

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

The Wisconsin Light

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A Federal District Court Judge Strikes Down "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" Policy

Washington, DC—In a strongly worded decision, a federal district court judge, for the second time, struck down as unconstitutional the military's "Don't ask, Don't tell" policy used to keep openly Gay and Lesbian service members from serving in the armed forces.

U.S. District Court Judge Eugene Nickerson of Brooklyn in issuing this morning's 48-page ruling in the case of Able v. USA, argued that the policy violates service members' rights to equal protection under the law.

"For the United States government to require those self-identifying as homosexuals to hide their orientation and to pretend to be heterosexuals is to ask them to accept a judgment that their orientation is in itself disgraceful and they are unfit to serve," said the Judge.

Judge Nickerson first declared the policy unconstitutional in March 1995. However, a year ago a three-judge panel of the Second Circuit Court of Appeals vacated that ruling and sent the case back for reconsideration. July 2nd's decision is the outcome of that reconsideration.

National Gay and Lesbian Task Force Executive Director Kerry Lobel hailed the decision, stating that "the Judge has shown extreme courage in ruling for the second time that the military ban tramples on the constitutional rights of Gays and Lesbians in the military."

According to the Servicemembers Legal Defense Network, (SLDN), the military's hush policy has resulted in a dramatic increase in military discharges of Gays and Lesbians since the policy was instituted.

An SLDN report shows that there was a
Please See Don't Ask Page 2

AIDS Walk

Wisconsin Focuses on Team Registration This Year

Milwaukee — Team registration for AIDS Walk Wisconsin on Sunday, September 21, along Milwaukee's Lakefront is in full gear with over 600 teams already signed up. The AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin, Inc. (ARCW), producer of the event, is encouraging everyone to consider forming a team or joining an existing team this year to walk in the state's largest AIDS fund-raising event.

"We are urging individuals, churches, schools, corporations, families and social groups to sign up and participate as a team in the '97 Walk," said Marge Beil, director of special events for ARCW. "The fight against AIDS is far from over and team spirit is one way for individuals to raise more money for AIDS care, prevention and research."

If you wish to walk, form a team, volunteer or pledge, call 800-348-WALK or visit us online at www.arcw.org. Once
Please See Walk Page 2

Hawaii Marriage Benefits Not Enough Say Activists



Angels On High — A scene from the Broadway production of Angels in America is shown above. The critically acclaimed play will be produced in Milwaukee by the Milwaukee Repertory and Milwaukee Chamber. Part one of Milwaukee production runs from September 19 to October 19. Part two runs from October 18 to November 9. (See Article on Page 20.)

Dr. Jeffrey Kelly and CAIR at the Medical College Are Unsung Heroes in the War Against AIDS

A Wisconsin Light Exclusive
By Bill Meunier

The war against AIDS has many heroes, people who donate time distributing condoms, people who care for the sick, researchers who develop new drugs and new ways to treat the disease.

Many of these heroes are unsung and almost unseen. They labor to keep those in the front lines supplied with the best weapons possible.

Dr. Jeffrey Kelly, Ph.D. and his staff at the CAIR project of the Wisconsin Medical College are among them. The Medical College is one of only three AIDS Intervention Research Centers in the country. The Wisconsin Light is pleased to present a comprehensive look at its work through the words of Dr. Kelly.

Wisconsin Light: What is the CAIR Project?

Jeffrey Kelly - Cair stands for Center for AIDS Intervention Research. There are three AIDS Intervention Research Centers in the country. One is in New York at Columbia University. An AIDS Center in New York doesn't surprise anyone. The second is in San Francisco and an AIDS Center in San Francisco is no surprise to anyone either. The third one is in Milwaukee and that does surprise people.

I came here seven years ago and we became a designated National Institute of Health Research Center in 1994.

WL- What does CAIR do?

JK: We have two missions. One of them is the development and the evalua-

tion of better HIV prevention. This is focused on populations most vulnerable to HIV and the second is interventions for persons that already have HIV but that can prevent some of the negative outcomes of HIV disease. Physical health outcomes and mental health outcomes.

So it's preventing HIV in the first place and preventing some of the bad things that
Please See Kelly Page 10

Speakers at State of AIDS Forum Told Of Growing Apathy Toward AIDS

Milwaukee—"The renewed hope and excitement that has been generated by improved HIV treatments must not result in losing our bearings about exactly where we are in the fight against AIDS. At best, we are at the end of the beginning of the sixteen-year AIDS epidemic."

The above was part of what Doug Nelson, executive director of the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin (ARCW), said to an audience of reporters and AIDS activists at a news-breaking "State of AIDS Forum" held at the National Press Club in Washington, DC.

The Forum was held to address the danger of complacency in the face of promising new AIDS therapies. It was hosted by AIDS Action, the nation's foremost AIDS advocacy organization of which Nelson is a Board member. Nelson was the only presenter from the Midwest.

Nelson's remarks on how ARCW has handled the evolving HIV epidemic in Wisconsin, reports said, served as a model

Honolulu - Hawaii has become the first state in the country to grant marriage like benefits to Same Sex couples, but activists say that the "Hawaiian Solution" while an improvement over what is offered elsewhere, does not go far enough.

The legislation which was allowed by Governor Ben Cayetano to become law without his signature grants about 50 marriage like benefits to couples who register with the State.

Those benefits include health insurance for partners, hospital visitation rights, and probate reforms.

Governor Cayetano refused to sign the measure because it allows non-Gay couples to register for the benefits. In fact under the law, relatives, friends and even non residents can register. The couples don't even have to be living together.

Cayetano said that the religious right forced the measure to include more than just same-sex couples.

The new law passed as a part of a compromise designed to end a celebrated court case that would force Hawaii to grant marriage licenses to same sex couples.

In return for the benefits, legislators favoring Gay marriage agreed to support a call for a State Constitutional Referendum that would expressly ban Same Sex marriages.

The case, Baehr vs Levin, was filed by two Lesbian and two Gay couples all of whom had applied for and were denied marriage licenses. They cited the Hawaiian Constitution which forbids discrimination based on sex.

In 1993, The State Supreme Court ordered the State to defend itself against the suit and show "a compelling state interest" as to why Gay marriages should not be allowed.

Late last year, following a lower court trial, a judge issued a strongly worded opinion that the State had failed to show any reason why Gay and Lesbian couples should be denied marriage licenses. The State is appealing that decision back to its Supreme Court.

Because the case involves the State Constitution, the Hawaii State Supreme Court is the final appeal available to the State.

After the benefits package and an accompanying bill calling for a referendum on the Constitutional Amendment was passed, Hawaii asked its Supreme Court to delay ruling on Baehr until after the referendum. Attorneys for the Plaintiffs have responded by asking the Court to hear and rule on the case sooner than planned.

Please See Hawaii Page 2

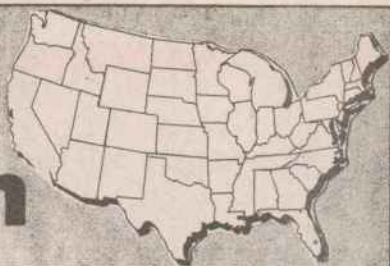
for other AIDS Service Organizations (ASO) nationwide. The declining death rate in Wisconsin has led to higher than ever caseloads and greater demand for health and social services at ARCW, Nelson said.

Adding to this challenge is the fact that the state's social safety nets are collapsing, especially in Milwaukee which has 50% of Wisconsin's HIV/AIDS caseload. The Milwaukee County Medical complex, a major provider of health care for the indigent, has closed. The County's general assistance program for the poor has ended, and changes to state welfare programs will further limit access to financial assistance for low-income individuals.

Two-thirds of the people with HIV and AIDS that ARCW serves in Milwaukee are low-income, with no private health insurance, and one-half of them are ineligible for Medical Assistance coverage.

Please See AIDS Forum Page 2

News From The Nation



Hundreds Protest Failure of Gay Rights Law

Miami, FL-AP- It's been 20 years since singer Anita Bryant made headlines with her campaign to kill Dade County's Gay rights ordinance. But the fight is just as bitter these days between those for and against the effort to protect homosexuals from discrimination.

About 1,000 protesters showed up at Dade County government headquarters in downtown Miami, where one commissioner tried in vain to revive a proposed ordinance killed without debate two weeks ago.

"Are we afraid to deal with this issue?" Commissioner Bruce Kaplan, the sponsor of the measure, asked. "This isn't Castro's Cuba. You have the right to vote against it but let's at least hear it."

Supporters brought in by the local Christian Coalition chapter prayed, sang hymns and shouted Bible verses, while an estimated equal number of Gay rights supporters chanted equal rights slogans.

Dade County now prohibits discrimination based on race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, sex, pregnancy, age, disability, marital status or familial status.

The defeated ordinance would have added sexual orientation.

Shell Oil Offers Domestic Partner Benefits

Houston, TX-AP- Shell Oil Co. will start offering health and life insurance benefits to the domestic partners of its employees beginning next year.

The Houston-based company notified its 20,000 employees in the United States about the new policy last month as it announced improved or new benefits, Shell spokeswoman Kitty Borah said.

Shell, a subsidiary of Royal Dutch/Shell Group, said the criteria for eligibility is financial interdependence, joint responsibility for each other's welfare and "having a common residence for at least 12 months with the intent to do so indefinitely."

Employees can get the new benefits beginning Jan. 1. The change does not specify gender so it would apply to an unmarried man and woman or to a same-sex couple, Borah said.

HIV+ Kids Continue to Attend School

Chicago-AP- HIV-infected children, even those with severe symptoms or full-blown AIDS, are attending school in significant numbers, a study in Massachusetts has found.

In more than half of the cases studied, however, the schools and the infected children had not been told of their illnesses.

Some school districts require parents to inform them if a child is HIV-infected but Massachusetts has no such requirement, noted the authors, led by researcher Joyce Cohen of the Massachusetts Department of Public Health. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention also participated in the study, published in the July issue of Pediatrics.

"What was surprising is the degree to which they were able ... to go to school. Out of 92 children only three were too ill to attend school," said Dr. Alfred DeMaria, a co-author and Massachusetts' director of communicable diseases.

State Audits Agency Raids on Gay Bars

Sacramento, CA-AP- State auditors are investigating complaints that the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control has stepped up raids on Gay and minority bars.

Activists from the Gay, black and Hispanic communities allege the agency has engaged in discriminatory enforcement.

State Auditor Kurt Sjoberg told the Los Angeles Times that his auditors will compare the number of ABC actions in minority bars to those in other communities to determine if there is an imbalance. They also will conduct interviews of bar employees and customers.

Sjoberg called the \$147,000 audit unusual because of the relatively small size of the agency being investigated and the significant amount of time it will involve, nearly 2,500 hours. It is scheduled for completion in about six months.

Prime Minister's Wife Argues for Gay Rights

Luxembourg-AP- The wife of British Prime Minister Tony Blair appeared before the European Court of Justice Wednesday representing a Lesbian couple in a discrimination case against the British government.

Cherie Booth, a leading expert in employment law, asked the court to condemn the British government for denying travel benefits to the live-in lover of a Lesbian railway worker.

Booth argued that British policy discriminates against homosexuals and Lesbians, since travel benefits are offered to married and unmarried heterosexual partners of railway workers.

"The court should reject such pedantry. The right to human intimacy is a fundamental right and I would suggest, a fundamental human need," Booth said.

A preliminary opinion from the court will be delivered in Luxembourg on September 30, with a final verdict expected early next year.

Gay Pride in London

London, England-AP- Tens of thousands of revelers jamming London's streets in the city's annual Gay pride festival celebrated a friendlier new government.

Prime Minister Tony Blair, whose Labor government ousted the Conservatives in a landslide election on May 1, backs increased rights for Gay people, and has named an openly Gay legislator to the influential Heritage ministry.

The ousted Conservatives refused to consider lowering the age of homosexual consent to 16, the age of heterosexual consent, and to allow declared Gays into the military. Blair has promised to review both positions.

The new leader of the Conservative Party, William Hague has indicated that he is more sympathetic to Gay rights than his predecessor, John Major.

Chris Smith, the Heritage Minister, addressed the rally.

WISH

Continued From page 19

Little subtly is offered in teaching Anabel (not to mention those unfortunates in the audience) that there is no such thing as a simple wish — at least not in Hollywood.

Figuring, perhaps, that you can never have too much plot, screenwriter Jeff Rothberg and director Michael Ritchie throw in Kathleen Turner as Claudia, a Fairy Godmother outcast-turned-evil witch who with her trusty companion Boots (Amanda Plummer) in tow is desperately seeking to recover her lost wand. Glenn cannot help but ponder what Sigmund Freud would have made of this mess.

Amidst all of this foolishness and missed opportunities there are a few saving graces. First and foremost is Mara Wilson as Anabel. Effortlessly combining a 90's kid's common sense with the fantasy sto-

ries she loves to read, her Anabel is a delight, stealing our hearts while as she steals the film.

Less fortunate are headliners Martin Short and Kathleen Turner who resort to shameless overacting as if to compensate for sadly under written characters.

Gay audiences brave enough to venture to **A Simple Wish** will be treated to a surprisingly canny parody of backstage doings of a big Broadway musical with a particularly delicious performance by Jonathan Hadary as the supremely egotistical composer Lord Richard.

The image of Oliver belting out "A Far, Far Better Thing" as Carton is about to face the guillotine is certainly not one Glenn will soon forget.

When all is said and done, Glenn couldn't help but wonder what Mara Wilson's shrewd little Anabel would have made of **A Simple Wish**.

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

AIDS FORUM

Continued From Page 1

"Our most difficult challenge today and in the years ahead will be to assure access to health care as HIV treatment costs go up and social safety nets come down," Nelson said. "Compounding these problems is the growing misconception that with improved HIV treatments, AIDS is less urgent, the crisis is over, and that public resources can be invested elsewhere."

The "State of AIDS Forum" and Nelson's remarks hit hard researchers' findings that the new drugs are not working for as many as one-third of the people who are living with HIV and AIDS; that drug treatments are costly, toxic, require a complicated regimen, and that the long-term effects of the drugs are still unknown; and that science holds no promises to finding an HIV vaccine or a cure for AIDS.

Nelson also spoke about ARCW's needle exchange program which has successfully reduced HIV seroprevalence among drug users who use the exchange to below 2%.

By contrast, the HIV seroprevalence in some major US cities without needle exchange is as high as 25% to 50%. Current funding enables ARCW to reach only one-half of the 6,000 IV drug users in Wisconsin.

WALK

Continued From Page 1

you have registered, you will receive Walk materials in the mail. Packets include pledge forms, Walk posters, HIV and AIDS statistics and tips on collecting pledges.

Some of the larger teams already registered for AIDS Walk Wisconsin include corporations like Ameritech, Einstein Bros. Bagels, United Airlines, TODAY'S TMJ4 and 94 WKTI, and other businesses/organizations throughout the state: Blue Light Bar/Sheboygan, Camp Heartland/Milwaukee, Dan's Dream Team in Racine, East Central Wellness Project/Oshkosh, and Hit Squad/Madison.

"We are also encouraging individuals to form teams through their employers," said Beil. "Many companies in Wisconsin match, double or even triple pledges raised for events like AIDS Walk Wisconsin."

If you are interested in becoming an AIDS Walk Wisconsin team captain, you can call 800-348-WALK or 414-225-1598, 24 hours-a-day. Just leave a message with your name, phone number and team name and someone will contact you and get your team registered.

Participating teams will be listed in the program book that is distributed to all walkers and news media. Teams can also increase their visibility by wearing T-shirts, caps, etc. featuring company or organization logos. Photos will also be taken for teams with 15 or more members. And, as with all walkers, any team member who raises \$100 or more will receive an official AIDS Walk Wisconsin T-shirt; \$250 or more will receive an AIDS Walk Wisconsin sweatshirt. The top three fundraising teams will be presented with special awards.

The day of the Walk begins with a breakfast at the Italian Community Center. Tickets for the breakfast are available and can be purchased by calling the Walk hotline at 800-348-WALK. Walk sign-in begins at 10:30 a.m., opening ceremonies will be held at 12 noon and the Walk will begin at 12:30 p.m. at the Summerfest grounds.

TODAY'S TMJ4's Carole Meekins will be the emcee for the breakfast, Walk kickoff and Walk closing ceremonies and will be joined by 94 WKTI's Bob Reitman & Gene Mueller.

The 10K (6.2 mile) Walk features six rest stops with food, refreshments and entertainment along the Walk route. There is also entertainment before and after the Walk on the Summerfest grounds.

Sponsors of the event include Miller Brewing Company, TODAY'S TMJ4, 94 WKTI, Wisconsin Energy Corporation, United Airlines, Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, Aurora Health Care, Cellular One, Oneida Bingo & Casino, National Association of Theater Owners of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan, American Family Mutual Insurance, Bank One, Starbucks Coffee, Herbert H. Kohl Charities, Inc. and Humana Health Care Plans.

Proceeds from the 1997 AIDS Walk benefit 18 AIDS education and service providers throughout the state: Milwaukee AIDS Project, AIDS Network-Southcentral Wisconsin, Center Project-Green Bay/Fox Valley, Central Wisconsin AIDS Network-Wausau, Northwest Wisconsin AIDS Project-Eau Claire, Southeast Wisconsin AIDS Project-Kenosha, Wisconsin AIDS Research Consortium, AIDS/HIV Ministry-Wisconsin Conference of Churches, Camp Heartland, The Counseling Center of Milwaukee, East

Central Wellness Project-Oshkosh, Generation Next Project, Great Lakes Hemophilia Foundation, Rainbow Community Health Centers, Planned Parenthood of Wisconsin, Positive Health Clinic/Aurora, Sheboygan County AIDS Task Force, Visiting Nurse Association of Wisconsin.

DON'T ASK

Continued From Page 1

43% increase in discharges of Gays and Lesbians in the military after a year under the new policy which went into effect in 1994, and an 18% increase in discharges during 1995-96.

"These figures answer the question of whether or not the military has gone on a witch hunt for Gay servicemembers," added Lobel. "Judge Nickerson's decision is very encouraging and should inform other courts who look at this policy in the future."

Retired Lieutenant Colonel Bob Maginnis director of the Right Wing Family Research Council's Military Readiness Project said: "Judge Nickerson relies on Gay apologists and discredited studies to make his case that homosexuals deserve protected class treatment. He makes little mention of the legislative history behind the Congressional ban, which found that homosexuals as a category are at high-risk for AIDS and other STDs. He dismisses cohesion and morale issues and the whole notion of sexual privacy. Nickerson claims unit cohesion is a euphemism for catering to the prejudices of heterosexuals. This is overt nonsense and completely dismisses the judgment of Congress and of generations of military leaders."

All sides agree that the case will be appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court. Of the current cases in federal court, *Holmes v. Cohen* and *Watson v. Cohen* in the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, and the July 2nd case, *Able v. USA*, are considered the most likely candidates for eventual Supreme Court review.

As we go to press, the Associated Press reports that the Clinton Justice Department has announced that it will appeal Judge Nickerson's ruling.

HAWAII

Continued From Page 1

Reaction to the benefits package was bittersweet. Spokespersons for the Human Rights Campaign and the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force said that while the package was an improvement it was no substitute for marriage.

Evan Wolfson, Director the Lambda Legal Defense Fund's Marriage Project told *The Wisconsin Light* while Hawaii's action was an important step towards advancing the rights of Gay and Lesbian couples "this is not a substitute for marriage."

Wolfson says that marriage includes hundreds of benefits, but the Hawaiian Legislature enumerated only about 50 or 60 of those benefits for Same Sex couples. "They are addressing a variety of families beyond married couples. However, because they enacted this law under pressure from the religious radical right, they didn't necessarily think out every aspect of the law. This is not something we pushed for, this is something that the radical right pushed in an effort to derail our advance to same sex marriage."

Wolfson and others say that the Radical Religious Right was afraid that if it lost the Same Sex Marriage Court case, (which many experts think is likely) it would open up a wave of litigation in other states.

Wolfson admits that such a victory would have a major impact. "Before we can litigate the martial status of Gays and Lesbians, we need to have at least one state where such marriages are legal."

He also called for Gays and Lesbians and those concerned about the issue to understand that litigation is only part of the answer.

"It's not enough to just sit around and expect politicians or judges to do this," said Wolfson. "We have to create the climate of receptivity by going group by group to non-Gay potential allies."

Tammy Baldwin, Wisconsin's only openly Lesbian State Representative, agrees. When told of his comments to *Wisconsin Light*, Baldwin said "I couldn't agree more with Evan Wolfson's take on this. Our greatest chance for full civil rights will be when the citizens of this state understand that Gay and Lesbian people are denied equal civil rights. This understanding won't occur until people share their stories and a public dialogue occurs. My own emphasis on this issue is greatly focused on public education."

Gay and Lesbian couples around the country will be watching to see what the Hawaiian Supreme Court does when it decides whether to hear or delay the Same Sex Marriage Case. Polls show that a constitutional amendment banning same sex marriages would pass by a wide margin.

St. Camillus AIDS Ministry Opens New Care Residence and Plans to Open Two More

Milwaukee—St. Camillus HIV/AIDS Ministry recently opened its second supportive residence for people living with HIV disease.

Emmaus House welcomed its first resident on July 3rd. The facility offers a home-like, supportive environment for persons transitioning from the St. Camillus Health Center back into the community.

"We're seeing a significant number of people come into our skilled care unit very, very ill," said Eric Gravenkamp, a social worker with the AIDS ministry. "However, for the first time since this disease surfaced, many people are rehabilitating and going home," he said.

Gravenkamp points to new developments in drug treatments as the cause of what is becoming known as the "Lazarus Phenomenon."

Residents of Emmaus House are supported by nurse case managers from Camillus Home Health Agency, as well as by staff and volunteers of the Ministry.

The opening of Emmaus House was delayed due to severe damage suffered by last month's flooding. Raphael House also had significant damages and loss of property.

