wisconsin

**HEY GUYS** I'm a 20 year old Gay White male, 5'10, 145lbs, good shape. I like the outdoors, shopping, and more. Call me. Lets talk. (Appleton) #18955

**BRUTALLY HONEST** GWM, 46, 252, 6'2", hazel eyes, brown hair, balding, varied interests, interested in crocheting and knitting, seeks others, with similar interests, for fun and friendship. Give me a call. (Appleton) #20138

**DISCRETION A MUST** I'm a 33 year old professional Bi male. I enjoy sporting events. I tend to be shy. My profession does not allow me to meet people freely. I look forward to meeting someone. Please be discreet. (Fond du lac) #32076

**NO GAMES NO TRIPS** I'm 6'1, Brown hair, Blue eyes, 178lbs, slim, good shape, good looking. I would like to meet someone for a long term relationship. Casual friends welcome. I enjoy sporting events and masculine men. (Fond du lac) #32136

**HEALTHY LIFESTYLE** I'm a health minded individual interested in meeting sincere and honest people 18 to 40 in the Fox Valley area. Call me. (Fox Valley) #21186

**ORDINARY GUY** looking for companionship with someone who is honest, sincere, and has a good outlook on life. Call me. (Fox Valley) #21201

**WAITING FOR A MASTER** I'm looking for a dominant master to train me to be a very passive boy. I'm into all aspects of B&D and I will submit to you sir. Please call me. (Green Bay) #24298

**SONNIE DELIGHT** We are a super hot bottom couple who want to meet Gay, bi, White males for adult fun and to have delights with. Call us. (Green Bay) #20254

**LOOKING FOR FRIENDS** I'm an attractive 22 year old Gay White male, 6'2, 190lbs. I'm looking for friends to have fun with. Call me. (Green Bay) #19235

**BUILT TO LAST** I'm a 38 year old Gay White male. I would like to meet guys for fun and games. I'm muscular, masculine, and well equipped. Call me. (Green Bay) #19358

**GOOD LOOKING GUY IN GREEN BAY** I'm very good looking and I'm looking for someone to spend time with. I'm into what ever you want to do. Nothing kinky. Call me. (Green Bay) #18366

**I LOVE SUBMISSIVE OLDER MEN** I'm a very attractive White male seeking older submissive males for movies, games, and fun. (Green Bay) #15123

**CAN WE TALK?** I'm a 43 year old male who likes to take long walks. I'm looking for someone to have good conversation with. Call me. (Green Bay) #8015

**YING AND YANG** Cross dresser looking for someone 40 to 45 for get togethers. I'm sometimes dominant and sometimes submissive. Call me. (Green Bay) #8905

**THE BUDDY SYSTEM** I'm searching for a buddy to mess around with this summer. I like fishing, camping, hiking, and more. I'm also interested in getting involved in weight lifting. Call me. (Green Bay) #10054

**ON YOUR KNEES BOY** I'm a hot leather master looking for completely submissive and passive leather boys. Call me now boy. Be on your knees and ready. (Green Bay) #9172

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

**LETS PLAY BALL** I'm a 22 year old Gay White male interested in meeting someone for friendship or other reasons. I have dark blond hair and blue eyes and I love sports. If you are interested please call me and leave a message. (Kenosha) #43128

**JUST FUN** I'm 6'1, 155lbs, Blonde hair, Blue eyes, hairy, 21 years old. I'm looking for guys 18 to 23 in my area. I'm not interested in a relationship, just fun. (Kenosha) #28952

**BIG AND BOLD** I'm 6'1, 250lbs, linebacker build, good looking, 40 years old, attractive, healthy. I'm looking for a Gay White or Hispanic male. I have many interests. I'm looking for a friends first relationship. Call me. (Kenosha) #19888

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

**I'LL DO ANYTHING** I'm a 19 year old Bi sexual male looking for open minded Bi guys for friendship. If you want more than friendship please be 18 to 28. Call me. (La Crosse) #22123

**ISN'T THAT YOU ON THE SCREEN?** I would love to get together with some guys in my area. If you are into adult videos call me. Lets watch together. (Madison) #1314

**MADISON BEAR** I'm 28 years old, 6'2, heavy set, short brown hair, hairy all over. I like big hairy men like myself. I'm into movies, theatre, reading, and good conversation. Call me. (Madison) #1163

**TAKE A CHANCE ON ME** I'm a Gay White male, 6'1, 175lbs, Brown hair, Green eyes, 30 years old, fit, clean cut. I'm looking for a top Gay male for fun, friendship, and possibly more. Try me. No disappointment (Madison) #34680

**I NEED A HOT TOP MAN** I'm 5'10, 180lbs, 34" waist, Brown curly hair, dark Brown eyes, football player build, very strong. I'm a bottom looking for a top. Call me. (Madison) #18377

