

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

# The Wisconsin Light

## Eighth Annual World AIDS Day Commemorated in Various Ways

Milwaukee, November 1996 -- World AIDS Day was celebrated in 1994 with the opening of the Milwaukee AIDS Project's (MAP) resale shop Survival/Revival. In honor of the store's second anniversary and World AIDS Day, Survival/Revival will celebrate by offering specials, a variety of new items and free cake.

All of the items found in the shop, located at 246 E. Chicago Street, in Milwaukee's Historic Third Ward, are donated from caring individuals within the community, and 100 percent of the proceeds benefit MAP.

Customers frequenting Survival/Revival are as different as the many items that can be found at the resale shop. There is the Generation X crowd, antique dealers, low-income individuals and the average shopper -- all looking for great deals on items which include, but are not limited to: clothes, furniture, fur and leather coats, artwork, collectible items, books, records, shoes, appliances, dishes and much more.

In its first two years of existence, Survival/Revival has exceeded all goals, showing not only the success of the store but the positive benefits for many MAP programs.

Hours of operation are Sundays 12 noon to 5 p.m.; closed Mondays; Tuesdays through Fridays 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Saturdays 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

In honor of World AIDS Day, visit Survival/Revival on Tuesday, December 3 and mention this article to receive an extra 25 percent off any items purchased.

Anyone interested in volunteering their time at the store or donating any items should call Survival/Revival at 414-291-2856 during store hours.

MAP is a service agency of the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin, Inc. (ARCW). ARCW is the Midwest's largest private, non-profit health and social service agency that works to confront and alleviate the effects of HIV disease in Wisconsin.

The ARCW is dedicated to the fight against the worsening AIDS epidemic through prevention, care, research and advocacy. For information on AIDS, call the Wisconsin AIDS Line at 800-334-AIDS.

### MAP Unveils New Dental Clinic on World AIDS Day

December 1, 1996, marks the ninth annual observance of World AIDS Day, a day 190 countries around the world will mutually draw public attention to the worsening AIDS epidemic.

Locally, the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin, Inc. (ARCW) will be recognizing World AIDS Day by hosting a community open house from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. at 820 N. Plankinton Ave., Milwaukee, on Monday, December 2 when it will unveil the Milwaukee AIDS Project's (MAP) new HIV Dental Clinic, which will treat HIV positive adults including those with little or no ability to pay for services. The MAP Dental Clinic will become the first exclusively HIV dedicated dental clinic in Wisconsin.

"We are pleased to offer this high quality

Please Turn to AIDS Day Page 6

## Murder Suspect Sought in Green Bay, Milwaukee



When she attains physical beauty, Rose (Barbara Streisand) find that it's not all she expected it to be in her new film *The Mirror Has Two Faces*

## New Poll Shows That a Majority of Americans Support Civil Rights for Gays

Washington DC--A new poll commissioned by the Human Rights Campaign (HRC), shows increasingly widespread support for many of the central elements of the campaign to bring equality to America's Lesbians and Gays.

The poll taken by Greenberg Research tabulated the answers of over 1,000 voters. It indicated strong support for partnership rights in same-sex relationships, AIDS funding and for ENDA, the Employment Non-Discrimination Act, which would forbid job discrimination against Gays and Lesbians.

In addition by a margin of 41% to 26%, the sample said they were more afraid of the Right wing Christian lobby than they were of the Gay and Lesbian lobby.

### Job Discrimination Opposed

A majority of respondents 55% to 30% said they favored passage of ENDA. When it was explained that there were no federal laws protecting Gays and Lesbians from job discrimination support for ENDA rose to 62% versus 26% who said they were opposed.

The vast majority of the sample (85%) thought that it was illegal to fire someone for being Gay, Lesbian or Bisexual. 70% said they opposed job discrimination against Lesbians and Gays.

Over 60% of the sample said that Gay teachers should be protected from job discrimination.

### Partnership Rights Supported

A majority of those polled said they supported partnership rights for same sex partners while a majority also said they opposed same-sex marriages.

Over 80% of the sample favored granting Gay partners full hospital visitation rights. Over 60% called for inheritance rights for Gays and Lesbians.

Health benefits for Gay spouses won the support of 51% of the sample, while 46% said they support Social Security Survivor Benefits for Gay spouses and 54% favored protecting Gay and Lesbian parents from losing their children.

Please Turn to HRC Poll Page 6

Milwaukee--The Milwaukee Journal Sentinel reports that the body of a Green Bay boy, Michael Lee Kasee, 15, was found Friday, November 15<sup>th</sup>, on a Door County farm. The body had been dismembered with a chain saw.

An autopsy has revealed that the deceased was dismembered multiple times, after his death.

On Monday, the Door County Sheriff's Office issued a warrant for David K. Dellis, 34, as a suspect in the case.

Dellis has been described as white, 5 feet, 8 inches tall, 155 pounds, with short brown hair and green eyes. He is reported to be driving a 4-door maroon BMW, possibly with the license plate KSP-665.

Dellis has a police record and is considered extremely dangerous.

On Monday, November 18, the Door County Sheriff's Office issued a statement saying that Dellis had ties to the Gay community in both Green Bay and Milwaukee.

Kasee has been described as "a kid," "looking very much his age." According to the Sheriff's Office, Kasee had known Dellis for about the last 2 years. Other sources say that Dellis brought the Kasee to Milwaukee and bought him clothes and other gifts.

Kasee was reportedly in the car when Dellis was arrested on drug charges; for possessing more than 2,000 grams of pot, according to Manitowoc County D.A., Jim Fitzgerald.

At the time of his death, Kasee was a sophomore at Green East High School and was last seen in downtown Green Bay at approximately 1:00 a.m., Wednesday, November 13.

According to Door County Sheriff Chuck Brann, the boy's body was discovered on November 15, by three men who reside at the farm. The residents of the farm house had been joined the previous night, November 14, shortly before midnight, by a fourth man identified as Dellis.

The following afternoon, November 15, the Sheriff's Office report says that the residents of the farm house came home unexpectedly and surprised Dellis as he was attempting to conceal a corpse. Upon being discovered, Dellis fled in a BMW.

The owner of the farmhouse, Carl Whitford, of Sturgeon Bay, said the boy was dismembered with a chair saw later found on the property.

It is being reported that Kasee was not killed at the farm, but had been killed earlier. Light's sources say that the boy had been strangled.

On Saturday evening, Wisconsin Light reporters were out and about. Five plainclothes Milwaukee police were in one bar, having with them what appeared to be a faxed picture of Dellis of poor resolution.

The police were asked about the man they were hunting for. They said he'd been "in and out" of mental institutions. They would say no more.

Capt. Donald Werra of the Milwaukee Police Department's Criminal Investigation Bureau, told the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel that the bureau is working closely with Door County Authorities.

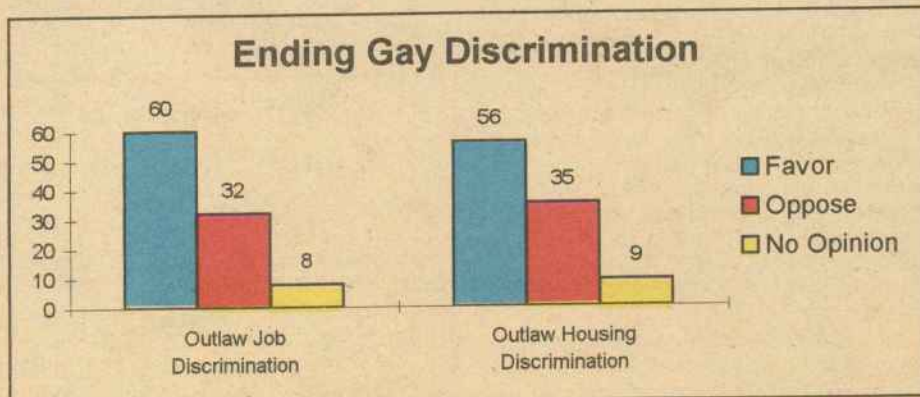
However, over the weekend and on Monday, the bureau was not releasing information to either Wisconsin Light, TV channels 12 and 6.

### Human Rights League

LesBiGay activists in Milwaukee reacted quickly to reports of the murder and Dellis' suspected ties to Milwaukee.

On Monday evening, November 18, the Human Rights League (HRL) issued a press statement affirming HRL's "strong support" for the efforts of the Green Bay and Milwaukee Police Departments in their efforts

Please Turn to Murder Page 6



A new poll taken by Greenberg Research on behalf of the Human Rights Campaign shows strong support for the passage of measures that will prohibit discrimination against Gays and Lesbians. As evidenced by the graphic above, a substantial majority supports outlawing discrimination against Gays and Lesbians in the work place and in housing. Additional results and graphics can be found on page 2. - Wisconsin Light Graphic by Stu Feider

**Milwaukee Welcomes**

**HIT**

**Bowlers**

**To America's Oldest and Finest Les/Bi/Gay Bowling Tournament**

# News From The Nation



## Schmitz Convicted of Second Degree Murder

**Detroit—AP—**A man charged with killing a gay man who had revealed his crush for the murderer on a taped episode of the Jenny Jones Show was convicted by a jury of second degree murder.

Jonathan Schmitz, 26, was charged for the shooting death of Scott Amedure, 32, in a Detroit area suburb. Schmitz and Amedure appeared on a taping of the Jenny Jones Show whose topic was "Secret Admirers." The show was never televised.

Schmitz, a heterosexual, knew he was on the show because of a secret admirer, but had no idea the person who had a crush on him was a Gay man. Within a few days after the two men had returned to their Orion Township homes, Schmitz bought a shotgun, went to Amedure's trailer, and shot him in the chest in front of Amedure's roommate.

Schmitz then called police himself and confessed. The jury could have convicted Schmitz on first degree murder, which has a mandatory life sentence in Michigan. With second degree murder, he could be sentenced to 8 to 15 years and be eligible for parole.

The Associated Press quoted a juror to say there was no doubt in the jury's mind that a murder was committed. But the jury was split over Schmitz's intent. The jury was deadlocked Friday with a majority wanting to convict on first degree murder, but after a three day recess, jurors had more time to think about the evidence. As a result, jurors believed sufficient evidence had been presented to create a reasonable doubt as to Schmitz's ability to formulate clear intent.

Representatives of a LesBiGay activist organization, the Triangle Foundation, said they were satisfied with the verdict because it made Schmitz responsible for Amedure's death and showed being humiliated over an association with a gay man cannot be used as a defense in murder.

## Student Gay Bashing Prompts First Federal Trial Against School, its Officials

**Chicago—**Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund announced plans for the jury trial in a landmark federal case in which a young man will argue that his former Wisconsin school and its officials failed to protect him from years of brutal anti-gay attacks and harassment.

The trial in the case *Nabozny v. Podlesny*, began Monday, November 18, in the federal courthouse in Eau Claire, Wisconsin.

The Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals ordered the trial on claims by Jamie Nabozny that his former school had violated his equal protection rights by failing to protect him from anti-gay abuse by other students when he attended middle and high schools in Ashland, Wisconsin. Nabozny alleges that the school failed to discipline his attackers because he is Gay and a boy.

From Utah and Texas to Massachusetts and Rhode Island, anti-gay violence in public schools is receiving increased attention around the country. Nabozny's case is the first to reach a federal jury to establish the liability of schools and school officials for anti-gay violence in schools.

## Constitution Session Facing Legal Hurdle

**Honolulu—**More people voted yes than no on a proposal to convene a constitutional convention in 1998 to recommend changes to the state Constitution. But there are legal questions about whether the convention will proceed.

State Attorney General Margery Bronster said yesterday that she's not yet sure that the law clearly calls for the vote to be decided by a simple majority. She said the wording in the law regarding a constitutional convention is clearly different from that for constitutional amendments.

The state Office of Elections has said the law calls for a constitutional convention to be held if the "yes" votes divided by the total of the "yes" and "no" votes is at least 50 percent plus one vote. Elections staff members said that means more than 50 percent of the voters must vote "yes," but spoiled, blank, and invalid ballots are not calculated in the majority for this question.

The amendment proposals require a majority of all votes cast, which means that blank and spoiled ballots are, in effect, added to the "no" votes.

If the constitutional convention is approved, state lawmakers next year will determine the scope of the convention and how the delegates would be elected.

Gov. Ben Cayetano said in an interview that he expects such a convention would cost at least \$12 million. And he says money would be better spent on education and public health. He said the results of the 1978 constitutional convention have complicated government and added unnecessary regulation. Further, Cayetano said, he has little doubt that public opposition would result in a convention's approving a constitutional amendment against same-sex marriage.

## Hate Crimes Reported by FBI for 1995

**Washington, D.C. Nov. 5, 1996 —** Nearly 8,000 hate-crime incidents were reported to the FBI last year, 61% of them motivated by racial bias, according to a preliminary report issued Monday, November 5th. Some 16% of the reported hate crimes were motivated by religious bias, 13% by sexual orientation bias and 10% by biases based on ethnic or national origins, the report said. The Justice Department began gathering the data from federal, state and local law enforcement agencies following the 1991 Hate Crime Statistics Act.

## Harvard Students Protest Ralph Reed

**CAMBRIDGE, MA —** About 20 kissing Gay and Lesbian students from Harvard University interrupted a speech Wednesday by Christian Coalition head Ralph Reed aimed at drumming up votes for pro-Christian candidates.

As Reed began his speech at Harvard's John F. Kennedy School of Government, half of the audience held up signs blasting the coalition's attacks on homosexuality.

In the ensuing ruckus, same-sex couples among the protesters embraced and kissed until police physically removed them from the hall, but not before Reed told them "get used to us, because we're going to be here a long, long time."

There were no arrests. During the question-and-answer section, an African-American Lesbian lashed out at Reed for invoking the political legacies of both Dr. Martin Luther King and Winston Churchill, who supported the eugenics movement advocating racial purity.

"And now it's people like you who are telling me that as a Lesbian, I can't marry my partner," said Ann Seaton, a Harvard graduate student in English. Clearly your disingenuous, sneaky use of Martin Luther King is just to disguise the fact that you're nothing but sort of a geeky post-modern Christian racist in an expensive suit."

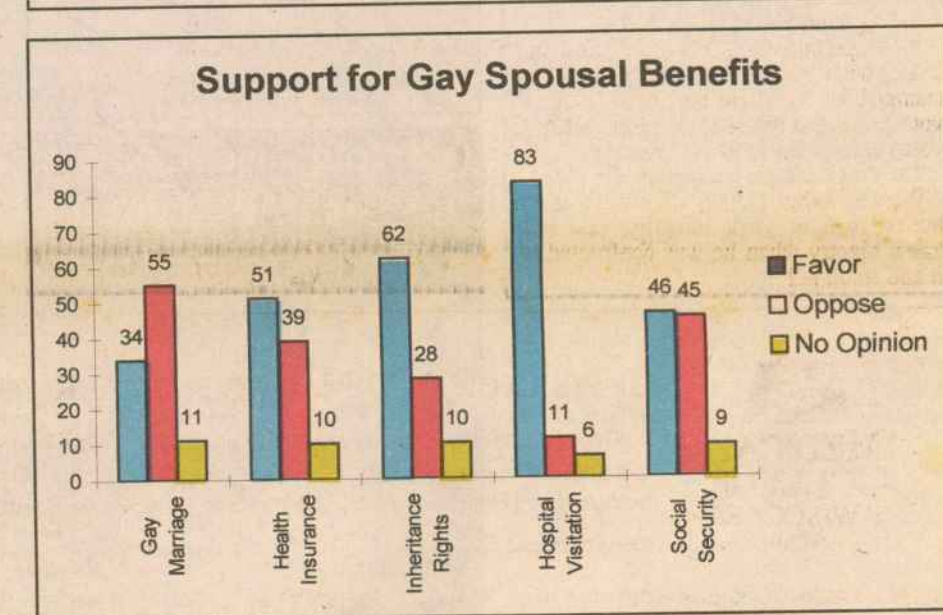
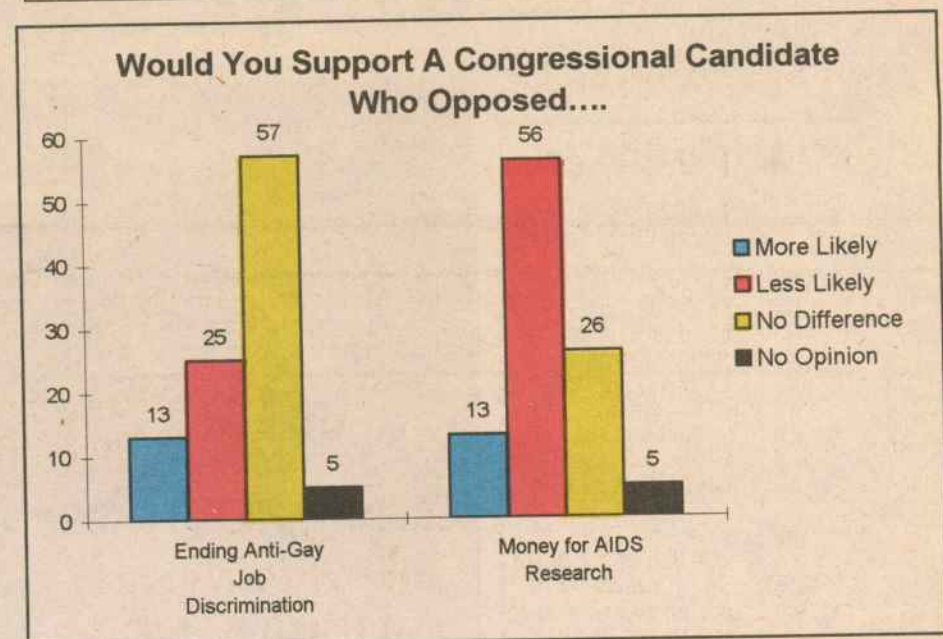
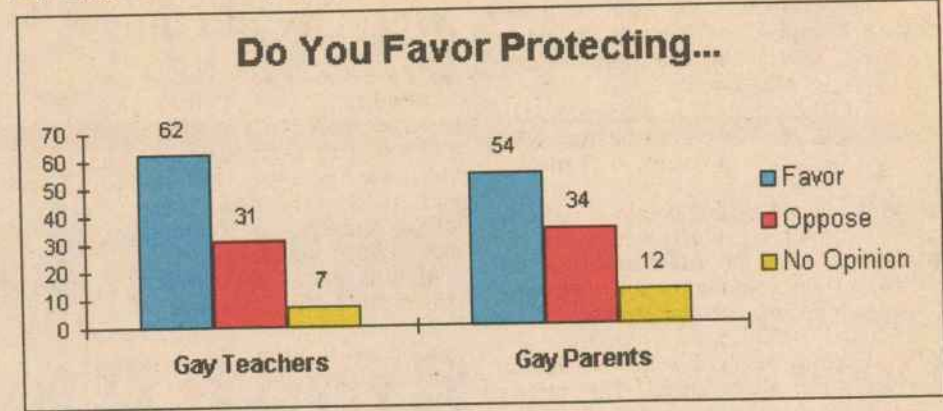
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## Dentist Declines HIV+ Patient

**Atlanta, GA—**Sydney Abbot is suing Maine dentist Randon Bragdon after he refused to treat her upon learning she is HIV-positive. Abbot's lawyer, Bennet Klein of Gay and Lesbian Advocates and Defenders, explained Abbot is suing in federal district court under the Americans with Disabilities Act. Klein said, "Health policy should be based on science not fear." Although the Center for Disease Control said there has never been a reported case of a patient infecting a dentist with HIV, the American Dental Association, which has an official policy stating that it is unethical for dentists to withhold treatment from people with HIV or AIDS, is nonetheless siding with Bragdon. For more information contact Bennet Klein (617) 426-1350.