"We are deeply grateful for the incredible outpouring of support from the community to help us recover from this tragedy," said Bro. Stephen Braddock, Executive Director of the AIDS Ministry. "There was deep concern expressed by our city's Gay community and Religious communities alike...that reality speaks volumes to me."

According to Braddock who is Chair of the Board which governs the Milwaukee-based operations of the Order and heads the HIV program for the North American Province, "We are deeply committed to those affected by HIV disease. At the same time, your commitment is just as strong to our many other established ministries...Camillians vow to care for the sick and dying, period! No one group or population is more important than another. People are people," he said. "I don't care what their affliction or life circumstance may be, we are here for everyone."

The Ministry plans to open a third residence on or before October 1, 1997. To be known as Magdalene House, the residence

will be dedicated to caring for HIV+ women.

A fourth home, Camillus Cottage, will open soon after.

HIV+ persons in need of housing or other services are encouraged to call St. Camillus for assistance. Individuals interested in volunteering are also urged to call. The number is: (414) 259-4664.

St. Camillus Anniversary

A week of festivities marks the 75th Anniversary of the arrival of Camillian priests and brothers to Milwaukee. The celebrations began with an outdoor mass at St. Camillus Health Center on Sunday, July 13.

1997 is also the 50th year since the founding of the St. Camillus Health Care Campus in Wauwatosa.

"The early Camillians settled here from Germany and established a small hospital for men on the city's south side," said Bro. Braddock. "They later acquired the land in Tosa and built what was then known as St. Camillus Hospital for Incurable Men." Many of the patients were afflicted with polio, TB, and sexually transmitted diseases, Braddock explained.

Though relatively few in numbers, the Camillians have made a significant impact on the Milwaukee health care community. Known world-wide for their dedicated care of the sick, dying and aged, Camillian priests and brothers are engaged in health care work in over thirty countries. The Order owns and operates over 550 hospitals, nursing homes, AIDS centers, hospices, and senior living facilities.

In recent years, the Order has focused much of its efforts and resources on the AIDS pandemic. St. Camillus HIV/AIDS Ministry provides the Milwaukee community with a full continuum of HIV related services.

Services include: skilled nursing care; home care; support groups; supportive housing; volunteer services; education; and counseling.

See Us On the Internet

<http://www.Wilight.com>

Madison Gay Judge Says that Honesty Helped Him Excel at his Work

Madison—A local judge stricken with cancer says he went through much of his education and a four-year Navy tour before coming to terms with his own Gay orientation.

"I grew up in a small town in Canada with traditional values," 53-year-old Judge George Northrup told *The Capital Times*. "My concept of a Gay person was the stereotype, someone who was very effeminate, who cross-dressed."

"So although I knew I felt an attraction to men, I didn't identify myself as homosexual," he said.

Over 24 years, Northrup has been a Dane County prosecutor, court commissioner and finally a judge. Now he is dying of mesothelioma, a rare and nearly always fatal cancer of the chest lining and abdominal cavity.

He no longer presides in the courtroom but stays employed, handling court paperwork.

Witnessing his partner of 21 years die of AIDS has helped him prepare for his own death, the judge said.

Northrup said his cancer is not AIDS-related. He has been tested several times for HIV, the virus that causes AIDS, and all the tests have been negative, the judge said.

As a teen-ager, Northrup ran track and played soccer and rugby. After attending the University of British Columbia for a year, he signed on with the U.S. Navy and served for four years as a radar technician on aircraft carriers in the Atlantic and Pacific. Then he came to the University of Wisconsin-Madison to finish his education.

"During all of that time, I never came out," he says, speaking for the first time publicly on the subject.

As an undergraduate in the late 1960s, he began to explore coming out.

"I finally came to the conclusion that it wasn't a question of choice, it was who I was, and that the first thing you have to do in life is be honest with yourself and make the best of it."

"I also decided that most limitations are self-imposed. This was going to dramatically limit my life if I let it. But if I didn't let it limit my life, it wouldn't. I've been very fortunate that that's been pretty much the case."

Northrup and his partner, Larry Small, appeared together occasionally at social functions for the law enforcement community.

"It wasn't long before everyone in the D.A.'s Office, the Police Department and the Sheriff's Office knew about me," he said. "Anyone with any common sense knew what was going on. I've tried to be honest, but also, when it came to my personal life, my sexual orientation, to be discreet."

"I think anyone, straight or Gay, should be discreet in the workplace about their sexual life."

One detective tried to bait him when Northrup was a junior prosecutor, he said.

"Snide little comments were made one day, and I just confronted him," Northrup said. "I asked him what his problem was and gave him a piece of my mind on the issue. It was a very frank conversation. I think it totally surprised him, and in the long run he ended up respecting me and we became friends."

Northrup said that is a good example of his firm belief that anyone can avoid being victimized by refusing to behave like a victim.

"Whether you're Gay or straight, the issue is how you handle yourself, not your sexual orientation," he said.

When Northrup was installed as a judge in 1985, Small had a place of honor in the jury box and was introduced along with the rest of Northrup's family.

When Small died in April, 1994, Northrup was prominently listed in the obituary as his "partner of 21 years."

At Small's memorial service, nearly the entire judiciary turned out.

"I was overwhelmed," Northrup said.

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Drugs — Depression — Anxiety

They Were the Best of Friends

It Was the Worst of Times

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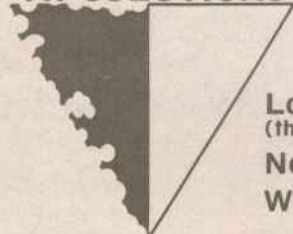
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Pride Institute at Solutions

Editorial

How Much Farther?

"If you want to do something in my memory, show your love to a person with AIDS who lacks my advantages."

So wrote Robert Lutz a.k.a. "Bobby Positive" in writing his own obituary that we are carrying in this issue. Please read it. It is one of the most moving pieces of writing we have read in some time.

We quote Bobby Positive to point up a sad fact. Across this country, a growing apathy is being reported in regards to the fight against AIDS. It is perhaps understandable. We have all been fundraised to the max. We have attended benefit after benefit. We have lost friends and loved ones, crying until we can cry no more. How much more can we take? How much longer must we go on? How far?

The answer is, we must go on. We have to go on showing the care, the concern, the giving spirit we have shown in the past. We must go on.

In September, the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin (ARCW) will be holding its annual AIDS Walk. Across the country, there are reports that participation in such walks is down. Please, let's not let that happen here. The battle against AIDS is not over yet, not by far.

Matthew

It has been said that a person has no greater love than to lay down their life for a friend.

At Barkinville (see my Editor's Note), there was a boy named Matthew. He is 14 years-old. For the last four years he has joined in the AIDS Walk. This year, already, he has raised \$500, he said.

When we give of our time, our energy and/or our money, like Matthew, we lay down our lives. Those at ARCW, BestD Clinic, St. Camillus, the AIDS Network and others like them, lay down their lives all the time. Please, join them in their sacrifice. Sign up and participate in the AIDS Walk. Let there be no apathy here.

Defending the Promise of Freedom

In this issue, we are printing an interview with one of the tens of thousands of Gays and Lesbians who are quietly serving their country through its armed forces. We wish we could tell you his name. We wish we could print his picture. We wish we could give you more of the details of his life in the military, details that he shared with us.

Unfortunately we can't do any of those things without jeopardizing his standing with the armed forces.

The day will come when being openly Gay and serving our country in the armed forces will be no big deal. But that day isn't here yet.

Even if we can't publicly recognize them, we can thank people like "Tom." People who have and are working hard at doing the necessary job of keeping us safe, even though they themselves are for now prevented from fully sharing in the promise of freedom they so willingly defend.

We say to them that our pride in their efforts can not be overstated. They stand as proof that we too love our country. And we thank them for defending it and the as of now unfulfilled promise of freedom and justice for all that it represents.

Too Long, Too Much Too Little

When Kenneth Starr took over the role of Independent Prosecutor in the so called White water investigation there were those who said that this Republican partisan politician would use his office to promote a radical right wing agenda at taxpayer expense. There have been several indications of Starr doing exactly that during his three year tenure.

None of those indicators were as blatant as the interview Starr's investigators conducted with Bob Hattoy, a openly Gay federal official. While interviewing Hattoy, Starr's henchmen asked him if it was his job to "place homosexuals in the highest levels of government," and if he had succeeded in doing that.

Hattoy rightfully called these questions "chilling" and "something out of the Mc Carthy era"

Perhaps Mr. Starr should be told that this is the 1990's, not the 1950's, that it isn't against any law to recruit Gays and Lesbians for Government jobs and that contrary to what he may have heard at Republican headquarters, Gays and Lesbians represent no threat to the fate of the nation.

Perhaps an independent prosecutor should investigate the conduct of Starr and his office and their use of tax dollars to pursue a partisan political agenda.

After spending three years and over \$30 million in tax payer dollars, Starr has yet to produce much of anything in the way of results. His investigation (which comes on top of expensive investigations by the FDIC, the RTC, three Congressional Committees, and another special prosecutor) has gone on for too long, cost too much and produced too little. It's time to pull the plug on this charlatan who is nothing more than a political hack masquerading as an "Independent" prosecutor.

"Angels in America"

We wholeheartedly applaud the work being done by the Milwaukee Repertory Theater and the Milwaukee Chamber Theater to bring Tony Kushner's award-winning plays, *Angels in America/Perestroika* to the Milwaukee stage, beginning September 19. Kushner's work has received raves across the country. As one famed Milwaukee producer has said, "These plays are excellent, honorable works."

Much thanks should go to Miller Brewery for its support of this artistic effort. Miller has once again shown itself to be a first class corporate citizen of this city and state.

Some have been angered by the flyer that was put out by whoever is doing the PR for the plays. The flyer contained a page in Q and A form (originating in Atlanta and reprinted in Dallas) containing such questions as "Why are MRT and MCT doing a play about homosexuals?" and "Haven't we seen enough about AIDS?"

These questions are at the very least, insensitive. However, perhaps it should be kept in mind that PR people working in the interests of artistic endeavors are somewhat analogous to academic administrators. They serve a useful function, but despite what they may think, in our experience, they usually are incredibly obtuse when it comes to matters of creative concern.

What we should be anticipating with great eagerness is the performances themselves. These plays are outstanding works that are to be presented in all their lustrous form. That "form" is sure to offend some of the blue noses (those whose idea of "great theater" is "The Good Ship Lollypop"). To present these plays as they are, takes courage.

So, while we regret that page in the flyer (the same thing could have been done in a more positive, more sensitive way by someone who knew how to write), we praise the Rep and the Chamber Theater and the sponsors for bringing these plays to Milwaukee.

Letters

God's a Republican?

TO THE EDITOR:

Ralph Ovadal's (leader of Wisconsin Christians United), recent use of WVCY broadcast facilities to urge a campaign against the election of State Rep. Tammy Baldwin suggests that Ovadal and WVCY might be in violation of laws requiring tax-exempt groups to refrain from partisan election activities, as the following incident relates.

Those who'd like to see Baldwin become Congresswoman Baldwin had better start some

energetic fundraising efforts, because the State Rep's. going to need all the help she can get. Not only will she have to win a primary and then battle a Republican, but she'll also have to fight against supernatural forces and more earthly groups using their tax-exempt status to try and defeat her.

Pastor Ralph Ovadal has warned Baldwin either to drop her bid for election or to "read Romans 1 through slowly one more time" and "to repent of promoting homosexual perversion." Ovadal wrote Baldwin a loving letter "explaining to her why she is unfit to be a civil magistrate" and "warning her of the impending wrath she faces from God because of her behavior."

Ovadal informed his daily radio audience, "I also told her that my church will be praying

that God will show His displeasure with her campaign. I believe it's appropriate for me to ask all of you listening today to pray for Tammy Baldwin's soul and for God's judgement on her campaign."

So Tammy has a real struggle on her hands, for Pastor Ralph and the Supernatural forces at his beck and call are out to get her.

Perhaps Pastor Ralph doesn't want to risk reminding people that massive amounts of money are needed in today's campaigns. Well, I'm reminding them, and suggesting that if they want Rep. Baldwin to win, they'll have to donate the funds she'll need.

A final note to the Baldwin campaign, Pastor Ralph's "church" is not a tax-exempt organization, and so it has no restrictions on campaigning against Baldwin. However, his radio and TV programs are run on WVCY radio and TV, which, to my knowledge, are tax-exempt, and are not allowed to engage in partisan political activity. If Ovadal's broadcasts against Baldwin violate the law, he and WVCY should be held to account.

**Al Geiersbach
Milwaukee**

Try Harder Madson

TO THE EDITOR:

Brian Harder's article, "Where In Madison Are You?" caught my attention because it's a question that's been around a long, long time. And he's correct: it IS a case of simple math. Insight can be gained if we look at Madison and the Gay bar scene from a larger, if not global perspective.

Madison is not a real city. It is a sprawling suburb with its dull malls which service mostly homogeneous, cosmopolitan people. For all the foreign people living in Madison, each is in its own ghetto isolated from any real interchange in the larger community. Even the great University is an island of isolation (except for cashing in on spectator sports where once John Bascom's ideal of the Wisconsin Idea was taken seriously, i.e. reaching out to serve the community of the whole state.

We don't have community in the GLBT "community" any more than we have community in Madison itself. Instead, we have mini networks that remain ghetto-ized for the most part. We even have ghettos within ghettos: The United gives out "Community" awards without the benefit of the so-called GLBT "Community" ever offering in-put or selecting the award winners; the selecting process is done in-house, very hot house. (This is not a comment about the winners, for they are always deserving. It is the process of selection that needs reform.)

I was told that the Midwest is a friendly place and New York City was socially cold, but my experience is quite the reverse.

Do you see many "straight" people "invading" GLBT space in Madison bars, unlike The Gentry in Chicago? Do you see many GLBT bars where Gay men and Lesbians are really gathered to enjoy mixing with each other?

Madison is atomized. It has broken itself down into isolated little pampered, breathless, suffocating units that don't want to communicate with anyone but themselves, and then wonder why Gay life is so boring, thus, why so few people want to go out.

Why is Trax in Cleveland such a fun Gay bar? Could it be the mix of Gays and straights in a place that's more than serving alcohol in a hole-in-the-wall store front with no quality entertainment? Why is The Gay Nineties in Minneapolis so popular? Could it be all the variety that is offered (I do mourn the loss of the piano bar).

The one reason the Washington Hotel was as popular as it was, was due to the variety of offerings and the diversity of the crowds from the Barber's Closet to The Rod and Café "Napalm."

Asian bars have a very different tradition and it matters not if it's a Gay or straight bar. The bar philosophy is to do everything possible to make the customer feel welcomed, wanted, desired and well entertained, which includes selecting a beauty (for money) to go home with, a service of the bar for a minor cash gratuity.

Try Harder, Madison.

**Ching Shing Shi
Madison**

Editor's Note: Anyone who's ever thrown a party knows that you can do everything possible to make it a success. The place can be done up, the finest food and beverages can be provided, great entertainment brought in, but that's only setting the stage. Whether the party's a success or not depends on the guests, the "actors." It is they and they alone who provide the dynamic that will make a party "work."

The bars are like that. There isn't an owner in my experience who doesn't do everything possible to "set the stage." Night after night they do it—and hope and wait. I don't envy them, not in the least. Their work is hard and nearly endless, while their sense of frustration must be acute.

They have no magic wands. They know that if a night at a bar—their bar—is fun, it's the patrons who make it so. Like hosting a party, a bar owner can only do so much.

The make up of a bar crowd on any given night, is not up to the bar, but to the people

Please See Letters Page 11

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July 31st Issue

Articles Friday, July 25th

Ads

Non-Camera Ready—July 25th

Camera Ready—July 28th

5:00 p.m.

August 14th Issue

Articles—August 8th

Ads

Non-Camera Ready—August 8th

Camera Ready—August 11th

5:00 p.m.

Caution

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

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The Wisconsin Light



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While Baptists Imagine a Vain Thing, the Gay March to Equal Rights Goes On

San Francisco—Jeff Jackson and Maurice Monette found what they were looking for when they moved to San Francisco, a community that embraces them and a boss who offers domestic partner benefits.

"I couldn't now work for an employer that doesn't have this," said Jackson, 34, a community relations officer for Kaiser Permanente, the health maintenance organization. "I now have an employer that respects my family."

As recently as five years ago, Jackson's sexual orientation might have choked off career prospects. Today, even as Southern Baptists boycott the Walt Disney entertainment empire for offering just such benefits, 13 percent of all U.S. employers have quietly extended health benefits to the partners of Gay workers, according to an annual survey on health insurance by accounting firm KPMG Peat Marwick.

For companies with more than 5,000 workers, the figure is one in four.

For the firms that have led the trend, domestic partner benefits are a simple matter of economics. Gays and Lesbians are estimated to comprise anywhere from 2 percent to 10 percent of the workforce. With unemployment near a 24-year low and labor demand high, few employers are willing to ignore a significant share of the pool of skilled, educated employees.

The companies that offer domestic partner benefits include IBM, Apple Computer, Genentech, Microsoft, Borland International, Lotus Development, Bank of America, the San Francisco 49ers, Warner Bros. and Universal Studios-owner MCA Inc.

Disney and others say they cannot afford to lose employees to companies with better benefits plans.

"We aren't changing our policy," Disney spokesman Ken Green said in reference to the church boycott.

Many domestic partner programs cover unmarried heterosexuals as well as Gay employees. But Disney and other companies deny coverage to the unmarried partners of heterosexual employees, reasoning that Gays and Lesbians cannot legally wed.

"Heterosexual couples do have the option of getting married," Disney's Green said.

The KPMG report, a telephone survey of 1,502 companies with more than 200 workers, sought to address one commonly expressed concern of employers—that covering same-sex partners will drive up health care costs. The survey found they were roughly equal.

Under so-called point-of-service plans, which allow the most flexibility within managed care, the average monthly cost for domestic partners is \$326 a month, compared to \$339 for married couples, the study found.

Indemnity plans for domestic partners are more pricey—\$455 vs. \$398—while HMO plans are about the same, \$319 for domestic partners and \$307 for a husband and wife.

Gays say there's a reason beyond price to offer benefits to same-sex partners: family values.

"If the whole purpose of giving tax incentives and benefits to married couples is to create communities and families that care for each other and relieve any burden on the government to do that, it makes sense to encourage employer groups and others to do the same for Gays," said Jack-

son, the Kaiser Permanente worker.

While the city of San Francisco encourages equal treatment in the workplace, requiring all firms that do business with the city to extend benefits to same-sex partners, Uncle Sam does not.

Tax exemptions are granted for health care coverage only to the insured employee and married couples. Coverage for anyone else is considered taxable income. That means Jackson and Monette pay about \$700 a year on a \$2,000 health insurance plan that covers Monette.

"It's expensive, but money's a very small part of it," said Monette, 50, an independent management consultant. "What's happening is we're respected as a household."

And the road to equality in benefits can be rocky. The ordinance that went into effect June 1 in San Francisco, a mecca of Gay culture that lured Monette from Lowell, Mass., and Jackson from Ventura, California, has created unprecedented acrimony.

United Airlines, while placing its "United with pride" ads in Gay publications, is leading the Air Transport Association's lawsuit against the law, which would force airlines that fly into the city to adopt domestic partner plans.

In response, Gay groups have burned United Airlines frequent flyer cards, and every member of the city's Board of Supervisors signed onto a measure barring city workers from using United for work-related trips.

Conservatives consider the San Francisco law an assault on morality.

"The goal of this ordinance is to destroy traditional marriage as the bedrock institution in our society and, in its place, substitute whatever sexual arrangements are currently in vogue," said lawyer Benjamin Bull.

Bull works for the American Center for Law and Justice, a group founded by televangelist Pat Robertson that is representing P.M.&M. Electric Inc., an engineering firm that hopes to overturn the law.

But in Hollywood, as in San Francisco, acceptance of Gays is the rule rather than the exception. When Disney expanded its benefits coverage to Gay partners in October 1995, it was a movie industry late-comer.

In the film business, domestic partner plans are considered critical in the competitive market for mid-level Hollywood executives. Like Jackson, many Gay studio employees won't work for outfits that omit such plans.

"It's a simple matter of equality," said Howard Bragman, a Gay man and leading Hollywood public relations executive. "Disney represents the future of a job marketplace free from discrimination. The Southern Baptists are living in the past."

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Brewers' Hill Section of Milwaukee Seems Most Likely Spot for LGBT Center

Milwaukee—American Express Financial Advisors, Inc. recently committed to be a flagship tenant in the new Milwaukee LGBT Community Center. The woman-owned financial planning practice of Busche, Lukovich, O'Donnell & Associates, a division of American Express Financial Advisors, Inc., is the fourth tenant and first for-profit firm to lease space in the Center.

In June, the first three tenant commitments were made by The Brady East STD Clinic (BESTD), Lesbian Alliance of Metro Milwaukee (LAMB) and The Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP).

Carol Busche, Senior Financial Advisor and partner in the firm, is excited about joining the LGBT Center's efforts. "By having a presence in the Center, we will be able to demonstrate our commitment to building trust and credibility in the LGBT community." The firm also anticipates promoting a diverse client base and workplace.

"Our firm recognizes that there are unique needs and issues around financial planning for members of the LGBT community; we offer financial planning services that are tailored to the needs of a community that has been undeserved," said Busche.

The effort to launch an LGBT Community Center in Milwaukee has been ongoing for sixteen months. The effort has been joined by 100 volunteers and is led by steering committee co-chairs, Karen Gotzler, Jim Schleif, ReDonna Rodgers and Leonel Marchan. After exploring more than forty buildings, the site at 1801 N. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Drive has emerged as the most favorable location for the Center.

According to Deb Lukovich, a partner in the American Express Financial Services firm, her firm is excited about the development of the King Drive/Brewers' Hill area, and is committed to being part of the growth of the community. "In being an anchor tenant, we are making a financial commitment to the success of the Center and the neighborhood," Lukovich said.