**LETS GO ROLLERBLADING** I'm looking for a man 18 to 22 in my area that's fun to be with and has a real good personality. If you like to rollerblade and have fun at home call me. (Manitowoc) #15998

**LIGHT ME UP** I'm a White male looking for friendship and whatever. I'm a smoker and I enjoy the outdoors. Call me. (Marshfield) #19302

**PLOW THIS BOY** I'm 6ft, 190lbs. I'm looking for an interesting top man to plow me. (Menomonie) #20561

**DANCES WITH NATURE** I'm a Gay White male, Brown hair, Blue eyes, 6'1, 25 years old, nice body. I love dancing and the outdoors. Give me a call. (Milwaukee) #1538

**I LOVE TRANSVESTITES** If you enjoy cross dressing call me. I enjoy the company of another guy when he is in drag. Call me. (Milwaukee) #1626

**MAKE ME LAUGH** I'm 5'7, 180lbs, well built. I'm looking for the same in a guy with a good sense of humor. Lets go out. (Milwaukee) #1316

**BLACK MEN ONLY** I'm a 21 year old Drag Queen. I have Brown hair, Brown eyes, 5'9, 155lbs, flexible, I'd like to meet a very fun loving and caring guy who likes to do a lot of things as well as cuddle. I'm only interested in Black men. Call me. (Milwaukee) #42795

**LEATHER TRAINING** I'm into leather. I'm looking for a slave boy or she male. I'm in my 40's, good build. I'm looking for someone to train. (Milwaukee) #32154

**FUZZY LITTLE LEATHER BEAR?** I'm 47 years old, 5'7, 178lbs. I enjoy working out, hiking, biking, staying fit, etc. I'm looking for fuzzy little leather bears 5'10 and under. Call me. (Milwaukee) #3544

**MANS BEST FRIEND** I'm a 40 year old Gay White male, 6ft, 185lbs, HIV positive. I'm seeking other men 30 plus for friendship and companionship. Call me. (Milwaukee) #4327

**OH NO! IT'S MR. BILL** I'm 47 years old, 5'7, 178lbs, and hairy. I'm looking for another hot leather man to be in touch with. I'm willing to experiment and explore. I like to dominate. Call me. (Milwaukee) #20606

**CUMING STRAIGHT ON TO YOU** I'm looking for straight acting friends to hang out with. I'm 24 years old, 6'2, 170lbs, Brown hair, Blue eyes. If you want to get in touch with me please call. (Milwaukee) #19828

**SUB DUDE** I'm 31 years old, 5'7, 140lbs. I'm an inexperienced submissive bottom looking for an aggressive top. (Milwaukee) #19337

**CHUBBY HUBBY WANTED** I'm 5'9, 160lbs, 40 years old. I'm looking for a heavy set man for cuddling, movies, and popcorn. (Milwaukee) #19486

**LET ME BE YOUR LITTLE GIRL** I'm a Bi white male, 23 years old, shy, mature, and submissive. I'm looking for dominant men to make me submit, make me dress like a girl and use me. (Milwaukee) #19867

**ARE YOU READY FOR A STEADY?** I'm 33 years old, 5'11, dark Brown hair, Hazel eyes, 165lbs. I'm looking to meet a man for good times and a possible long term relationship. Please be honest, sincere, and caring. (Milwaukee) #18019

**LONG BROWN HAIR** Scott, 23, 6'2, 170 long brown 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 Jack Straps and Yellow hankies. (Milwaukee) #34585

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

**MORE THAN THIS** I'm a straight acting Gay White male, 29 years old, 5'7, 140lbs, Blonde hair, Blue eyes, clean cut, and attractive. I'm seeking a straight acting Gay White male 1 to 35 for a sincere relationship as friends or maybe more. (Osh Kosh) #19970

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

**LET'S GO FOR A BIKE RIDE** I'm a White male, 40 years old. I like country music, bike riding, and long walks. Call me. (Racine) #19586

**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

**STRAIGHT TO THE POINT** I would like to meet some guys in my area for fun and more. Call me. (Stevens Point) #19640

**I KNEED YOU!** I'm 30 years old seeking others 20 to 40 who enjoy full bodied massage, home cooked food, and hanging out with friends. If you are looking for a long term relationship call me. (Stevens Point) #6937

**SMOKEY THE QUEER** I'm a Gay White male looking for someone 18 to 25 who are into everything. I'm a smoker looking for a nice good looking man. (Stevens Point) #10382

**DAD WANTS BOY** I'm a Gay White male retired professional seeking a cute young dude, son, brother, for affection, companionship, and more. Call me. (Sturgeon Bay) #34420

**WE CAN WORK IT OUT** I'm 25 years old, 6'1, 185lbs, medium build, Blonde hair, Blue eyes. I enjoy tennis, movies, biking, and exercising. I'm looking for friendship and a possible relationship. Call me. (Wausau) #11144