# Human Rights Campaign Poll

A new poll commissioned by the Human Rights Campaign (HRC) shows growing support for Gay and Lesbian civil rights. While most Americans remain opposed to Gay marriage, large majorities favor granting spousal benefits to Gay couples. Most Americans also say they would less likely to support a Congressional Candidate who opposed continued funding for AIDS research and that they favor protecting Gay parents threatened with the loss of their children and Gay teachers threatened with job discrimination. For full details on the poll see our story on page 1. Wisconsin Light graphics by Stu Feider



## Lesbian Author of New Book Sees Much Hope in Defeat of Amendment 2

**Denver—**When the U.S. Supreme Court struck down Colorado's anti-Gay rights Amendment 2 in May, it was "the most significant court victory ever for Gays and Lesbians nationally," said the author of a new book.

"It signaled a change in the Supreme Court's thinking and showed the court to be more in synch with the thinking of most Americans," said Torie Osborn, on a national tour to promote her book, **Coming Home to America: A Roadmap to Gay and Lesbian Empowerment.**

Osborn came out as a Lesbian at the age of 22 when she was a student at Middlebury College in Vermont. She said that Colorado is on the cutting edge of efforts to promote Gay and Lesbian rights and that the voter-approved Amendment 2 actually served as a lightning rod against anti-Gay rights efforts.

"We're not at the stage where most Americans would want their daughter to marry one of us, but it's a start," she said.

Among other advances, Amendment 2 helped trigger counter efforts such as Ground Zero, a Gay civil rights group based in Colorado Springs, home of Focus on the Family, a Right Wing extremist organization and other ultra-conservative groups.

As a result of societal gains in the past two decades, Osborn said today's Gay and Lesbian youths won't repeat her experience.

The 46-year-old writer was a high school student in suburban Philadelphia when she realized she was attracted to another girl.

"I was terrified," she recalled. "The next day—the very next day—I went out and got a boyfriend."

Osborn said she spent years denying her sexual orientation.

"It wasn't that I didn't like men. They were great friends, but I grew up Catholic and believed in confession. And I didn't want to lie anymore to my parents," said the writer.

Her parents weren't supportive at first. Osborn left home and did not return for six years.

"And it was nearly 15 years before my folks were somewhat comfortable with me and my partner," said Osborn.

Osborn said her book deals with the anguish of parents and family members in dealing with Gay or Lesbian children.

### LesBiGayTrans Couples Needed for Study

If both you and your partner actively participate in any Twelve Step Recovery Program and you would be willing to participate in a two hour interview, at your convenience, please call (608) 276-5953.

This project is about sharing experiences of strength and hope with other recovering couples.

Anonymity of all participants will be protected.

## Town Hall Meeting to Be Held to Update Progress on Community Center

Milwaukee—There will be a town hall meeting to explain the progress to date on the planning of a LesBiGayTrans community center for Milwaukee.

The meeting will be held on Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, at 3:00 p.m. at the UW-Milwaukee Union on Kenwood Boulevard in Room E-280.

Representatives of each working committee will be on hand to give updates on the progress made so far. All members of the LesBiGayTrans community and their supporters are invited to attend, to become involved and to volunteer for committees.

Those already involved welcome everyone and encourage all to attend. This project fosters diversity of people and the inclusion of all who wish to be a part.

For more information, write: Community Center, P.O. Box 92722, Milwaukee, WI 53202-0722.

### Daniel Cupertino Jr.

Milwaukee County Supervisor Daniel Cupertino, Jr. Died on Saturday, November 16, 1996.

Gays and Lesbians may remember Cupertino from the 1989 Pride Celebration. The Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors had issued a Gay Pride Proclamation. Right Wing religious extremists, WVCY's Vic Eliason among them, moved to have the proclamation rescinded by the Board. There were hearings. The decision was to be made by a vote of the full Board.

The vote was going to be close. The morning of the vote, one half of the Board room was filled with members of the Right Wing, who made no secret of their detestation of what the Board had done. Many of them hissed and booed.

As Cupertino said, when he heard this noise, what he described as "bigotry" he changed his vote. He had been going to vote to rescind the proclamation, but now voted against the motion to rescind.

The Proclamation was retained.

We remember Daniel Cupertino as an honest man of great integrity, one who knew bigotry when he was confronted by it and stood tall.

## Milwaukee City Council Approves Increased AIDS Funding by Majority of One

Milwaukee—Friday, November 8, the Milwaukee Common Council voted 9 to 8 to increase AIDS prevention funding by \$50,000. This increase in City AIDS funding is the first since 1993 and will expand HIV/AIDS prevention, counseling and testing and early intervention services for men, women and children.

AIDS is not the leading killer of African-Americans between the ages of 25 and 44 throughout the country. The strong, diverse coalition of aldermen from throughout the City which came together to support this increase in HIV/AIDS funding provided essential support to the fight against AIDS.

The coalition includes: George Butler, Fred Gordon, Willie Hines, Marlene Johnson-Odom, Mike D'Amato, Paul Henningsen, John Kalwitz, Don Richards and Jim Witkowiak.

"The action by the Council on Friday will assure expanded life-saving HIV prevention services for men, women and children from all walks of life," said Mike Gifford, director of public policy at MAP. "The City of Milwaukee has already lost 1,000 people to AIDS. It is critical for the City to step up to its commitment to AIDS in this budget."

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Robb Gerpoltz and Yuri Keegstra are getting ready for their December 21<sup>st</sup> wedding with a little help from their friends who threw them a surprise wedding shower at B's on November 9.

## Milwaukee and Madison Don't Make Lesbian Top 10 List of Best Cities to Live

Milwaukee—The most recent issue of *Girlfriends*, one of the country's most prominent magazines for Lesbians, has the third annual list of the best and the worst places for Lesbians to live.

Of the 136 cities, Austin, Texas is number one (up from last year's 11<sup>th</sup> spot), as a desirable place for Lesbians to live.

Austin's population is 492,329.

Among the reasons cited are: the new LesBiGay community center, the over 650 Lesbian-friendly businesses, the 90 Lesbian and Gay organizations, the "great" weather, and a wide range of outdoor activities.

In descending order, others in the top 10 are: Tampa, Atlanta, Kansas City, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Columbia, SC, Columbus, OH, Buffalo and Houston.

The bottom ten are: Laguna Beach, CA, Oak Park, IL, Jackson, MS, Charlottesville, VA, Provincetown, MA, Mobile, AL, Asbury Park, NJ, Stamford, CN, Aspen, CO, and Urbana, IL.

Milwaukee is listed as number 16. Madison is number 58.

## Friends Throw Robb and Yuri a Surprise Wedding Shower

Milwaukee—A wedding shower is pure romance. It's sunlight and roses, with all the friends of the happy couple gathered round to share in their happiness and "shower" them with gifts. A shower is the arboreal bower. It is also the gate to the great day when the two will be joined as one.

Such was the case for Yuri Keegstra and Robb Gerpoltz when their friends gathered at B's bar on Friday, November 8, to wish them every happiness and good fortune in their life together. The shower was supposed to be a surprise, but perhaps they knew.

About 30 people were in attendance. There was a table full of colorfully wrapped presents, and a beautiful cake all decked out in bright red hearts. The buffet was deliciously presented (and even more deliciously eaten).

The loving couple seemed not to notice any of this—or the people there—as is fitting. Perhaps they could hear only the melodies found in "Laura's Poems."

The wedding is planned for December 21, a wonderful way to celebrate the winter solstice—and the longest night of the year.



### CENTER FOR AIDS INTERVENTION RESEARCH (CAIR), MEDICAL COLLEGE OF WISCONSIN

The Center for AIDS Intervention Research (CAIR) at the Medical College of Wisconsin, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Medicine, is seeking applications for several new positions. CAIR is one of three research centers in the country established by the National Institute of Mental Health to develop new and better methods of HIV prevention, as well as the prevention and treatment of psychological and behavioral difficulties among those affected by HIV/AIDS. CAIR's offices are located on the east side area of Milwaukee.

#### PROJECT COORDINATOR: AIDS BEREAVEMENT PROJECT

This position carries responsibilities for the coordination and management of a large study that will evaluate the effectiveness of mental health small-group interventions for HIV+ men and women who are experiencing bereavement due to the loss of loved ones to AIDS. The position requires a Master's degree and clinical certification in social work or an R.N. degree with clinical and mental health experience and credentials. Experience working with HIV+ persons or with those experiencing bereavement, as well as clinical research experience are highly desirable. Position responsibilities will include study management, use of mental health assessment measures, and provision of individual and group mental health and coping intervention services following standardized protocols.

#### RESEARCH ASSISTANTS: HIV PREVENTION FOR YOUNG AND MINORITY MEN WHO HAVE SEX WITH MEN (TWO POSITIONS)

CAIR is initiating outreach studies that will lead to the development and evaluation of community-level HIV prevention programs for young and minority gay men. These positions require a bachelor's degree or an equivalent combination of education and experience. Responsibilities include field interviews to assess HIV risk behavior among young men who have sex with men (YMSM), co-leading focus groups, and other data collection and compilation activities. Familiarity with risk issues affecting young and minority gay men, experience in community programs with this population, and understanding of the social networks of YMSM are desirable. Excellent communication and listening skills are essential. Some local travel is required.

#### RESEARCH ASSISTANT: DATABASE, LITERATURE SEARCHES, AND MEASURE COMPILATION

This position carries responsibilities for assisting in the development of databases and archives of measures used to evaluate the effectiveness of HIV prevention interventions, searches of the scientific literature for studies reporting HIV prevention interventions and the assessment approaches they use, and development of quality control measures for research interventions on HIV prevention. The position requires a bachelor's degree in the behavioral, social, or information sciences; familiarity with psychological scale terminology; excellent computer skills; literature search skills using manual and computer database methods; and attention to detail.

#### RESEARCH ASSISTANT: MANUAL WRITING AND COMMUNICATIONS

We seek an individual with excellent writing skills for a position with the following responsibilities: (1) development and preparation of manuals that translate research-based HIV prevention intervention procedures developed at CAIR into "user friendly" documents for dissemination to public health agencies; (2) preparation of written documents for the public and for professionals describing CAIR's research and its findings; (3) liaison activities with community agencies, especially in the minority and the gay communities; and (4) other community relations activities. The position requires a bachelor's degree in fields related to communications, public affairs, writing, or related fields, excellent written and verbal communication skills, word processing proficiency; and knowledge of community relations and AIDS/HIV prevention issues.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

This position carries responsibilities for transcribing audiotape recordings of interviews with participants in CAIR's HIV prevention studies, and requires experience in transcription from audiotapes and excellent proficiency in word processing. Because the subject matter of CAIR's research involves HIV risk behavior, comfort with word processing materials that involve sexual behavior is needed. Although primarily a heavy-transcription position, the position also carries responsibilities for general office administrative assistance, handling correspondence, telephone call direction, manuscript and document word processing and similar activities. The position requires a high-school degree with further administrative assistance, training, or transcription experience highly desirable.

All of these positions are fulltime, have competitive salaries, and carry excellent fringe benefits. For all positions, we seek individuals dedicated to CAIR's HIV prevention research mission, comfortable with topics involved in HIV behavioral research, and with excellent education and employment credentials. Interested candidates should mail or fax a résumé and a cover letter indicating the title of the position for which they are applying and describing relevant past educational, employment, and community service activities to:

Karen Opgenorth, M.S. • Administrator, Center for AIDS Intervention Research (CAIR)  
Medical College of Wisconsin • 1201 N. Prospect Avenue • Milwaukee, WI 53202 • FAX: 287-4683

The Medical College of Wisconsin is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer (M/V/D/U). We particularly seek applications from women and minorities.

## Editorial

### One Minute on World AIDS Day

For far too many years now, we have written editorials and articles on the occasion of World AIDS Day. Every year the writing forces us to remember the ones that have been lost to the disease. Every year, we sit and wonder if "next year" they will have found a cure?

This year is no different. We sit, hoping for a cure and there is no cure. But this year, there is hope. The word coming from the scientific research facilities is that great progress is being made with the new drugs. People are living longer and living more productive lives. It is even being said that the day is coming when the disease will be chronic, much in the manner of diabetes.

However, even as this happens, more sicken and suffer, more will die, friends and loved ones. Their loss will weigh on us terribly.

Around the state, nation, and throughout the world, ceremonies and services marking another World AIDS Day will be observed. Each of us should make every effort to attend one of them, to join ourselves, with heads bowed, to others to understand our loss.

If, however, you cannot attend, may we suggest this. At noon on December 1<sup>st</sup>, pause in whatever you're doing for just one minute, a little silent minute between you and yourself. In that tiny bit of time, remember those who have gone on and offer up a supplication to whatever deity you believe in, that this dread scourge will this time next year have passed away.

### On Evil

Evil is not exciting, it's not interesting. It is banal. Perhaps that's why *In Cold Blood* was banal 30 years ago and the TV remake is no different. It is, as evil is, a disgusting exhibition of colorless banality.

Yet evil there is: popes, kings, princes, all kinds of potentates have done it throughout history.

Governments do it. Democracies, monarchies, dictatorships, they all do it—and have done it.

Institutions or individuals, their crimes reek, which is about as much as should be said about them—except for one thing. Their crimes, whether you're talking about the banality of the Nazis or (by comparison) the petty little machinations of a Henry VIII, have nothing, at all, nothing whatsoever to do with sexual orientation.

To kill one another appears to be (from history, anyway) sadly a dark, dank undercurrent in the human condition—at least some, anyhow. Straight, Bisexual, Gay, Lesbian or Transsexual, all have their specimens of it.

No ethnic group is free of it. Whites, Native Americans, Africans, Asians, and all the rest have examples of evil doings within their ranks.

Therefore, for anyone to think that there are "straight" murders or "Gay murders" is utterly beyond the pale. It's stupid, it's silly, it's banal because it that kind of stereotyping is a form of evil itself.

A person who murders is, just that, an individual, a person, a human being, who commits a viscous act. The numbers make no difference. Kill one, kill a dozen, kill millions, the difference is in degree, not kind.

Sexual orientation aside, gender aside, ethnic background and culture aside, we are all, every one of us, human first, human last, human always. Therein is our glory and our tragedy.

## Editor's Note

### Thanksgiving Traditions in One Gay Family

By Terry Boughner

It all begins around nine in the morning of Thanksgiving Day. The guests will begin arriving at 4:00 with dinner at 5:00, and nothing is ready, but before anything can be done, Jerry has to go to work.

The reason for this is that I have a schedule, kept in my head, telling me what I should be doing and when. Included in that are times for coffee, cigarettes and watching the Thanksgiving Parade in New York.

I've long since discovered that Jerry doesn't understand my schedule. Having coffee and cigarettes means "nothing is being done." When that complaint gets nowhere, he will go to the kitchen "for some water." Shortly, I will hear the oven open or a lid come off a pot.

"What are you doing?" I call out.

"Nothing."

"Well, stop doing nothing."

To prevent all that, I have this little "arrangement" with his boss. He works on Thanksgiving Day. That way I am left in peace.

Not much thought goes into the Thanksgiving menu. It's traditional, the same every year, just like my mother and her mother before her set on the table. Christmas dinner can be changed around, but not Thanksgiving. That's set in stone.

And it all has to be perfect. The family is coming to dinner.

Turkey, of course, is the centerpiece. I pack it with a bread stuffing moistened with a half pound of butter and chock full of giblets, fat raisins, bits of apple, diced chestnuts, and redolent of homegrown onion and sage. In the quiet of my kitchen, with some Christmas carols playing, I make the turkey as I think it should be, like a work of art.

There's candied yams, a mountain of mashed potatoes with melting butter drizzling down the sides. There will be homemade rolls warm from the oven, peas, corn and, of course, succotash.

Jerry dislikes succotash. Most others here in Wisconsin, I've found out, do too, but it's part of my Pennsylvania heritage and I will not leave it out.

And there are pies, mince meat oozing juice, and pumpkin all brown and savory, fresh raspberry custard and lemon meringue.

Like the rest of the dinner, the pies are made from scratch. I use lard, real butter (Lots of it. Four or five pounds, throughout the dinner, to be exact.), whole milk and

pints of heavy cream. Just to look at one of those pies will harden your arteries, but there's no margarine or other phony stuff, no catering to health food on Thanksgiving Day.

Tradition says that the food should be as close to what our grandparents and great grandparents knew as possible. That's the way I think it must be.

Alan and Brent are usually the first to arrive. They come just in time to lift the turkey. Somehow, I got it into the oven by myself, but getting it out is more than I want to handle. I'm too worried.

What if the turkey hasn't browned properly? What if it's not juicy? What if it dried out? What if it isn't done?

Alan and Brent lift it easily and, with one motion, it seems, put it on the big white platter to cool.

"Mercy," Alan exclaims, "was there ever such a bird as this?"

I concede that it is indeed the most beautiful turkey we've ever had—but then, I said the same thing the previous year, and will this year, too, no doubt.

Now comes a flurry of activity. Others begin to arrive, Jenean, Jason, Dan and his uncle Walter, and there are more: Don, Tim and Ken, Lew and Steve. Whether someone is able to be there or not, they are family, all family.

Jerry breezes in. From the look on his face, I know he thinks I've probably had to send out for Chinese or McDonalds, but not so. To his continual surprise, everything is just about ready to go.

When the food is on the table and everyone is there, I take up the platter. Alan has hedged it all about with parsley and spiced crab apples to dress it in bright green and red. Everyone turns in their chairs to look as I bring the turkey in.

I set the platter before Jerry where it is supposed to be. He's the head of the house, the master of the table, and, as always, he will stand and carve.