According to Ross Walker, President of the BESTD Clinic, "BESTD clinic has been on the forefront of everything that has happened in the LGBT community since the clinic's founding 26 years ago. It makes sense to continue to make a presence at the center." Walker added that the clinic has been an LGBT micro-community center for many years.

"Groups such as Gay Youth Milwaukee, a Gay father's group, support groups for HIV positive and their partners and PrideFest currently have office and meeting space at the clinic. Many other organizations have used the clinic's meeting facilities in the past. It seems natural to be part of this center," said Walker.

Jo Bruns, LAMB Chairwoman, commented on her organization's decision to move their office space to the community center. "LAMB has always been a strong presence in the community, and we want to continue to be a presence in the community by joining in concert with the community center."

Milwaukee LGBT Community Center Fundraisers

Milwaukee—The Wisconsin premier of the movie *Love! Valour! Compassion!* opened at the Oriental Theater for 125 very special people. This benefit for The Milwaukee LGBT Community Center raised \$1,200 which will directly support the center's efforts to open in early 1998.

The Milwaukee LGBT Community Center Co-Chairs would like to thank The Wisconsin Light for their initiative on this project, as well as Fine Line Features and the Oriental Theater for their efforts with this successful event. The Center would also like to thank all who sold advance tickets for the event.

1100 Club

Another Center fundraiser took place after the Friday night PrideFest events. The 1100 Club hosted a Leather Cocktail Reception to raise funds for the Center's library and kick off the Center's "Home of Our Own" membership drive. The reception was co-hosted by Mr. Wisconsin Levi/Leather Daddy, Stacy DeSotel, Mr. Wisconsin Daddy's Boy (Joe) and Queer Scout, a community center volunteer. The event raised \$110 for the library, and \$755 in membership pledges.

The Center would like to thank those who pledged a membership, the staff of the 1100 Club for donating the Beer Bust, and the reception's three co-hosts.

Bruns explained that LAMB will lease office space from the center, and added "The opportunity to have meeting space is a real bonus. There will also be services and equipment that organizations can share. This makes life a bit easier and economically more accessible."

"It (moving) wasn't an easy decision to come to. The reason The Milwaukee LGBT Community Center started was to organize and strengthen the community. I see each organization as a voice in our community. At the community center, we come together as a choir, stronger than a single voice. Having LAMB come in to the Center strengthens the voice of the community," said Bruns.

All four of the tenants that have committed to leasing space at the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center attended a reception at the M&M Club. At the reception, these four organizations, along with six other groups, voiced overwhelming support for the north King Drive location, one of two finalist sites for the center.

Karen Gotzler, Co-Chair of the Steering Committee, added "When speaking with people at PrideFest, we heard overwhelming support for the King Drive location. It offers us a lot of flexibility, and there is less crime in the King Drive area."

Jim Schleif, a Steering Committee Co-Chair, told the tenants, "The LGBT community has always been about pioneerism. In this case, urban pioneers. If everyone in Brewer's Hill said that this is a bad place to live or a bad place for business, what would we have? We would have a dead city. We are committed to the City of Milwaukee... Although we can't please everyone, there are strong reasons to be in a diverse community and adding to it."

Bruns explained that safety for their members was a priority when considering a move to the Center. "When we heard that it (the Center) will be on King Drive, we were concerned. Our board had to deal with the negative perceptions of the location. But the Center's Steering Committee did a very good job of hearing our concerns for safety, and making sure our voice was not lost. After attending a meeting (with the Steering Committee), LAMB board members came away feeling good about their decision to move to the center."

A final decision about the Center's location will be made in July, and the Steering Committee anticipates opening the center in early 1998.

Any business or organization that would like to discuss leasing options in the new Center should call Jim Schleif at (414) 225-1580, or Karen Gotzler at (414) 220-5368. Space is limited.

Two Green Bay Men Attacked in What is Apparent Hate Crime

Appleton—Two Green Bay men maced an Appleton man and another Green Bay man in the face apparently "to teach you faggots a lesson" early Monday, July 14, according to one of the victims, David Washack.

The attackers reportedly saw the Gay couple holding each other in a parking lot used by patrons of Za's, a local Gay night club, shortly after closing time. They allegedly scouted the area a second time and then returned to their home, obtained the pepper spray and returned to attack the Gay couple.

The behavior of the assailants was observed by the Appleton man's brother, Jerry Washack who is also Gay and who was sitting in his car waiting to drive his brother back to Appleton.

Following the attack the bother followed the assailants down an alley, lost them, drove around the block and found them in front of an apartment house.

The alleged attackers went into the building and three other men came out and began attacking the maced man who had just arrived on the scene, striking him with a tree branch, and shouting "faggot" at him.

The brother remained in the car shouting to the neighborhood to call 9-1-1 and keeping his car horn repeatedly. The police arrived on the scene shortly thereafter and arrested the two original attackers, one of whom was allegedly in the shower trying to wash off traces of the pepper spray.

The maced man was then taken to St. Vincent's Hospital where he was treated and released. The other victim did not seek treatment and has chosen not to come forward as he is not "out" to his family and others.

The two assailants were arraigned Monday afternoon, July 14th. It is unknown if

Madison Firefighter Proclaims that Intolerance is a "Beautiful Thing"

Madison—An African-American firefighter-clergyman who opposes Gays, forced integration and affirmative action wears a T-shirt that proclaims: "Intolerance is a beautiful thing."

Ronnie Greer, 41, has been reprimanded by the city for his outspoken beliefs on Gays.

Greer's lawyer, Michael Dean of Waukesha, said he plans to take his client's case to Circuit Court or U.S. District Court, calling the dispute with the city a free-speech issue.

The case involves Greer's inability to get along with his Fire Department superiors, assistant city attorney Rick Petri said.

"He's a malcontent," Petri said.

The case "is mainly about the freedom of one's speech in the workplace and the freedom to hold and voice one's beliefs," Greer said during a Wisconsin State Journal interview at his home in Fitchburg.

"This whole story is nationwide news except in Madison," he said, referring to the attention it has attracted from Christian conservatives.

This is not true. Only the Virginia-based Rutherford Institute has helped pay his legal bills. World, a Christian magazine, recently featured him on the cover, wearing a Fire Department shirt and a gag in his mouth. Otherwise, the major news media seem to have ignored him.

Greer, an ex-Marine who was born in Tennessee, is a preacher for the 30-member Trinity Evangelical Fellowship that meets in an elementary school.

Last month he received a two-month suspension, without pay, for handing out an anti-Gay pamphlet at a Madison fire station.

The pamphlet calls homosexuality a "filthy scourge" and recommends employment discrimination against Gays and Lesbians, blaming them for diseases and child molestation.

"All homosexuals will spend eternity in the lake of fire if they refuse to repent their abominable acts," it says.

The Madison Police and Fire Commission decided June 25 that Greer's distribution of the pamphlet violated department policy against workplace harassment.

Greer said he gave the pamphlet "only to individuals who had asked for it or who were involved in conversation with me. It was never given knowingly to anyone who is homosexual."

The commission also punished Greer for calling an assistant fire chief "a phony" in a newspaper story. The commission said the statement violated the department's policy to treat superiors with respect.

Dean accuses the city of a double stan-

dard by allowing magazines and calendar pictures in fire stations that would offend Christians.

"There have been for years and years and years what are called smut lockers," Dean said. "Ron is not asking that those be removed. He understands that you have to have tolerance in the firehouse."

"Nor is he asking that firefighters stop their profanity or blasphemy or filthy language. He is merely asking that the rules be applied fairly."

Greer said: "Over the years, I've known a number of people on the job who thought black people were dumb or they don't like 'niggers.' My feeling is that's your business so long as you don't get in the way of my doing my job."

The commission calls Greer's "record of discipline to be uniquely abysmal and disheartening."

Greer, who has been with the department for 17 years, has had encounters elsewhere.

After attending Custer High School in Milwaukee and joining the Marines, he spent 18 months in federal prison for attempting to kill a white officer.

As Greer tells it, the "angry, racist young man" met an evangelist in prison and decided to "dedicate myself and the rest of my life to the Lord."

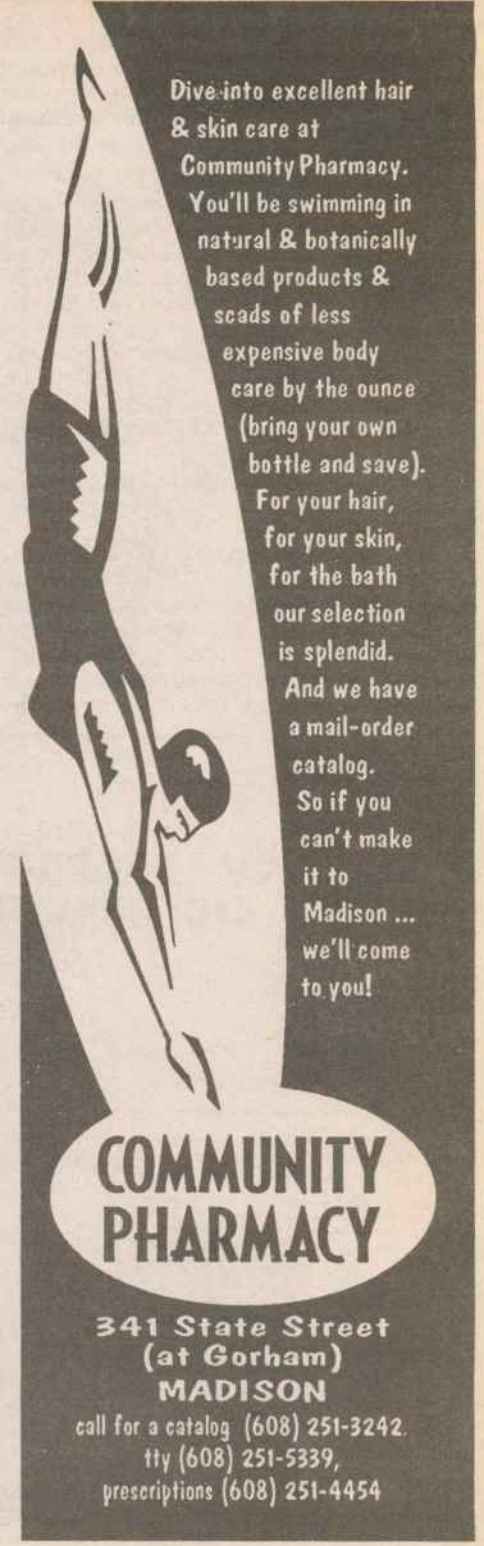
Married with three sons, he left Madison's Mount Zion Baptist Church as an associate pastor two years ago because of disagreement over his anti-Gay views.

When his new congregation sponsored a speaker last year who declares much of Nazi Germany's leadership was Gay, (a historical falsehood), about 20 people came to listen and about 200 showed up to protest.

A group called the Lesbian Avengers took credit for putting about 60 pink triangles on the Greers' lawn.

DeEtte Tomlinson, executive director of a privately and publicly funded group that serves Madison's Gay community, says Greer provides a benefit.

"He's made a difficult and controversial issue very public and that's a good thing," Tomlinson said. "That's when debate happens; that's when people learn and that's when bridges are built."



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Youth Dance

The Milwaukee LGBT Community Center Youth Group will be holding a Gay Youth Dance on Saturday, July 19th, from 7:30 p.m. to midnight at B's Bar on the corner of 2nd and Lapham. The theme of the dance is "Dancing Through the Ages." Youth are suggest to dress in their favorite era. The dance will only admit persons 25 and younger and a cover charge of \$5 will benefit the Gay Youth Picnic to be held on August 9th.

On Saturday, August 9th, the Rainbow Youth Picnic will be held at Lake Park, Area #6 from Noon to 4:00 p.m. There will be flyers available with a map on the night of the dance. There will be no cost for this event.

The Center Youth Group would also like to have a youth team for the AIDS Walk, so if there are people who would like to be a part of it, please call the Community Center number to let the Group know. The number is: (414) 483-4710.

Editor's Note

Barkinville

By Terry Boughner

I remember Dravosburg. I remember Euclid Avenue with its ancient sycamores. I remember the house where I was born and the little church just across the street. I remember the lawn fetes in the summer and the church dinners in the fall. Everyone in town went.

I remember the Wagner ladies, Grace always processing on ahead leaving Gertrude shyly bringing up the rear. I remember Ma Pflume, Grandma Snedden, Aunt Jesse Baumgartner (a Queen Mary look alike), Ellis Whitiker (who never wore shoes no matter what the weather thereby scandalizing the Wagner ladies.), Ward Kelp, and so many others.

beautifully restored, horse drawn circus wagons rumble through the streets. There are bands and clowns without number and all kinds of hoopla. Tens of thousands of people come from all over the world to see it. Hundreds come early and set up camp so they can be sure of having a choice site. One of these is Barkinville.

Barkinville was established eight years ago and is named after Ben Barkin, the father, organizer, driving force, the heart and soul of this parade, Milwaukee's treasure. Jerry and I first became Barkinville "citizens" last year. What a wonderful time we had.

After the last wagon had lumbered past, the we all went our separate ways, but all

gone by at all. It was like going home. It was like going back to Dravosburg and Jerry was with me, a couple like any other.

That Saturday evening, the day before the Parade, we all sat around and talked about movies and TV shows, about recipes and computers, and smelly pens, about what had gone on in the world and our lives since last we were all there. Memories flooded back, memories of Dravosburg and my parents sitting on the lawn of Amity Church doing exactly the same thing that many years later, I was doing now.

Parents, with babes in arms, rocked them gently to sleep. Kids ran around as the older folks shook their heads. "Where do they get their energy?"

Emie Borgnine and his wife, Tova, stopped by to exclaim over it all and to have their pictures taken. Ben Barkin was there, too. He'd sent along a couple of cases of soft drinks earlier. He was warmly welcomed and was wreathed in smiles. People, perfect strangers, walked by and waved. Some stopped in to chat.

We all, I think, long for community, a down home kind of place, a place where we can be and fit right in. That's Barkinville. These warm, wonderful people have discovered that a community is made only by inclusion. The moment, the very second, that exclusion appears, community is gone. This is a lesson that Gays and non-Gays alike, I think, must learn.

In Barkinville, there are the old and the young. There are African-Americans, Hispanic-Americans, and those of European descent. There are Gays and there are non-Gays, couples, families, and dating pairs. Everyone's included, everyone's accepted and no one is left out.

That's what I think, the TV people caught. That's the reason they showed up to put Barkinville on the news. It was that sense of community, of inclusion, of warmth, that they could only hope their cameras could catch.

In Barkinville, for a Gay couple like Jerry and me, it wasn't a point of being assimilated or being "out." It was being accepted like everyone else there. We could be who we are and get on with the important things—like eating brats and watching the parade. We were a Gay couple. There were non-Gay couples. No sense in making a big deal about either one.

For me, Barkinville is a microcosm of all that America promises, all that it should be. Things like community, equality, acceptance, inclusion, small town life at its very best. Did we have these things once? I don't know. But if we did, and, as they say, we've lost them, we'd better get them back. We'd better all "go home" to

Barkinville. That's what we all long for, think.

Somewhere along the line, I mentioned that Jerry and I had celebrated our 11th anniversary on July 3rd. Christine, Susan'



The Ring Master- Ben Barkin the master mind and driving force behind Milwaukee's Circus parade visits Barkinville (note sign above) prior to the start of Milwaukee's Great Circus Parade. Our favorite Circus Clown, Ernest Borgnine and his wife Tova can be seen in the background.

I remember the minister's Pastoral Prayer. It always went something like this: "Oh Lord, we pray for Edith Chisholm who is in room 309 of McKeesport Hospital. We thank thee that her gall bladder surgery went well and that now she can receive visitors from 2:00 to 4:00 every day and calls, oh Lord, at 47749, ext. 309." The church bulletin made a very convenient note pad and every woman in the congregation used it during the prayer.

I left Dravosburg long ago and never thought I'd see its like again. I was wrong. Let me tell you about Barkinville.

Every summer the Great Circus Parade comes to Milwaukee. Over a hundred

through the year, I thought about them. Every once in awhile, Jerry and I would drive past the site. I would say, "Look, that's where Barkinville was." He would nod and reply, "We had a good time then."

The snow flew. Spring came grudgingly, and then the first ads for the Great Circus Parade appeared on TV. Soon, Barkinville would come again, like some beautiful, mythical city that appears but once a year.

For one of the few times in my life, something turned out as I'd hoped it would. The reunion was great! There were handshakes, hugs and kisses all around, after which we settled in as if no time had



The Borgnines, Ernest and Tova standing on Tova Terrace in Barkinville

sister, smiled happily and said, "Congratulations!" She is a statuesque woman with warm, Grace Kelly eyes who gives Tova Borgnine a run for her money.

Susan's grandma gave me a knowing look. "You celebrated with fireworks," she said. Everyone laughed.

Someone mentioned Matthew. He's a 14 year-old, shy with adults. He'd participated in the AIDS Walk for the last 4 years. This year, he'd already raised \$500, the person said. Matthew shrugged. All this adult praise was too much. He looked like he'd like to be someplace else—fast.

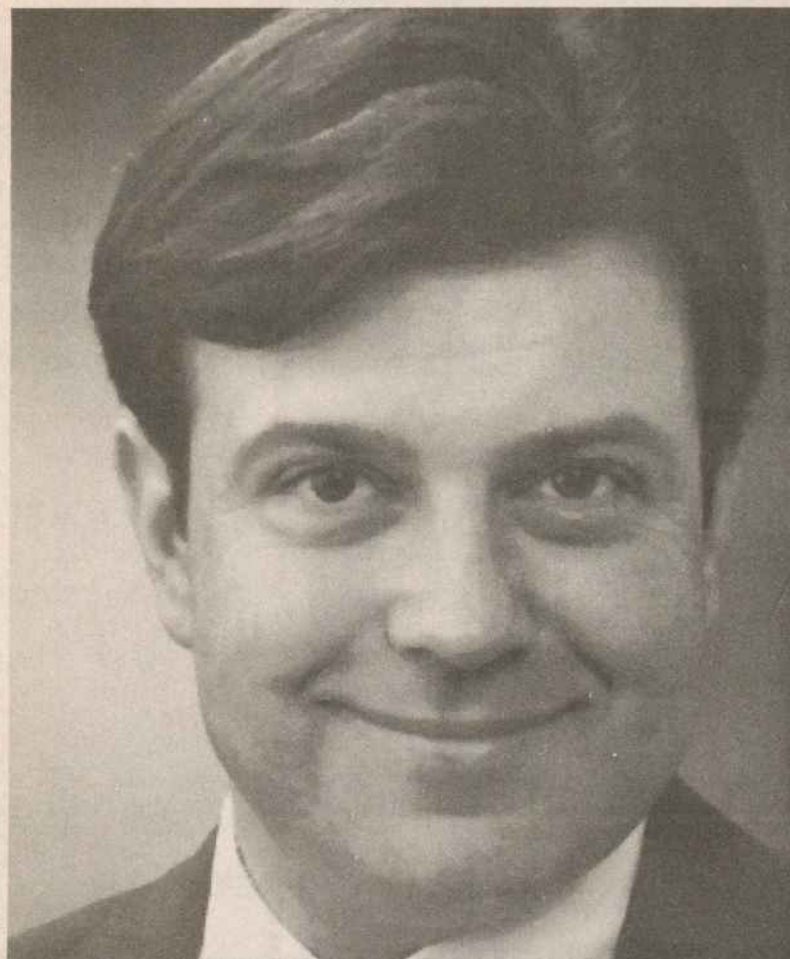
All this was the most natural thing in the world and we went on to talk about something else.

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An "Ordinary" Member of the Military, Gay and HIV+, Speaks Of His Life

A Wisconsin Light Exclusive
By Bill Meunier

It's March and there in the corner of the bar is happy, and loud young man. He's an outgoing nice looking man with an engaging smile. He's out at a bar having fun with his friends. He's an HIV+ Gay service person from Wisconsin.

Some day we will be able to interview people like him and publish their picture. But that day is not yet here.

Therefore to keep is identity safe, we will call him Tom. We have also chosen not to reveal what branch of the services he is in, referring to it only as the military.

Nonetheless we believe his comments gave us a revealing glimpse of attitudes and a philosophy that is undoubtedly shared by thousands of other Gays and Lesbians in the services.

We thank him for agreeing to talk with us about his life, the military and being Gay in the military during the era of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell."

W.L. So Tom where are you from originally?

Tom: I was born and raised in Milwaukee.

WL - How long have you been in the military?

Tom: I entered right out of High School in the late early 1980's.

WL What do you do?

Tom: I work in administration. We do record keeping, file management correspondence.

WL - You are HIV+ aren't you?

Tom - Yes, I found out in the late eighties. They do routine tests once a year, but that's not how I learned about my status. I found out from donating blood. They tested the blood and then they notified my superiors.

WL - Were you shocked?

Tom - Not really my philosophy was sooner or later. Back in the 1980's you did what you did, you didn't think about practicing safe sex.

I had been out since I was 16. I used to go to Cest Le Vie. I've been sexually active since I was 8.

WL - Eight?

Tom - Yeah it was nothing special just a lot of oral stuff.

WL - Why did you join the military?

Tom - It was something I always wanted to do. I wanted to defend my country. I always wanted to join the military but I wasn't sure what branch.

Of course back then they asked that question "Do you practice homosexual sex." I said no because it was none of their business.

My parents supported me all the way. They knew I was gay too, before I joined.

My mom and dad wanted me to do better with my schooling. The ability to go to school was an incentive.

WL - Did you go to school?

Tom - Yes, but things aren't as good as they used to be. Sometimes you pay for the courses yourself and sometimes you get some help.

WL - So you didn't answer THE question honestly, but were you ever asked about being Gay after that?

Tom - I was under investigation after an ex boy friend turned me in, but then Clinton's policy came down and they had to stop asking questions.

They didn't have enough evidence. In fact after Clinton came out with "Don't Ask, Don't Tell," the witch hunts pretty much stopped.