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

**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 some, for fun and pleasure. Call me and leave a way to contact you. (Wisconsin) #27268

**GOOD TOP WANTED** I'm a bottom looking for a top. If you are good and would like to meet me, please call. #31407

**TOP THIS BOTTOM** I'm a Gay African American man, 5'3, 170lbs, Brown eyes, stocky, solid. I'm seeking a very dominant person who loves sports, walking, movies and more. Call me. #32768

**USE AND ABUSE THIS BOTTOM** I'm an inexperienced submissive bottom looking for a physically dominant top for wrestling, bondage, S&M, and more. If you would like to use and abuse me pleas call. I'm 35 years old, 5'9, 190lbs, clean, and discreet. #21247

**FLY THIS FRIENDLY GUY** I'm 20 years old and I'm looking for guys around my age. I'm 5'11, 140lbs, Brown hair, Blue eyes. I'm looking for fun and someone to hang out with. Call me. (Evanston) #16585

**HELLO OUT THERE** I'm 33 years old, 6'1, 170lbs, 44" chest, 30" waist, dark hair, dark eyes, mustache, hairy, good tan. I get into lots of music, outdoors, romantic movies and dinners. If you are interested please call me. (Forest Park) #34692

**ROMANCE MY STONES** I'm 36 years old, 5'10, 165lbs. I like biking, roller blading, and romantic dinners. I'm looking for someone with similar interests. Call me. (Hickory Hills) #22547

**SUBMIT TO THIS** I'm a 31 year old totally dominant top man, 5'10, 175lbs, Brown hair, Green eyes, and goatee. I'm looking for a totally submissive guy under 35 years old. Call me. (La Grange) #16412

**WE CAN WORK OUT TOGETHER** I'm 25 years old, 6ft, 175lbs, Blonde hair, Blue eyes, well built. I enjoy movies, golf, night clubs, etc. I seek a White male 21 to 30 who is a non smoker and drug free. I'm also looking for a workout partner. Call me. (Lombard) #16627

### Minnesota

**DO IT WITH ME** I'm a total bottom looking for someone to do something with me. (Grand Forks) #21532

**CALL THIS GUY** I'm a Gay White male, 46 years old, look 34, 5'5, 150lbs, 30" waist, good shape, Reddish Brown hair, Hazel eyes, clean shaven, hairy chest. I'm looking for men who love to kiss and be kissed. Call me. (Hopkins) #1515

**START ME UP** I'm 5'7, 155lbs, 30 years old, long Brown hair, Brown eyes, good shape, Bi curious. I'm looking for Bi or Gay guys to help get me started. Call me. (Mankato) #23982

**MAN IN MANKATO** I'm 30 years old, 5'7, 155lbs, Brown hair, Brown eyes. I'm Bi curious and I'm looking for Bi or Gay men in my area who are nice and very discreet. (Mankato) #22567

**LIMITS RESPECTED** I'm a dominant Bi White male, 5'8, 155lbs, muscular, work out, 54 years old. I like men and women. Lets do it. I like to dominate men. I like bondage, discipline, water sports, French, and Greek. Call me. Limits respected. (Minneapolis) #1436

**BOUND TO PLEASE** I'm a submissive Gay White male, 6'1, 185lbs, 35 years old. I'm a slave looking for a master who can give me the discipline I need. I'm into bondage, water sports, verbal abuse, etc. Call me. I'm made to take orders. (Minneapolis) #33462

**CHUBBY HUBBY** I'm 28 years old, 5'11, 270lbs, chubby. I'm looking for young Hispanic men 22 to 29 who are hairy, clean shaven, and in shape. I'm looking for good times and a possible relationship. Call me. (Minneapolis) #35021

**NEW KID IN TOWN** I'm 34 years old, 6'3, transplant. I'm looking to make some friends and a possible lover. I like dining out, movies, walks, video's, etc. I'm easy going and I'm looking for a friend. (Minneapolis) #29791

**WESTERN DAKOTA BOY** I like cooking, gardening, country farm life, fishing, camping, and more. I would like to be with that special someone. I'm seeking a one on one serious relationship. If you are interested please call me. (Minneapolis) #29923

**LETS GET EXCITED** I'm a 40 year old White male, 6'2, 195lbs, Blonde, I'm looking for single or couples 30 to 40's for fun, friendship, and excitement (Minneapolis) #24661

**TAKE A CHANCE ON ME** I'm a muscular Gay White male, 5'8, 32" waist, 44" chest, great legs. I like movies, theatre, eating, and more. I'm educated and fun to be around. I'm looking for other hot guys for fun and more. (Minneapolis) #21098

**PRIVATE DANCER** I'm Blonde, 6'1, 185lbs, good shape, late 30's. I give erotic massage. I'm looking for Bi, Gay, or married men for discreet encounters. Privacy assured. I have my own place. (Minneapolis) #22490