As I set the platter before him, he gives that kind of look that says, "I don't know how you pulled this off."

I ignore the look and go off to put the coffee on to perk.

"White meat or dark?" I hear him say to the owner of the first plate to come his way. As I go through the back parlor, I smile at his no-nonsense tone and demeanor and think how much I love him. He is my husband, my spouse.

Night has fallen. If we're lucky, there's

some snow. Candles glow. The music plays softly. We are a Gay family at peace.

"Happy Thanksgiving," someone always says. "Happy, happy Thanksgiving." This is most usually followed by a voice saying, "Please pass the rolls."

Why bother telling about all this? Because I think our young people, and others, too, need to know what a Gay household, at least one Gay household, is all about. They need to know, too, that there are unnumbered Lesbian, Bisexual, Gay and Transgendered households doing much the same thing.

Like them, like everyone else, we have our traditions that are sacred to us, traditions and dearly held customs that we work very hard to preserve. They work the same way for us as they do for non-Gay people; they give our family roots.

Like everyone else we are thankful, and like everyone else, we talk about our blessings and pray that others may be as fortunate as we.

Let me say now to all of you who read this, "Happy, happy Thanksgiving. May all goodness and bounty and warmth of family be yours, and may you enter this holiday season in a cozy glow."

## Letters

### The Quilt's Ugly Panel TO THE EDITOR:

The reviewing of the full AIDS Quilt on the Mall in Washington recently was both tragic and inspiring. It is tragic because the names of those lost to AIDS continues to grow. Each panel told a story, each spoke of a life lost. But there was inspiration also, as survivors celebrated the lives of loved ones.

The photos of handsome young men and young babies incorporated into the panels were too numerous to count. There were panels with poems written for the deceased. There were panels with flowers needlepointed on them. There were teddy bears and theater tickets and T-shirts, each a touching tribute to the life that has been taken. Al Parker's panel even had a pair of his Levis on it.

And there was one ugly panel.

It was the panel for Roy Cohn, the infamous aide to Senator Joseph McCarthy. Cohn was instrumental in assisting McCarthy with his campaign of Communist-baiting back in the '50s. Many lives were needlessly destroyed in the process, and Cohen played a large part in the character assassinations. None of this is new; it was depicted in the play "Angels in America." Cohen's life was one of meanness and ugliness until AIDS took him in the '80s.

So perhaps it is appropriate that the Roy Cohn panel is similar to his life. Below his name are simply three words: *COWARD, BULLY, VICTIM*. In death as in life, there is not much good to say of the man.

But the placement of a mean-spirited panel among all the loving ones is a jolt. One's first reaction is that there's been a mistake. Somehow, the controlling body that governs the Quilt must have accidentally allowed a nasty panel to sneak in.

But on reflection, it makes sense after all. To weed out unacceptable panels would require the type of censorship that has been used against Gays throughout history.

From libraries banning "Heather Has Two Mommies" to museums rejecting Mapplethorpe's photography, censorship has been used against Gays. To assess, judge and ultimately censor Quilt panels, would be no better than the type of small-minded actions the Christian Coalition has performed. In the final analysis, all the panels have their place.

And so the Roy Cohn panel sits there among the tributes and poems and flowers. And the message of tolerance and diversity speaks out loudly to all who care to listen.

Brian Treglown  
Chicago

### Birth Announcement

Betty Haydu and Vicky O'Reilly are celebrating the birth of their son, Alexander O'Reilly Haydu. Little Alex was born on Wednesday October 23<sup>rd</sup> in Milwaukee.

Alexander weighed in at 6lbs.1oz. and was 19.25" long at birth. He is a little sweetheart and we love him dearly.

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### Deadlines

December 5th Issue

Articles Friday November 29<sup>th</sup>  
Ads - Sunday December 1<sup>st</sup>  
5:00 p.m.

December 19<sup>th</sup> Issue

Articles—Dec. 13<sup>th</sup>  
Ads—Dec. 15<sup>rd</sup>  
5:00 p.m.

### Caution

The fact that someone's name appears in this paper in no way implies sexual orientation.

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

## The Wisconsin Light



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## Million Dollar Grant Allows MAP to Begin Building New House for Families with HIV

**Milwaukee**—On Friday, November 15, at 10:00 a.m., ground was broken for construction of Wisconsin's first residence dedicated for families living with HIV disease and AIDS. Scheduled for completion during the spring of 1997, the six-unit residence will accommodate the specific HIV-related needs of its residents. The three story building will provide permanent housing for an average of 24 persons.

The AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin (ARCW) initiated the project in 1994 in response to the growing number of Milwaukee families with HIV and AIDS that were in need of housing assistance. ARCW secured a \$1 million grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to construct and operate the residence. The Northwest Side Community Development Corporation is also a sponsor of the project.

"Every month, at least 100 families affected by HIV turn to us for housing assistance," said Doug Nelson, ARCW's executive director. "This new residence will provide six families the opportunity to remain living together in a comfortable home environment. It will help us meet our historic commitment that no one with AIDS in Milwaukee will ever be homeless."

ARCW provides housing assistance to almost 800 people annually, ranging from a bed or home to sleep in, landlord referrals and rent and utility assistance.

The new facility will be ARCW's third housing facility. About 110 people already live in the two existing facilities.

The units in the new facility are designed to eliminate any physical barriers to the disabled. There will be extra-wide corridors and larger-than-usual bathrooms, as well as easily accessible utilities.

Although the rents for the new three-bedroom apartments have not yet been set, ARCW says that residents will spend no more than one-third of their income on housing.

"Many of our clients in Milwaukee are low income or indigent, so housing and food and fundamental health care become very costly," Nelson said.

The site, located on Milwaukee's northwest side at 4512 N. 27<sup>th</sup> Street, will be managed by ARCW. The Milwaukee AIDS Housing Corporation (MAHC), an affiliate of ARCW, is the project owner and housing planner for the development and operations.

"We are pleased that the residence has re-

ceived strong endorsement among local community organizations familiar with the needs of people living with HIV disease," said David Wiggins, president of the MAHC Board. "Our goal is to promote independent living for a prolonged period of time and provide safe, affordable and supportive housing for people with HIV."

The construction phase of the project is estimated at \$700,000. The grant also includes \$361,800 in rental assistance for 20 years. The facility was designed by Architectural Designs of Milwaukee.

Individuals wanting more information should call (414) 225-1537.



Attendees at the ground breaking ceremony in Milwaukee for ARCW's new residence for families living with AIDS all pitched in help mark this special event. Approximately 35 people, including State Rep. Spencer Coggs (D-Mil) and Alderman Marvin Pratt attended the November 15 event.

Copyrighted Photo by Lita Aryan

## When Gay Youth Disappeared No One, Not Even Their Parents, Came Looking

**Indianapolis**—From rural communities across Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, and other Midwestern states young Gay men have moved to the big city, leaving behind their families to find a place where they could openly express their sexuality. When some of them began disappearing in Indianapolis, no one came looking for them.

Years later, at least four Gay men have been identified among the remains of at least seven bodies discovered on an 18-acre suburban estate whose owner committed suicide in July. Three were male prostitutes working the Gay bars in Indianapolis, police said.

Perhaps the saddest part is that their families didn't come looking for them, members of the Gay community said.

"They go to the nearest big city where there's a number of Gay clubs and Gay life," said Ted Fleischaker, publisher of *The Word*, a Gay newspaper with 10,000 readers in Indianapolis. "They may or may not even bother to tell their mom and dad they're even gone. They won't even go home for Christmas."

No one knew whether the men had even left Indianapolis. They were reported missing between July 1993 and July 1994, and by that time, "there was definitely some nervousness" among the Gay community, said Jeff McQuary of Justice Inc., which promotes the civil rights of gays and those infected with HIV.

"Probably we never would have known if not for this very accidental discovery," McQuary said.

The dead were found along with spent shotgun shells and handcuffs on the Fox Hollow Farms estate. Herbert Baumeister, 49, lived there until he went to Canada, where he shot himself to death in a park in Ontario, police said.

Baumeister, a businessman who was going through a divorce, left behind a four-page letter that revealed nothing about the

discovery of the bones.

However, Baumeister's ties to the Indianapolis Gay community are unquestioned. Police have spoken to men who had sexual encounters with Baumeister, said Sgt. Ken Whisman, the lead investigator on the case.

"We put him in every Gay bar in the city," Whisman said.

Whisman, however, refused to call Baumeister a serial killer, saying that since the causes of death remain undetermined, the cases aren't even classified as homicides.

Baumeister's wife, Juliana, contacted police earlier this year after her 15-year-old son had found a skull in the woods on the estate. Baumeister told his family that the skull had belonged to his father, who was a doctor.

About the same time, the police department's missing persons unit acted on an informant's tip and sought to question Baumeister about one or more men who had been reported missing. But Baumeister evaded them.

The police department said it handled 160 reports of missing adult men in 1993 and 13 went unsolved. It had 10 unsolved cases out of 232 in 1994 and nine unsolved cases out of 178 in 1995.

Most people in the Indianapolis Gay community believe that police have treated the disappearances seriously, McQuary said.

Fleischaker, however, said a police registry of missing Gay men may have prevented some of the deaths. "They didn't close in on this guy until it was too late," he said.

## Happy Thanksgiving

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## From the Mountains of Vermont, a Female Impersonator Heads for the Stars

**St. Johnsbury, VT**— In Victory, sometime in the early 1970s, Halloween came with a cold wind through the saddle of Kirby and the Burke mountains. At sundown, most of whatever children there were among the town's 50 residents put on appropriately dull, warm, costumes: surely insulated princesses, ragbag pirates, thermal superheroes.

Under the same freezing moon, 10-year-old Noel Benoit was carrying out his young fantasy somewhat less conservatively; barelegged, bare-shouldered, in his mother's strapless red taffeta prom dress, the beloved one with white polka dots.

He is, of course, a boy, and he was shaking like a reed, but he wore that dress with more aplomb and affection than it had ever seen, proudly, and without a second thought.

That this scene has led a burgeoning career as a singer/songwriter/female illusionist.

"I always knew I was going to be a star," he said. "I know I will be a national star."

With the aid of manager Travis Randall of Lyndonville, and the hoped for success of a compact disc, Benoit is currently attempting to finance and put together, this may well come true. Confidence and hard work seem to be his strong suits.

Benoit lived all around Essex County until he was 18, playing drums with his mother, best known as 1940s performer "Tootie" Boyle, and his sisters in the family musical act, "The Victory Hillbillies."

"Mom always used to make me dance, but I didn't mind. I'm a ham," he said. "I always sang along to the radio and imitated people," he said, citing Elton John, Aretha Franklin, Donna Summer and Barbra Streisand as early favorites. "I guess most people I chose to emulate were women, or men who turned out to be Gay."

Benoit said he first performed his female impersonator act when he spent a year in Key West, Florida, after graduating from college.

What Benoit offers is no different from what one would find in the most mainstream cabarets and on television variety shows. Benoit appears to be a clean-cut, well-dressed female singer with a strong, alto voice and a great manicure.

Benoit wears the female identity naturally. There is no personality overhaul and his hair and make-up, handled by Randall, are strictly soap-opera glam, although he does use heavy theatrical base to cover a five-o'clock shadow.

Unfortunately, the ease with which Benoit combines the feminine and masculine in his personality has also lead to experiences of prejudice.

"I've always vowed to be myself, and I won't compromise," he said, unwavering,

about what gets him through the insults, the prank calls, and the whispering. "I have to maintain a balance living here. Just being who I am is enough."

Benoit said he has to be "very conscious" when he chooses to go out for a walk around town, which can bring on taunts from passing cars.

"I have to be really strong. But sometimes on a beautiful day, I just decide I'm too tired to deal with it," said Benoit who felt fortunate not to have encountered any physical violence.

Of the silent hang-up calls he sometimes gets, Benoit said he suspects that "sometimes it's someone who just needs to talk." Often, Umbrella services refer men struggling with their sexuality to Benoit, or other members of Game Ends, a local group of Gay men with a mailing list of 75-to-100 men, some of whom are openly Gay, some of whom are closeted.

"They're afraid to be out," Benoit said of some of his area peers. "But I think their fear is greater than the actual consequences."

These consequences can often include ostracization from one's family, community and church, things Benoit has not had to face head on, although painful situations have arisen.

Feeling uncomfortable with Benoit's dual "persona," or perhaps most by his own comfort with himself, has caused people to attempt to contain it. According to Benoit, the organizers of First Night, at which he has performed for the past few years, once requested that he sign a contract promising not to perform as a woman.

"They were afraid people would take me as a joke," he said. "And I said, 'It's time. They may as well get used to it.'" In the end, he performed as a man.

"I don't know if I actually took it upon myself," he said. "But I've opened a lot of minds, changed a lot of minds, and found a lot of support I did not know I had."

Benoit, who is close with his mother and sisters, said he is not estranged from his father, who still lives in Victory, but that the facts of his lifestyle and art are skirted in the relationship.

"My dad knows," he said, somewhat disappointedly. "We just don't talk about it. He looks at it as something wrong with me; says it's my mother's fault."

Despite or because of the unusual circumstances of his life, Benoit perseveres, with a singular sense of mission, toward his goals of stardom and change in the world.

"My purpose in life is more than just me," he said. "God wouldn't have given me this talent if I wasn't supposed to use it."

## Edgar Signs Gay Non-Discrimination Policy, But It's Not Enough, Queer Nation Says

Springfield, IL—Republican Governor Jim Edgar, who had been the lone state constitutional officer without a specific anti-discrimination policy for Gays and Lesbians, has issued such an order for offices under his control.

Edgar issued an administrative order to all agency directors, emphasizing that sexual orientation be included in prohibitions against discrimination in recruiting, hiring and promoting state workers.

"We are not aware of any cases of discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, but this clearly reiterates the governor's non-discrimination policy," Edgar spokesman Eric Robinson said Tuesday, November 12.

The director of a statewide Gay activist group on Wednesday welcomed Edgar's action.

"This demonstrates that the governor recognizes that a discrimination free workplace is a productive workplace," said Rick Garcia of the Illinois Federation For Human Rights.

Queer Nation Chicago (QN), however, was not so quick to heap praise on the governor. In a press release dated November 14, QN pointed out that Edgar's action does nothing for LesBiGay and Transgendered people who do not work for the state. They can also be denied public accommodations, credit and kicked out of their apartments.

QN blamed the Republicans in the state legislature for thwarting attempts to amend the Illinois Human Rights Act to include sexual orientation and urged the governor to put pressure on fellow members of the GOP.

QN also condemned Edgar for signing SB 1773 which bans same-sex marriages in Illinois.

"Edgar is a hypocrite. Prohibiting dis-

crimination against Queers after banning the legal recognition of same-sex relationships makes no sense. Discriminating against our relationships is still discrimination based on sexual orientation," said QN member Robert Castillo.

State personnel rules prohibit discrimination on the basis of religion, race, national origin, sex, age, handicap or any other non-merit factor.

"I want to re-emphasize the policy of this administration prohibiting discrimination and further clarify that any other non-merit factor includes, but is not limited to, sexual orientation," reads the order, which Edgar issued Friday.

A letter from Edgar's chief of staff, Eugene Reineke, said marital or parental status and physical stature are also included in the order.

Edgar's order comes as Gay advocates are preparing for another effort to pass a Gay civil rights bill in Illinois.

"The governor's policy will help us in our effort to pass a bill to make anti-Gay discrimination illegal in Illinois," said Lana Hostetler, chief lobbyist for the Illinois Federation For Human Rights.

The bill would add sexual orientation to the list of factors for which discrimination is banned in areas such as housing and employment.

Edgar has said he would sign a Gay civil rights bill if one reached his desk. So far, though, efforts to enact one have failed.

Treasurer Judy Baar Topinka, Lt. Gov. Bob Kustra, Attorney General Jim Ryan and Comptroller Loleta Didrickson all had policies in place earlier. Secretary of State George Ryan adopted the policy in September.

age living with HIV/AIDS. MAP also offers free and anonymous HIV testing.

"We are determined to keep MAP services convenient," said Nelson. "With one visit to MAP, clients can access a dentist, a nurse, a lawyer, a housing advocate and a case manager. We want to assure high quality and convenient care."

This year's World AIDS Day theme -- "One World. One Hope." -- was chosen by the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) to emphasize the reality that we are one world, for HIV/AIDS knows no borders and affects us all. It also urges the world to focus on the hope of individuals, families, communities and governments in educating one another, caring for those infected, developing a strong support system and ultimately finding the means to cure HIV/AIDS.

In the United States, World AIDS Day will link communities in a unified observance of dimming lights. In Washington, DC, the White House will dim its lights from 7:45 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. as a visual demonstration of the commitment to the fight against the AIDS pandemic and in tribute to those living with HIV/AIDS and those who have died from AIDS.

### Memorials

All communities are affected by the continuing spread of AIDS. UNAIDS estimated that, as of July 1996, 21.8 million men, women and children worldwide are currently living with HIV/AIDS.

In the United States, as of December 31, 1995, 513,486 people had been reported with AIDS to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in Atlanta, Georgia. Of these, over 62 percent had already died.

### In Madison

There will be a celebration of life on December 1, at 6:30 p.m. at the First Unitarian Society, 900 University Bay Drive in Madison. The celebration, commemorating World AIDS Day, is sponsored by the AIDS Network (formerly MASN), community groups and churches.

### In Milwaukee

A prayer service will be held at 6:30 p.m. on December 1 at St. Joseph's Center, 1501 S. Layton Blvd. in Milwaukee sponsored by the Southeast Wisconsin Coalition of HIV/AIDS Spiritual Care, which is a group with members representing different agencies involved with the spiritual, as well as the physical needs of those infected or affected by HIV/AIDS.

### AIDS Quilt in West Bend

A West Bend group has organized to bring the NAMES Project Memorial Quilt to West Bend, March 19-22, 1998. Offering a major display of the Quilt in Southeast Wisconsin will serve to promote education and awareness of AIDS.

The West Bend AIDS Quilt Display Committee invites everyone to join in bringing the Quilt to West Bend. Volunteers are needed for fundraising, display promotion, media, volunteer coordination, legis-



Richard Strong (third from left) was honored as one of 12 "Outstanding Volunteers" in Northwestern Mutual Life's Employee Community Service Award program. On behalf of the Northwestern Mutual Life Foundation, Richard presented a \$5,000 check to the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin (ARCW). He is seen here with employees from ARCW: (from left to right) Marge Beil, Doug Nelson, Bonnie Creason, James Moore, Laura Porfilio Glawe and Steve Atwell.

tics, merchandise, and panel making.

For further information, contact Lisa at (414) 677-2678 (West Bend) or Mary Rose at (414) 527-2370 (Milwaukee).