WL - So has Don't Ask Don't Tell helped Gays and Lesbians in the military?

Tom - Things really haven't changed that much. At least in where I am now we are more free to be what we are. I was in the South for a while. It's very closed minded there. It's gradually getting there, but it still has the 1940's mentality.

WL - Some people say that "Don't Ask, Don't Tell has made things worse."

Tom - I don't see how people can say that. I think it prevented and stopped the witch hunts. I have friends, straight friends who got forced out for being Gay. Because someone didn't like them and said they were Gay.

From my experience, I would say Don't Ask Don't Tell stopped at least 50% of the witch hunts because now they can't ask.

WL - You were married for a while weren't you?

Tom - Yes, I married a Lesbian, who was in the military. Military people talk about sex a lot. Getting married was a way of avoiding all that talk.

A lot of straights get married too, because you get extra money, and you get to live off base. We didn't even know that at the time, we did it just to have our pri-

vacy.

When I got married, my parents were hopeful that I would still have children, but I said "You aren't understanding what is going on here."

I wanted to have kids, I really did. I have always wanted to have a little girl, but she (my wife) wasn't really interested.

Plus being positive, I didn't want to risk it. They say there is a 50-50 chance that the baby would be positive too.

WL - How long did you stay married?

Tom - We still are married. She lives in another state with her lover. She isn't in the military anymore.

WL - Have you met a lot of other gays in the military?

Tom - I have met Gays from all branches of the service, the Navy the Air Force, Army, Marines, and Coast Guard. I even knew Justin Elize, he was the first Marine to come out.

A lot of people who knew him from various branches of the military, including myself felt he did it for the publicity. He talked about going into politics in D.C. He wanted to be a leader in the movement.

My opinion on it was that what I do behind my closed doors is my business no one else's.

A lot of people think we should be able to do and say what we want, but I think why should we shove our lifestyle down other people's throats?

WL - Do you think that service people coming out is "shoving our lifestyle down someone else's throat?"

Tom - You have to understand that you take showers with people of the same sex, if they know you are Gay they will feel really uncomfortable. But what they don't know won't hurt them.

WL - Is the military that homophobic?

Tom - No In a group everyone tries to be macho and down it, but privately, I have talked to a lot of straights in my branch of the service and they say, as long as no one bothers them, they don't really care.

WL - So you have come out to some straights in the military?

Tom - I've told a few. You have to find out who you can trust and who you can't trust. I worked with a cool straight guy, and I felt comfortable telling him about my boy friends. There are others though that I would never tell.

I think it comes down to how we are brought up. You don't judge people on the color of the skin, you take people on an individual basis.

It's basically the older ones that have a problem. There's a few tolerant older ones. I know of one higher up who knows that some of those under him are Gay and it was cool with him.

He was very secure with his masculinity. But some of them aren't very secure and they feel threatened. They are afraid they might fall into the "trap and be considered Gay."

WL - Do those you serve with know about your HIV status?

Tom - A majority of them know I am HIV positive. I tell them because a lot of times I go on new meds and I have to go to a hospital to pick them up.

But the attitude of the military is that it's nobody's business. It's up to the individual to say something.

WL - Do you feel you are getting good medical care?

Tom - I am getting outstanding medical treatment. I get all the latest drugs and stuff. We are almost like a guinea pig. The military knows more than the general populace because they require testing.

The civilian population doesn't get tested. I think everyone should be required to be tested.

I am taking three drugs right now. They waited until my viral count was up before giving me AZT and now I am on protease inhibitors.

When you start taking the protease inhibitors you have take them constantly.

They don't want to rush on it. They go for the one that seems to work the best.

Another thing is if you're married and are positive. They take care of your whole family. Psychologically, support groups anything they can do.

WL - Do you know of others who are HIV positive?

Tom - There's a lot in the military. I would say 5 to 10% are positive.

WL - The military says its only around 1%.

Tom - They are the military and they aren't going to tell the public the true percentage. Maybe it isn't as high as I think it is, maybe I just think that because I know so many others, but I don't think it's only 1%.

WL - You said you have a boy friend

you are practicing safe sex right?

Tom - Yes. I use condoms except for oral sex. A condom kind of makes it senseless to have oral sex.

WL - How do you meet other Gays in the military?

Tom - In bars, and you know how we all have that sixth sense.

I remember meeting my first military boy friend. I picked up on it. He would listen to Annie Lennox in the laundry room. We would just talk and talk and the next thing we know we are hanging out together. He was my first boyfriend in the military.

I have met a lot of the Gay people in the military from all branches of the service. I meet them in a Gay bar or at a private party.

Some of them are very cliquish. They don't go to the bars because they don't trust civilians they only hang out with other military people and they meet at private parties.

I don't trust military people. I don't want them coming to see me at my work and having people ask questions about who they are and why they are around.

WL - It sounds like there is a kind of Gay sub culture in the military.

Tom - Yes there is. It's kind of like of our own little world.

Another thing is that a lot of service people say they are straight but aren't. There's that old saying the only difference between a straight one and a Gay one is a six pack.

WL - So how is that so many are successful in avoiding discharge?

Tom - Well you know those in the military have this macho image of themselves. I hate to say it but those of us that look and act normal not limp wristed, fit in easily.

If you are acting feminine things get pointed to you more. But if you aren't no one suspects anything.

Gays in the military love the military and they love their job, but they don't want to be categorized in that group as a so called (and I hate the word) faggot.

Right now my boy friend serves with seven other Gays. He's very conservative in appearance and mannerisms so are they all.

WL - Have you been in any combat situations?

Tom - I didn't go to the Gulf War, because I am positive. You can't be deployed to other countries, they don't want you. Things are changing now as we are able to live longer.

I was surprised to find out that as an HIV positive person I could be sent to Italy but I have a foreign friend who is positive who couldn't come here.

WL - How does make you feel defending a country that wouldn't allow you do so if they knew you were Gay?

Tom - I am kind of disappointed in my country. When I was younger, I didn't want to be here. I wanted to go to Europe where they are more accepting.

Especially Milwaukee, they are very prejudiced there.

I think that other minorities should be supportive. Like the Black community should be more supportive. All of the minorities should be supporting each other it's the same fight.

I was disappointed that on the Gays in the military issue, I know Blacks who said "This isn't a Black issue."

I disagree with them and I tell them "This is a Black issue, this is what you went through. The KKK targets us both."

WL - Your family seems very supportive. Are there other Gays in your family?

Tom - My Grandfather was Gay and my brother is too. My grandfather used to go

to the Ball Game. When I was 17 or 18 years old and I saw him and his lover down on Second Street.

He and his lover lived together sleeping in one room with my Grandma in the other room. We are half Canadian, I blame it on the French.

When my brother told me he was Gay he was worried that I would be hurt.

WL - Were you?

Tom - Yes. I didn't want him to go through the pain that I went through, like people not accepting you and making fun of you.

WL - Did that happen to you?

Tom - Oh yeah, especially in High School. I had a lot of friends who were girls. They were always asking me for advice on how to deal with their boyfriends. They would call me the Dear Abby of my High School and some guys resented that.

I didn't tell anyone I was Gay in high school, but a lot of people suspected. Probably because when I was younger I was a little bit more flamboyant.

Then when I got in the military, I started hanging out with Lesbians and they showed me how to be butch.

WL - Do you intend to retire from the military?

Tom - I hope to but if I don't get promoted, I will be forced out. My target date is coming up in the next year.

WL - Do you think you will get promoted?

Tom - No I asked some superiors to look at my record and they say it's good, but its not competitive. There are others out there that are better have better records.

WL - What will you do then?

Tom - I will go into the medical field, I am certified for Medical Assistance and I would like to go into nursing.

WL - What happens to your HIV treatment then?

Tom - I will get treated through the VA Hospital then.

WL - Would you be sad to leave?

Tom - No. It's time to move on. I get tired of some of the stupid shit. Most military people are pretty much Republicans. I can't stomach that point of view it's so narrow.

I would love to stay in, because we don't have great benefits but we have decent benefits when you get out. The few more years I have to be in to get a pension won't kill me but I want to move on too.

★★★ 1/2

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14 Roman numeral 40	48 short for Matthew	2 put out of one's memory	16 without
15 Spielberg's new dinosaurs movie, 2 words	49 Constitution State, abbr.	3 points abbr.	18 4th & 3rd vowels
17 correspondingly			
19 tiny one-celled animals			
21 Cornhusker State, abbr.			
22 to the inside of			
24 verb suffix, cause to be			
25 Muslim holy war			
27 common Internet acronym for 'frequently asked questions'	50 Ball (was married to Desi)	4 prescription for medicine	20 HOW upside down
29 Atlanta gay bar bombed Feb. 97	52 Broadway musical just won 5 1997 Tonys	5 untidy woman	23 used to make negative (Will you go home with me? ...!)
32 abbr. for Dutch and duke	54 terrace abbr.	6 beerlike beverage	25 Jewish Defense League
33 baroque	55 Russian revolutionary Trotsky; short for Leonid	7 Kennedy, JFK's A.G.	26 how Ricky Ricardo says 'don't'
35 that one	56 one in a subordinate position	8 streets abbr.	28 sounds like
36 deciliter abbr.		9 academy award-winning subject of brother Buddy Foster's book	

For answers Please See Page 10

The Closet at the End of the Rainbow: Coming Out Transsexual

Commentary by Jacquelyn Richter

A shared experience of all LesBiGatr's is coming out. The most confident of the youngest generation must still confront this issue. Even though all LesBiGatr's share many of the same experiences and anxieties during this period of self-growth, there are some aspects of coming out Transsexual that are unique and often color how a Transsexual comes to view the world.

The intertwining of the coming out process with the process of transition accounts for a major portion of the unique Transsexual experience. Once a person comes to oneself as Transsexual, the next step is initiating the real life test. That is a period of one to two years when one assumes the role of a new gender to test ones resolve and experience the reality of ones dreams.

A recent survey I saw in the *Advocate* stated that over 75% of Gays, Lesbians and Bi's are closeted at work. I surmise that these people are equally closeted outside of work. For a Transsexual in transition, if she is able to keep her job, she/he immediately comes out to every one of her/his co-workers.

Outside of work, the story is the same. The Transsexual comes out immediately to family, friends, acquaintances and even total strangers just by living her/his life. When energy should be directed at being

comfortable with her/himself, she spends an inordinate amount of time developing coping strategies to deal with prejudice and discrimination.

At times, it seems you're wearing one of those sandwich board signs announcing "I'm Transsexual" or someone has stuck a "Kick Me" sign to your back. Complete strangers discern you're Transsexual and feel they have a right to let you know how they feel about your life and invite people they are with to stare and react.

You're in a restaurant enjoying a spaghetti dinner. Suddenly the whole kitchen staff is parading past your table. Even people you think of as your friends, remind you of their unacceptance of your life.

Normal conversations become sources of aggravation as people shorten your name from (in my case) Jacquelyn to Jack or repeatedly use "he" instead of "she." It's not always the big losses, but the small daily reminders that wear down a Transsexual's resolve and coping abilities.

While the Transsexual is coping with all these external challenges, the Transsexual begins hormonal therapy. For a Transsexual woman in transition, hormonal transition means chemical or physical castration, complete removal of testosterone from the body and high doses of feminizing drugs. The doses are often far above those for a genetic woman.

My own blood stream estrogen cycled from 300 to 1500 every two weeks, while a genetic woman's hormonal level fluctuates from 50-200 over a month cycle. Transsexual women report feelings of greater comfort with themselves, a less stressed personality, euphoria, periods of depression, periods of crying for no reason, and a great loss of libido.

Transsexual men take large doses of injectable testosterone and report senses of power, confidence, sexual energy and increased irritability and anger.

So a Transsexual's emotional landscape is stressed both externally and internally.

Many Transsexuals question their sexuality during transition. If I'm a female, shouldn't I date men? Many accept their Bisexuality. As the big barrier to self drops what gender you are, you find yourself open to accepting so many other things about yourself. Suddenly affectational attraction is no longer set, but fluid.

Hormones, surgeries, low self-esteem

and life challenges strip you of sexual desire and opportunity. This imposed celibacy increases many Transsexuals' sense of isolation and depression.

Still others must deal with changing roles and expectations within their long term relationships or a partner who only wishes that things will stay as they have always been. For 20 years you're in a heterosexual marriage. Suddenly, because of a gender change, you're in a homosexual relationship.

I often think of the transition process as the yellow brick road. A prescribed path of counseling, hormonal therapy and surgeries; surgeries to the genitals, breasts, face and vocal folds and hundreds of hours of painful electrolysis. All this with one goal in mind: to fully pass as the gender transition.

The travelers on the yellow brick road sought a brain, heart and courage. The transitioning Transsexual finds new ways to think of themselves, discover new sensitivities to the soul and develops courage to deal with a hostile world.

Passing can also be thought of as that elusive pot of gold at the end of the rainbow. Once all the transitioning and surgeries are complete, legal documents are in place and one seldom gets questioned about one's gender, many Transsexuals find new employment and a new life in a different city. The new employers and new friends are not told of the past life. The Transsexual re-enters the closet.

The closet is the end of the rainbow.

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Tickets are \$15 in advance and \$18 at boarding. Send a check by August 15 to: GAMMA Iroquois Tickets, P.O. Box 1900, Milwaukee, WI 53201. For more information, call Rich at, (414) 546-4526. Visit GAMMA's homepage at www.exeipc.com/~milric/gamma.



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Bisexuals Discuss Safer Sex

Milwaukee—Bi Definition, Milwaukee's Bisexual social, support and activist organization, will be discussing issues of sexual safety pertaining to Bisexuality among other topics, on Saturday, August 2, at the BestD Clinic starting at 7:00 p.m.

The cost of the event is \$3 per person or a one-year membership, which includes a quarterly newsletter, is just \$10.

Bi Definition strives to have as diverse a membership as possible, so a special invitation goes out to all various disfranchised persons.

For further information, call Steve at (414) 483-5046, write P.O. Box 07541, Milwaukee, WI 53207, or contact them by email at: bidef@netwurx.net

KELLY

Continued from Page 1

can happen if someone has HIV.

WL- How did CAIR get to be one of only three such centers in the country?

JK - I was brought here in 1990. The Medical College wanted to establish a major AIDS research program and they brought me here to put funding together.

Actually I began it where I used to be, at the University of Mississippi Medical Center in the mid '80's. I wanted to come back to the Midwest. I brought everybody who worked with me here from Mississippi. Things sort of developed from that point.

Part of why we became a center was that we had a reputation for doing active action oriented research in HIV prevention. I'd like to think more than anybody else in the country.

I think the other reason is that we have about 50 people who work with CAIR who are just incredibly gifted. They come up with just amazing projects. They are very, very dedicated, talented impassioned people. They do things that nobody can do.

WL- So CAIR started in Mississippi?

JK- Well I started in Mississippi and now we are doing projects down there. I'm from Cleveland, but I got sidetracked to Mississippi for fifteen very long years.

WL- You must have to travel a lot.

JK- Almost every week. We have probably about 20 different projects that are supported by the National Institute of Health and the Center for Disease Control primarily. With each of those projects comes the need to keep plugging people in Washington and Atlanta into what we are doing.

The travel comes with the terrain.

WL- What exciting projects are you working on right now. I am sure with 20 projects they are all exciting, but what is particularly exciting about them right now as very promising?

JK - There are two or three that look exceptionally promising right now.

One of them began in Denver. This project has gone on for a number of years. It's purpose is to develop ways to mobilize the community to stop AIDS. This work actually started before I came here.

We are doing work in 19 cities around the country, generally smaller cities, and generally with bars, Gay bars.

The work identifies people who are what we call, 'opinion leaders.' These are just popular people in bars. Bartenders actually watch the crowd and identify them for us.

We then work with these popular people. The popular people, by the way, might be hustlers, they might be drag queens, college students whatever they are.

We talk to people and we tell them, "You are one of the most well liked popular people and you can play a key role in stopping AIDS. Just by talking to your friends." And everybody wants to help.

The project mobilizes these key popular people. There are group meetings to talk to these key people about how to talk about AIDS to their own friends.

There are good ways and bad ways to talk about AIDS. The bad ways are the ones that are scary and that preach.

The good ways are just talking to your friends and saying "I'm taking this seri-

ously, this is what I am doing now."

The idea is that key people can reset and reshape the norms. In those cities where we do this, when we mobilize key people and they take it on as their mission to talk to their friends, or even just people passing through, what happens is that there is



JEFFREY A. KELLY, Ph.D.

generally a 30% reduction in risk behavior within that entire community.

It's not peer pressure. We look it as a model. It's saying "It's okay to be safe, it's what I do."

We have received a grant from the Centers for Disease Control to focus this kind of model specifically on young men of color. We are setting the stage for this project to happen both in Milwaukee and in Detroit in the next year or so.

We are working with a lot of organizations, like the Milwaukee AIDS project here, the Midwest AIDS Prevention Project in Detroit.

WL- What are some of the other projects that you find really exciting?

JK - Another one is a project that is concluding in Milwaukee. Gay men have undergone enormous changes in behavior in response to AIDS. The consistency with which change has to be maintained is very daunting.

There aren't too many areas where there is less room for error in staying safe. So we developed and are now in the final evaluation stages of a project focused not on making change, but on sustaining it.

Some people call it "relapse prevention," but I don't really like that term, it's more like how to stay safe for six months, a year, five years hopefully a life time. It's about helping people to incorporate that into their life so they are able to stay safe.

That project is exciting. And then the third project is enormously important. We are delighted that we are able to do this work. It focuses on combination therapies.

Protease inhibitors, combination therapies as you know have really shown promise in clinical trials. Combination therapies don't work for everyone, but if they do work, they work maybe three quarters, two thirds of the time.

They can drop your viral load, preventing death, preventing illness for a number of years. They are an important advance.

These are really, really hard medications for people to take. People on these therapies have to take 20 to 30 pills a day. They have to be taken at very precise times.

It's not just like take a couple in the morning. Some have to be taken on a full stomach, some on an empty stomach, some with a high fat food, some with no food, some around the clock. There are very complicated regimens.

From what we know about where the epidemic is heading, maybe with a motivated professional volunteer from an NIH trial, can adhere to these regimens, but what about the real world?

Many people are young, they're disenfranchised, they're poor. Do they have refrigerators to keep some of the medications in? What about the homeless?

You see there's this gap. We have these very promising medications that we also know some people can't get.

Here's the clincher. If you veer from the regimen even slightly. If you skip a day or say a few days, the virus will build up its resistance to it and it will never again work.

Also if you stop the regimen, there's the possibility that you could develop a drug resistance strain of HIV, a strain resistant to the therapy that you could then transfer to somebody else.

So the issue of how to help people adhere to these regimens is really important. We are just now beginning work in this area and that's very exciting to me.

Another project that we are working on

is helping AIDS groups stay in touch with the latest research and methodologies for treatment and prevention.

We and other HIV research centers have responsive studies and journals that we carry. There are probably about 120 articles a year in various journals about what's happening in terms of prevention about what is working and what isn't working.

That's typically how academics work. You publish things in the medical world in medical journals. The problem with that system is that AIDS organizations all over the country, very often don't get the journals.

They can't afford them. These things can cost \$500 a year apiece to subscribe to. So very often when things come out in the field, the information doesn't make it to the front lines, AIDS Organizations, Public Health Organizations, even Health Departments.

And even if you read the article, generally the article is very short and doesn't tell you how to do what was done anyhow.

We were aware of the problem, so we wrote a grant to the National Institute of Mental Health and they funded us.

This has been going on for a year. It's a four year project. We are working in partnership with 80 AIDS organizations all over the country.

We send our team from CAIR to these organizations and they spend days, a number of days working with these organizations.

We are sharing what we find in our research and also hearing us what they are finding in the streets. We are trying to merge the science of AIDS prevention from the research arena with what the science of HIV issues that community organizations and outreach workers see every day. We are trying to bring them both together.

That's a real neat project, because it puts us in touch with what community organizations are seeing every day.

They tell us what they believe we need to be researching. We have to know what's really going on out there, what the real needs are.

This is where when I talked about the combination therapies, we heard that from organizations right away.

WL- You've been in Milwaukee how long?

JK- I've been in Milwaukee seven years.

WL- I am sure you had a lot of projects that have done well and a lot of disappointments too. What are you most proud of?

JK - You know what I am really proud of, when we submitted the application for "Staying Safe in the Long Run. What I am really proud of, is that when that application went to the National Institutes of Health, on the back of it were endorsements from every Gay bar in Milwaukee. And also *The Wisconsin Light*.

It makes me very proud that we have such huge support for this work. That's been very gratifying.

I am proud of the people who I work with.

WL- Was CAIR at all involved with the combination therapies?

JK - Yes, in the projects "Combination's Therapies and Adherence" we work very closely with Dr. Barry Burnstein who directs the HIV clinic at Froedert Hospital.

WL- Obviously the Medical College is a national player in the fight against AIDS. How did that happen? There are lots of Medical Colleges and Universities around. What was it that convinced them single out the Medical College of Wisconsin?

JK - I think it was two things. One was the Medical College's administration. They said "We want to be involved in it. We want to be involved in AIDS care and prevention."

Someone named Harry Prosen came here from Canada. He's a Canadian Psychiatrist. He came from a very different model of health care. The kind of health care where it's viewed as a right not a privilege. Harry's the person who recruited me and said "We want to build an AIDS research center here."

Why Milwaukee? More of the country is like Milwaukee then San Francisco and New York. There are issues related to prevention and treatment.

Things have to work in places like Milwaukee to work in most of the country.

WL- Where do you see AIDS research going right now?

JK - In prevention there have been a number of big successes. In a war you have to be able to declare some victories. I think we have had them.

The rate of new infections are much lower than they were 10 years ago. Older middle class Gay men have made a lot of behavior changes.

Yet we also know that 3% of young men

who have sex with men are contracting HIV every year., 18 to 25 year olds. In 10 years 30% of that group will be infected.