**LET MY GIRL WATCH ME SERVE YOU** I'm a submissive 30 year old male searching for large endowed men to dominate me while my girlfriend watches. I'm very open minded. I'm looking for someone who enjoys being serviced. Call me. (Minneapolis) #22912

**THIS BI MALE WANTS YOU** I'm a 44 year old Bi White male looking for other males or couples. Call me. (Minneapolis) #23052

**ATTORNEY IN BRIEFS** I'm a 38 year old seeking to share bottom lines for friendship and possible relationship. I'm looking for someone 30 to 40 who likes the outdoors and more. Call me. (Minneapolis) #23244

**NORTHERN EXPOSURE** I'm a 53 year old Bi White male looking for a slender guy to serve me on the weekends. Call me. (Minneapolis) #23782

**IN THE BUFF** I'm a professional Gay White male, 45 years old, 5'6, 135lbs, Brown hair, Brown eyes. I'm looking for a fellow nudist who has a private spot. Call me. (Minneapolis) #21986

**SEEKING FRIENDSHIP** Bi White male, 60+, 6'2, outdoors, seeks friendship with same. Call me (Minneapolis) #21818

**BLACK ON BLACK** Bi Black male, 5'9, 150lbs, nice tone body, good shape. I'm looking to hook up with another well built, masculine, and well endowed Black man for discreet encounters. Call me. (Minneapolis) #21238



David Christensen-Brown

### Illinois

**ANYTHING GOES** I'm 18 years old, 5'10, 150lbs, light Brown hair, light Blue eyes. I'm Bi sexual. I'm into everything. Call me. (Addison) #20384

**YOUNG AND RESTLESS** I'm 18 years old, 5'10, 150lbs, light Brown hair, light Blue eyes. I'm into everything and anything. Let me be your slave. I'm new at this. Teach me. (Addison) #19784

**BIGGER IS NOT BETTER** I'm a beautiful Black female impersonator looking for men who are NOT well endowed. If you want to go out on a date and enjoy the night call me. (Evanston) #1176

**BATMAN SEEKS ROBIN** I'm a healthy Gay White male top in search of single Gay or Bi White male bottoms 21 to 35 to play Robin to my Batman on the weekends. If you have an open mind and an active imagination call me. (Evanston) #10435

**STINKY** I have a foot fetish. I love young guys. I might even buy your dirty socks. Call me. (Evanston) #1050

**LETS PARTY!** I'm a Gay White male, 20 years old, looking for a Gay White male who likes to go out and have fun. I like to party. Smokers OK. Call me. (Evanston) #36490

**CARNIVAL DOG** I'm a Gay White male looking for a Gay male for fun times, laughs, and entertainment. I enjoy carnivals and outdoor fun. Call me. (Evanston) #36868

**UNDER THE BIG TOP** I'm a 34 year old Gay White male. I'm looking for other Gay White men 24 to 34. I like movies and the circus. Call me. (Evanston) #38889

**NORTH WEST SUBURBS** I'm searching for other men in the suburbs or Chicago who have access to public places where we can watch other guys taking showers. I'm looking for guys 18 to 41. I'm 41 years old, slender, 135lbs, dark Brown hair. Call me. (Evanston) #31818

**YOUNG AND READY** I'm an 18 year old Gay White male. I'm looking for someone who is no older than 19 for a relationship. Call me. (Evanston) #44464

**TEDDY BEAR WANTED** I'm looking for teddy bears. People who like to hug and love. I'm 230lbs and masculine. Call me. (Evanston) #22921

**NEW AT THIS** I live in the Omaha area and I'm looking for new friends. Call me. (Evanston) #7935

**YOUNG PUP SEEKS OLDER MAN** I'm 19 years old, 5'7, 200lbs, Brown hair, Blue eyes. I've never been with a man. I would like to meet an older man 30 to 45 for fun and more. (Evanston) #20939

**SMOOTH, YOUNG, AND SKINNY?** I'm looking for men 18 to 25 who are slim, skinny, and smooth. I'm 5'9, 150lbs, male model. Call me. (Evanston) #21057

**I'M A PLEASER NOT A TEASER** I'm 5'10, 150lbs, Brown hair, Blue eyes, 18 years old. I'm really hot and horny. call me. Lets please each other. (Evanston) #20383

**NEED A GOOD SPANKING?** I'm a Gay White male teacher looking for in shape college student 18 to 25 to spank. Let me put some discipline back into your life. (Minneapolis) #21554

**READY FOR THE WEEKEND** I'm 53 years old and I'm hoping to meet some younger guys for early morning phone fun and intimate weekend get togethers. Call me. (Minneapolis) #20150

**EAST OF ST PAUL** I'm a White male, 5'8, 175lbs, looking for guys 25 to 30, 5'8 to 5'9, 165 to 170lbs, who like the outdoors as well as indoors. Call me. (Minneapolis) #18859