### HRC POLL

Continued from Page 1

Despite these positive numbers, 55% of the sample said they favored the so called "Defense of Marriage Act, DOMA, which allows states to forbid same sex marriage. DOMA passed Congress earlier this year and was signed into law by President Clinton.

HRC Communications Director David Smith commented on the marriage questions of the polls. "Voters continue to be torn this issue," said Smith. "This poll shows that most people would like to see Gay and Lesbian couples afforded the components of legal marriage but they continue to oppose allowing Gay people to legally wed."

### AIDS Funding Supported

Nearly 70% of those polled supported providing AIDS drugs to those who can't

afford them. Even Evangelical Protestants supported this idea by a very wide margin.

A very important finding was that 56% said they would be less likely to vote for a member of Congress who opposed continued funding for AIDS research.

### Gay Issues Not Important To Most

A result that should be taken seriously is the finding that for most Americans, Gay rights are not an important issue.

Only 16% said they voted on the basis of Gay and Lesbian issues and that included those who are anti-Gay. By an almost two to one margin the sample said that Gay issues are not important in deciding who to vote for. Those who didn't base their vote on Gay issues outnumber those who said it was a consideration by margin of 49% to 23%.

Most Americans (72%) said they know someone who is Gay or Lesbian.

The poll has a margin of error of plus or minus 3.1%. That means that if every American voter was surveyed their answers were vary by no more 3.1% from what the sample's answers were.

## WISCONSIN AIDS RESEARCH CONSORTIUM

### HIV THERAPY TRIALS OPEN FOR ENROLLMENT

Wisconsin AIDS Research Consortium (WARC) is currently enrolling individuals with HIV/AIDS for participation in three trials of research drug therapies. These trials may advance scientific knowledge and future treatment of other individuals with HIV/AIDS.

#### TRIAL NO. 1 - REMUNE™

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

**ELIGIBILITY** - If you are over 18 years of age, HIV positive, have a CD4+ count of 300-549, have had no prior investigational vaccine or immune-based therapy treatment and no changes in antiretroviral drugs or doses within the past 30 days, and have no history of or current AIDS-defining conditions except for Kaposi's Sarcoma, you may be eligible for this study.

#### TRIAL NO. 2 - DELAVIRDINE

This is a double-blind, randomized study. The study compares the responses of individuals taking varied doses of Delavirdine (DLV) and AZT, AZT and 3TC or a combination of DLV, AZT & 3TC.

**ELIGIBILITY** - If you are 14 years of age or older, HIV positive, have a CD4 count greater than 200 but less than 500, and haven't been on AZT more than 6 months, you may qualify for this study.

#### TRIAL NO. 3 - STAVUDINE PLUS DIDANOSINE

This is an open-label study of the safety and biological effects of Stavudine (d4T) taken in combination with Didanosine (ddI) in HIV positive patients who have had prior therapy with AZT.

**ELIGIBILITY** - If you are over 18 years of age, HIV positive, have a CD4 count between 100 and 500 and have taken AZT as single drug therapy for more than 3 months, you may qualify for this study.

FOR INFORMATION ABOUT ENROLLING IN THESE TRIALS, PLEASE CALL ARCW AT 414-225-1578.

# ARCW

WISCONSIN AIDS RESEARCH CONSORTIUM IS A SERVICE AGENCY OF THE AIDS RESOURCE CENTER OF WISCONSIN, INC. (ARCW)

### MURDER

Continued from Page 1

to find Dellis.

HRL is the LesBiGayTrans organization in southeastern Wisconsin that works to educate the public on community issues. As part of this mission, HRL works closely with the authorities on issues of concerns to the LesBiGayTrans community.

HRL emphasized strongly that it was their "expectation that no one" would use "Dellis's possible connection to the Gay community as a justification for increasing violence against individuals in the LGBT community."

"The issue of sexual orientation is unrelated to the possible crime involved," HRL said.

The reference is to the immediate aftermath of the Jeffrey Dahmer case in 1991, when anti-Gay verbal and physical abuse rose against the community.

HRL extended its deepest sympathy to Kasee's family.

To more strongly emphasize its point that this situation has nothing whatever to do with sexual orientation, HRL spokesman, Dr. Gary Hollender, went on TV news programs to point that fact out strongly.

At the same time, Dr. Terry Boughner, Executive Editor of *Wisconsin Light* went on TV news shows, urging people to be careful and pointing out that murder is neither Gay nor straight. "It is a human thing," Boughner said. "A murderer is an aberration."

The Human Rights League urges anyone with information to contact police immediately. The suspect is considered dangerous. Do not attempt to do anything yourself.

### AIDS DAY

Continued from Page 1

dental service to the HIV community," said Doug Nelson, executive director of the ARCW. "In its first year, we expect more than 500 individuals will use the Dental Clinic."

Nelson said that the need for the clinic became acute with the closure of Doyne Hospital where many HIV/AIDS patients received dental care. The MAP HIV Dental Clinic is another expansion of health care services provided by MAP.

Other health care services offered confidentially, with most at no charge, to people with HIV through MAP include: early intervention (assistance to individuals with HIV who are not experiencing many symptoms of the disease but need to have their immune system regularly monitored for changes); therapies to reduce pain and stress such as massage, acupuncture and chiropractic care; physician referral; mental health counseling; and health education on how to better man-

**Tell Your Friends That You Read All About it in *The Wisconsin Light***

# Les/Bi/Gay Election News Wrap Up

Below are news items from the election that are of special interest to Wisconsin's Gay and Lesbian community. They have been compiled from our news sources, the Internet, interviews and research conducted by the "The Wisconsin Light."

## General Gay Election News

### InterNet Crashes the Party on Election Night

**Milwaukee**—The Great Internet Crash of 1996 provided many major disappointments on election night. A much larger than expected volume of calls combined with computer problems at a major Internet carrier on the West Coast canceled **The Wisconsin Light's** plans to connect its Election Night parties with other Gay parties around the country.

CNN reported 40 million hits on its home page. Many users who were able to get through found data being moved at a snail's pace, blank screens and other problems.

The need for high speed transmission of images and data for the national teleconference of Gay election night parties made it impossible for those parties to connect.

At 8:00 p.m. as the polls closed, the **Light** correctly gave the final results in all of the state's congressional races except for the First District which it rated as too close.

Within an hour the **Light** projected Mark Neumann the winner even though his opponent was in the lead and local stations were saying the race was too close to call.

Those at the paper's parties were disappointed by the Internet crash, but everyone seemed to have a good time nonetheless.

Those who were there cheered Clinton's win as well as news of Gay candidates winning around the country. They also booed the news that Jesse Helms had won re-election.

### Log Cabin's Protests Seem To Be One Sided

The Log Cabin Republicans sent out a press release denouncing President Clinton for running a radio ad that mentioned his signing of DOMA (Defense of Marriage Act). The ad, produced in response to a Bob Dole ad, ran on Christian Radio stations in the South.

The Dole ad called "Moral Crisis In America," denounced Clinton's attempts to open up the military to Lesbians and Gay men and condemned his support for the distribution of condoms in schools.

The Human Rights Campaign, (HRC), the Victory Fund, and other national organizations, some of whom had endorsed Clinton, also criticized the Clinton ad. They called on the President to take it off the air. Elizabeth Birch, Executive Director of HRC called the Clinton ad offensive.

The Clinton campaign listened. It redid the ad deleting the reference to DOMA. The Dole ad continued to run and remained unmentioned in the Log Cabin Club press releases.

The Dole campaign did not return HRC's calls. It is not known whether or not the Log Cabinites asked the Dole campaign to pull its Anti-Gay commercials.

### National Gay Groups Boast of Accomplishments

HRC and the Victory Fund, two national Les/Bi/Gay political action groups provided hundreds of thousands of dollars to candidates in the election.

In addition to their donations, both groups provided technical support and staff to several campaigns.

HRC used student interns and its own staff. The Victory Fund sent help on behalf of Gay and Lesbian candidates.

HRC is claiming credit for helping Democrats take control of the California State Assembly away from right wing Republicans. HRC's California Project mobilized people from around the state.

The Victory Fund helped a record 44 candidates win their races this year. Included on that list is Ed Flanagan, the first ever openly Gay state office holder.

The Victory Fund limits its work to openly Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual candidates who show a good chance of winning their races.

Flanagan broke the Lavender Ceiling in Vermont where he was elected State Auditor.

The Victory Fund also helped Sabrina Sojourner become the District of Columbia's non-voting delegate to Congress. Sojourner who is openly Lesbian becomes the first open Lesbian to be part of Congress.

In Wisconsin, the Human Rights Campaign sent campaign donations to losers Lydia Spotswood, and Paul Soglin and to winners, Tom Barrett, Ron Kind, and Jay Johnson.

There were no openly Gay candidates running in Wisconsin in this election. The Victory Fund did, however, provide support for Milwaukee Lesbian, Karen Gotzler in her bid for Milwaukee Alderman last Spring.

### GOP Adds to Senate Seats

The Republicans added to their majority in the US. Senate much to the consternation of many Lesbian and Gay activists.

In the last week of the 104th Congress, the Senate narrowly missed ENDA, the Employment Non-Discrimination Act, which would ban job discrimination against Gays and Lesbians.

That vote came about, though, only as a result of a deal allowing the Republicans to get a non-filibustered vote on DOMA, the Defense of Marriage Act, and the Democrats to get a vote on ENDA with no amendments allowed to either bill.

Some observers say that such a deal is unlikely to occur in the next Senate. It's not likely that the Republicans would risk ENDA passing or being the bad guys in voting it down.

Last time was a special circumstance they say. If ENDA had been offered as an amendment to DOMA, it probably would have passed. It was only the unexpected absence of an ENDA supporter that kept it from passing on its own.

If ENDA is to pass the Senate this session it will probably do so as an amendment to a popular bill. This is the same tactic Jesse Helms used to pass anti-Gay amendments.

Some of the key races included:

#### Louisiana

**Candidate Attacked For Gay Support Wins Narrow Victory**  
Democrats managed to hang to their open seat here. Democrat Mary Landrieu defeated arch conservative Louis "Woody" Jenkins. Jenkins had attacked Landrieu for being pro-Gay and accepting money from the Human Rights Campaign.

Landrieu's win was no sure thing. She had alienated Blacks when she refused to support African-American Congressman Cleo Fields in his bid for Governor last year.

With Jenkins leading in the polls, Vice President Al Gore left the campaign trail and flew to New Orleans to mediate the dispute between Landrieu and Fields who then endorsed her.

One Southern observer noted that Gore's successful effort may be the biggest diplomatic coup of the Clinton administration.

Whatever it was, it worked. Fields endorsed Landrieu just in time for her to win a narrow victory over Jenkins who some say resembles another Bayou state politician, David Duke.

#### Massachusetts

**Democrat Kerry Pulls It Out**  
Gay activists in Massachusetts are breathing a sigh of relief over the re-election of Senator John Kerry. Kerry was in a tough fight with the popular GOP Governor of the Bay State, William Weld.

Weld is one of the few Republicans who has been supportive on Gay and Lesbian issues, but Kerry was preferred by most Lesbians and Gays in his state.

The reason was Weld's opposition to same sex marriage, (Kerry voted against and spoke against DOMA) and his passing up a chance to address the Republican convention where Gays hoped he would address the question of equality.

#### North Carolina

**Helms Wins Again**  
Jesse Helms, the number one target of liberals everywhere in the country, easily won re-election in his rematch with Harvey Gantt.

Pre-election polls predicted a tight race but a large turnout among rural whites boosted Helms to victory over his African-American challenger.

Helms gloated in his victory speech that he would give the liberals and Gays "hell for the next six years."

#### South Dakota

**Democrats Pick Up a Seat**  
South Dakota Republican Senator Larry Pressler was defeated by the State's lone Congressman Tim Johnson.

This race inspired controversy when a new book claimed that Pressler was Gay. The man Pressler first defeated to win his seat, James Abrouzek, brought the book's author to speak to a private club.

Pressler made the appearance into a campaign issue claiming that the Democrats were trying to smear him.

The tactic didn't help. Pressler became the only Republican Senatorial incumbent to lose his bid for re-election.

### Helped by Wisconsin Democrats Make Gains In House

#### Wisconsin Gives House Democrats A Gain of Two

Wisconsin did its part to help the Democrats take over Congress. The voters of the Badger State gave the Democrats a net gain of two seats.

Despite their loss of two seats, the big losers of the evening may have been the Christian Coalition and not the Republicans.

Two Christian Coalition backed candidates lost on election night and another may be blamed for the GOP losing its grip on the Eighth district.

Unfortunately the one race most Gays and Lesbians, especially in the Southeast end of the State, wanted to win was in the First District where Republican Incumbent Mark Neumann eked out a narrow victory.

When **The Wisconsin Light** projected Neumann the winner at its Election Night party at Mama Roux's, the descriptions many in attendance attached to Neumann were quite graphic.

#### Neumann Has Narrow Escape

It was the third consecutive nail biter for Neumann, who was targeted by Labor, Environmentalists, Senior Citizen groups and Gay Rights groups. Neumann responded with a serious of attack ads that some observers called the worst, most vicious ads ever seen here.

As the campaign came to an end the Kenosha County District Attorney, threatened to prosecute Neumann if he didn't pull his ad claiming that Spotswood enriched herself with her votes on the Kenosha Common Council.

Wisconsin state law forbids candidates from knowingly lying about their opponents.

Neumann was "recommended" for re-election by the Wisconsin Log Cabin Republican Club, who said he had a "mixed record" on Gay rights.

Neumann scored a 0 on the HRC score card, which grades Congressmen on their votes for or against Gay equality.

#### Klug Wins In Second District

Madison Mayor Paul Soglin came up short in his bid to move to Washington. Soglin who took on popular incumbent, Scott Klug

Klug spent most of the campaign running away from Newt Gingrich claiming that he was really an independent.

Soglin and others pointed out that Klug voted with Gingrich over 80% of the time.

The "independent" Scott Klug will most probably vote to retain Newt Gingrich as Speaker of the House.

Both candidates claimed support from the Gay community and said they support Gay rights. Most activists thought that Soglin would be better on Gay issues than Klug who received a 56% on his HRC score card.

The Human Rights Campaign endorsed Soglin and donated money to his campaign.

#### Dems Pick Up Third District

Kind was running against Republican Roger Harmsdorf for the seat being vacated by Steve Gunderson.

Harmsdorf was so conservative that the incumbent Republican Congressman, Steve Gunderson, refused to endorse him.

Dr. Tom Fitzpatrick, a former Republican candidate for Senate, went even further and openly endorsed Kind.

Kind was endorsed by HRC which also donated \$2,500 to his campaign.

#### Kleccka Survives In Fourth District

A second drunk driving conviction did little to dampen incumbent Democrat Jerry Kleccka's re-election bid.

In 1994 Kleccka had a narrow win over his opponent West Allis printer, Tom Reynolds. In their rematch in 1996, Kleccka won a victory of land slide proportions.

Reynolds was backed by Right Wing Christians and succeeded in knocking off establishment Republican Mac Davis. Davis, who many thought would give Kleccka a real run for his money, sat on the sidelines as did many of his supporters and the national GOP in the general election campaign.

Kleccka took advantage of Reynolds' positions against the assault weapons ban, the minimum wage and employer sponsored health insurance with a barrage of ads that showed Reynolds himself answering questions.

With no national support, Reynolds was unable to raise enough cash to mount a response.

Kleccka has a 67% rating from HRC.

#### Johnson Upsets Proesser in the Eighth

In the Northeast portion of the Badger State, Jay Johnson picked up what had been considered to be a safe Republican seat. In the 148 years since Wisconsin became a state, a Democrat has held this seat for only 14 of those years.

Johnson promised to support ENDA, the bill that would ban job discrimination against Gays and Lesbians during his race against Wisconsin Assembly Speaker, Proesser.

Proesser was badly bloodied in a rough primary fight against Christian Coalition backed candidate James Dettman.

The Eight District includes some of the most conservative areas of Wisconsin including Appleton, the home of the late Wisconsin Senator, Joe McCarthy, and the site of the International Headquarters of the ultra right wing John Birch Society.

The rough and tumble primary fight against Dettman, left Proesser with less money, resources and reputation than he planned on having for the general election campaign leaving conservative Christians open to charges that they handed this seat to the Democrats.

#### Incumbents Cruise in Fifth, Sixth, Seventh and Ninth Districts

Democrats Tom Barret (Fifth District), David Obey (Seventh District) and Republicans Tom Petri (Sixth District) and James Sensenbrenner (Ninth District) won easily in the re-election bids over their opponents.

Barret had an 89% rating from HRC, Obey's rating was 50%. Petri scored a 0 and Sensenbrenner had a rating of 11%.

### Two of Three Gay House Candidates Lose

Two openly Gay candidates went into the history books as the first ever openly Gay congressional candidates. Rick Zbur ran in California's 38th District against incumbent Republican Steven Horn and Mike Berber ran against Conservative Republican, Frank Lucas in Oklahoma's Sixth District, while a District of Columbia Lesbian became the first Lesbian to win a Congressional seat.

Zbur, was soundly defeated by a margin of 53% to 43% with the remaining votes going to minor candidates. Berber lost by a whopping 64% to 36% margin.

Barber had the tougher task of the two. His district is very conservative. After being nominated he came out publicly and offered to withdraw if the Democratic Party wanted him to.

Berber's own family endorsed his opponent because of his homosexuality.

Zbur's district includes Long Beach and a substantial minority population. Furthermore, registration figures show a 15 point edge for Democrats. He was thought to have a good chance to win and, given the demographics of the district, should have done much better.

Zbur's major Democratic primary opponents made an issue of his homosexuality and refused to endorse him.

On the plus side, Sabrina Sojourner became the first Lesbian to have an official position within Congress. Sojourner won the race to represent the District as a non-voting delegate. Sojourner also became the first African American openly Lesbian person to be elected to a national office.

#### Dorman Loses.

#### Gays Rejoice In Victory

Gays throughout America rejoiced in the defeat of their number one opponent in the House of Representatives.

Dorman was the one who ousted Steve Gunderson on the floor of the House.

In a nail biting finish, Democratic challenger Loretta Sanchez pulled out a narrow win. It took over a week for her to be declared the winner.

Dorman had a lead of just 267 votes after the ballots cast at the district's polling places were counted. He lost that lead when absentee and mail in ballots were tabulated.

Dorman had said that he had "a dream opponent: A Catholic for abortions and sodomy." Sanchez is pro-abortion and pro-Gay civil rights.

Dorman's Orange County district includes some of the most conservative voters in America. Dorman used that conservative streak to his advantage in election after election.