Clearly we haven't done well enough working with young men, particularly men of color.

We also know that people getting HIV are much younger and they tend to be disenfranchised. We have to focus on prevention efforts where the epidemic is at, where it's going right now. I think that's one issue.

They are a small percentage of people with AIDS, but they are a high percentage of people contracting HIV right now.

In terms of medical issues, treatment is issues, we are going to see HIV around for a long while.

I think we are going to see some real dramatic advances that have happened in the last year like the combination therapies as well. I think those are going to continue. But we have to be sure that people get the benefits from them.

And also help not let down their guard. Every time I hear people say "Well it's not really a cure, but it's close." I get worried.

I start wondering whether or not people might think of AIDS as not as serious as it used to be. In fact it's enormously serious.

Everything that has happened before this didn't change the picture. We had AZT and people still died. How long will the effects from the protease inhibitors last? No one knows.

That's why they have new ones in the pipe line and that's also why people need to be aware.

WL - You mentioned young men. Isn't part of the problem there the lack of graphic same sex information.

JK - I think it's more complicated than that. One way it's complicated is that young people don't have contact with friends their own age die of AIDS.

Someone contracts AIDS at age 17. They don't have any other 17 year olds with AIDS their own age. Everybody with AIDS is 30 years old because that's the length of time it takes. AIDS may not show any signs for 10 years.

I think we've done a worse job of reaching people who are younger, people of color, than 45 year old white guys who are pretty easy to get to in a lot of ways.

We have trouble reaching people who are not Gay identified, but who have sex with men, because they tend not to be in the places where the prevention messages most often are.

WL- So you are saying it's a problem of reaching the right people.

JK - Yes. We are beginning part of project where we going to spend time with young men, asking the same type of questions you just asked me "What's going on? What are the issues in your life."

We have a study that's going to be published in about a month. It looks at whose doing risky things and who isn't.

It didn't look at things like are you aware of AIDS? Do you carry a condom? What it looked at is "What's your view of life?"

What we found in this project is that people who are risky in their behavior is that their view of life is fatalistic. They say the future doesn't look good. This is especially true of young people.

When the future doesn't look good to you or you are high on life problems in the present. It's really hard to make change.

You have to have a really good reason why. If the future doesn't look good to you, it's hard to muster all the motivation needed to make changes in your behavior.

It takes us right to issue of pride and self esteem, and self affirmation. I have, I will get, I deserve quality relationships.

I think that we haven't done a very good job of connecting those messages to AIDS very well.

We have the condoms and the dildos, but we don't really link it to protecting yourself, because you are good person.

WL- What didn't we ask you about AIDS and CAIR, and what would you have said if we did? You are involved with the Congressional Funding battles aren't you?

JK - There are tricky issues coming up. Some of them are involved with combination therapies some of which can cost \$15,000 to \$20,000 a year.

And what about people who are indigent and who in the past may have qualified because they are very ill? Now they are not very ill because of these drugs which may now prevent them from being qualified for Medicaid.

We are sure that Dr. Jeff Kelly and his very capable staff are already hard at work on these problems and other issues expected to arise in the future. Jeff Kelly, his staff, the CAIR project and the Medical College of Wisconsin are more reasons why we can say with pride that we are from Wisconsin.

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Speaking From the Right

Democrats' Secret Money Laundering Scheme

Commentary by Jim McFarland

By now everyone has heard about the concerted effort by the Democratic National Committee to raise funds from contributors who turned out to be citizens of foreign countries. While much has been made of this scandal, the "money laundering" scheme engaged in by the Democrats here in Wisconsin is of much greater concern, although little has been said of it in the press.

It started about a year ago when Republicans were dealt a stunning blow by the defeat of State Senator George Petak in a recall election fueled by the Brewers' stadium controversy.

We were confident that Petak would pull it out, but we could not foresee that Democrat front groups would pour some \$82,000 in independent expenditures into the race, most of it within the last week of the campaign.

This money went toward negative attack ads on television and negative "push polling" in which callers pretending to be pollsters ask each voter whether s/he would vote for a certain candidate if s/he knew that the candidate supported this or that (usually something untrue or distorted). With such an incredible amount of negative attacks coming in at such a late date, there was not enough money or time for Petak to respond, and this money turned the tide.

Independent expenditures are supposed to be expenditures made for or against a particular candidate without the knowledge of the candidate benefitting from the expenditures.

Until the last election, this scheme was pretty much the private domain of Democrat leaning organizations like WEAC (the teachers' union) and other labor unions. In 1994, for instance, WEAC singlehandedly knocked Polly Beal, a Gay supportive Republican, out of her north shore Assembly seat with an insidiously distorted pamphlet distributed on the weekend before the election claiming that she supported "putting guns back into the hands of the juveniles who had stolen them" (she actually had supported a bill which would ensure that the legal owners of such stolen firearms had their property returned—WEAC's front group acknowledged this in the fine print but said this would allow the juveniles to steal the weapons again).

Last year, for the first time, Wisconsin businesses struck back by launching their own issues campaign attacking a number of Democrats in the legislature.

But they were greatly outspent by the Democrat front groups because of the entrance of Wisconsin 2000, which has been described as a Democratic superPAC.

This political action committee accounted for almost half of the \$967,679 in independent expenditures in the 1996 election. What is insidious about this superPAC is that over half of its money came from sources outside of the state: namely, the Democratic Legislative Campaign Committee (DLCC), an unregulated national political action committee.

This was done in order to exploit a loophole in Wisconsin campaign finance law so that there was no obligation to report the contributors of more than two-thirds of the money which came from the DLCC, since only Wisconsin contributors to a Wisconsin PAC must be reported. Because the DLCC does not spend money in federal elections, it is not required to register with the Federal Elections Commission, which means that it is not re-

quired to report the names of its contributors to any agency.

Not surprisingly, the DLCC has refused to release a list of its contributors.

The consequences of this are alarming for two reasons: first, it destroys the best aspect of Wisconsin's campaign finance laws, full disclosure, by allowing contributors to remain hidden, and second, it allows the Democrats to launder money raised outside of the state and turn around and spend it within the state.

Since there is no way of knowing where the money is coming from, and since there is no agency regulating the kind of contributions the DLCC takes in, it is even possible that the DLCC is accepting money directly from corporations (perhaps even foreign corporations), which cannot contribute to campaigns in this state, and funneling that money into our elections.

In addition, it is allowing unions to escape restrictions on contributions to particular candidates by contributing to DLCC, which in turn contributes to Wisconsin 2000, and which can then contribute to particular candidates who have already received the maximum from the union.

While the Democrats constantly claim that they are only doing what the Republicans do and do better, it is increasingly clear that their claim is not true. The Republicans had no such superPAC during the last election.

Unfortunately, however, the damage Wisconsin 2000 has done to the goal of full disclosure in campaign reform law is likely to be compounded if nothing is done about it.

As GOP State Rep. Michael Huebsch said in the *LaCrosse Tribune*, "The problem that you have with Wisconsin 2000 is that if they are allowed to exist, the Republicans will have no choice but to do it and do it better."

And so Wisconsin will have more corporate contributions flowing in from the rest of the country to influence elections without any disclosure. When the Democrats cry out for campaign finance reform, one has to wonder how anyone can take the hypocrites seriously.

Letters

Continued From Page 4

who walk in. And, it is those people who are there who will make others feel welcome—or, sadly, make them feel uncomfortable.

As to the bars providing "a beauty" to go home with, it can't happen. It's against the law. If a bar owner did that, they'd be closed up real fast and find themselves in the clink.

Just as a bar is fun largely because you and your friends make it so, LGBT organizations like The United work because you participate. If you believe that the awards process needs changing, then get involved. Help to make it change.

As to the lack of a real LGBT community, sadly you're right, but Madison is far from being alone in that. The same thing is true in Pittsburgh, Atlanta, Spokane, Bangor and South Bend. In the face of tremendous and egregious dangers, we have got to come together, but how that is going to happen, I'm not sure. There are a lot of people working on it, that's one good thing.

As to Madison being cold, I haven't found it so. It is, in my experience, a warm, caring and accepting place, as much as any other, and more than most. I speak from experience.

I was born and raised in the eastern U.S. and have traveled the world—Paris, Rome, Moscow, Bangkok, etc. Wisconsin is a great place to live.

Politically Speaking

The Latest Out Rages From Washington and Elsewhere Around the Country

By Bill Meunier

Perhaps it's the summer heat, perhaps not, but something in the air has provoked a number of outrages in the last few weeks. Here's just a few on my list.

Kenneth Starr

Isn't it time some one pulled the plug on this bozo, our in and out, up and down "Special Independent" Whitewater prosecutor.

I mean let's get real here. This man has had three years to dig up some real dirt and all he has managed to do is dig up headlines for himself and his investigators (if you could call them investigators).

He has spent millions (probably about \$1.00 for every word he gets printed in the *New York Times* and has yet to produce even a major indictment let alone a conviction.

What's more his investigators now seem to want to delve into the sex lives of Clinton and other federal officials. Perhaps he thought they were all rolling in the dirt together at the Whitewater site.

Two Arkansas State troopers complained that Starr's minions questioned them at length about Clinton's alleged dalliances while he was the Governor of their state. Then some other G-men (right out of the Mc Carthy era) questioned Bob Hattoy about whether or not he had helped Gays and Lesbians get government jobs.

Come on now Mr. Starr, what are you trying to do here? Even IF Clinton was guilty of adultery what does that have to do with Whitewater? And last time I checked, the Whitewater project was intended to build houses not Gay bars.

I suspect that Starr when he finally releases his "task force" to do some productive jobs will want to write a tell all book about Washington sex lives.

Ken, the bottom line is that when you get government money and have nothing productive to show for it, it's called either being in Congress or welfare. You ain't in Congress honey so get off it and get over it.

The Republicans on the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee.

This "august" group is supposed to be investigating alleged campaign finance law abuse.

To hear them tell it, only the Democrats are guilty of any abuses. Why else would they prohibit any investigation into Republican abuses. (Like GOP National Chair Haley Barbour's laundering of Chinese money as reported by *Time Magazine*).

What I found most outrageous was the opening statement made by Chairman Fred Thompson's (R-Tenn) that there was no doubt the Chinese government attempted to influence our Presidential election by funneling money to the President's campaign.

Then less than a week later, (when he didn't have a national live audience) Thompson admitted that there is no evidence to support such a charge and what really happened will "probably never be known."

It turns out that \$2 million the Chinese budgeted to influence policy here was for legal activities such as hiring lobbyists, bringing Senators and Congressmen to China and other stuff like that.

There is absolutely NO evidence that any of this money went to the 1996 Presidential campaigns of Clinton or Dole.

Thompson is following the Republican script for the last six years. Don't let the absence of facts and evidence get in the

way of political gain. Go ahead and whack away. Make more wild, unfounded charges. If you're lucky one of them might even turn out to be true.

Perhaps, Fred and Kenneth Starr could get together. They could have a hearing on how Santa's elves were trying to influence the elections by setting up Clinton with the Tooth Fairy. Think of the headlines Fred, "Senator charges that Clinton had sex with a Fairy."

If you really believe these Republican Senators are out for the public interest as opposed to partisan gain then you probably also believe that the moon is made of green cheese and that the aforementioned tooth fairy lives between Santa Claus and the Easter Bunny.

Arkansas State Troopers

You may recall the two State Troopers who said that among their other duties was the procurement of women to have sex with then Governor Bill Clinton.

First off the two of them were involved in some sort of insurance fraud deal, so their credibility should have been suspect right then and there. That didn't stop millions from believing them.

Now one of them admits that they were paid to lie about Clinton's private life. He says, a known enemy of the President (the same man who is bankrolling Paula Jones) told the two that if they lied he would provide them with an out of state job paying at least \$100,000 a year for seven years.

What great guys to admit that they ruined the President's reputation to enrich themselves. Of course their admission of guilt didn't get nearly the same play in the media that their original story got.

Dennis Pape

Closer to home is a local bozo by the name of Dennis Pape. Pape is the head of the something called The Wisconsin Michigan Chapter of the Christian Family Association.

The sole purpose of this group is not to preach Christian values. Nor is it to minister to the poor. Nope. They have a much higher purpose in mind. They want to have the Ten Commandments hanging in every County Court House in Wisconsin.

When asked about whether or not, such a display might be offensive to those who aren't Christian, Pape said he didn't care. "The founding fathers set up a Christian nation, not a Buddhist nation."

Someone ought to acquaint Pape with the records of the Constitutional convention (assuming he knows how to read anything other than the aforementioned commandments) Fact is that some of those Founding Fathers (including and perhaps most especially the author of the Declaration of Independence, Thomas Jefferson) were not and did not consider themselves to be Christian. Jefferson along with Ben Franklin, George Washington and James Madison for example were all Deists.

It was precisely because of this that they set up the doctrine of separation of church and state and yes freedom FROM religion not just freedom of religion.

Earth to Dennis Pape message one - History shows us that when one religion tries to force itself down the throats of non believers trouble results. Check out Northern Ireland, Lebanon, and the history of the Reformation.

Earth to Dennis Pape, message two - You only get fifteen minutes of fame, guy, your time is up. Get off the stage and go play with the other inmates in the asylum.

SPOTLIGHT

SPORTSCOLUMN

CCF Comes Close to Pulling Off Two Upsets In SSBL Action

By Bill Meunier

In nearly every Sports Column I have been telling you that the SSBL is so competitive this year that on any given day, any team could beat any other team.

More proof of that came on Saturday July 12 when the league's last place team, CCF, nearly upset two of the three teams tied for second place, the Ball Game, and Balistreri's.

It took a big last inning rally before the Ball Game was able to put the feisty River Westers to rest by a score of 26 to 16. CCF also played a close game against Balistreri's with a 5 to 4 score on the board most of the way. Big rallies in the last two innings allowed Balistreri's to pull away and escape with a 21 to 5 win.

In other games, Mama Roux's Mama's Family team easily picked up two wins, 22 to 5 over the Triangle and 19 to 2 over Manoeuvres.

Club 219 maintained its lead in the league with a 20 to 3 win over the Triangle and a 20 to 10 victory over In Between.

The M & M Club beat In Between 25 to 7. Balistreri's defeated the M & M Club by a score of 18 to 3.

The Ball Game defeated Manoeuvres 26 to 5.

The league is scheduled to play a position round on Saturday July 19. The games will be played at Sijan Field.

Scheduling for this round presented some problems because there were three

teams tied for second with records of 9 wins and 3 losses. Furthermore the three teams, Mama's Family, Balistreri's and The Ball Game all had 1 and 1 records in competition with each other.

Finally it was decided that Mama's Family would be considered as the second place team by virtue of its defeat of Club 219. A coin flip between the Ball Game Rangers and Balistreri's resulted in the Ball Game being awarded third place.

The schedule for July 19 is as follows:

- 11:00 In between vs CCF
- Noon In Between vs Triangle
- Balistreri's vs, M & M
- 1:00 Triangle vs CCF
- Club 219 vs Mama Roux
- 2:00 M & M vs Manoeuvres
- Club 219 vs Ball Game
- 3:00 Balistreri's vs Manoeuvres
- Mama Roux vs Ball Game

SSBL Standings (As of July 19, 1997)

1. Club 219	9	1
2. Mama Roux	9	3
3. The Ball Game	9	3
4. Balistreri's	9	3
5. M & M Club	6	6
6. Manoeuvres	5	7
7. Triangle	2	10
8. In Between	2	10
9. CCF/Riverwest	1	11

Conversations on movie music eventually always come around to the fabulous Warner Brothers films of the '30s and '40s, which is where it really all started. This isn't to say that MGM, RKO, and the others didn't have good composers under contract, just that Warner Brothers had the best.

Warner Brothers was a remarkable studio at that time. Everything was geared to a unified end, drama and emotion were beautifully acted and photographed, and music scores not only complemented, but enriched the pictures.

The stars—Davis, de Havilland, Lupino, Bergman, Flynn, Bogart, Rains, Lorre, Greenstreet, and many more—were a true repertory company. Bette Davis has said, "We were a team, and we worked hard."

The superb black and white photography, beautifully lit with dark contrasts, contributed to the Warner tradition. But no element of the unmistakable identity of a Warner Brothers film was stronger than the mood created by its composer. It is no secret how this was achieved: first, with the talents of Erich Korngold, Max steiner and Franz Waxman. Second, the know-how of the engineering crew—the truly symphonic sound, the rich, full bass and the perfect music balance. And third, a lot of money.

The scores were richly orchestrated in the late Romantic (largely Germanic) idiom of Richard Wagner, Richard Strauss and Gustav Mahler (one can also add Italian opera composer Puccini to that list).

Large symphony orchestras were used, and Korngold and his compatriots took the time to do it right. Black and white photography is more critical than color, and monaural optical recording (which is all they had), is far more critical than the wide-range magnetic sound of today. A viewing of the opening of an old Warner Brothers film, with its dark "WB" shield and its beautifully recorded fanfare, followed closely by the film's main title score, still produces goosebumps some 6 decades later.

The Classical Roots

To the talented, Classically trained composers already discussed, we can add several others to the discussion. Benjamin Please See Music Page 23

Get Treated Like a King (or Queen) at Ruthie's SpotLight Party Tuesday, July 22 at This Is It

By Dusty Sass

The excitement continues to mount as the time nears for Gay Wisconsin's favorite advice columnist, The Wisconsin Light's Ruthie, to make a rare public appearance at our SpotLight party on Tuesday July 22 at This Is It, 418, E. Wells Street, Milwaukee.

It is rumored that all of Milwaukee's downtown hotels are fresh out of elegant suites, nearly all of which were snatched up by Royalty from Europe, the Middle East and Asia. "When Clinton and (German Chancellor) Kohl came here we didn't see this much action" said one major hotel manager who requested anonymity.

Sources close to the Mayor say that he has ordered the Downtown area to be spruced up so Milwaukee can make the best impression possible for all those crowned heads. "Get that animal shit from the Circus parade swept up" he is reported to have demanded.

Meanwhile, the Health Commissioner is rumored to have run out to the East Side Pick and Save to pick up cans of Lysol to assist with the the clean up of Wisconsin Ave.

Above all of the hub bub and chaos there are two cooler heads, Ruthie and This Is It owner, Joe Brehm.

Ruthie of course is used to all this fuss, which seems to occur every time she de-

cides to go out. "What can I say?" she told The Wisconsin Light "Some people just seem to think I am some sort of attraction."

Wisconsin Light editor, Terry Boughner says "This Is It always treats everyone like a King or Queen, depending on who they are, anyway so they will have no problem with any of those who walk in, no problem with real crowns on their heads."

We have also learned that reason why the Chinese Leadership had such scowls on their faces when Prince Charles handed over Hong Kong was because the Prince told them that while he was going to Ruthie's party, they were not invited.

During the course of the evening there will be fine music from This Is It's famous juke box, great service from the staff, fine conversation and a chance to hob nob with Ruthie herself in person.

"I just love that place," says Ruthie. I mean how could you not? Great people, good drinks, reasonable prices, fun music and excellent service. What more could you ask for?"

Join with us and Ruthie and you too will be treated like Royalty at This Is It on Tuesday July 22. The party gets underway at 9:00.

Movie Music Part II Where It All Began

By John Jahn Warner Brothers

Part One of this series of articles on music for the movies discussed the output of several composers of the Golden Age. They had two things in common: they were all classically trained composers who, in addition to their Hollywood scores, also wrote "serious" symphonic music, and secondly, they all worked for Warner Brothers.

Statues of the Sacred Band Chapter 10

By Terry Boughner

Quite frankly, there isn't any Chapter 10, not for this issue, anyway. The reason is one that I think only a few people will understand.

The book was written and finished five years ago. I put it away and didn't look at it again. It was in the past. I moved on to other things.

When I decided to serialize it for the paper, I thought, "What could be easier?" All I'd have to do was cut it here and there. Right.

It has been well said that no writer can edit his own work. Believe me, that's true.

But more importantly, when you take out a work you haven't gone over in awhile and start through it, the unforgivable sin of second guessing rears its head.

New ideas flood in. "Well, maybe if I just change a little here, and a tad there," you think, what could hurt? A lot, that's what. You forget that a book, any book, is an organic whole. Touch one part and you touch it all.

But I went ahead. What could it hurt?

So, along comes Chapter 10 and I'm in a bind. To add misery upon misery, there comes writer's block. If you don't know what that is, you don't even want to know.

Yes, there will be a Chapter 10, and so on, but not this time.

A Wisconsin Light



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Curtain Calls

Amethyst's Production of "Taming of the Shrew" is a Pleasant Time Indeed

By J. R. Baker

Amethyst Productions performance of William Shakespeare's "Taming of the Shrew," is being put on at Milwaukee's Villa Terrace, a unique setting somewhat reminiscent of the Bard's Globe Theater. The play begins outdoors, in an open court with its surrounding first and second story balconies. There's a circular pool and an ancient-looking statue of Mercury. From there, the play moved to that part of the Villa overlooking Lake Michigan and concluded in the mansions of the Great Hall. This is a splendid and effective setting.

Amethyst has updated the play to the "Dolce Vita" era of Italy, the 1960's. Neapolitan songs serve as background music. The costumes are black and white and come complete with aviator sunglasses, cigarettes and all the rest that helps to establish the period. For the most part, it works quiet well.

The play, as most know, is a comedy, the tale of sharp-tongued, self-willed Kate who is wooed and won (finally) by Petruchio. This battle of the sexes, combined with the subplot of Kate's sister, Bianca and her three would-be suitors, provides an evening of fun, jest and wit, done under the able hand of director Maureen Kilmurry.

Fiery Kate is well played by Pamela Brown or, as Shakespeare would have it, "that part was aptly fitted and naturally performed."

As for Tom Schimmels' portrayal of Petruchio, would-be husband, I found that though he spoke the words well enough, it was always with a light tone and slight

smile on his face. I never felt that he had the emotional color or force of personality to match his Kate.