**READY FOR A CHANGE?** I'm a tall, well built, cross dresser, who is looking to be submissive for you. Train me and get to know me. (Minneapolis) #18960

**HAIRY MAN WANTED** I'm 28 years old, 5'11, 270lbs, chubby. I'm looking for young guys 22 to 29 who are hairy and in shape. I'm ready for a good time. (Minneapolis) #19712

**FRENCH EXPERT** I'm a French expert looking for straight or Bi curious men, mid 30's to mid 50's, who like to receive. I'm 35 years old, nice body, healthy, and discreet. (Minneapolis) #18393

**OUR LITTLE SECRET** I'm an attractive Blonde, 6'1, 180lbs, good shape. I'm looking to hook up with Bi and married guys for massage. If you are very discreet and well endowed please call me. (Minneapolis) #16203

**MASTER WANTED** I'm a submissive Gay White male, 6'1, 185lbs, 35 years old. I'm a slave looking for a master who can give me the discipline I need. I'm into water sports, bondage, abuse, etc. Please call me sir. I'm here to take orders. (Minneapolis) #16519

**I GOT THE MUNCHIES** I'm 5'11, 150lbs, Brown hair, Brown eyes, smooth, slender. I'm looking for hairy, muscular men who like to be serviced and butt munched. Call me. (Minneapolis) #16590

**HOT FOR TEACHER** I'm 21 years old, 6'1, 210lbs. I'm new at this. I'm looking for someone to teach me the ropes and to do things with. (Minneapolis) #16916

**BOY TOY WANTED** I'm a 40 year old Gay male, 6ft, 170lbs, good shape. I'm looking for a baby queer who is into bondage, dominance, and S&M. I'm serious and you should be too. If you are 18 to 26 and want to service a master call me. (Minneapolis) #17601

**ATTRACTIVE AND SUBMISSIVE** I'm a submissive male in my early 30's looking for a dominant hung top man. If you like to take control please call me. I'm into French, Greek, golden showers, body worship, and many other kinky scenes. Call me sir. (Minneapolis) #17731

**NEW KID IN TOWN** I'm a 22 year old Gay White male, 6ft, 200lbs. I like to ride my bike, camp, go to amusement parks, etc. I seek men 18 to 35 to have fun and hang out with. (Minneapolis) #18027

**DONT WORRY BE HAPPY!** I like to get into fun sex. If you would like to know more call me. You'll be glad you did. (Minneapolis) #9602

**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

**IT'S A MAN'S WORLD** I'm a Gay White male looking for guys in my area. I'm 5'8, 160lbs, clean cut, great shape, good looks. I'm looking for a buddy to kick back with. I'm a versatile, rugged, outdoor type. (Moorhead) #19183

**SEX SEX SEX ON MY MIND** I'm 5'8, 130lbs, Brown eyes, Black hair, Mexican American. I like camping, hiking, bowling, etc. I love sex. I enjoy having a nice hot man next to me. Call me. (Rochester) #34729



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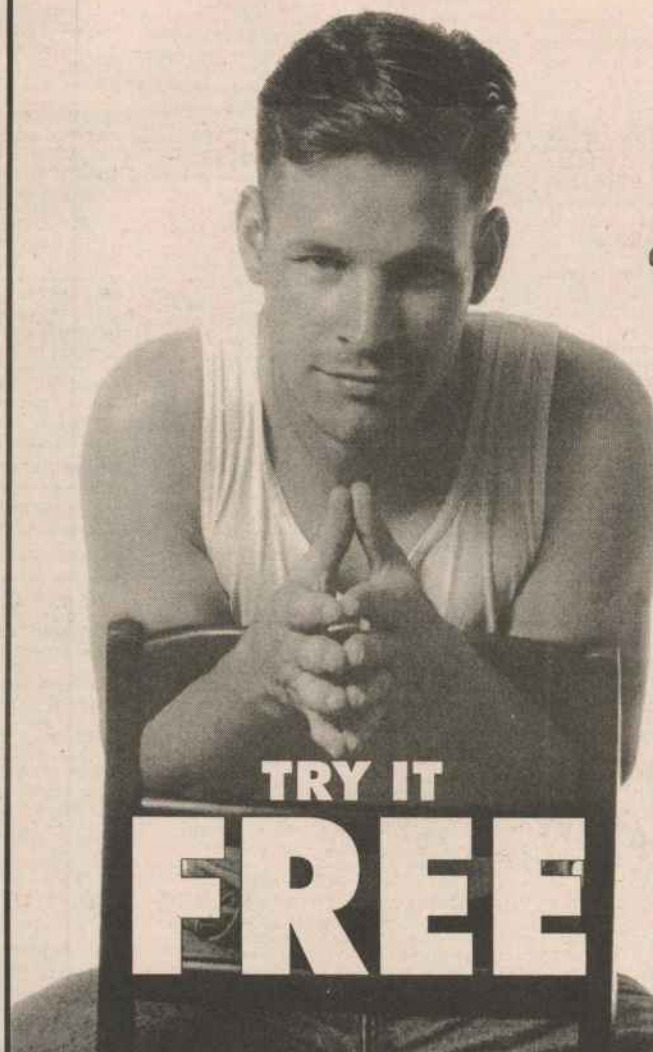
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**AIDS WALK**

Continued from Page 1

registered, participants will receive Walk materials in the mail. Packets include pledge forms, Walk updates, and tips on collecting pledges.