But Sanchez was able to take advantage of the district's large Hispanic population which comprises nearly 50% of the electorate. Dorman outraged his Hispanic constituents with his support of California Proposition 209, an anti-immigrant

PLEASE Turn to Election Page 8

## Some Reflections on "Wisconsin Light" as it Enters its Tenth Year

By Terry Boughner

And so **Wisconsin Light** begins its 10<sup>th</sup> year, which makes the paper the oldest continuously owned LesBiGay publication in the state.

I should say that by my calculation, we have been in our 10<sup>th</sup> year for about three months. That's when the paper was conceived, one steamy hot August day, by Gay activists from Madison and Milwaukee. It was in November that the first issue arrived at our back door.

Abraham Lincoln, speaking of being president, once told the story of the man who was tarred and feathered and was being ridden out of town on a rail. Someone asked him how he felt.

"Well," the man replied, "if it weren't for the honor of the thing, I'd rather walk."

Over the course of nine years, there are times when I've understood the point of Lincoln's story all too well.

### In the Beginning

I remember looking at the piles of bundled papers and saying, "This is either the goose that laid the golden egg—or the tar baby." Well, it's been no golden egg.

In the beginning it was entirely a volunteer effort. Now, while some others get paid, Jerry and I do not. In fact, every single penny of revenue from the paper goes back into the paper—as it always has. Because of that, and because we maintain the lowest possible overhead, we have the lowest cost ads of any Gay publication in the state.

The paper started as a monthly, but became a biweekly pretty quickly after that. In the beginning I had a manual typewriter and typed every article by hand. When that was done, the manuscripts were sent over to Dan Schramm (who, at that time, typeset for both **In Step** and **Light**), to be retyped and typeset. Later on, a friend would loan us a word processor. How good that was.

We were so green to this. Thank God for Ron Geiman, then publisher/editor of **In Step**. He'd been in the business for rather awhile, knew its pitfalls, and was willing to share his experience with me. Three things I remember well—and have followed ever since:

1. Every day, walk out and close the door behind you. Otherwise, you'll go crazy.
2. When you're out and about and someone wants to talk shop, tell them you don't talk about the paper when you're out; that you have office hours.
3. Eighty-five percent and more of what goes on you can never print.

The advice was sterling and I've tried to follow it ever since.

In the beginning I thought a newspaper was simply a matter of, well, getting the news out to the community. That remains part of its purpose as a community service, but it is more.

### Mission and Purpose

**Wisconsin Light**, as with any LesBiGay paper, is part of the advocate press. In other words, we exist to do what we can to be an advocate for equal rights for Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgendered and Gay people. That is our mission.

As part of that mission, we serve an educational function. By that I mean that the paper serves as a conduit of information to the good, decent and curious majority, about who and what we are. They need to know that. We are not a majority and never will be a majority. For that reason, to tell people about us, we have always distributed the paper in "non-Gay" places.

### Distribution

In the beginning, those distribution points amounted to less than 50, mainly in Madison and Milwaukee. Now we have hundreds of such points, located throughout Wisconsin and nationwide. However, the majority of those points continue to be "non-Gay."

(Our distribution is still increasing. As of this writing, we've added quite a few more spots.)

Whether the paper can be distributed in a particular location is entirely up to the owner or manager of the business. Getting the okay is only the beginning.

For example, how many papers are to be left?

The first time or two, that number is based on an educated guess. After we see how the distribution is doing, we can make a judgment about how many to leave at a particular spot.

Once a site is established, we keep tabs on it. We repeatedly check on many of the sites ourselves over the copy run, making what adjustments are needed.

(In the process, we know what other publications are being distributed. Sometimes a site may have a dozen or more free publications it is distributing.)

For those locations we can't reach, we get reports from our distributors—and/or we ask the owner of the business how many

papers are being picked up. The result is that we know, practically to the copy, how many papers consumers take from each site.

We need to know all that information. For one thing, it's useless, for example, to leave 50 papers at a site where only 25 are picked up. Those extra 25 can be used at other sites.

Secondly, sometimes an advertiser will want to know how many papers are being picked up in one section of the state or another. We give them as accurate a figure as we can—and tell how the figure was reached.

Finally, wasted papers (papers left at a site and not redistributed) are wasted money. Copies that are left over in Milwaukee, Green Bay, for example, are sent to our outlets in San Francisco, Los Angeles and New York.

While **Wisconsin Light** is a free publication, we do have subscribers. In the beginning there were approximately 100 of them (most of which we inherited from **Out!**, our immediate predecessor). Now we have hundreds and they keep coming in all the time.

In the beginning, there wasn't any reason to use UPS.

Now, it takes Jerry two days to wrap all the bundles. When the UPS man shows up at the door, I have to smile when I see him blanch.

### Number of Readers

How many people read **Wisconsin Light**? If you're talking about anything approaching accurate numbers, the truth is, I don't know.

Early on, I learned that there is a formula that is used by the mainstream press to figure out how many readers they have. It's a figure based on the assumption that more than one person reads any particular copy. We've used that formula, too, but honestly, it's only a guesstimate.

Publications, mainstream and Gay, spend tens of thousands of dollars to hire agencies to, among many other things, find out how many readers they have. Even after that, they'll tell you the figure they get is accurate only up to a point.

### Learning

**Wisconsin Light** has been nothing if not a learning experience. For example, I have learned just how ephemeral Gay activists are.

As if to drive that point home, I was out and about the other evening and saw an old friend, an activist who had done much for this community. He came over to me. We talked warmly, and then he left.

After he was gone, a young man sitting next to me, an activist himself, asked me who my friend was. I told him.

"Never heard of him," the young man replied with a shrug and went back to his beer.

Sometimes I think we (those of us who are older) forget that the younger generation is not coming up to join us. They are coming up to replace us (and in many cases, more angry, more assertive, more aggressive, than we were). They will, of course, build on our accomplishments, but five, ten years from now, few of them will know whose accomplishment they were—and, like my young friend, many of them won't care.

I have learned that it really doesn't make much difference (if any at all) who did something to advance our cause. As long as it's done, does it matter who gets the credit now?

I have learned and I am reminded constantly that, for all of us, the earth that feeds us will, eventually and inevitably, devour us, each and every one. AIDS and the many friends I have lost, the many obituaries we have carried, keeps that in mind.

I have learned that advice is cheap—and plentiful—especially when it comes to how to produce the paper. I have learned to listen and ignore a great deal of it. I like doing it my way.

I have learned that, as someone pointed out the other evening, there is a certain lack of civility in both our society and our community. That's sad, especially since there've been times when I'm just as much to blame as anyone else.

I have learned that the paper is no place to "wash dirty linen." The larger community doesn't need to read any of that.

I have learned that we can carry a main headline, something like "Jesse Helms Comes Out." No one will bat an eye.

However, misspell a name, endorse the "wrong" candidate, or (especially) get a classified ad wrong, and all hell breaks loose.

Over the last nine years, there have been so many high points. I will always remember the memorial service in Juneau Park, held for the victims of Jeffrey Dahmer. I will always remember the march through the twilight to MacArthur Square.

I will remember, too, going to the March On Washington. Especially will I remember being in Dupont Circle in the early evening, standing among uncounted hundreds of other LesBiGayTrans people and listening as a young man broke into loud and joyous song, "I Am Who I Am."

Oh, there've been the low points, the pitfalls, and God knows, there've been the mistakes, but I will say this: We have never mocked or made fun of anyone because of their age, race, gender, or anything else. I am proud of that.

Over the years, I've gotten more than one Letter to the Editor in which the writer engages in such things. That gets edited out or the letter doesn't get printed at all.

### How large?

When someone asks how large the paper is, what they mean is distribution and how many copies are printed and shipped to the client.

Let me explain.

In the beginning, I thought that once the presses had been loaded, somebody pressed a button, the copies came out the other end and you took them away. That's not how it works.

I went to see the paper printed and watched in surprise as copy after copy after copy rolled out, was looked at and then tossed away. As the printer explained, these are the proof copies.

Proof copies include the ones not up to the printer's standard of quality. They are printed while adjustments are being made on the press.

I'm not talking about small numbers here. There are hundreds and hundreds of these copies, sometimes several thousand, that are printed and thrown away because they are imperfect in one way or the other.

It may be hard to believe, but our printer told me that it is not at all unusual for them to print 10,000 copies to get 5,000 good ones.

I have seen dumpster carts stuffed full of proof copies. I've looked at samples. I couldn't see anything wrong, but I don't have a printer's eye for such things.

The customer is not invoiced for the copies that are thrown away and we do not pay for them (not directly, anyhow). Neither do we receive them for distribution.

The waste doesn't end with the print run. There is even more waste if a publication has to go through "Step No. 2."

**Wisconsin Light** has never had need to go through this step, which means being stapled, trimmed or bound. In that process, the printer told me, mistakes inevitably

happen with the consequence that there are even more copies thrown away.

As with the proof copies, the customer doesn't get these "mistakes" and isn't invoiced for them.

Therefore, even though an advertiser may ask how many papers we print, that person is not interested in a number which includes the copies that are discarded by the printer. What an advertiser wants to know is how many copies do we have available for distribution.

In other words, how many copies are there that have the potential for people seeing the ad?

If I told an advertiser that we print X number of copies and included in that number, the proof copies—and didn't tell the advertiser that's what I was telling them—I would not be truthful.

Based on what I know our actual print run is (the number of papers we receive, are invoiced for and distribute), and the number of our distribution sites, we are, to the best of my knowledge, the largest and most widely distributed LesBiGay paper in the state.

## Some Bob of Dornan's "Famous" Quotes

"Every Lesbian spear-chucker in this country is hoping I get defeated."

1992

"I couldn't be that lucky, could I? To have him come out to my district. Maybe he'll wear a dress. Maybe he can bring pedophiles with him."

On hearing that Herb Moses, Rep. Barney Frank's partner, was going to campaign against him.

"I have four years of Latin. There is no such word as homophobia. Phobia of man—homo? If they mean homosexual phobia or decadence phobia, that would be more accurate, but it is not a phobia. It may be an aversion to seeing the collapse of our society or, as Billy Graham put it, a great nation on the brink of self-destruction."

Dornan on why he's a not a homophobe.

Dornan is now a former Congressman.

## Anti-Gay Ad in "USA Today" Foiled by Gay Activists

**Milwaukee**—In an update to the editorial on the homophobic ad carried in **USA Today**, the **Washington Blade** reports that the ad was placed by Peter LaBarbara, publisher of the Far Right Wing **The Lambda Report**.

Gay activists had posted the 800 phone number included at the bottom of the ad on the Internet. The result, LaBarbara is reported to have said, was that so many calls were received that supporters were unable to get through.

LaBarbara had hoped that supporters would not only buy the homophobic video he was trying to sell, but give him enough money to pay for the ad, which he had run in the **Washington Times** and the Orange County, California, **Register**. Gay activists blocked LaBarbara's hope.

## ELECTION

Continued from page 7

referendum.

Dornan won Gay enmity by accusing openly Gay Republican Congressman Steve Gunderson of having "a revolving closet door," and by offering anti-Gay amendments to various bills.

In the last Congress, Dornan managed to pass an amendment to the Defense appropriations bill that mandated the discharge of HIV + service members. The measure was repealed last Spring.

Dornan had boasted that his amendment was offered to "punish Gays."

In typical fashion, the soon to be former Congressman said that he was the victim of fraud, claiming that illegal Hispanic immigrants were allowed to vote against him. His district office had a tape recording pleading for witness of fraud to come forward.

As word of his loss spread, Conservative Talk show hosts offered sympathy and support while Gay leaders celebrated.

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(preferably alive)

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## Crimes of Violence Against Women Under Reported or Totally Ignored

**Brighton, England**—Many women raped during the genocide in Rwanda two years ago were infected with the AIDS virus and rapists are still holding some women as sexual slaves in refugee camps, a European Union human rights expert said Wednesday. In former Yugoslavia, war has "militarized" personal relationships and led to an increase in violence against women and in Kurdistan, women are still being killed and constantly moved but their plight is ignored, women's activists said.

"We have war criminals and we have peace criminals against women," Yugoslav feminist Lepa Mladjenovic, who runs a center for sexually abused women in Belgrade, told 2,000 delegates at an international conference on violence and abuse against women.

The exploitation of women during and after wars rarely makes headlines because many are too frightened to speak out about rape and other attacks, fearing ostracism or retribution, the activists said.

Kalliope Migirou, who spent a year working with women in Rwanda for the U.N. Human Rights Field Operation, said men who rape and abuse women during wars are trying to destroy them physically and psychologically and humiliate their husbands, families and ethnic groups.

During the 1994 genocide, between 500,000 and 1.5 million Tutsis and moderate Hutus were slaughtered. But because of the stigma attached to rape, the number of victims can only be guessed, with estimates ranging from 15,700 women by the Rwandan government to between 250,000 and 500,000 by the U.N. special representative, she said.

Migirou, an EU field worker from Greece, said many Rwandan women were gang raped and had their sexual organs mutilated. In some cases, she said, militia men forced fathers "to rape their daughters and sons their mothers."

Rapists infected many women with the AIDS virus, wanting their victims "to die from AIDS and spread AIDS to their community," she said. "Some babies born after a rape were contaminated by AIDS as well."

Some women chosen to be sex slaves by Hutu militia men during the genocide were then taken to refugee camps and kept there as the "wives" of these militia members, Migirou said.

"They write letters to their families letting them know that they are still alive and they are 'married' to a man in the camp," she said.

While sexual violence is considered a war crime by the Geneva Convention, not one of the more than 4,000 cases prepared for Rwandan war crimes trials includes a rape charge, Migirou said. Some 80,000 Rwandans are in prison on suspicion of participating in the genocide, about 8 percent women, she noted.

In former Yugoslavia, rape was also widespread during the war.

"War has increased all forms of violence against women," said Violette Krasnic of the Autonomous Women's Center Against Sexual Violence in Belgrade, which along with other women's groups has studied the war's effects for six years.

In Belgrade, domestic violence is on the increase, with death threats against women increased 30 to 50 percent, rape increased 30 percent, and violence in inter-ethnic marriages also increased, she said.

Forty percent of women reported being threatened with weapons, and men used violence against their wives after being exposed to nationalistic propaganda, she said.

Nazaneen Rasheed, London-based representative of the Women's Union of Kurdistan, said women in her homeland in northern Iraq have no power or land, face death by bombs, mines and artillery, and are in emotional turmoil because of missing loved ones.

Some women turned to prostitution to survive, but hundreds have been killed by male relatives because of shame to the family, she said.

"All our resources are being used for military purposes instead of redevelopment or aid," Rasheed said, and women's peace protests and appeals to the Kurdish political parties are "totally ignored."

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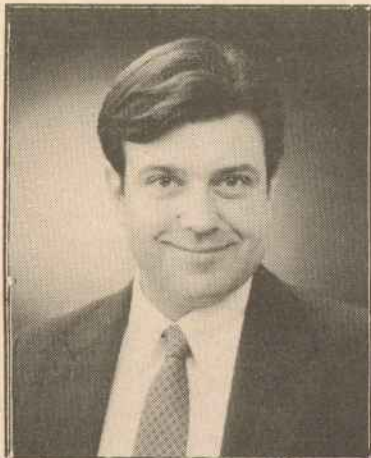
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## Youth Column

### Gobble, Gobble

Commentary by J. Alan

I love Thanksgiving! Thanksgiving is a holiday of many causes. It is a holiday (although, not originally) to commemorate the fall harvest and the onset of winter. It is a holiday with fresh, plump turkey on the table. It is a holiday, at least in my family, with fresh, frothy eggnog so well spiced you would think it fit for a king. Perhaps, most importantly, Thanksgiving is a holiday for close friends and family to take a break and relax.

However, the "funest" (as my younger brother would say), part about Thanksgiving is that the political campaigns and elections are finally over.

I have endured endless political commercials—inescapable, sleazy, annoying, bothersome, pesky, and just downright make-you-want-to-throw-up, commercials—and just when I have finally stood as much as I can stand and can't stand no more, the turkey is almost on the table.

Thank you, Jesus!

It is no secret that this year has been a politically difficult year for many in the Gay community. We have at many levels of government watched many promises broken

and many unspoken promises kept.

We have, as a community, started to gain political influence and make gains in the general perception of the public—gains that have borne a heavy weight on the leaders of our community.

As this community has strolled down the path to, what I believe to be an inevitable victory, we have, on occasion, stumbled and fallen, only to arise again with renewed vigor.

Two years ago, an unprepared Gay community stood dumbfounded in the face of a new Republican controlled Congress. Many moderate onlookers looked down upon this political situation and shook their heads.

There stood a Democratic President who had won two years before with only the narrowest of margins looking at a GOP Congress that was biting at our leaders' heels at every moment. And, in the middle of this political mess, a politically fledgling Gay community. It was David vs. Goliath. "They'll never win," many said.

However, amazingly, the underdog came out fighting strong. As a surprise to this nation, David beat Goliath, giving him a bloody nose and proceeded to whoop his butt, beating every anti-Gay initiative with the exception of an unconstitutional piece of unbridled bigotry known as DOMA (The Defense of Marriage Act).

The underdog, often betrayed by those from within, often finding support in unlikely places, had clearly come out ahead.

The Gay community fought hard and won many a round, leading to another four years with a leader who has championed our rights from the very first day of his Administration.

It is a happy Thanksgiving indeed, for me and my house. It is a happy Thanksgiving indeed, for this community—and, indeed, it is perhaps the happiest of Thanksgivings for this great nation.

Thanks to the efforts of our community and many others, the best interests of this nation are in the able eye of a proven leader who was once an underdog himself. We have a great deal of work to accomplish in the next four years. We can only continue to make something out of ourselves if we continue to maintain the sense of pride we have maintained over the past four years.

Therefore, if you are still debating over what to do with your sexuality and your life, why don't you write to me. I will listen and I will care.

J. Alan may be reached at: J. Alan, c/o The Wisconsin Light, 1843 N. Palmer St., Milwaukee, WI 53212.

## Micael Tapia Sees That Facing Death is Often the Way to Reassess Life

By Barry Cherin

A year ago, Micael Tapia, 40, was preparing to die. He was down to one T-Cell, bed-ridden and going blind because of CMV. His lover had just passed away.

Fall/1996 finds Tapia in a totally different place. His T-Cell count is up to 300. His viral load is down to 3,000. He is only bed-ridden when sleeping or when he taxes his growing strength.

Like many people with AIDS who are experiencing a health change due to new medicines (he is taking Quicksaven and 3pc), Tapia is also experiencing a radical change of outlook and attitude.