Several supporting roles deserve mention, among them: Mark Bucher who, as Baptista, Kate's and Bianca's father, gave a clear and well-modulated performance.

Bianca and her three suitors were well-taken with Terry Tuttle as Bianca, James Konicek as Hortensio, William Clifford as Gremio in a very strong performance, and Robert W.C. Kennedy as Lucentio, the successful suitor who ends up happily winning Bianca's hand, all thanks to his devious and clever servant, Tranio, who is delightfully played to the comedic hilt by David Flores.

As to the rest of the cast, aside from a few moments of overblown acting, it's obvious that they are full of zeal and happy dedication and work well together to bring this comedy to life.

One suggestion I would make is to keep the audience seated within one end of the garden area of the court yard instead of being scattered, with some seated mid way outside the garden with pillars that occasionally obstruct the view and the sound. The actors will then be able to project without temptation in the first scenes of exaggerating any speech or action.

This production of "Taming of the Shrew" is well worth seeing. It will continue to play Thursday-Saturday up to and including July 26. Curtain is at 7:00 p.m. The Villa Terrace is located at 2200 N. Terrace Avenue. For tickets and other information, call (414) 299-0435.

"Angels in America" Soars Onto the Milwaukee Stage this Fall

Angels in America concentrates on two couples—Prior, a Gay man who develops AIDS and Louis, his lover who deserts him as he's dying; and Joe and Harper, a Mormon, heterosexual couple dealing with Joe's homosexuality. In the middle of the two fictional couples, Kushner plops a bit of history with which Wisconsin audiences will identify.

Angels begins with a funeral at which a bearded rabbi speaks about voyages.

Some eight hours, two parts and eight acts later, it ends with an epilogue in which its indomitable central character, Prior, a man afflicted with AIDS, bids the audience peace.

Those book-end scenes of Tony Kushner's monumental theatrical achievement present the essence of *Angels*. It's about death, life, passages, blessings, movement, progress.

In between, *Millennium Approaches* and *Perestroika* are two parts of an extraordinary voyage that inspires awe for the size, ambition and, in the current national tour, the superb ensemble acting.

By some apparent divine intervention, *Angels in America* alights in Milwaukee in September.

Part 1: Millennium Approaches will be performed by the Milwaukee Rep in the Powerhouse Theater beginning on September 19 for a run through October 19.

Part Two: Perestroika will play at the Milwaukee Chamber Theatre's Cabot Theatre in the Broadway Center from October 18 to November 9.

In a city known for accepting serious minded theatre. This time, they were certainly get their fill.

For those who indulge in both the 31/2-hour Part 1 and the 41/2-hour Part 2, *Angels* is nothing short of a theatrical religious experience -- a New Age passion play with potent ideas and naked emotions.

Dubbed a "Gay fantasia" by its author, it is many things at once: A coming-out drama, a virulent Reagan-era political critique, a hallucinogenic romp, a document of right-wing denial, a character-rich study of a disease-stricken relationship, a history lesson, an expose of our AIDS-plagued age of anxiety.

Its strength -- part of the reason it earned the 1993 Pulitzer Prize for Drama and two Best Play Tony Awards -- is its ability to defy definition. You have never seen anything like it.

Even if you're at odds with Kushner's lefty politics, you must be impressed by the playfulness and audacity of his choice to plunk a real-life figure, lawyer Roy

Cohn, into a community of fictional characters in New York City in 1985.

Cohn, onetime aide to the disgraced, red-baiting U.S. Sen. Joseph McCarthy and heir to the Lionel Train fortune, is dying of AIDS and in denial about himself as a Gay man.

One of Kushner's most powerful scenes is between Cohn and his doctor who has just diagnosed him with AIDS. Cohn denies he has AIDS. He has liver cancer, he says (a claim he took to his death bed) because to have AIDS might imply he's Gay and being Gay would imply he's weak and powerless.

"Homosexuals are not men who sleep with other men," Cohn tells his doctor. "Homosexuals are men who in 15 years of trying cannot get a pissant anti-discrimination bill through city council. Homosexuals are men who know nobody and who nobody knows. Who have zero clout...Roy Cohn is not a homosexual. Roy Cohn is a heterosexual man, Henry, who fucks around with guys."

Cohn's "sins" come back to haunt him. The ghost of Ethel Rosenberg, executed after being convicted of espionage in an era Cohn helped create, stalks Cohn; Joe's mother, Hannah, comes east from Utah to confront her son and herself; we end up in Heaven.

All this, and an Angel crashes through Prior's bedroom ceiling at the cliff-hanger end of **Part 1**.

"Very Steven Spielberg," Prior dead-pans.

The angel identifies Prior as a prophet and reveals that God has left us because humanity has progressed too fast, too far.

Change, growth, progress lead toward chaos, she says. The Christian right might agree. Prior, reluctant prophet, doesn't.

Angels has been described as a wonder of lean, physical theater. It requires a dexterous cast, doubling and tripling in gender-bending roles, to make the wondrous clutter of Kushner's imagination immediately clear.

Angels in America is sure to test the assumptions of both Gays and non-Gays and provoke questions about what we're up to as a society, and where we're going.

It is a play about us--human beings--trying in our own way to do the best we can to work through what is an extraordinary time," he says. "In that sense, it's a work that had to be seen, it had to be heard, and we are the absolutely right place and people to do it.

Angels in America soars.

"Angels In America" Playwright Tony Kushner Speaks His Mind About Gays

By Andrea Bernstein

In the early '90s, *Angels in America* transformed Tony Kushner from a young writer working in obscurity into the most highly acclaimed playwright of his generation.

Since then, Kushner has also built a reputation as one of the most outspoken literary figures in America -- a man who will talk just as easily about Roseanne or *Grinch* as O'Neill or Ibsen.

In an age when the American theater has grown increasingly divorced from public life, Kushner, like a latter-day Arthur Miller, stubbornly insists on the playwright's role as political provocateur.

Kushner, a Gay Jewish socialist who was raised in Louisiana, won a Pulitzer Prize and two Tony Awards for his two-part, seven-hour Broadway production of *Angels in America: A Gay Fantasia on National Themes*. Other plays, *A Bright Room Called Day* (1985) and *Slavs!* (1994), are also concerned with the moral responsibilities of people in politically repressive times.

Such concerns may be especially relevant in America today, where, as he observes: "What used to be called liberal is now called radical, what used to be called radical is now called insane, what used to be called reactionary is now called moderate, and what used to be called insane is now called solid conservative thinking."

Andrea Bernstein: *Angels in America* opened on Broadway just months after the first Clinton inauguration. It ends with a very hopeful speech about healing. Do you still feel that hope?

Tony Kushner: You have to have hope. It's irresponsible to give false hope, which I think a lot of playwrights are guilty of. But I also think it's irresponsible to simply be a nihilist, which quite a lot of playwrights, especially playwrights younger than me, have become guilty of. I don't believe you would bother to write a play if you really had no hope.

That passage was one of the very first things I ever wrote when I was working on *Angels*. I read it to the woman who I was originally writing the part of the angel for, who died of breast cancer before the play was finished. In one of my last conversations with her, she told me that she thought about that image a lot and that she hoped I would include it in the play. I

Set Sail in Madison for a Musical Summer with "Dames at Sea"

Milwaukee--The New York Times called *Dames at Sea*, "a real winner, a little gem of a musical."

Reminiscent of the 1930s musical extravaganzas, this musical comedy with its delightful melodies, toe tapping rhythms, and a story of love and Broadway dreams, takes us back to a time when song-and-dance people gave it their all, talent was discovered overnight, stage vampires twisted men around their fingers and endings were always happy. Directed by Pam Kriger, *Dames at Sea* opens on Friday, July 25 and runs through August 31 in the Isthmus Playhouse of the Madison Civic Center, 211 State Street.

Dames at Sea, a hit of the 1968 off-Broadway season, pays a special tribute to the 1930s musical films of famed director/choreographer Busby Berkeley. Berkeley's films were born out of America's need to be distracted from the realities of the depression. In his movies, loners always found each other, all problems could be solved with enthusiasm and cleverness, and a spunky person could always rise and succeed. Mostly, they were stories of hope.

Berkeley's movies were noted for large casts of beautiful chorus girls, leading characters dripping with charm and personality, and extravagant dance numbers. The creators of *Dames at Sea* decided to recreate a 1930s film experience "on a postage stamp" using only six characters (our production has seven). *Dames at Sea* specifically spoofs 42nd Street with its lead characters having the same names as the stars of the film--RUBY Keeler and DICK Powell.

In *Dames at Sea*, we are introduced to Ruby, just off the bus with only a suitcase and dreams of stardom. She meets Joan, the wise-cracking showgirl with a heart as big as the Bronx who convinces the dubious manager/producer Hennesey to give Ruby a chance in his upcoming show.

Soon, Ruby finds herself sharing the stage with the temperamental Broadway star, Mona Kent. While they rehearse the play, Mona makes her move on Ruby's true love, Dick, the good looking, song-writing sailor. When Hennesey loses the

think I wouldn't have included it otherwise, but I'm glad I did now.

AB: *Angels in America* was a political play--and that's something Americans and critics frequently resist. How did you overcome that resistance?

TK: What I found in the audience response is a huge hunger for political issues and political discussion. So I always wonder: Is it that Americans don't like politics, or is it that so much theater that is political isn't well-done?

One of the things I learned in *Slavs!* is that it's much easier to talk about being Gay than it is to talk about being a socialist. People are afraid of socialism, and plays that deal with economics are scarier to them. I'll learn more about that--my next three plays are all about money.

People shouldn't trust artists and they shouldn't trust art. Part of the fun of art is that it invites you to interpret it.

There's a very complicated relationship between form and content and between aesthetics and politics. Good politics will produce good aesthetics, really good politics will produce really good aesthetics, and really good aesthetics, if somebody's really asking the hard questions and answering them honestly, they'll probably produce truth, which is to say progressive politics.

People will always do surprising things, both good and bad, and the way that people surprise themselves and their audience are the most interesting moments of human behavior. The space between what we'd like to be and what we actually are is where you find out the most interesting things.

AB: Do you see your plays as part of a political movement?

TK: I do. I would hate to write anything that wasn't. I would like my plays to be of use to progressive people. I think preaching to the converted is exactly what art ought to do.

AB: The character Prelapsarianov--the "world's oldest living Bolshevik"--gives the same speech in both *Angels and Slavs!*: "How are we to proceed without theory? Is it enough to reject the past, is it wise to move forward in this blind fashion, without the cold brilliant light of theory to guide the way?... You who live in this sour little age can--"

Please See *Angles* Page 23

theater right before opening night, it's Dick's heroic idea that saves the show. The cast is complete as Dick's sailor sidekick Lucky enters the scene, along with Ginger, the gum-smacking showgirl.

The Rep is thrilled to have Pam Kriger return as director and choreographer. Here delightful 1995 production of *Forever*

Please See *Dames* Page 24

Madison's Kiroga Theatre to Present "Accidental Dialogue"

Madison--Kiroga Theatre, the Madison-based movement theatre company known for their striking images and seemingly epic length works in slow motion. Nadine Goff of the *Wisconsin State Journal* called it "elaborate performance art." Kiroga Theatre will present "Accidental Dialogue II," an evening of solo works performed and created by Kiro Kopulos.

Kopulos' most recent endeavors have included working with the Kanopy Dance Company as guest choreographer for their past three seasons. Taking his work to national and international Fringe Theater Festivals has also been his focus.

"The performers challenge us. They make us laugh, they make us cry...somehow they manage to juxtapose melancholy and joy on one canvas," wrote the *Edmonton Sun*.

"Accidental Dialogue" will be shown at the San Francisco Fringe Festival in September. Featured in the concert will be some of Kiro's most remembered pieces, including "No More Shoes" and "Go Back, Tada (mountain)." New work is in the making as well, in collaboration with composer Thomas Powell and will be premiered in this concert.

"Accidental Dialogue" will be presented at the Brave Hearts Theater, 1988 Atwood Avenue on August 1, 2, 8, and 9. All shows being at 8:00 p.m. Mature audiences, nudity. Tickets are \$8. For more information, call (608) 255-9862.

YOU'RE INVITED!

THURSDAY JULY 17

MAMA'S SERVING UP LUNCH

Mama Roux is now open to serve you some delicious lunches. The popular East Side stop will be opening at 11:00 AM Monday through Friday for all of your luncheon needs.

The regular menu plus a daily special will tantalize anyone's taste buds. So relive the days when your real Mama had that great cooking waiting for you. Get some good food at great prices at Mama Roux, 1875 N. Humboldt, Milwaukee.

PERFECT HARMONY CONCERT IN MADISON

Madison's Pride Weekend begins with a concert provided by Perfect Harmony. Other events held during the weekend include, the United's Awards Dinner, a Free Dance at the UW Student Union, the MAGIC picnic, a showing of the film "Boyfriends" and of course the Madison Pride Parade and festival.

BOYFRIENDS OPENS AT THE MADISON UW UNION

"A perceptive comedy of modern gay manners with freewheeling sexual behavior!" is the New York Times tantalizing description of Neil Hinder and Tom Hunsingers' British film, Boy Friends. The excitement is circumscribed by the film's mise-en-scene: three gay males spending a weekend in the English country-side. Compounding the excitement is the simple but provoking focus: what do men want? Students: \$3.00, Non-Students: \$3.50. Memorial Union Information: 265-3000. The film will be shown at the Memorial Union Movies, Frederic March Play Circle, 2nd floor, Memorial Union. July 17 - 19: Thursday: 7:30, 9:15 pm, Friday: 5:45, 7:30, 9:15 pm, Saturday: 7:30, 9:15 pm

FRIDAY JULY 18

LGBT PRIDE NIGHT ON THE UW UNION TERRACE,

The 10% Society at UW's contribution to Madison's Pride Weekend is a fabulous dance held from 9 p.m. - 12 p.m. at the UW Memorial Union Terrace, 800 Langdon Street Madison.

This is a free night of funk and reggae music performed by Funkadesi on the U.W.'s open-air terrace at the Memorial Union.

It is sponsored by the Ten Percent Society at UW and by the UW Union Directorate.

The Ten Percent Society is the U.W.'s queer student group dedicated to providing a positive social and academic environment for GLBT student and staff.

VIP CARD HOLDERS PARTY AT ZA'S IN GREEN BAY

Za's will be the site of a gala VIP Cardholder party from 8:00 to 11:00. The party includes an open bar sponsored by Absolut Vodka, Captain Morgan's Spiced Rum, Seagrams and the Badger Liquor Company.

Admission (besides your card) is a personal hygiene item costing at least \$3.00. (unused of course) These will be donated to the Center Project.

At 10:30 there will be a special show featuring the people who produce the Miss Gay Wisconsin US of A pageants around the state.

SATURDAY JULY 19

MAGIC PICNIC IN MADISON

One of Wisconsin's premier Gay events, Madison's MAGIC will be held today at Brittingham Park.

The MAGIC picnic includes games, booths, great food and drink and lots of fun people (like Madison could have a party without all of the above?)

The event starts at 1:00 and goes to 7:00. A \$10.00 ticket gets you a great dinner and all the beverages you can drink.

Picnic proceeds go to a variety of Madison organizations.

CHI TOWN'S RODEO RIDERS AT THE BOOT CAMP

Yeeeeeehah! Ride em cowboy! Chicago's Rodeo Rider Club will be at the Boot Camp Saloon for a special party.

Even if you aren't into busting broncos you will still probably want to be on hand when this fresh meat (we mean fine gentlemen from Chicago) hits town.

The Boot Camp is located at 209 E. National.

FLAMING DYKASAURUS AT THE WIL-MAR CENTER

We bet you didn't know that Lesbians can flame too! Just to prove it Flaming Dykasauros, Madison's all Lesbian comedy improv troupe wants you to join it for an evening of interactive looniness and laughs. Featuring:

Bevo Buhr, Sue Dorumsgaard, Lynda Finn, Robinlee Garber, Abbie Hill, Wendy Hutton, Emily Jones, Kathleen McNamara and Mary Waitrovich will all be on hand to keep you laughing and entertained.

The performance will be at 8 PM, at the Wil-Mar Neighborhood Center, 953 Jennifer St., Madison. Admission is on a sliding scale \$5-7

For more Info call 249-0626. WilMar Neighborhood Center, 953 Jennifer St., Madison.

SUNDAY JULY 20th

GAY, LESBIAN, BISEXUAL ALUMNI BRUNCH,

This year's brunch will recognize the 1997 Distinguished Alumni Award recipients:

Susan M. Schaffer and Chester Biscardi. Both are very worthy of the honor being bestowed on them.

The brunch will be held from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Memorial Union Great Hall 800 Langdon Street, the cost is just \$10.00 and it's timed to give you plenty of time to get to the State Capitol for the pre-parade rally. (How thoughtful of them)

MADISON PRIDE MARCH RALLY AND FESTIVAL

It's Wisconsin's largest Pride March! The festivities get underway with a 1:30 rally at the State Street entrance of the State Capitol. The parade starts at 2:00 and will be followed by a fine fest at Brittingham Park.

The fest will feature plenty of food and drink, sanitary facilities and some great entertainment.

Join the thousands expected to attend and make a statement!

PORTFOLIO MEN AT SCANDALS

Those hunks from the Portfolio Stable will be on hand at Scandals to help you bring your Madison Pride weekend to a fabulous finish.

Your five dollar cover brings you all the thrills and chills (and these guys have plenty of experience in that area) great service and a great time.

Scandals is located at 121 W. Main Street Madison.

\$5.00 STEAK COOK OUT AT NAPALESE LOUNGE

The Napalese Lounge, The Napalese Lounge, 515 S. Broadway, Green Bay will be the site of a fab steak cook out to help Nancy win the Golden Gurseey Gala. (No need to worry they are using a real cow, not Elsie Bovine)

TUESDAY JULY 22

RUTHIE'S SPOTLIGHT PARTY AT THIS IS IT

You can get treated like a King (or Queen) at Ruthie's SpotLight Party at This is It.

Ruthie, our world famous advice columnist will be making a rare public appearance to appease the masses who have been demanding her presence.

She will of course answer you many questions about life's most burning issues and there will be plenty of fun for everyone.

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

FRIDAY JULY 25

BACARDI PARTY AT LA CAGE IN MILWAUKEE

In addition to it's fabulous show case, La Cage is hosting another of its fabulous Bacardi Parties.

There will be \$3.00 Bacardi drinks and \$1.50 shots, plus all that great music at this hot dance bar.

La Cage is located on the corner of South Second and National.

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Friday, July 18	Saturday, July 19	Sunday, July 20
Live DJ	Live DJ	Beer Bust
Drink Specials All Night	Drink Specials All Night	4-8pm

Sunday, July 20

THE PORTFOLIO MEN

10pm • \$5 Cover

CONGRATULATIONS & THANKS

to everyone involved in the Madison Pride Weekend

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THE NIGHT LIGHT

By Dusty Sass

The last couple of weeks have been very busy and the next couple are going to be even busier. You know what they say, about summer (oh you don't know? Well never mind then)

I had a great time at **In Between's** Red White and Blue party after the Fireworks on July 3. The men at that place are as hot as the temperature outside.

Sandy Beach's B-Day show at **Just Us** was a great time. It's comforting to know that I am not the only one getting older. Course she looks just as young as ever (the bitch).

On Saturday, July 12th, I wandered over to take in Bastille Days. Oh la la, it was hot—the weather and all those men without any shirts and in little tight shorts!

To cool off, I decided to have a beer at

Ann On-Line Comes Gayly to the World Wide Web

Milwaukee--Now on a Web browser near you is Ann On-Line, one of the Gay-friendliest talk shows on the Net.

Hosted by talk show star and journalist Ann Devlin, Ann On-Line offers fresh, informative perspectives on a variety of contemporary topics, including Gay, Lesbian, bisexual and transgender issues.

Almost every week, Devlin interviews personalities and activists from the community, including Day of Compassion founder Neil Tadken, author Brian McNaught, OUT magazine Editor Sarah Pettit, theologian Daniel Helminiak and GLAAD Entertainment Media Director Chastity Bono and Associate Communications Director Liz Tracey.

The website for Ann On Line is: www.annonline.com Contact: Ann Devlin, Ann On-Line, c/o Diskwriter Communications, 505 McNeilly, Pittsburgh, PA 15226, e-mail: ann@annonline.com.

This Is It. The place was packed. It was great fun. With all the blue, white and red decorations to summon forth the spirit of France, everyone was having a "Gay" old time—me, included. So, I got to talking and the next thing I know, they turned up the lights. Oh well. I had fun.

The Amendment 2 Party at **Mama Roux's** was a real blast too. The pinnate was a nice touch. There was candy flying everywhere.

I hear that Divine put on an absolutely Divine show for the Entertainer of the Year Contest at **Manoeuvres** in Madison. I wasn't able to make it because I went on the Mama's Family Soft Ball team bar crawl to **Diversions**, where I had a super time. If you haven't been to this place yet, check it out. Everyone on the bus loved it.

Coming Up.... Thursday July 17 you can find me at **Mama's Roux** for lunch. Yes there are now two great Gay restaurants to eat lunch at, (the other being M & M's). Mama's will be cooking up a storm with their regular menu and a daily special. The bar will now be open at 11:00 AM Monday through Friday.

That evening you can find me at Perfect Harmony's Premier Concert in Madison. This is Madison's new Gay/Bi/Trans Men's Chorus.

Friday July 18, I will be at the United Award's Dinner in Madison. Then I will dance the night away at the UW 10% Society's Dance at the UW Memorial Union.

The dance ends at Midnight giving me plenty of time to check out the action at **Manoeuvres, Scandals, the Shamrock and Geraldine's**. (Okay so I will have to move my butt pretty fast to get to all of those places, but I have moved it that fast before)

Saturday July 19 is the **MAGIC picnic**. I have been practicing my purse tossing skills for weeks. I wouldn't miss this if I were you.