Walk planners and organizers have set 17,000 walkers as the goal of the event. It is expected that the walkers will shatter last year's fundraising record of \$766,464.

Prizes will be awarded to those participants who collect the most money by September 22, 1996. Prizes will be awarded depending on the amount of money collected and turned in the day of the Walk. Those raising \$100 will receive an AIDS Walk T-shirt; for \$250, an AIDS Walk sweatshirt; for \$500, a Ricoh Super 35mm camera; for \$1,000, a Koss CD discman with car adapter; and for \$2,000, a Samsung 13" color television. Camera, discman and television are donated courtesy of American.

The top three pledge getters for the entire Walk will receive the following prizes: grand prize — two roundtrip tickets to Hawaii on United Airlines and five nights deluxe hotel accommodations courtesy of United Vacations; first prize — two roundtrip tickets to San Francisco on United Airlines and three nights first-class hotel accommodations courtesy of Travel Associates; second prize — two roundtrip tickets on United Airlines to any destination in the contiguous 48 United States that United flies.

The day of the Walk begins with a breakfast at the Italian Community Center. Tickets for the breakfast are \$50 and can be purchased by calling the Walk hotline: 1-800-348-WALK. Walk sign-in begins at 10:30 a.m., opening ceremonies will be held at noon, and the Walk will begin at 12:30 at the Summerfest grounds. TODAY'S TMJ4's Carole Meekins will be the emcee for the breakfast, Walk kickoff, and Walk closing ceremonies. The

10k (6.2 mile) walk features six rest stops with food and entertainment along the walk route.

Sponsors of the event include Miller Brewing, United Airlines, Wisconsin Energy Corporation, Aurora Health Care, WPS Health Insurance, the Milwaukee Journal/Sentinel and TODAY'S TMJ4. ▽

**MARRIAGE**

Continued from Page 1

self-sacrificing human love in lifetime partnerships," it said.

"We have not come to that conviction easily or quickly. Our convictions concerning this issue are rooted in study and prayer. And they have deepened as we have witnessed the personal struggle and Christian faith in the lives of this congregation's homosexual members."

Earlier this year, the Rev. Ken Hull of Angel of Hope Metropolitan Community Church in Green Bay performed a union ceremony for two couples. The MCC was established for Gay and Lesbian Christians.

"In the Gay community, we are criticized because people say we're promiscuous, but then they say you cannot marry," Hull said.

The Rev. Joe Leonard of the National Council of Churches said nearly every mainline denomination has a segment urging greater acceptance of Gays and Lesbians.

In the United Church of Christ, Leonard said, it is called "open and affirming," among Baptists it is called "welcoming and affirming," and in the United Methodist Church it is known as "reconciling."

"To my knowledge, the only mainline denomination that has affirmed same-gender unions is the United Church of Christ," said Brenda Moulton, coordinator of the Association of Welcoming and Affirming Baptists of the American Baptists Community Churches.

The Roman Catholic church opposes homosexual marriage, the Rev. Willie Van De Loo, diocesan vicar for priests, said.

"We wouldn't recognize the union. It wouldn't be a sacrament in our sense of the word," he said.

**CLASSIFIEDS**

**Accommodations**

**Chanticleer Guest House**—located on 30 private acres in picturesque Door County, WI. Suites include: double whirlpool, fireplace, private bath, entertainment center, breakfast to room. For reservation or color brochure, call Bryon and Darrin at (414) 746-0334 u

**Inn at Pine Ridge**, a B & B esp. for womyn. Hot tub, sauna, veg. brunch. Hike, bike. Near Eau Claire. By res. (715)984-2272.

**Services Offered**

**Study seeks lesbians** for telephone interviews about feelings and barriers related to breast exams. Confidentiality guaranteed. Seeking midwest women over 51 with no cancer & no mammogram in the last 13 months. Please call 1-800-991-5539 q

**Bivouac '96 Recruits:**

Change in orders:  
Report to Mission site at 2100.  
Information (608) 835-9115

**Housing/Rent**

**Madison Apartment:**

2-spacious 2-Bdrm apts. In 4 unit building. 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor. Off street parking included. New Carpeting. Pets and significant others are welcome \$530/month, heat included. Call Mark/Todd (608) 835-9115. P

**National W. 526 Third Floor** 1890 Vct. Huge bay windows, HWF, 3 large bdr, antique gas lights, plaster ceilings, new BA/gourmet KIT and appliances. New furnace & C/A. No smoking. No pets. \$725/mo. (414)964-8224.