"For 3 years I was preparing to die and now I am preparing to live," says Tapia. "I was on my deathbed. I had made my peace. Blindness was just a part of the package and I wasn't dealing with it because I didn't think I'd be around for very long. Now I am dealing with the reality of being blind for life because it looks like my life is going to go on for awhile. I view myself as having a chronic disease."

Within the last year, Tapia's entire philosophy has changed. Certainly a journey back from the brink of death would give one cause to reassess one's life.

"This return to life is like a marvelous explosion," continues Tapia. "I am thrilled to have this opportunity. Like most people, I was raised to have self doubt but I have thrown aside this characteristic. This experience has freed me."

What Tapia is going through is a situation facing many people with AIDS. They sold their insurance, took that phenomenally expensive trip, bought that outrageous car, went through therapy to get beyond denial, and made their wills all because they thought the end might be approaching. Suddenly, the scenario has changed. Some people who thought they were not going to be around for 1997 New Years Eve parties may have to start planning for the next century.

Tapia's return to life is a return to a quantity of activity that could prove challenging to an Olympic gymnast.

He is studying Braille and may eventually buy a guide dog. He is learning to play the guitar. He has learned to operate a high tech computer that responds with a voice. He is taking a ceramics class. He dances and plays the conga and ashika drums. He writes and has had a poem published. He attended the California Mens Gathering and will take part in the Los Angeles AIDS Walk. He recently took a train ride — unaccompanied — from Los Angeles to Santa Barbara and will shortly travel again (alone) to Napa. He paints with acrylics ("The outcome doesn't matter; it's the creative process that counts"). He even goes to movies. He can eat a large plate of linguini accompanied by a few glasses of red wine and make less of a mess than a sighted person.

Tapia lives with his mother and helps with

the cooking and cleaning. He gets around Los Angeles via taxis and walks city streets alone using a cane as a guide.

But how can a blind man walk the streets of Los Angeles alone and manage to pay cab drivers?

"People are generous and helpful. I'm never in a bad situation. When I pay taxi drivers and merchants, I am partially dependent on my honesty and partially dependent on my own system of folding the different cash denominations in various ways."

Everything in Tapia's home is placed so that he can find whatever he looks for. His clothes, purchased when he was sighted, are labeled, so that dark-haired, very attractive Hispanic with a dazzling smile is still a savvy dresser. Some sighted people could use a lesson in wardrobe choices from Tapia.

His social life is full of friends and relatives who provide a very solid support system. However, Tapia's brink-of-death experience has colored some of his friendships. He has become more spiritual and has no time or patience for gossip and superficialities. He now has a need to connect with people on a basic gut and heart level.

Even romance, which Tapia had discounted, is now a possibility in his life. He knows that his deceased lover, Dan, would want him to fully re-enter the world of the living.

Blindness has opened up a spiritual plane of sensitivity to Tapia that much of the Gay subculture might choose to ignore. He doesn't just meet people, he truly senses them.

"I no longer size people up on the merits of their appearance as some Gays might. I judge people by what they are like rather than what they look like. Fat or unattractive doesn't matter to me. I am attracted to a person's spirit. A friend recently told me that someone I'd been talking to was not physically attractive. Unfortunately, my friend is enslaved by that objectification. I am free of it."

However, Tapia is the first to acknowledge that he is not an angel.

"I'm not Pollyanna. I have my bad days. Certainly I feel pain, bitterness and hurt. It is healthy to acknowledge these feelings and then let them go, perhaps in increments. Everyone has a right to these feelings."

At one time, Tapia could not visualize himself being alive in 1997. Now, he is just beginning to fantasize what his life might be like in the year 2000.

"I want to be on the lecture circuit. I will have two books published. I will be involved in the community politically. I want to motivate people. I want to teach them to really see."

"There is nothing stopping me — nothing can hold me back. That's the gift I received from being sick." ▽

## Episcopal Bishop Equates Bible's Support for Slavery and Condemnation of Gays

Charleston, SC— It has been a bad year for the spiritual leader of the nation's 2.5 million Episcopalians, with a financial scandal involving a top church official, a fierce battle over homosexuality and calls for his resignation.

"It's been the worst year of my ministry," said the Most Rev. Edmond L. Browning. "No doubt about it."

The soft-spoken Browning was in Charleston for the weekend installation of a new suffragan bishop for the Diocese of Charleston.

An outspoken liberal, Browning replaced a conservative bishop as head of the Episcopal Church 11 years ago.

He has preached against racism and pushed for women's rights. He has also launched a crusade to make the church more welcoming to Lesbians and Gay men, a move criticized by the church's Right Wing.

Conservative bishops have leveled formal charges against a retired New Hampshire bishop for ordaining Gay deacon six years ago, who is in a committed, long-term marriage-style relationship. An ecclesiastical trial is scheduled for later this year.

Seventy-six bishops backed the ecclesiastical charge against the retired bishop, including the present and retired bishops of the Diocese of South Carolina.

There were also calls for Browning's resignation last year when the then national church treasurer admitted stealing more than \$2 million from church accounts.

The Standing Committee of the Diocese of South Carolina declared the church was suffering from a "decisive crisis of confidence."

"The presiding bishop is a hard-working person who has struggled with a very difficult job," said the Rev. Kendall Harmon, rector of St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Summerville. "But you would have to say many of

us have been deeply distressed with his leadership."

Browning, in an interview with The (Charleston) Post and Courier, said the scandal involving the former treasurer and the debate about the place of Gays in the church are legitimate concerns.

But he equates the biblical condemnation of homosexuality in the same light as the Bible's hearty endorsement of slavery. Both are ancient laws made untenable by science and modern culture, he said.

Genetics has shown homosexuality is inherited, not chosen, he said.

"If it's a genetic matter, doesn't it behoove you to look at it... in a more tolerant and understanding manner?" he asked.

He said the New Hampshire bishop hurt the church by acting on a disputed issue before the church reached a consensus.

Browning sympathizes with the bishops who brought the charge but said "it's not a matter that's going to be settled by a court case... it's a matter of the heart."

Browning, whose 12-year term as bishop ends next year, notes that, after a heated fight, there is a relative acceptance today of women ministers. And he hopes the battle over homosexuality can be resolved the same way.

"I don't think everybody will be happy about it," he said. "But I think we eventually will reach a level of tolerance that will reflect the Gospel of Jesus Christ."

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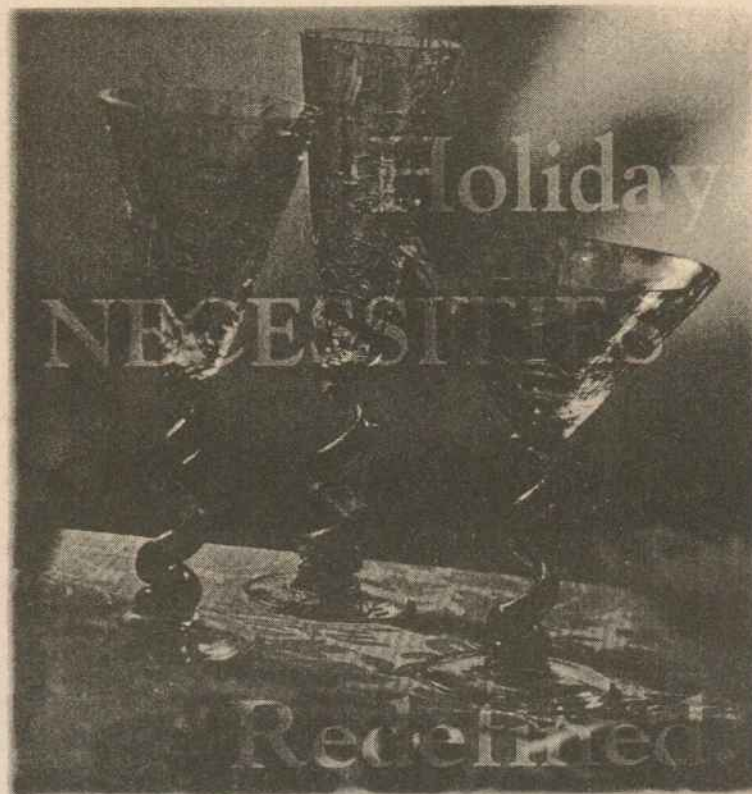
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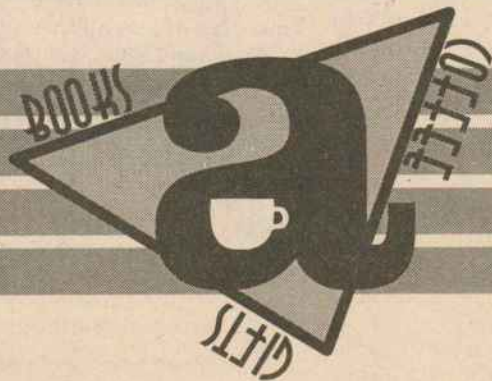
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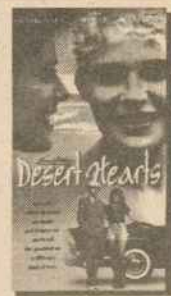
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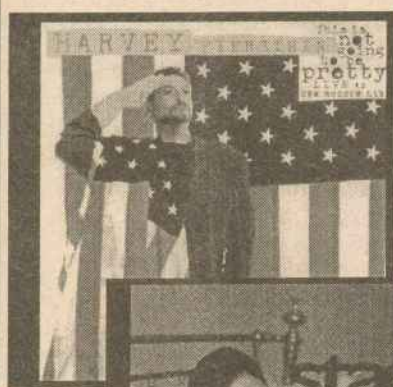
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# THE SPOTLIGHT

## It's Time to HIT The Lanes In Milwaukee's Tourney

**Milwaukee**—It's HIT time in Milwaukee as the annual Holiday Invitational Bowling Tournament hits the lanes at the Red Carpet Regency on 76th and Florist. The 18th annual tourney is expected to attract over 250 Keglers from around the United States and several foreign countries as well.

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HIT was the first ever Gay and Lesbian tournament anywhere. In fact it was at that first HIT tournament that IGBO, the International Gay Bowling Organization was formed. There are now 50 Gay and Lesbian tournaments around the country. As the years have past, the sites have changed but not the spirit of friendly competition that dominates HIT.

Known as the "Granddaddy of all tournaments" HIT is one of the strongest and most admired Les/Bi/Gay tourneys in the country. A good part of the credit for HIT's reputation goes to a hard working crew that puts in hundreds of hours year round to make HIT a success.

### Schedule of Events

This year the action starts on Thursday with a short shift of bowlers from 5 to 9. Later that evening, the HIT Board of Directors will put on its annual show at Club 219 beginning at 10:30. There is a \$2.00 cover all of which goes to HIT to help defray the costs of putting on the event.

The action starts again on Friday with doubles and singles bowling from 10 AM to 10PM. Saturday bowling from 10 AM to 1 PM features team competition. There will be a banquet on Saturday evening at Milwaukee Downtown Hilton and a farewell brunch on Sunday at the M & M Club.

### It's Not Too Late To Enter

Anyone interested in bowling in HIT still has a chance to enter. The deadline is Monday November 25. For more information on HIT or to enter this year's competition contact Rick Steiner at 482-1964.

## 'The English Patient' is One of the Most Stunning and Romantic Films in Memory

### Reviewed by Glenn Bishop

A dense, beautifully textured, dazzling novel of love and loss, of loyalty and betrayal, Michael Ondaatje's **The English Patient** might at first glance seem to be an unlikely basis for a popular film.

The film is set in the waning days of the Second World War. The place is Italy. German forces are beaten, making a hasty retreat. Hana (Juliette Binoche), a dedicated nurse who has seen too much death, too much dying, has in her care a desperately wounded man known only as "the English patient" (Ralph Fiennes).



Ralph Fiennes

Seeing her best friend die, a senseless, meaningless death caused by an explosion of a long forgotten land mine, Hana herself seeks a retreat. Leaving behind her colleagues, Hana takes her patient into hiding, into an old, burned-out monastery where he might find some solace as death approaches.

Their idyllic solitude is brief, broken by the arrival of two men.

Caravaggio (Willem Defoe) claims to be a Canadian and working with the Allied forces in disarming the local partisans. A mysterious man, Caravaggio has a special interest in both the morphine that Hana provides her patient and with the English patient himself.

More devastating, at least for Hana, is the arrival of Kip (Naveen Andrews), a Sikh bomb disposal expert who with his partner, Sgt. Hardy (Kevin Whately) have the job of making the countryside safe by seeking out and detonating the thousands

of unexploded mines and bombs.

Told in haunting flashback is another story, one in which the English patient, one Count Laszlo de Almasy proves to be a prominent member of an international group from England's Royal Geographical Society. Their prewar expedition finds them exploring the uncharted deserts and making the first maps of the region.

Into their little group comes a young English couple, Katherine and Geoffrey Clifton (Kristin Scott Thomas, Colin Firth). Immediately apparent is the attraction between Almasy, by nature something of a loner, and Katherine, a beautiful and vibrant woman. Quickly their passions lead them to a reckless love affair.

What circumstances have caused the devastating injuries to the English patient? What happened to Katherine and Geoffrey Clifton and the rest of the expedition? What piece of the puzzle does the mysterious Caravaggio play as he continues on his quest for justice?

If Anthony Minghella's cinematic adaptation sacrifices some of the novel's rich complexities and perhaps leaves some questions less than completely answered, **The English Patient** nevertheless proves to be one of the most visually stunning, lushly romantic films in recent memory.

Most dazzling of all is Ralph Fiennes as the dazzling, enigmatic Count Laszlo de Almasy. Unrecognizable as the horribly scarred patient, in flashback his beauty literally takes one's breath away. (Glenn proved to be breathless throughout most of the film).

Equally impressive is Kristin Scott Thomas as the independent, aristocratic Katherine, a woman unable to reconcile her growing love for Almasy with her feelings of duty to her husband.

With such emphasis placed on flashbacks, it is perhaps not surprising that the relationships (and characterizations) of the Italian part of the story prove to be less than successful. Juliette Binoche's Hana provides the necessary warmth and caring but lacking the emotional scars so pivotal to her character in the book. Willem Defoe's performance as Caravaggio is disappointingly one-dimensional. Still, Naveen Andrews registers as the gentle, sincere Kip.

Book purists may quibble and being a tad bit long at 162 minutes, **The English Patient** is still a beautifully realized, visual, intellectual and romantic delight. Most highly recommended.

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



Jerry Johnson

The M & M Club features great entertainment every Saturday night. Shown above are the Patrick Patterson Jazz trio (L-R) Patrick Patterson, Dan Dance and Caroline Seagull. You can hear the smooth sounds of this fine group every other Saturday at the M & M. On alternate Saturdays the sensational Singsational is at M & M's.

## 'Destiny In Space' at the IMAX Theater is Truly the Next Best Thing to Being There

### Reviewed by John Jahn

**Destiny in Space** is the first film to be presented in Milwaukee's new IMAX theater, and it is truly an eye-popping, dazzling experience.

The Humphrey IMAX Dome Theater allows each person in the audience to feel totally involved in the action of the film. It features a 7,500 square foot image projected on a concave, circular screen located inside the domed roof of the building, some six stories high at its apex. The screen space is so large you can fit a life-sized image of a whale on it! The six channel, digital stereo system—with four speakers located behind the screen—fills the room with 12,000 watts of power, and can actually "move the air" in the theater so that you feel like you're right there, where the action is taking place.

**Destiny in Space**, a 45 minute film detailing space travel history, is a great way to inaugurate this special theater, and I highly recommend it.

A great deal of the action takes place on and around the Space Shuttle and its many historic missions. Unlike televised images of the Shuttle in action, **Destiny** puts you inside among the crew, outside in the cargo bay, or involved in the heroic Hubble Space Telescope repair mission.

But for me, the most fascinating parts of the film were computerized images of the surfaces of Mars and Venus, which you think you're "flying over" at one or two miles in altitude. You'd swear you were really in a space ship, flying through the inner atmosphere of these two neighboring planets.

The film's narrator, Leonard Nimoy (aka Mr. Spock), discusses the potential for life on Mars, even our own future colonization and terraforming of the Red Planet. The impact of all this is quite breathtaking. Also, there's a little mini-feature before **Destiny** begins on which I won't spill the beans and ruin your surprise. Let's just say you'll never look at downtown Milwaukee the same way again.

On a 1-10 scale, **Destiny in Space** rates a 9.

Now that you're interested in going, a few words of advice. Buy advance tickets. Even though this particular film shows 6 days a week from now until the end of January, most shows sell out.

Secondly, be prepared for lots of kids—even babies and toddlers.

Thirdly, arrive early if you want the best seats—those in the center of the audience, not the first few rows.

Fourth, it's first come, first served, general admission. The line can be long.

Finally, the theater is located in the Milwaukee Public Museum. The box office is in the corridor between the mu-

seum itself and the Humphrey Dome Theatre, 710 W. Wells Street.

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# OUT on Film



## The New Film, 'Twelfth Night,' is a Rollicking, Gender-Bending Tale

Reviewed by Glenn Bishop

Has anyone noticed how dreadfully boring Masterpiece Theatre has been this fall? Glenn certainly has. With Shakespeare, Austen and even boring old Thomas Hardy making it to the big screen, what's left for PBS's perennial favorite?

The new cinematic Shakespeare for this week is the delightful gender-bending comedy **Twelfth Night** starring Helena Bonham Carter, Imogen Stubbs plus such award-laden types as **Ghandi's** Ben Kingsley and **The Madness of King George's** Nigel Hawthorne. Not burdened with the usual inclusion of some inept Hollywood personalities as box office guarantee, the resulting film is absolutely marvelous.

Purists often hold Shakespeare's oft-produced drama's: *Romeo and Juliet*,

*Sebastian* is saved with the aid of the lovelorn Antonio (Nicholas Farrell). Only Sebastian seems unaware of Antonio's unrequited passion for him.

Viola meanwhile transforms herself into "Cesario" and becomes an attendant boy to the heart-broken Count Orsino (Toby Stephens). Orsino is in love with Olivia (Helena Bonham Carter) who continues to rebuke his advances.

Shakespeare's mischief begins when Orsino sends "Cesario" to woo his love. But when Olivia falls in love with "Cesario"...

Glenn shall not further divulge this enchanting play's myriad of mistaken identities, misdirected passions, and steady stream of slapstick comedy featuring the delightful comic characters Malvolio (Nigel Hawthorne), Sir Toby Belch (Mel Smith) and Sir Andrew Aguecheek



Helena Bonham Carter, Imogen Stubbs and Toby Stephens are shown in this scene from **Twelfth Night** opening at Milwaukee's Oriental Theater on Friday November 22.

"Hamlet," and "Macbeth" in total thrall while summarily dismissing the comedies such as "Much Ado About Nothing" and "Twelfth Night" as insubstantial froth. Glenn finds this curious.