That evening I am going to take in a performance of **Dykasaurus**. This is a very funny Lesbian comedy improv troupe. They are performing at the Wil Mar Cen-

ter.

Sunday July 20 it's time for the Madison Pride March. It's Wisconsin's largest Pride March and well worth the trip to Mad Town. (And no I am not entering the parade as a float - been there over it!) The march will be followed by a great festival at Brittingham park.

That evening I will be at **Scandals** for the Portfolio Men show. That is provided they promise not to pester me about joining their group again.

Monday July 21 you can find me at **In Between** (Milwaukee's Packer Headquarters where they are already getting ready for the season) for their famous Balloon Toss.

Tuesday July 22 it's our **SpotLight Party at This Is It** This party will feature the fabulous Ruthie, our World Famous Advice columnist. Hey how come they never did a party for me? (opps that's right I am supposed to be anonymous. Okay semi-anonymous half of the men in Wisconsin know who I am but I am hiding from the other half). Anyways this will be a great party and a great chance to ask Ruthie about the issues that are tearing up

your life (like how to get rid of that bad breath boy friend)

Wednesday July 22 I will be at **Mama Roux** for their double bubble from Nine to Midnight. (We are talking about the drinks here not my butt)

Thursday July 23 I will butch it up for Men's Night at **Just Us**. Yes I can butch it up when needed and the 2 for 1 drink deal the bar offers men makes it needed.

Friday July 25 I will have a great fish fry at **Just Us**. Sandy Beach promised to catch those fish herself (Should I believe her?). Then it will be off to the Bacardi Party at **La Cage**. Even if you don't like rum you will like the Bacardi Boys serving it. (It's hard to say no to them)

Sunday July 27 I will be back at **La Cage** to see the Sunday evening edition of the La Cage Show case. This is a great show folks stop in and see for yourself. Well that about wraps it up.

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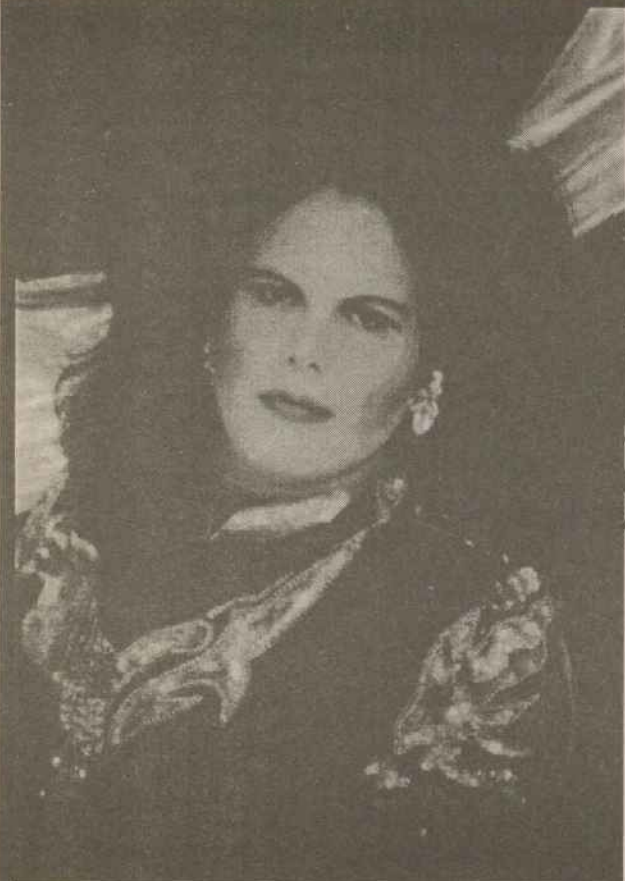
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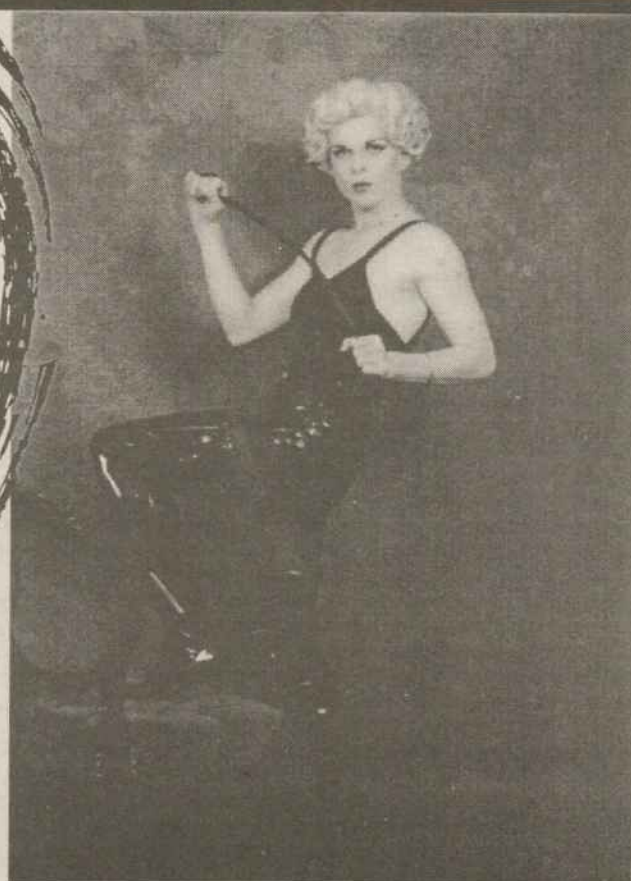
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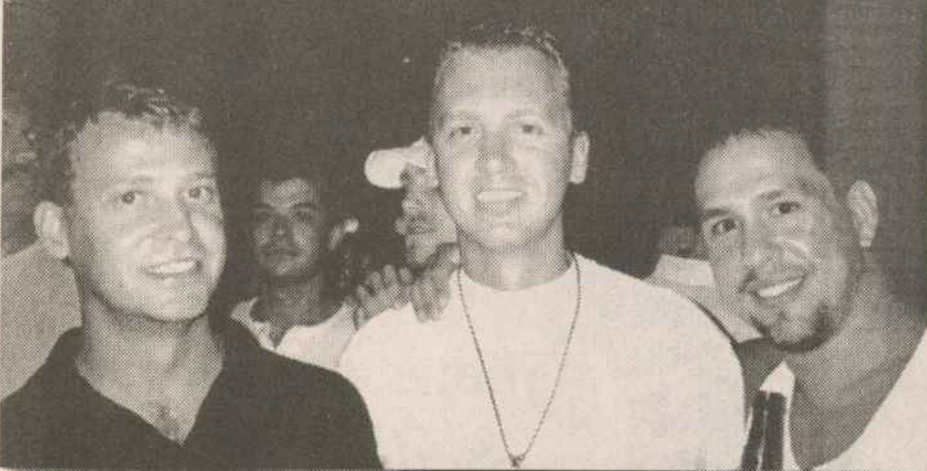
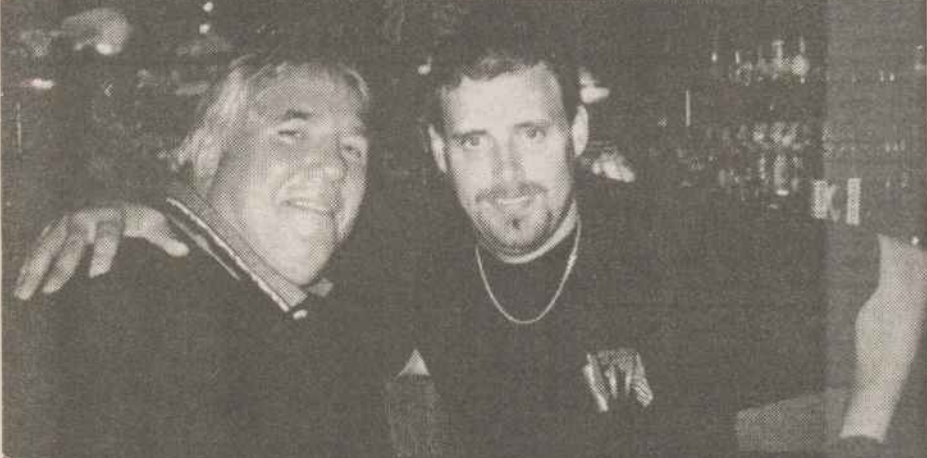
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Our Photographer was really busy checking out the Milwaukee bar scene on Friday July 11th and taking lots of pictures just about everywhere. Top Left is a scene from an impromptu underwear party at Zippers. Next are two friends at that friendly bar The Ball Game, then there are these three guys showing that the strippers aren't the only hot men at Club 219, next is the late night crowd at the popular East Side Bar, Mama Roux, they are followed by two girlfriends enjoying themselves at Fannies and last but not least are three friends having a great time at Cest Le Vie.

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OUT on Film



Vivian Wu in the *Pillow Book* which is now playing exclusively at Milwaukee's Oriental Theater.

'The Pillow Book' is a Dazzling Film, a Feast for the Eyes, and For the Soul

Reviewed by Glenn Bishop

Fresh from seeing the utterly simplistic *A Simple Wish*, Glenn was hardly prepared for the heady eroticism and fascinating complexity of *The Pillow Book*, the latest film of sexual obsession by radically original film director Peter Greenaway.

A dazzlingly visual feast, *The Pillow Book* again features Greenaway's inscrutably complex, perhaps needlessly complicated plotting. Here Greenaway, at least nominally, follows Nagiko (Vivian Wu), named by her father, a poor but talented calligrapher, after the famous 10th century keeper of a Pillow Book.

Each birthday finds Nagiko's father following an elaborate ritual, painting on Nagiko's face a ceremonial blessing. Perversely, Nagiko's birthday is also the one day of each year when her father's homosexual publisher demands sexual favors from him.

How each of these two rituals will shape the adult Nagiko, in ways that neither she nor those of us in the audience are likely to understand, is an enigma which dominates *The Pillow Book*.

Fleeing from an unhappy, arranged marriage, the adult Nagiko seeks to begin a new life and embarks on a singular spiritual/sexual quest, seeking those who might sufficiently, if even, merely temporarily, prove to be the "perfect calligrapher-lover."

Nagiko's quest is interrupted with the arrival of Jerome (Ewan McGregor), an enigmatic Bisexual English translator. Rejected as an unsuitable calligrapher by Nagiko, Jerome challenges her to write upon his body. Initially Nagiko is startled by this, a proposition she'd never even considered, but soon she accepts the

challenge with the same, daunting fervor that had characterized her previous obsession.

Perhaps it is fate, maybe only coincidence that finds Jerome the lover of the same publisher who publishes the work of Nagiko's father. In any case, Jerome quickly becomes the unwitting pawn in the dark game of power, sex and literature which brings about the film's final, devastating climax.

The real star of *The Pillow Book* proves to be the film's dazzling cinematography, thanks to the stunning work of Sacha Vienev, director of photography.

Often functioning merely as part of the overall visual design, Greenaway's actors face a particularly difficult task of transcending the visual landscape and emerging as fully realized characters.

Vivian Wu manages to succeed in bringing more continuity to Nagiko's character than one might expect from Greenaway's script as does Ewan McGregor who proves to be quite a visual feast himself in the many scenes that find him fully and gloriously nude.

Using a vast, seemingly endless variety of cinematic techniques, from split-screen effects and flashbacks to an extraordinary collection of images and a unique palette of colors, Greenaway forces the audience to view *The Pillow Book* in ways most will be unaccustomed.

The Pillow Book is definitely not a film which is likely to suit everyone's tastes and at 126 minutes, it is a mite long but Glenn loved *The Pillow Book* and would highly recommend it to all (particularly fans of Ewan McGregor).

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

'Nothing to Lose' is a Cut Above the Average Buddy Movie

By John A. Jahn

As *Nothing to Lose* begins, we find Nick Beam (Tim Robbins), an advertising agency executive, on top of the world. He's got a great job and a loving, attractive wife, Ann (Kelly Preston). But the bottom falls out of Nick's existence when he comes home early one day and finds his wife in flagrante delicto with his own boss, Phillip Barlow (Michael McKean). Or so it seems. His heart ripped out, Nick drives away, unable to get a grip on anything but the steering wheel. His inattentive driving steers him into the ghetto areas of L.A., whereupon he encounters a fast-talking carjacker named Terrence Paul (or just "T" to his friends), played by Martin Lawrence.

Over the long haul of a madcap road trip, complete with mistaken identities, bungled holdups and car chases, an unlikely friendship gradually unfolds between Nick and T. What keeps *Nothing to Lose* from becoming mundane, crude and predictable (the usual hallmarks of the action-adventure-comedy buddy movie genre), and in fact helps it to succeed and remain a cut above the average such film, is the offbeat and sharp edged comedic acting and dialogue. Basically, these films boil down to whether or not you come to like the central figures, the "buddies." Robbins and Lawrence possess the right sort of chemistry to make this film work—on the whole.

However, *Nothing to Lose* is also

nothing to write home about. I found some of the scenes a little tiresome—such as when the two creeps who are after Beam and T. Paul confront them at a dump. The antics and silly verbal exchanges just go on a minute or so too long.

Actually, this sort of thing happens more than once. Writer/Director Steve Oedekerke (both *Ace Ventura* movies; *The Nutty Professor*) seems to run out of ideas here and there, and the same briefly funny situation simply runs on and on until you start losing interest.

There's also the fact that some of the violence might make you a bit queasy. It did me. There are a couple of armed robbery situations which are written and acted out as (supposedly) funny, and, in fact, we know the gun involved has no bullets. But the victims didn't know that—they're terrified, as any of us would be. Is it really all that funny in today's overly violent society, to make light of sticking a gun in some store clerk's fact? When we see these situations played out in real life thanks to store security cameras, it's appalling and scary. Some joke.

But *Nothing to Lose* in the end is basically harmless—only a few cuts and scrapes, no gunshot wounds or violent deaths. And it is pretty funny and entertaining, saved in the final analysis, by offbeat humor and decent central performances.

★★★1/2

'Contact' is Both Food for Thought and a Feast for the Senses

By John A. Jahn

All science fiction films fall into one of two basic categories: intelligent or silly, both of which contain some very entertaining flicks. Into the latter category we can comfortably place *Men in Black*, *Mars Attacks*, *Independence Day* and all those '50s B-movies. Into the former category goes 2001: *A Space Odyssey*, *Close Encounters of a Third Kind* and now, Director Robert Zemeckis' *Contact*.

Contact certainly opens nationwide in a well-timed manner. It centers on the search for extraterrestrial life, which is exactly what's going on as we speak on the planet Mars. All the settings and trappings of *Contact* are reality-based as well. The U.S. Government and private donors really do fund enormous listening posts and dish antennas aimed straight at the stars above. There are scientists waiting for a real E.T. to phone home. The project is known as SETI (Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence).

Contact moves from science fact to fiction the moment a signal is actually received and decoded...an alien species centered around the star Vega has sent us a message. What does it all mean?

Jodie Foster plays a driven, devoted scientist who discovers the alien transmission. She has trouble maintaining control over events that follow the announcement of this stunning event as both her boss (Tom Skerritt) and the Government (James Woods) get involved.

The media and the public go berserk. All of a sudden, astronomers become both modern gods to some, the devil incarnate to others. *Contact* very effectively shows the pandemonium that would in all certainty break loose if and when an alien signal is ever received.

In making it all seem very real to us, Zemeckis employs real media stars playing themselves, including a whole host of CNN anchors and even "Tonight Show"

host Jay Leno making a few wisecracks. As in 1994's *Forrest Gump*, Zemeckis also makes great use of placing movie characters into previously recorded scenes of President Clinton (In *Gump*, Tom Hanks was placed into scenes with Kennedy, Johnson, and George Wallace).

The special effects of *Contact* are equally breathtaking. The opening of the film is one of the best I've ever seen. We start hovering over the USA at Space Shuttle height, listening to all of our radio and TV chatter streaming past us. As we pull back farther and farther past the planets of our Solar System in the rest of the universe, we continue to hear our broadcasts, but they grow ever fainter and older, eventually there's nothing but silence.

The point is clearly and effectively made: every electronic utterance we've made since the advent of radio and TV is beamed across the universe. Should someone or something out there receive our inadvertent signals, they may wish to respond...not inadvertently, but purposefully. *Contact*, based on the novel of the same name by the late astronomer Carl Sagan, embraces and explores such an event.

While an intelligent, stunning, compelling and gripping movie (all 2 1/2 hours of it!), *Contact* is not without its flaws, but these are easily overlooked in the midst of the wonder of this epic and timely film. To go into greater detail would be to give too much of the story away—and nothing could be worse than having the ending of a sci-fi film blown for you. In fact, the ending scenes will leave you with a few questions to ponder and things to discuss—which is more than can be said for all the more recent alien films filled with laser blasters and big, insectoid, gooey creatures. *Contact* is both food for thought and a treat for the eyes and ears.

★★★1/2

Internal Violence Fuels the Characters in the Film, 'Ulee's Gold'

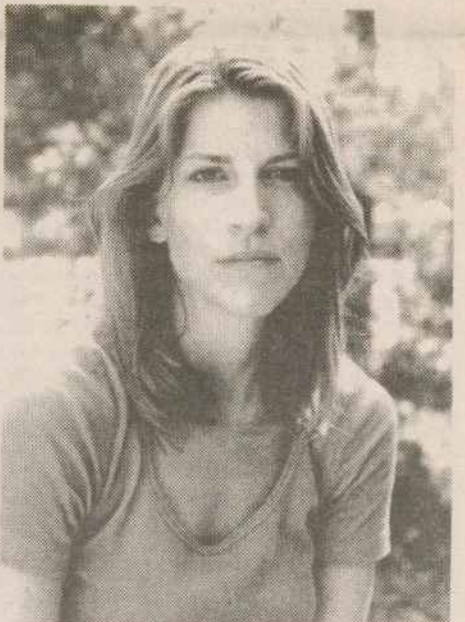
By John A. Jahn

How many good roles have you seen Peter Fonda in? Okay, there's the groundbreaking *Easy Rider*, a fine film of late '60s alienation and generational strife. Name another one, though. The point is, it's been a long, long time for Peter Fonda, but perhaps a wait worthwhile with his performance in director Victor Nunez's latest film, *Ulee's Gold*. Nunez is slowly, but surely, making a name for himself. He's the director of the great *Ruby in Paradise*, an as yet unsung hero of independent American filmmaking.

Peter Fonda plays a Florida beekeeper and Vietnam veteran who wants nothing more than to have a quiet, unobtrusive life in the Florida panhandle. Unfortunately, he's forced to postpone his quiet dreams by his own family. Ulee (Fonda) lives a fiercely independent life, but is deeply wounded by the fact that his son is serving a prison sentence for robbery, leaving Ulee to care for his two grandchildren. When he visits his son (Tom Wood) in jail, he's asked to rescue his drug-addicted wife from his son's erstwhile partners in crime (Steven Flynn; Dewey Weber).

Ulee accomplishes this unwanted task, but is faced with more than he can deal with when she starts going through drug withdrawal. Ulee then, reluctantly, enlists the help of a nurse neighbor (Patricia Richardson).

Ulee is also forced to deal with the two criminal friends of his son because they are a threat to his family, further adding to his unsettled life. Peter Fonda excels in this role, and I wouldn't be surprised to



Christine Dunford in *Ulee's Gold*

see his name pop up at Oscar time (though the Academy will probably stay true to form and avoid awarding the smaller films as opposed to the big, often overblown Hollywood blockbusters). His character really makes this film worthwhile. It's not overly violent, but rather the "violence" is *inside* the characters—in particular, Ulee.

★★★

Ulee's Gold is currently playing at Milwaukee's Downer Theater.

In 'A Simple Wish', We Have a Movie About and By Simpletons

Reviewed by Glenn Bishop

Some pretty simple people must have responsible for this unbelievable simpleton of a summer kid's flick, *A Simple Wish* which stars Martin Short and Kathleen Turner. Glenn imagines a group of "suits" sitting around some neatly fashioned Board Room discussing how much the kiddies will love a goofy, wiggled Martin Short prancing about as a "Fairy Godmother", waving his wand all over the place.

Sadly, even the best performers, try that they might, cannot save such facile, derivative doings such as these.

A Simple Wish opens with Murray (Martin Short) amongst a room full of sweet old dear, Fairy Godmother wannabes who are about to take their final ex-

amines. This interminable, astonishingly unfunny sequence leaves viewers little doubt that Murray isn't one big ol' washout.

Cut to Oliver (Robert Pastorelli), a velvet-voiced New York hansom cabbie with Broadway aspirations. Up for a big role is a new musical based on the Dickens classic, *A Tale of Two Cities*, Oliver reckons if he doesn't make good, it'll be Nebraska for he and his adorable daughter Anabel (Mara Wilson) and streetwise son Charlie (Francis Capra).

Enter Murray, who despite his outrageous behavior has somehow managed to become a Fairy Godmother. Darling little Anabel is to be the first victim...er, recipient of Murray's magic. Her wish: that dear ol' dad gets the role.

Please See *Wish* Page 2



The original Bette — Above is a 1940's publicity layout of Bette Davis, Top Right is Bette Davis and George Brent in "Dark Victory," which Davis always said was her personal favorite of all her films Bottom left Bette in the famous red ball gown from "Jezebel" her second Oscar winning role, Bottom right Bette Davis and Spencer Tracy hold the Oscars they won for Best Actress and Best Actor in 1938. It was the second Oscar for each. Ms. Davis won for her role in Jezebel, while Tracy won for his performance in "Boys Town."

All photos and stills are from the personal collection of Dale E. Kuntz



Bette Davis In Retrospect

Part Two of a Series
A Wisconsin Light Exclusive
By Steve Stavron

The Golden Years

By Steve Stavron

Jezebel (1938), was Bette Davis' first really fine picture. Director, William Wyler, delivered an elegant, but taut production which stands on its own merits while showcasing the star. The film is nuanced with many of Wyler's superbly subtle directorial touches. Bette shines with her own special brand of iridescence. Her heretofore abrupt mannerisms and spiky unpredictable "nerviness" are here sublimated into a coherent sophisticated style with no unwonted edginess. She radiates without sacrificing momentum. The story is a bit moldy, but only occasionally shows its age. Watched carefully today, the film still holds up with Bette's cumulative dramatic sense giving it an uncanny tragic power.