**New 2 Bedroom** Upper with laundry hookup. NO dogs. Merrill Park area. Quick, convenient. Lisa at 933-0194. q

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**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.

Aug. 15; Sept. 12; Sept. 26; Oct. 10; Oct 24

**Real Estate**

**Bar For Sale**

**Milwaukee bar** for sale. Tavern. Est. business. Parking lot. Confidential inquires to: Wisconsin Light, Box 70, 1843 N. Palmer, Milwaukee, WI 53212. Replies will be forwarded.

**Employment**

**Architects**, the Heyer Hopes Foundation, a non-profit AIDS organization, is looking for an architect to assist with the design and renderings of a National Museum—Interested architects should contact Stuart C. Heyer, Founder/Director, at 1-800-799-1227

**Body Improvement**

**Penis and Nipple Enlargement**

**Custom vacuum pumps** or surgical. Gain 1-3 inches. Permanent, safe. Enhance erection. For FREE brochures: Dr. Joel Kaplan, (312) 409-1950. Latest enlargement info. 1-900-976-PUMP (\$2.95/m)

**Moving Services**

**MOVING**

**Moving?** One item or everything, careful, experienced, insured. (414) 479-0595 or 230-9916 q

**Organizations**

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

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

**Personals**

**GWM—36, 5'10", 195 lbs.** Looking for friendship or relationship to settle down with. Willing to relocate. I'm handicapped with speech impairment, but mobile. Call Mark at (414) 253-0921. k

**GWPM COUPLE.** We are looking to meet other couples for friendship. Please respond to: Boxholder, Box 2432, Brookfield, WI 53008-2432.

"I don't know of any (unofficial officiations) but you can almost say that there probably are some," he said. "A priest who would witness or be the principal minister to that, I believe the bishop would deal with them personally."

"Same-sex unions are not supported by the (Evangelical Lutheran Church of America)," The Rev. George Krempin of Grace Lutheran Church in Green Bay said.

"Individual pastors who would perform a marriage would not be abiding by the spirit of the ELCA's practice," Krempin said.

The Rev. Keith Schroerlucke of Green Bay's First United Methodist said regional Methodist leadership has agreed to become a "reconciling conference."

It is a symbolic gesture, saying the conference is "open and welcoming of all persons regardless of sexual orientation in the name of Christ."

However, the official position of the United Methodist Church doesn't let pastors perform same-sex unions.

"On this issue, we, like a lot of churches, are in process," Schroerlucke said, "and I don't think we've heard the final word. We're trying to move as the spirit leads us."

**PRIDEFEST**

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enough, on April 1, 1996. It was not restored and on April 13 his powers were taken away. Who made the decision not to send the check on April Fool's day? The Treasurer?

Ms Klein is quoted in *The Wisconsin Light* article as saying: "Bill was never removed from Pridefest. His duties were delegated." I have in my possession a copy of a form from the Corporations Division of the State of Wisconsin (Report Form 17, a required report under s 181.651 Wisconsin Statutes. The form had been sent to Christine Klein as designated Corporate Agent, requiring the names and addresses of all Board Members and Officers. The other Board Members are all listed, but Bill Meunier's name does not appear at all. Obviously, as far as Ms. Klein was concerned, Mr. Meunier was no longer a Board Member. Her lover, Ms. Cook, however, is listed as Co-Director (with no one to Co- with). By the way, the document is dated April 13, 1996 (the same date Bill's duties were taken away from him) and signed by Christine Klein. The due date for the document was June 30, 1996. When did Ms. Klein become the Registered Agent? With Board approval?

There is other evidence that Ms. Cook and Ms. Klein were making decisions without consulting the Co-Chair or possibly the rest of the Board. In March of this year a scam letter and documents came into PrideFest's Post Office Box, supposedly addressed to Ms. Cook as Co-Chair of Pridefest. She and Ms. Klein were so taken in by the bogus offer (with a return address of a Post Office Box in Carson City, Nevada) of a million dollar donation to come to eight local Gay groups that they decided to keep the matter a secret as the scam artist requested. They received the package with its hand written letter and very crudely forged documents of support on a Wednesday. By Friday they had contacted representatives of the other groups requesting that they attend a meeting at the AIDS Project Offices on Sunday at 11 a.m. It was revealed at that meeting that Co-Chair Bill had not even been informed until 9:30 that morning, an hour and a half before the meeting was to start that a meeting had been called. When asked why, they stated that "they did not trust" Bill to keep the secret.