So must famed Royal Shakespeare Company director Trevor Nunn who here has countered the play's traditional lightness with a touch of autumnal melancholy.

The film begins as the ship carrying identical twins Viola (Imogen Stubbs) and Sebastian (Stephen Mackintosh) is wrecked off the coast of the fictional land of Illyria (which looks amazingly like Victorian England). Separated, both siblings believe the other has perished and each sets forth to create a new life in this foreign land.

(Richard E. Grant).

Trevor Nunn has surrounded himself with an absolute dream cast, attractive actors who not only speak Shakespeare's wonderful lines well but actually seem to understand them

(Leonardo DiCaprio as Romeo? Wake up people.)

Imogen Stubbs is a radiant Viola/Cesario, at all times believable, whether being chased by Olivia or pining for Orsino.

Looking for all the world as is she stepped out from a fabled pre-Raphaelite painting, Helena Bonham Carter makes a wonderfully perplexed Olivia.

Nigel Hawthorne and Mel Smith prove

**Please Turn to Twelfth Night Page 28**

## 'The Funeral' Revisits Old Time Gangster Films, But Who Cares?

Reviewed by Glenn Bishop

When talking about things American, what comes to mind to most folk are baseball ("the national pastime") and Mom's apple pie. Until Andrew Lloyd Weber came around, your average show queen would, no doubt, offer up the musical theatre.

Let Glenn settle this question once and for all: nothing is more American than the gangster film.

Glenn grew up watching on television those classic Warner Brothers gangsters films starring the likes of Edward G. Robinson, James Cagney, George Raft and of course Humphrey Bogart.

Escaping typical routine genre treatment was **The Petrified Forest** which starred Leslie Howard (a major 30's matinee idol whose descent into total obscurity remains prevented only by a lucky appearance in *Gone With the Wind*), a young and fresh Bette Davis and an equally young Humphrey Bogart.

A thinking man's gangster flick, Robert Sherwood's **The Petrified Forest** pitted the animalistic Duke Mantee (Bogart) against the educated, rather effete Alan Squier (Leslie Howard). That film's central, lengthy existential ruminations on the conditions of man make **The Petrified Forest** today seem stogy and a bit dated. Curious then that a clip from **The Petrified Forest**, one featuring the young, charismatic Bogart in the role that would make him a star, opens **The Funeral**, a new film from Abel Ferrara.

Set in the New York of the 1930's, **The Funeral** is the story of a gangland family torn apart by a history, a tradition of violence.

Eldest brother Ray (the ever menacing Christopher Walken) in a bizarre rite-of-passage kills a man as an innocent youth, at the instruction and urging of dear ol' dad.

**Please Turn to Funeral Page 28**



Glen Close stars as the ashovineable fur lovin' Cruella DeVil in Walt Disney's new live action movie "101 Dalmations."

## 'Caught', a Tale Well Told, Blazes With Heterosexual Heat

Reviewed by Glenn Bishop

Bored but young and beautiful wife. Bored but boring (not to mention old and not especially attractive) husband. Throw in a few touches of foreshadowing doom. Enter the handsome stranger. To seduce the bored but boring, old and not especially attractive husband?

Not in Hollywood.

Warning! Warning! Editorial moment approaching. Just once Glenn would love to see a film where the handsome, mysterious male stranger intrudes on a happily-heterosexual household and seduces the husband. Just once. We now return to our regularly scheduled review.

**Caught**, a new film starring the ever sturdy, reliable Edward James Olmos and the ravishing Maria Conchita Alonso, offers up a pretty standard Hollywood morality tale while managing a few refreshing stylistic touches.

Joe (Edward James Olmos) is a "fish man" and for some inexplicable reason is damn proud of it. His beautiful, much younger wife Betty (Maria Conchita Alonso) merely watches the world go by wearily as she scales and bones fish at their little shop.

Ya' gotta know something's afoot.

Enter the handsome stranger, Nick (Arie Verveen), a strapping young man, a

bit down on his luck. Fleeing the boys in blue and by trick of cinematic coincidence, Nick enters the small Jersey City fish shop run by Joe and Betty. Ever the good Samaritan, Betty offers the young lad some warmth and comfort. Before the boy knows what has hit him, he is effortlessly (if not especially comfortably) ensconced in the role as their surrogate son.

Amidst an apartment smothered by regrets and tacky fish-themed housewares, Nick warily accepts the proffered kindness, noisily gulping down their food, uneasily appropriating their absent son's bed and blankets but ever with a wary eye, always with escape on his mind.

He's gonna be outta there just as soon as he's had a few meals, as soon as he's got a few bucks in his pockets. Or so he thinks.

Betty's hormones raging, her attraction to the toothsome Nick is blatantly evident right from the get go. Joe, on the other hand is initially vexed by the intrusion, seeing in Nick only inconvenience and trouble ahead. Glenn couldn't agree more but would have been hard pressed himself not to offer shelter to the hunky lad.

**Please Turn to Caught Page 28**



Arie Verveen is Nick in the steamy hetro tale **Caught** now playing at Milwaukee's Oriental Theater

## 'Star Trek: First Contact' Has Plenty that Will Endear it to the Hearts of Trekkies

Reviewed by Glenn Bishop

**Star Trek: First Contact** signals an end of an era. Following the less than entirely successful, blatantly transitional **Generations** film, here at last is the first motion picture entirely based upon *Star Trek: Next Generation*.

Gone are any last, fleeting ties to the original *Star Trek*. Sure, their ship is still called the Enterprise but where is the ever reliable, redoubtable Captain James T. Kirk? Can there be a Sick Bay without cranky ol' "Bones" McCoy? Are Spock, Scottie, Sulu and the rest of these ever so familiar characters, almost friends really, truly gone forever?

Perhaps the more important question is how well does director/co-star Jonathan Frakes and screenwriters Brannon Braga and Ronald D. Moore bring this small-screen universe to the big-screen.

Among the series of six motion pictures

devoted to the original *Star Trek* series, a couple were real dogs, particularly the overblown first film and William Shatner's ill-advised fifth entry. Others in the series were certainly entertaining, relying upon an increasing aged crew whose fan appeal admittedly never waned.

For Trekkies, all of their favorite *Next Generations* characters make at least an appearance including the amazing Michael Dorn who has recently signed on with *Star Trek: Deep Space 9* and *Star Trek: Voyager's* quirky holographic doc, Robert Picardo.

Even better, the Borg are back. Those nearly indestructible creatures, half-organic, half-robotic, hell-bent on control of the universe are advancing upon the Federation as the film begins. The Enterprise has orders far away from the imminent battle, Captain Jean-Luc Picard

**Please Turn to Star Trek Page 28**

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## Alfred Hitchcock's Masterpiece, 'Vertigo' Could be Our Bridge to the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

By Steve Stavron

Alfred Hitchcock's films from the late '40s to the early '50s had become curiously academic and conventionally narrative in their execution. **Under Capri-corn, Rope, Stage Fright** and **I Confess** seemed more like sleek, overly-fashioned limousines than suspense thrillers. **To Catch a Thief** and **The Man Who Knew Too Much** were basically uninspired star vehicles lacking in tautness what they gained in smoothly baroque mellifluousness. Even **Paradine Case** now seems like a turgid version of **Rebecca**.

Of course there was **Strangers on the Train** and, better yet, **Rear Window**, but Hitchcock's attention to detail, usually one of his prime virtues, seemed subordinate to stylishly crafted, but rigidly ossified melodrama.

Only **Rear Window** seemed to retain some of that original spontaneity that made **Notorious, Spellbound, Shadow of a Doubt** and even the earlier **Rebecca** seem imaginatively ahead of their time.

But, in truth, most of Hitchcock's Hollywood output had a lush, smoother-than-silk quality which evoked viewers' admiration, but was sometimes compared unfavorably, and often unfairly, with his earlier British films. Hitchcock always used the star system to his advantage, but his best Hollywood films, such as **Notorious**, balanced performance with tension.

One must wonder if Hitchcock would be as revered as he is today had it not been for three landmark films which follow hard upon each other in the late '50s: **Vertigo** (1958), **North by Northwest** (1959), and **Psycho** (1960). This unique trio not only rubber stamped Hitchcock's final reputation, but shared another curiously illusory quality; the deception of reality.

In **Vertigo** the detective is obsessed by a nonexistent woman. In **North by Northwest** Cary Grant is believed to be the nonexistent Mr. Kaplan, and in **Psycho** the audience is terrified by a woman long dead.

The remarkably parallel similarity of Hitchcockian metaphysics exemplified in this strange trio has escaped analysis. Evolving in such close sequence, these three films might be compared to symphonic movements with the usual variations of tempo and mode: **North by Northwest** as allegro, **Vertigo** as adagio, and **Psycho**—that mockingly evil little masterpiece—as scherzo.

Only in **Psycho** does Hitchcock sardonically remind us that he can still terrify, and there is no doubt that the taut, relentlessly rapid fire, and yet exotically horrifying cinematography, qualifies it as a genuine classic. It is the most copied of the Hitchcock triumvirate.

**North by Northwest** is a humorous reminder that Hitchcock can still outwit and frighten us while remaining within the comic genre. But it is **Vertigo**, the first of the series, that remains hauntingly suffused in illusion and memory with its curious blend of pathology and romantic mysticism.

The story line is almost foolishly straightforward. A wealthy industrialist hires a detective suffering from fear of heights to follow his wife whom he suspects is a suicidal reincarnation of an early ancestress who died in San Francisco. The detective follows here endlessly by car and becomes unusually fixated watching her movements from a distance against some glorious shots of the San Francisco Bay area.

After this initial, barely plausible, plot introduction, the film moves in several directions at once. The famous, downward spiraling vertiginous shots associated with **Vertigo** are counterpointed by long, long laterally circular track shots as James Stewart follows Kim Novak's somnambulist movements through San Francisco's streets, near Golden Gate bridge, into the silence of the art museum, and into the serenity of the sequoia woods.

They never share sequences with the other characters in the film and the viewer feels a sense of intrusion into a private world for two. The endlessly slow lateral shots of the Bay area seem to exist only as focus upon the sense of exclusive privacy. His obsession with her is not as erotic as has often been stated, as it is a blend of the metaphysical and idolatrous.

When she dies in mid-film, these horizontal movements come to an abrupt halt. We feel an unanticipated and un-

comfortable sense of the loss of the Madeline (Novak) persona. We hadn't realized what the film was "doing" to us.

To complicate our discomfort, Stewart suffers a nervous breakdown—unusual in a detective thriller, especially for James Stewart. We are forced to share his mournful devastation as he sees visions of Madeline in other women who resemble her from a distance. His anxiety becomes a major shock to the audience as well as the film now abruptly shifts gears.

When she finally emerges completely reconstructed with every hair in place, appearing in the hazy reflected light of a green neon sign, one of the most disturbing and emotional scenes put on film—and the heart of **Vertigo**—the symbolism is twofold, but coordinate: for him the resurrection of his beloved; for us the awesome realization that we cannot match his feat or ever resolve one of human kind's most timeless yearnings: to bring back from the dead a lost loved one.

This scene has caused some viewers to refer to **Vertigo** as necrophilic, but they miss the point. The motivations in **Vertigo** are intrinsically primal and resonate at a more profound level. **Vertigo** deals with the mystery of death as well as the mystery of love.

It is difficult to imagine Hitchcock's intentions in making a psychological thriller with such a high emotional temperature, breaking the bounds of genre and further adding to critical and viewer confusion by revealing the "plot" in mid-film. The movies was not well received in 1958. Reviewers and audiences complained of not understanding what Hitchcock was about. There were too many loopholes in the plot. Perhaps the greatest confusion lay in their reactions.

**Vertigo**, for all its beauty is strangely threatening. Hitchcock's plot revelation, at a point where a thriller is still supposed to keep us guessing, only increases his anguish as well as ours. We're forced to anticipate the return of the Madeline persona, while suppressing the realization that this should not occur. We watch in rapt wonder and horror as Judy gives Madeline once more. The interrupted vertiginous cycle of movement is resumed, completed and all that remains for the detective is to discover freedom from both obsession and loss. His own resurrection becomes imminent.

**Vertigo** has disturbed even film historians. In his review in **New York Magazine**, David Denby finds the film "odd and crazy" in part, but warns that it might be "overwhelming for the uninitiated," and yet he cannot conceal a slightly hysterical enthusiasm for this "tragic work of art—so resonate and profound."

The **New Yorker Magazine** synopsis refers to **Vertigo** as an "unconventional masterpiece, an outre classic." Yet **Vertigo** doesn't seem like a great film or operate at a highly histrionic or intellectual level. The story is deceptively simple and has that casual contemporary "feel" of most James Stewart movies. All the scenes are rather low keyed and the first part of the movie fairly rambles.

The surprises, when they come, seem curious and disembodied from the initial plot structure, and for many are too emotionally jarring. The film has no social or political agenda, deals with no major social issues, and is aligned to no particular genre or style. It stands apart, even in Hitchcock's output.

Artistic masterpieces are not so easily parsed out or assigned specific declensions. Writer/philosopher, Ayn Rand, describes art as dealing with the "epistemology of the subconscious." What she probably meant was learning to access new emotional perspectives.

I wonder how the generation of the cool (read that as cold) '90s will respond to this film? What will a crotch-crazy culture reared on sex as high-tech aerobics, think of **Vertigo**? For those who feel that a movie needs to move and move in a predetermined and foreseeable direction, this film is going to seem nonsensically nebulous and very, very "uncool."

**Vertigo** is that rare film which delivers and demands with remarkable simultaneity. What you see seems to be what



you're getting. But the rewards are greater if your intuitive antennae are positioned inwardly, as well as outwardly, while watching the movie. If you're accustomed to foreseeable reactions to given material with neat pathways to predictability, this film is not for you.

Or if you categorize your reactions to given situations, you're going to be disappointed.

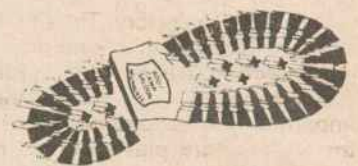
Surprise for its own sake is not necessarily a challenge. **Vertigo** is neither strange or novel or bizarre. Its surprises are its rewards. Certain great romantic films such as **Wuthering Heights** (1939), operate on a higher emotional plateau—sustained ecstasy without sex, passion without eroticism, love as poetic intoxication—but **Vertigo** is deceptively even-keeled, even a little cool at times. Like Madeline herself, it is a detective story transformed into tragedy. Remarkably it has not direct antecedence in film making. It's a curiosity classic.

Since **Vertigo** doesn't function as most great films, even the critical acclaim bestowed upon it recently has a slightly apologetic overtone. Leonard Maltin states that the movie requires repeated viewings. Denby's warning of the film's emotional power has a touch of misgiving. He might be right. In the age of the tangible and technolocal, thrillers evolving into tragedies may well be unnerving for a generation programmed to regard emotion as reaction to the specific, the personal, the socio-cultural. In other words, the "real" world.

However, it is interesting to note that in the most recent ten year poll of international directors and critics compiled by the noted British film journal, **Sight and Sound**, using two separate listings for the first time, **Vertigo** is the only film made since 1950 that appears on both the directors' and critics' list. Most films on either list were made before 1950. Have we run out of bridges to the 21<sup>st</sup> century?

**Vertigo** has been extensively restored and is now playing in selected cities. Watch for it at a theater near you.

**Editor's Note:** Steve Stavron lives in Milwaukee and will be periodically writing about films for the **Light**.



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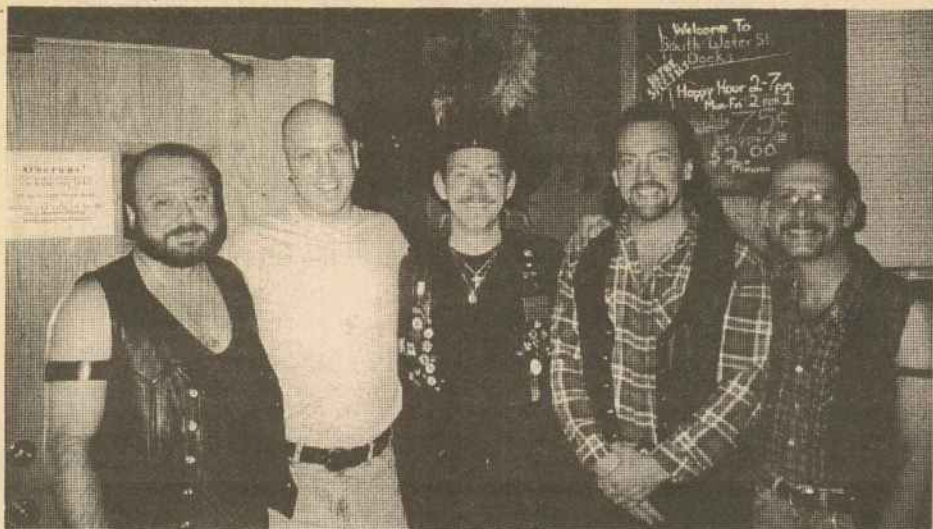
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ANNIVERSARY



Jerry Johnson

**Giving it up for Kids With AIDS** Milwaukee's Oberons Leather Club held another of its fund raiser to raise money for Children with AIDS at South Water Street Docks on November 16th. Shown above (L-R) are Oberon Steve Polomis, MAP representative Chris Braman, Oberons Tim Jones and Mike Campbell along with Dan Kirmse, South Water St. Docks Manager.

The next Oberon Fund Raiser for the kids will be on Saturday November 30 at Mama Roux's 1875 N. Humboldt from 10 PM to Close. (Can't wait to see Mama in Leather). Manceuvres in Madison, 150 S. Blair, also has a toy drive for kids with AIDS including a special show on Sunday December 1.

**Food and Theater Gala to be MAP's Holiday Benefit**

**Milwaukee**—The Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP) invites you to attend their winter benefit. The Gala Holiday Fete will be held on Tuesday, December 3, 1996, at the Milwaukee Center Arboretum and The Milwaukee Repertory Theater's Powerhouse Theater, 108 E. Wells Street in downtown Milwaukee.

"Tis the season" to join in the festivities as Skyy Vodka, Miller Brewing Company and Capitol Housing present the spirits, while some of Milwaukee's finest restaurants, caterers and chefs provide an appetizing taste of their fare.

The Milwaukee Repertory Theater will also entertain with their hilarious production of **Inspecting Carol**. The uproariously funny antics of a Midwestern theater company's annual production of **A Christmas Carol** are played out in this holiday farce where everything that can go wrong, does. The lunacy begins when a remarkably talented, out-of-work actor arrives at a struggling theater and is mistaken for a National Endowment of the Arts inspector. Behind the scenes

chaos ensues, creating a rollicking new take on an old Christmas tale.

94 WKTJ's Jim "Lips" LaBelle is hosting the event. The evening begins at 6:00 p.m. with cocktails and hors d'oeuvres created by: Bartolotta Ristorante, Bartolotta's Lake Park Bistro, Boulevard Inn, Café Marche, Ciatti's Italian Restaurant, City Grill, Elsa's On The Park, Fritz's On Second, Glass Menagerie, Kilbourn Café, King and I, La Boulangerie, La Perla, Lee John's/Louie's Pasta Tree, Richard Steele/Party Planners, Wells Street Station and Terrence & Patrick.

Following the performance of **Inspecting Carol**, coffee and desserts will be provided by: Bear Brew Coffee, the Allen-Bradley Company, Ed Debevic's, Eddy's Grand Ice Cream Shop at the airport, Jean Tyler Cakes and Suzy Cream Cheesecakes.

Ticket prices for the evening are \$100 and \$75 per person and are available through the Milwaukee Repertory Theater's box office or by phone at (414) 224-9490. For more information, call Jim Moore at (414) 225-1549. Your ticket also includes participation in a raffle drawing for a theater weekend on Broadway in New York City.

All proceeds to benefit the education, research and advocacy programs of the Milwaukee AIDS Project.

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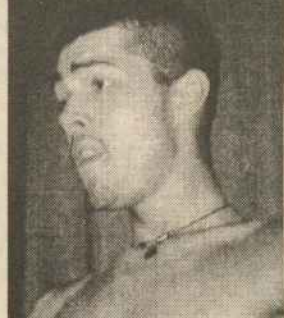
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Saturday, November 30

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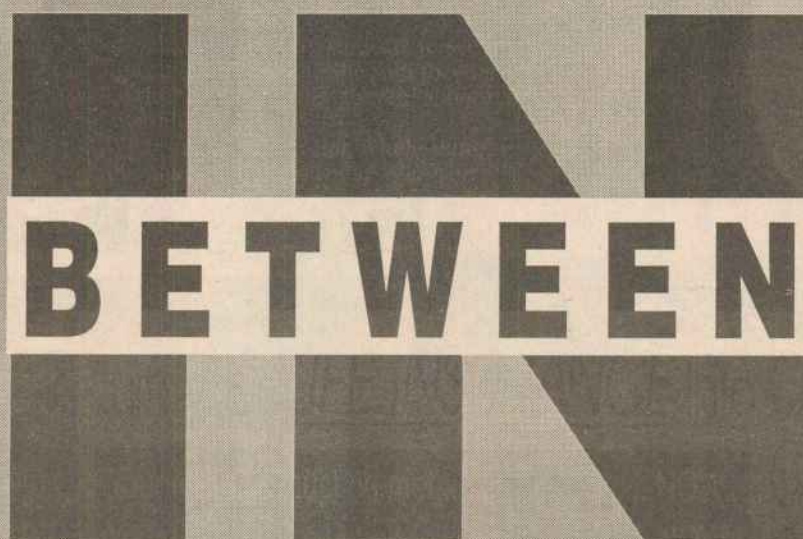
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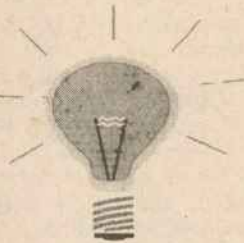
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The Internet Crash prevented us from hooking up with other election night parties around the country, but that didn't stop the people in attendance from having a good time. Shown above are some of the people who were at our party at Mama Roux. From (L-R) Bill Clinton fans applauding the results, two friends sharing a hug, and Lu Shanti who provided some great music for the party. Because it was production night for the paper we were not able to send a photographer to R Place in Madison for its election party, but we can tell you that we hear the party at R Place was equally successful as well. Of course with Rich, Danny, Matt and the rest of the staff, that is to be expected.

# The Night Light



By Dusty Sass

Well folks the year is coming to a rapid and furious finish. The Holidays are upon us and not a moment too soon, I might add. Whoever planned the calendar and realized that we need something to cheer us up as we go into the cold winter has my thanks.

Speaking of the holidays, Milwaukee has its big HIT tournament over Thanksgiving weekend. I plan on going down the Red Carpet Regency to watch some of the games and to take in a couple of the other events too. Good luck to all the bowlers.

On Thursday November 21 I will be over at the Cafe Melange in Milwaukee for their big night of the year. It's the new wine opening party and it's going to be great. Larry and his staff have even booked strolling European musicians. (Hmmm can you speak French or just Greek?)

On Saturday November 23 I will be going up to Green Bay for the Club Cheeks comedy show. This Club is trying hard with some innovative shows that are well worth seeing. That means of course that I will miss partying with my friends from the Firebirds at the Boot Camp. The FB's are having a fund raiser for the Raphael House that is part of the St. Camillus AIDS Ministry.

As long as I am on the road, on Sunday November 24 I'll head over to Manoeuvres in Madison for the Lesbian Gay Straight Teachers Network benefit. This is one very nice bar and they are pulling out all the stops (and a few other things too if I am lucky) for the teachers.

They have a wonderful "One Woman Show" put on by Devine who will be joined by Wisconsin's Top Title holders. Can't wait to see Paddy Cakes and the rest. Don't miss this. It's for a great cause and its going to be a great time.

Speaking of Manoeuvres they are also having a free Thanksgiving Day pot luck. Dinner is from 5 to 7. The bar will provide the turkey and potatoes you bring yourself and a side dish.

Friday November 29 After filling myself with Turkey (the kind that comes out the oven, not that guy you saw me with last Saturday), I'll be ready for a good fish fry at Mama Roux (which is also putting on a fine Thanksgiving Day Dinner by the way) Mama's fish fries are great. They have all these choices cod or catfish, cajun or regular and its all you can eat. (My sex life should be that way)

After eating my fill, I'll head over to B's for their "College Night." Bobby, Bruce et al have been working hard to bring you some great daily specials. Stop on in any time and see what surprises await you.

Saturday November 30, The Mad Hatter in Wausau has the Big Miss Wausau US of A Pageant. Vicki and company are ready to welcome all of their friends including me for their big event of the month.

I'll be Mama Roux for the Oberons Fund Raiser for Kids With AIDS. I can't believe it but they tell me that Mama is finally going to go leather. Can't wait to see the old broad in a harness, slapping a whip to her thighs. This is a great cause and the Oberons are to be commended for the work they have put in on their annual charity drive.

Being at Mama Roux's means I will miss my good friend Chase Hunter at Club '94. Anyone who has ever seen this

stud er I mean fine actor in a Falcon Video knows how uh, uh, talented he is. This is a one night stand. Hmmm that could be fun!!

Sunday December 1 I'll stop at Manoeuvres for their World AIDS Day fundraiser for Children with AIDS. They need donations of nice toys (not the kind YOU play with) for the kids.

Before I leave for Mad Town I have to stop in at Fannies for the Packer game. This is a fun bar with a great staff.

Course I will have to rush back to Milwaukee for Mama Roux Deer Hunter's Party. Wear Blaze orange (and try to look butch) and they'll give you a free drink. Plus there will be drink specials for \$1.00 all night long. Hey why travel to

the North Woods to get your eight pointer, when you can get one right here.

Tuesday December 3 I will have dinner at the M and M Club. They have great pasta specials on Tuesdays.

Saturday December 6, join me at Just Us for some country dancing. I like Line Dancing, but the problem is that I can never do it in a straight line. Guess I've always had a problem doing things straight.

Last but not least on Sunday Decem-

Please Turn to NITE LIGHT Page 31

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## Surprise! New Poll Finds That We're Not So Different From Everybody Else

New York—Gay Americans' concerns mirror those of the population at large, with crime and drugs the biggest personal worry, followed by economic issues, health care and education, a poll sponsored by a Gay rights group found.

A majority of those who identify themselves as Gay, Lesbian or Bisexual say they live now

or have lived with a partner in a serious relationship, according to the poll. Nearly half say they are involved in a long-term monogamous relationship and 22 percent say they have children living in their homes, the Human Rights Campaign reported.

Just 45 percent ranked same-sex marriage as an important issue for national Gay organizations to be pursuing, compared with 81 percent for a nondiscrimination law and 80 percent for more funds to fight AIDS.

"The importance of AIDS and employment discrimination was interesting and the heightened concern among Lesbians about hate crimes," said Celinda Lake, a Democratic pollster who oversaw the survey.

One in four ranked crime and drugs as their top personal concern, about the same result Lake has gotten when she presented the same list to the general population. (Crime ranks lower in polls asking people what issue is most important in deciding how they will vote for president.)

Because sexual orientation is too sensitive for some people to talk about, few efforts have been made to scientifically survey homosexuals. Even among the self-identified respondents, 53 percent said they had not shared their orientation with employers.

Using a series of 28 telephone polls that interviewed 28,282 adults over 13 weeks, the study found 354 respondents willing to participate. Survey experts described this method as professional and sensible but with unmeasurable risks of getting an imperfect sample.

"There may be some type of self-selection bias," said Janice Ballou, director of the Center for Public Interest Polling at Rutgers University.

Tom W. Smith, a University of Chicago social scientist who reviewed the poll for the Human Rights Campaign, called it "a pioneering study" with credible numbers. But he cautioned against using it to measure the size of the Gay population, because the survey lacks questions about sexual behavior or sexual attraction.

Respondents were younger, better educated, more urban, more liberal and more Democratic than the American population, but typi-

cal in their racial makeup and income.

Some past attempts by the media to poll Gays have relied on commercial mailing lists, resulting in an upscale portrait. "I think it was just stereotyping," Lake said.

The poll was taken after President Clinton announced he would sign the Defense of Marriage Act, a bill approved by Congress September 10 to define marriage in federal law as a legal union between one man and one woman.

But even though Clinton opposes same-sex marriage and abandoned his effort to let Gays serve openly in the military, he got an overwhelming 73 percent favorability rating in the poll, compared with 27 percent for Bob Dole. Lake found little volatility in voting preference over the 13 weeks, with Clinton leading by 74 percent to 13 percent.

In a three-way match up, 70 percent said they would vote for Clinton and 11 percent for Dole, who was in a statistical tie with Ross Perot at 9 percent.

The poll was taken from June through early September by ICR Survey Research Group for Lake Research. Results have a margin of sampling error of plus or minus 5 percentage points.

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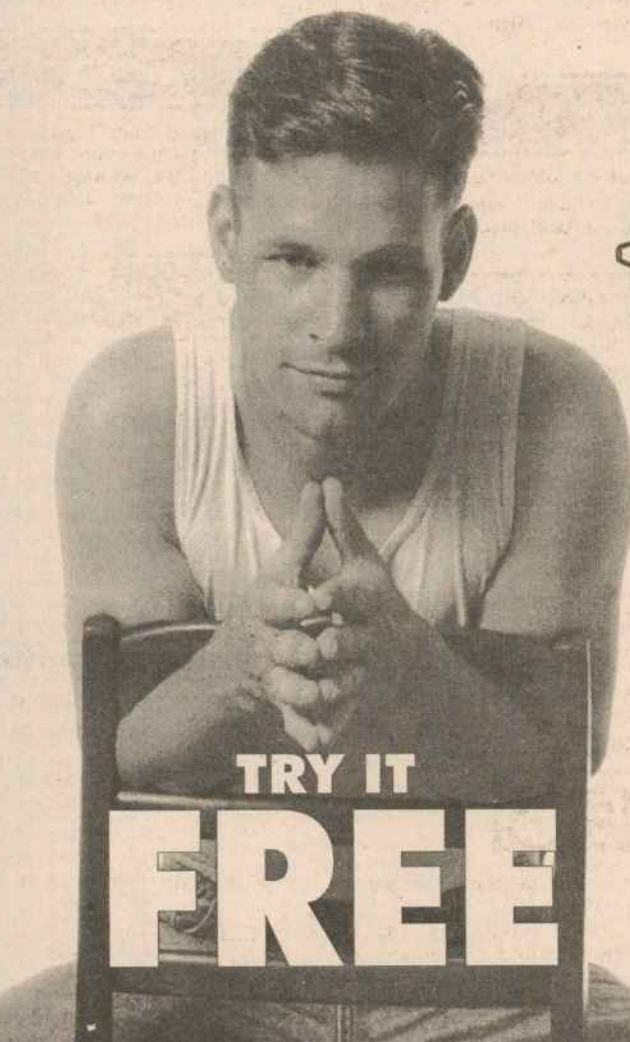
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Jerry Johnson

A gala balloon drop helped wind up In Between's First Anniversary Week. The popular bar located at 625 S. Second Street gave away hundreds of dollars hidden in the balloons that were quickly grabbed and exploded by a pack house. In its first year, the bar has made a big impact with its Packer Parties, special events and other activities. The Wisconsin Light congratulates Kurt and his staff on a fine first year in business and wishes them many, many happy returns.

## Modern Calendars Are as Much Eye Candy as Devises to Tell the Date

By Terry Boughner

Every year in December, usually on a Saturday, my mother would say to my father, "When you're at the bank, pick up a couple of calendars."

He would bring home a couple of them, each rolled up in a tube, to be put aside, ready for New Year's Day.

The calendars were large utilitarian things made to be hung on a cupboard's back door. The numbers were big and black (Sundays and holidays were in red.), and there was enough space to write reminders in. Usually there was a picture, but only one, showing a farm scene, a landscape or a still life of some kind.

Things have changed. Calendars are sold in book stores, gift and card shops, all gussied up to be given as gifts. Far from being generic, they are aimed at specific audiences (Lesbian, Gay and others).

So, here come the holidays. Let me give you a few examples of the ones I've come across.

### For Gay Men

The **Colt 1997 Leather** calendar is for you if you like black and white photos of slightly older man, hirsute and dominate.

For those of you who are familiar with Lukas Ridgeston and his friends, the **Bel Ami '97** calendar is certainly worth a look. The photos are in full color and show Lukas and Johan Paulik et al in some delicious poses.

The **Colt Man** calendar features Steve Kelso this year in glorious color. (Watch for an interview with Steve in an upcoming issue of *Wisconsin Light*.)

If you like more variety in your Colt men, take a look at the **1997 Colt Calendar**. There are great color photos of hunky beefcake types.

**1997 Colt Classics** is another Colt calendar, this one celebrating their 30<sup>th</sup> year.

For all those who love the work of the late Tom of Finland, the **Tom of Finland 1997 Calendar** is a must-have. There are 13 examples of the famed artist's most sensual work. The numbers aren't large, but who cares?

If you like Brazilian men, Eduardo Velasquez's **Naked Men 1997** calendar is well worth having. The black and white photos give meaning to the title. The sensuality is luscious to behold.

**Naked Men New York Two** shows the photography of Hans Fahrmeier. The 20-something models are not buck naked for the most part, but you see all that counts. If you'd like a closer look, try fotofactory's web site: <http://fotofactory.com/foto>.

Like black and white drawings of beefy, rough, hot-blooded men in ten gallon hats? Take a look at **Bunkhouse 1997**.

**Roundup** is another calendar with a western/rodeo theme. There are color photos of women and men in cowpoke gear.

If you're familiar with Kristen Bjorn videos, **Men of the World** is a calendar you'll want hanging on your wall. The cover alone, I think, is worth the price.

For those who like young men with lithe bodies and liquid eyes, take a look at **Boys & Their Toys** from 10% Productions. These are photos in black and white. There is no way, I think, you're going to be disappointed, especially by the cover boy.

Another calendar from 10% is **In The Studio**. This is a 16 month calendar showing artfully posed, muscular young men (both singles and pairs) in stances designed to emphasize their outstanding physiques.

Yet, another calendar from 10% Productions is **With All My Love**. This, in my opinion, is the best of all from 10%. It's a delightfully unique calendar, displaying as it does, the beauty of young Asian, African-American and Hispanic men. I don't suppose many will agree, but the "blonde hunk" is boring.

In line with its attention to the non-European male, Landmark has brought out **Heat Wave**. This is a full color photo collection of young African-American gods (There's no other word), some in bikinis and posing straps.

Want to see gorgeous young men from "down under?" **Thunder from Down Under** from Landmark Calendars shows off some of Australia's most delectable young men posed in tight little swim suits and cavorting on a sunny beach.

Another calendar from Landmark is **Steel Blue**. Here are photos of dark haired young males, no shirts, and wearing skin-tight jeans. The photos are in black and white, but the denims are in levi blue.

Landmark has also brought out a full color

calendar devoted to RuPaul. The brilliant, young female impersonator is shown in costumes that range from Mae West to Gypsy Rose Lee.

**Rage-On** shows young men "enjoying themselves." Photos are in black and white.

**Men Two** is Klaus Gerhart's 1997 calendar. The photos are in black in white and show the nude, muscular young male in all his glorious strength and beauty.

### For Lesbians

Several book sellers have told me that the number of calendars for Lesbians is less this year. They didn't know the reason.

From "Out Magazine" comes **Out**, a unique

long for and prize.

Among them all (all of the above), my favorite calendar is **Dykes To Watch Out For**. The wildly famous and funny cartoon characters created by Alison Bechdel, are all here in a whole series of new adventures—one new one a month.

(See if you can resist reading them all at once.)

**Women by Women** is a collection of black and white photos showing that magic that can transpire when women take pictures of persons of their own sex. The creative process which goes on is, to me, mysterious, but the results, as seen in the pages of this calendar,



Jerry Johnson

A display of 1997 Calendars available at Afterwords Books

collection of full color photos and abstract paintings. The artists include Catherine Opie, Nicole Eisenman, and Katharine Kuharic.

10% Productions has brought out a 16 month calendar called **Desire**. Here is a collection of black and white photos of women (singles and couples) who have bodies to die for. Take a look at this one.

**Women to Women** is another 16 month calendar from 10% Production. The black and white photos by Sunny Bak show Lesbian lovers in beautifully affectionate poses—those little moments of silence that we all

are as superlative as they are compelling. This is a calendar, I think, that you'll want in your collection.

There are lots and lots and lots of calendars aimed at the Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender and Gay male markets. Those above are only a few that I found especially attractive.

All the above calendars range in price from \$10.95 to \$15.00.

These calendars were provided for review by AfterWords Bookstore in Milwaukee. They are available at fine bookstores and gift shops everywhere.



Jerry Johnson

This is It in Milwaukee was the site of a special Barcardi Spiced Rum Party on November 6. Shown above is Barcardi Rep, Keith Hill, serving owner, Joe Brehm a shot of Barcardi while Barcardi Reps Al Devlin, Jillian Anderson, Trent Wesley and Steven Katten looked on.

## Happy Thanksgiving



From  
The Staff of  
The Wisconsin Light