When I examined the documents carefully late Sunday, it was clear to me that they were badly done cut-and-paste forgeries, more amateur than most kidnap ransom notes. I talked to Bill early Monday morning and he quickly came to the same conclusion and called for a Monday evening meeting at PrideFest's office. By the time of that meeting, Terry Boughner, Editor of *The Wisconsin Light* had discovered that the Carson City P. O. Box was that of the Colorado State Prison where the sender is a prisoner known for continuing his scams from behind bars. The group quickly decided not to respond to the offer and not to send the almost \$1600 worth of prepaid postage mailing envelopes and supplies to the scam artist that were required by him to put the offer in effect. A resolution was passed, however, praising Cook and Klein for their professional actions regarding the offer.

I told Bill that I did not think it was businesslike to take such an obvious scam at face value without checking it out; certainly it wasn't professional to make important decisions without consulting the Co-Director. I warned him privately to watch out because I did not see how he could work with people who stated to community leaders that they "did not trust" his judgment. One of the signs of an imminent ousting of leaders is when those who wish to take over treat the leaders without respect and see them as too weak, stupid or incompetent to deserve decent treatment; so threatening that any destructive

action is justified. In their minds the leaders simply cease to exist long before they are actually ousted or forced to resign.

Kusch, in his article, correctly notes that, "Internal politics, rather than Meunier's performance, have also been cited as a possible reason for the Board's action." He further states that "as to the real reasons behind Meunier's departure from Pridefest, very few outside the Board of Directors and Meunier himself will ever know the truth in its entirety, and those who do know the truth refuse to speak out publicly."

I know part of the truth and that is why I am speaking out publicly. Motives remain unclear. Was it envy of Bill's success? or simply a power play (Miss Klein denies this in a quote in the article)? or was someone promised things by persons outside of Pridefest who wished to capture the festival for themselves, for whatever reason, using Pridefest leaders as the instruments of the capture? One thing is certain; this action was not a "reorganization" as the article infers. It was a long planned capture of power forcing a resignation of Meunier, done after almost all of the real hard work for the festival had been done by him. Even if a change in leadership was needed, it could have been done after this year's event was over, but if the event had been a big success such action might have been more difficult. The person(s) who engineered this disgraceful scenario evidently felt that they could not take this chance.

In closing I call for the resignation, at least, of Ms. Cook and Ms. Klein, if for no other reason than this action took place while they were seemingly in control. A real reorganization, with community participation, could then take place, possibly at a Town Hall meeting like the one recently held to begin the establishment of a community center.

"The people I admire most are sensitive and want to create something or discover something, and do not see life in terms of power."

E.M. Forster—*What I Believe*

**AIDS RIDE**

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60+ ASOs that they fund.

Ride coordinators initially projected the June ride had raised \$4.5 million for the four ASOs in Philadelphia and the two ASOs in Washington, with about \$2.6 million earmarked for expenses.

The ASOs are being asked by Pallotta and Associates to come up with \$325,000 advance money for a similar ride to be held next year.

Cole stressed the advance money was preliminary.

"That figure is not set in stone. It's still being negotiated with Mr. Pallotta," PGN quotes Cole as saying.

**The Inquirer**, which contacted Pallotta, said that the promoter insisted that the Ride was successful. The paper reported him as saying that the riders had "an incredible experience" making the trek and that the stage was set for an even more successful ride next year.

"We really built a foundation for something that can provide a significant flow of income," Pallotta said.

Other reports indicate that Pallotta shouldn't be so sure of himself.

At a meeting held July 15 of the Philadelphia ASOs involved in the Ride, ActionAIDS, which had been responsible for managing pledges for the Ride, distributed a budget summary that painted a far worse picture than the one outlined by Cole.

That summary, based on transactions up to June 30, showed net proceeds for Philadelphia of just \$109,076.

Pallotta and Associates, which was represented at the meeting, said the figure was "only preliminary," and did not reflect additional revenues that have come in since June 30. No specifics were given. Quoting an unnamed source, PGN said "It was an ugly meeting. Nobody laid any money down and no contracts were signed. If I were to guess, there won't be another bike ride in Philadelphia next year. Why should this city be part of a production where the creator (Dan Pallotta) raises his money, whether you make yours or not? He has a good thing going."

Heshie Zinman, executive director of the Philadelphia Health Alternative, said he was "disappointed."

"Obviously we are concerned about what the final figures will show," Zinman is quoted as saying.

James Roberts of the Minority AIDS Project of Philadelphia, demanded that Pallotta return some of his income to Philadelphia. A letter will be sent to him to this effect, PGN reported.

"This whole thing (the AIDS Ride) was a fiasco from the beginning," PGN quotes Roberts as saying. "Money was bled from Philadelphia that should have gone to people with AIDS."

Roberts organization is slated to receive about \$27,000 from the Ride.

"What could we do with that?" Roberts is quoted as asking. "Buy everybody a ham sandwich and maybe a Pepsi to go with it?"