Bette plays Julie Marsden, a willful, perverse, Southern aristocrat who alienates her adored fiance, played by Henry Fonda, into another marriage. Having indirectly provoked the dueling death of one man (George Brent), in trying to win Fonda back, she discovers that he has contracted Yellow Fever in the 1842 New Orleans epidemic, and must go to quarantine island. Doing an about-face, she desperately pleads to go with him because she's better qualified than his wife to fight imminent dangers.

"Help me to be clean as you're clean," she pleads. Such instant redemption is not easy to bring across, but Davis stunningly demonstrates her ability to shift her character seamlessly onto a more transcendent level within a single scene. The moment is memorable and touching, as is the final shot of Davis in profile against blazing torches riding in a wagon with Fonda and the other fever victims to probable death. And 1939 still to come.

Dark Victory was a more difficult challenge to Davis. Warner Bros was not anxious to buy rights to the story of a wealthy young heiress dying of an incurable "nameless" brain disease. Based on an earlier play, this material seemed old fashioned and improbable, even then, and too downbeat for a time of awakening war clouds. But Jack Warner knew he had a gold mine in Davis.

After **Jezebel** a single screen frame announces "Bette David in **Dark Victory**" and it was up to her to deliver. She does so beautifully.

Undaunted by a rather bland screen play, and despite Edward Gouling's rather flat direction, she wisely sidesteps

the temptation to devise an artificially noble character facing "Death."

Instead, she unexpectedly reverts to her earlier "nervy" style, transforming her Judith Traheren into a stubborn, willful, but girlishly charming neurasthenic subtly hiding her fear. Learning that he initial operation will ease her headaches, but not effect a cure, she turns bitterly on her romantic doctor, George Brent, and taunts the advances of her horse-trainer (Humphry Bogart woefully miscast). Exhausted by bitterness, she transposes her character energy downward, marries the doctor, and scales her closing scenes with a soft, sublime charm and warmth remarkable for this particular performer...Saving the best for last, her performance remains a model of creative acting.

As her vision fades, heralding the approach of death, she begins the famous closing sequence: "Funny, it's getting dark and stormy, but I can still feel the sun on my hands." Needing to demonstrate her courage, she sends her unaware husband away, climbs the stairs to her room, kneels to pray, and lays on her bed as the camera slowly and unforgettably focuses out her final close up into darkness.

The film was an enormous financial and critical success. Davis often cited **Dark Victory** as her favorite role. She won the New York Critic's Circle Award, but when it came to Oscar time...1939 was the year of **Gone With The Wind**.

That same year, Davis also appeared in three other major films of varying quality, but indicating that her insurmountable talents could bring distinction to well intentioned, but otherwise forgettable material. **Jaurez** was an expensive production. As the ill-fated Empress Carlotta, wife of Maximilian, Austrian Archduke and erstwhile emperor of Mexico, Bette slams her way brilliantly through an underdeveloped part. Paul Muni as the Mexican hero, Benito Jaurez, shares no scenes with her, but due to previous contractual seniority, Muni had artistic control of the production and her role was shortened against the studio's wishes. Anyway, the film reeks of corny revolutionary zeal and Muni's self-righteous performance is stiff and boring compared to Bette's. So much for **Jaurez**.

Leading man problems plagued her next film as well. Shot in beautiful color, **Elizabeth and Essex** is Bette Davis' film all the way, but she manipulates her talents in several wrong directions trying to compensate for Errol Flynn's foolish nonperformance as Essex in Maxwell Anderson's

Please See Davis Page 24

'Batman and Robin' Stops the Steady Slide of the Series

By John Jahn

For all the world's Batfans, it's been a long dry season since the opening of Tim Burton's 1989 **Batman**, which—while not a movie masterpiece—nevertheless took on an increasingly lustrous sheen as the years went by—and as the two following sequels descended into disappointing trash.

Burton's original, you'll recall, had Michael Keaton as the angst-ridden, haunted hero of Gotham City, and Jack Nicholson's Joker was a role that fit him like a glove.

Then came **Batman Returns** a couple of years later, which left so many Batfans leaving theaters disappointed.

1995's **Batman Forever** saw both a new director (Joel Schumacher) and a new Batman (Val Kilmer), and, of course, new villains: Tommy Lee Jones's Two-Face and Jim Carrey's Riddler. It seemed to remove all the seriousness and solemnity of the Burton films and replace it with ultracampiness more reminiscent of the mid-'60s TV series than Bob Kane's original comic strip.

To say the least, the four **Batman** films have undergone numerous changes in nearly every way imaginable, and thus, the final result has been a very mixed bag of films.

For the latest entry, **Batman and Robin**, the series continues several trends of the previous films—the high camp, the very comic book-come-to-life atmosphere, the fact that the film is literally chock full, end to end, with special effects sequences and all sorts of bizarre gadgetry. You get a lot for your money—a two hour movie that keeps your attention and startles the senses; there's no doubt about that.

But what **Batman and Robin** has over its immediate predecessor is really interesting and fun villains. In particular, Mr. Freeze (Arnold Schwarzenegger). Not only does he have great lines—all relating to his unfortunate need to keep himself constantly at zero degrees, but he's neat looking in his blue-silver skin and chrome

and blue light survival suit. He's also an intelligent villain on a real mission, not just a cackling weirdo and homicidal maniac (which was all **Batman Forever** offered us).

His fellow villain, the tree-hugging, but evil temptress Poison Ivy (Uma Thurman), who has aloe for blood and chlorophyll skin, is another interesting and well-acted addition to the film.

Batman himself is played by George Clooney, the heart throb of TV's "ER." His portrayal is bested only by Keaton's original, in my opinion. Clooney's **Batman** brings a basic humanity and decency to the film, and he's effective in the role physically as well.

Chris O'Donnell's Robin was also a welcome addition to the film. His rivalry with **Batman** heats up, but eventually they sink their differences, deciding it's much more fun to beat up on the bad guys than each other. O'Donnell is also very pleasant to behold, especially in his shiny black and red rubber suit. Ohhhhh, baby!

Probably the most forgettable and superfluous character was **Batgirl**. There was really no reason to introduce her in this particular film, something that could've been a real grabber for the fifth entry. Alicia Silverstone is adequate for the unnecessary role, but in my opinion, the brief portion of the film where she first suits up was blatantly gratuitous (including a full-screen shot of her butt as she zips into her tight black pants).

Batman and Robin is not a great film, but it's a good one, and it stops the steady decline in the quality (at all levels) that has been the hallmark of the series since '89. The action sequences and special effects are riveting (if often preposterous), Gotham's architecture is Gothic, Art Deco, Albert Speerian, and gorgeous to behold.

The film lives or dies by the quality of its villains, and this one's are evil, smart, somewhat likeable, multi-dimensional. It's about time!

★★★

Dear Ruthie

Dear Ruthie

Hello everyone! I hope everyone's enjoying the summer. I wish my air conditioning hadn't broken down. It's hotter than all heck in here. And I don't care what anyone says - I don't want to see my neighbor, crazy Irene, trying to cool off by sitting naked in her kitchen anymore!!

My God! I look out my kitchenette window right into Irene's trailer, and there she is... spread eagle in front of the refrigerator keeping herself cool by holding a frozen turkey on her lap. "I can think of about 30 better ways to defrost poultry, Irene."

You don't have to be Martha Stewart to realize the potential for frost bite here.

Then there's 72 year-old Chester who just loves walking around in his turtleneck shirt and ripped speedo swim trunks. "They're ripped Chester! Stop showing everyone your business! For God sakes, go down to the K-Mart and get yourself some bermudas!"

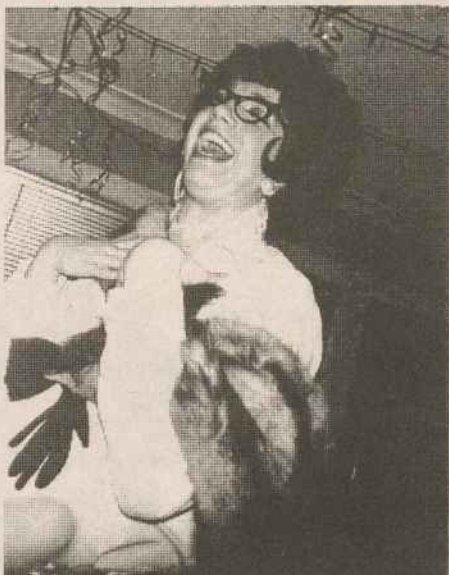
I've taken the liberty of renaming my trailer park "Disgraceland." It's terrible. Hope you've been having a better month. Bye for now.

**

Dear Ruthie:

I've just moved back into the area and I just missed the softball season. I do go out to the bars in Milwaukee occasionally, but it sounds like there's no room for me on a team. Any help? Back to Home Plate, Lost and Lonely

Dear Lonely,



Ruthie

Oh, I adore a good game of softball. A nice sunny day filled with friends and teamwork. Of course, I'm a little past my prime to play, but I love to watch. The swing of the bat, the bulging thighs of the players, the muscular yet tender arms of the pitcher, and of course all of that sweating, bending, and spitting! And the men's softball teams aren't bad either.

Why, when I was just a girl I was engaged to the first baseman of our local softball team. Well... actually... I dated the umpire. Okay, okay, I slept with the scoreboard guy, but I know softball dam-

nit!

I've been in more locker rooms than Billy Martin. I love the smell of pine tar in the morning. I've always wanted to walk on a man's back while wearing spikes. "And I'm not talking spiked heels either - now lay down Fabio - you're about to score yourself a home run! Hey - someone tell Susan Sarandon to get her boney ass off Fabio - this is MY dream!"

Oopps! Sorry. I let my "Bull Durham" fantasy get the best of me again.

Keep going to the games, honey, and show your support and enthusiasm. Not only will you be a shoo in next season, but you'll probably make a few new friends too. Maybe the captains need help running the team?

Let them know you're interested and that you'd like to get involved should anyone back out. Tell the captains that you'll fill in if a player gets sick or injured. If no one leaves a team - write me. My ex-husband, Vito, has a few guys who could help you out "Tanya Harding Style" if you know what I mean. I'm only kidding - Vito doesn't have any guys and would do the job himself.

Dear Ruthie,

I have sort of a serious problem. I'm a single Gay man. I've been single most of my life. I have a very good friend who is also Gay. We've been friends for years and years and I love him. This is the man I could spend forever with; take long walks with, celebrate life with, love. I think he feels the same.

However, I'm not physically attracted to him. I don't know why. I want to love him very much, but can't get past the attraction thing. I want him in every way but sexually. What do you think?

(signed)

Shoulda Been A Blind Man

Dear Shoulda,

I'll tell you what my mother told me on the eve of my first wedding, "Don't worry about what he looks like, dear. Your eyes are closed most of the time anyway." My first husband was not an attractive man. Oh my - I have to shudder. That man was so ugly, he hurt my feelings. But I married him. And, until he discovered life at the horse track, our marriage was bliss.

He was my prince and I was his little Jackie Stallone. He wasn't handsome, but I loved him. Granted... he was hung like a Siamese donkey on steroids and had the stamina of 30 sailors, but that had nothing to do with it. Really.

What to say, what to say. Well, I see your predicament here. I mean, on the one hand, he's your dream man. And on the other hand, you're saying you'd rather shave your eyebrows and chew on tin-foil then go to bed with him.

I hate to say "try it - you'll like it" as that could very well be the end of a lovely friendship and then you'd be stuck with nothing. I guess I'd have to say, follow your heart. See this person from within. Start looking at him in a new light. This could very well lead to something more than friendship.

Cherish his humor, or his good nature, or his kindness. See if focusing on such traits - the traits that attracted you in the first place - don't change your mind about how you feel sexually towards him. The fact that you admit you love him is a significant step. Take things easy and see what develops. Have an open mind and follow your heart.

Now, after all of this, your heart may still say, "Hey - this one's not for us. Keep the friendship and look elsewhere for love." Be ready to hear that too. Again, focus on what you love about him, take things slow, listen to your feelings and see what happens.

I just love receiving your letters, questions and words of encouragement. Remember that if you don't want your letter printed in my column, please indicate that. But I'd love to hear from you. Send your letters to: Ruthie/ The Wisconsin Light / 1843 N. Palmer/ Milwaukee, WI 53212. Or E-Mail me at www.wilight.com. Bye!

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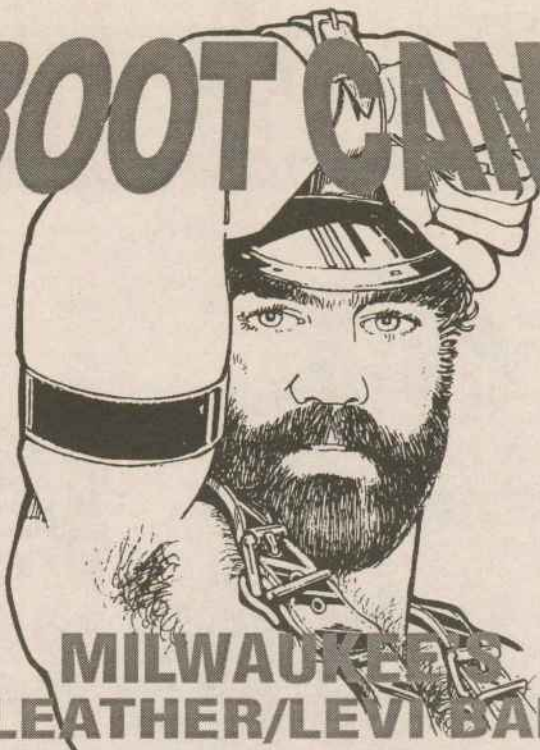
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Illinois

DISCIPLINE AND STUFF I wanna get together with someone, 25 to 45, for a little discipline and stuff. I'm a handsome, 45 year old, Italian male, 5'11, 165lbs. (Evanston) #2505

A YEN FOR MEN I'm looking for new friendships with other fun loving guys in the area. I'm a good looking, 29 year old, White male, 5'10, 150lbs, with long dark hair, Green eyes, and a nice build. I like to work out, lift weights, jog, and go out on the weekends. (Joliet) #3557

Iowa

WHAT'S GOING ON? Shy, fun loving, guy wants to talk to other guys in the area. Let's hang out together. (Cedar Falls) #3352

CARE PACKAGE This sexy, White male needs someone to take care of me. I'm into just about anything. (Des Moines) #3304

PAGAN PAL I want to correspond, and bond spiritually, with other men interested in paganism. I have a relationship so am just interested in friendship. (Des Moines) #3219

Minnesota

HEART OF GOLD Kind, caring, Gay, White male, 28, 5'7, 140lbs, with Blond hair and Blue eyes, seeks an honest, nice guy, for friendship or more. I'm attracted to White males, in their 30's, who have good personalities. A hairy chest is a plus but not required. (Cannon Falls) #1025

CLEAN CUT CAPERS Attractive, clean cut, Bi curious, White male, 26, 5'10, 155lbs, with Brown hair and eyes, seeks other healthy, masculine, clean cut, guys, 20 to 30, for friendship and good times. I'm clean shaven, well endowed, uncut, and lots of fun. (Chanhassen) #3580

DOES TEACHER WANT AN APPLE? I'm a 26 year old, white male, 5'10, Brown hair and eyes, medium build, uncut, with a smooth body. I'm looking for guys to hang out with and have good times with. I'm rather inexperienced and looking for a good teacher and definitely will pass with good grades. So give me a call with your lesson plan. (Chanhassen) #3441

WILLING TO LEARN This 26 year old, White male, 5'10, with a nice build, short Brown hair and Brown eyes, seeks other nice guys for fun get togethers. I'm very versatile and into just about anything. If I don't know it, I'm willing to learn. (Chanhassen) #2749

TICKLE TORTURE Looking for very ticklish guys who are willing to let me tie them up and tickle the hell out of them. The feet, stomach, and ribs are my favorite places. I'm also into role reversal and being tied down myself. (Minneapolis) #3270

SHARE MY PLANS Good natured, sincere, 18 year old, White male, 6'2, with Blond hair and Blue eyes, seeks a guy with whom to share my plans for a happy life. I'm very outgoing, enjoy almost all outdoor activities, and love to cuddle. (Minneapolis) #3123

IT'S PARTY TIME Wanna guaranteed good time with another hot man? I'm very good looking, and extremely sexy. I want to get off with you. (Minneapolis) #2257

MR. NICE GUY I have a particular affinity for slender, attractive, Asian males. I'm a good looking, White male, in my 50's, 5'11, 185lbs, with a nice build, Brown hair and Blue eyes. I'm a very nice guy with lots to offer. (Minneapolis) #25674

PRIVATE ENJOYMENT Wanted: One muscular, built, young man, in his 30's or 40's, for private enjoyment at my place. I'm an attractive, 42 year old, Gay, White male. (Minneapolis) #1937

FROLIC BY THE LAKE I'm looking for fun and frolic with versatile guys in this area. I'm a good looking, 48 year old, White male, 5'11, 175lbs, with Brown hair and eyes. (White Bear Lake) #2874

ANXIOUS AND EXCITED Like most guys looking for their first experience with same sex, adult, pleasure, I'm shy and excited at the same time. I'm an open minded, uninhibited, White male, 36, recently Divorced, and looking for muscular, wild looking, guys, in their 20's with long hair, tattoos, and faded jeans or cut-offs. I'm into phone fun, photography, and videography, as well as doing the deed. I'll try anything but pain. (Madison) #2270

ROCK HARD I'm an avid bodybuilder and swimmer, 5'6, 135lbs. My tight, muscular, body consists of thick, full pecs, a broad back, biceps that feel like billiard balls, defined, cut abs, and a pair of thick, hairy, muscular legs. You should see what I'm packing between them. If you're the same type of guy, well built and endowed, let's have some fun. (Madison) #2120

I DIG DEFINITION Good looking, 19 year old, mixed race male, 6ft, 135lbs, with Black hair, Brown eyes, and a light complexion, seeks hot men, 18 to 25, for good, clean, fun. I love guys with great legs, butts, arms, and stomachs. (Milwaukee) #3563

JUST ONE MORE TIME I'm good looking, 5'11, 150lbs, and looking for any Bi or Gay guys. I'm Straight, but I've been with a guy before, and it would be fun to do again. (Milwaukee) #3492

INTO THE RECEIVER This sexy, masculine guy loves to have hot phone conversations with other horny men. Let's talk. (Milwaukee) #3196

ORAL FANTASY This masculine, hairy, Bi curious, Italian male, 38, 5'8, 170lbs, has an oral fantasy involving a very well endowed man. Please leave me a message. (Milwaukee) #3015

FOOT IN MOUTH Do you have a foot fetish? I sure do. Let's talk about it. (Milwaukee) #31763

BARBER OF BODS I specialize in body barbering work. If you'd like to experiment in full, or partial, body shaving, or would like to have some hair trimmed, let me hear from you. No request is too unusual. (Milwaukee) #17826

SLOPPY PHONE FRIEND Phone sex gets me off. How about you? Don't you need to let your tongue flow freely? I have a great imagination and I'm always horny. (Milwaukee) #2647

LOVE OF LIFE I'm a Black, African male, 33, seeking other, similar, guys to hang out, and kick it, with. I enjoy baking, walks by the lake, and having fun. I try to enjoy every minute of my life and appreciate being around people who do the same. (Milwaukee) #2066

YOU AND ME AND THE VCR I love to watch porno videos with other dudes and get off together. I'm a good looking, well built, 25 year old, White male, 6'1, 165lbs, with a lot of energy. I'm looking for casual fun, not serious relationships. (Milwaukee) #2011

NEEDY IN NEENAH Hi guys, I'm looking for hot times with hot guys. Give me a call. (Neenah) #3491

ALL OUT FOR FUN This very easy going, attractive, White male, 30, 6ft, 150lbs, with a nice, tanned, body, seeks a man, 18 to 35, for friendship and more. I enjoy sports, the outdoors, going out on the town, and quiet evenings at home. (Oshkosh) #2490

A WALK IN THE PARK This 29 year old, White male, 5'11, 190lbs, with Brown hair, Brown eyes, and a hairy body wants to meet a Gay, White male, 26 to 39, for walks in the woods, and fun outdoors. I'm also into computers and repairing farm equipment. (Portage) #2243

WOW ME IN WAUSAU I've never been with a guy before. I guess I've pushed the idea from my mind but, suddenly, the desire has come over me and I can't wait any more. I'm a nice looking, good natured, 22 year old, White male, hoping you call right away. (Wausau) #3108

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Blue Eyed

STRANGER I'm a good looking, southern boy, recently transplanted in Minneapolis. This 26 year old, White male, 5'11, 170lbs, with Blond hair and Blue eyes, is masculine, in good shape, and HIV positive. I like rollerblading, candlelight dinners, music, intimate talks, honesty, and sincerity. I seek a masculine man, around 30, preferably with dark hair, eyes, and complexion, for a relationship. (Minneapolis) #1904

Wisconsin

SUMMER STUD Good looking, down to earth, very well built, 36 year old, Bi, White male, 6'2, 185lbs, with Brown hair and Green eyes, seeks in shape men, 18 to 35, for fun. If you're Bi curious, or new to the scene, that's a plus. Experience is nice too. I'm pretty available all summer. (Adams) #2936

FREE IN THE FOOTHILLS Boy, am I glad to be back in the foothills. I just returned from Atlanta where I realized that city life ain't for me. I'm a good natured, laid back, White male, 25, 6ft, 180lbs, looking for friends and, eventually, a relationship. I'm a farm kid who loves the country and can't deal with the fast pace, and insincerity, of the metropolis. (Baraboo) #3027

SOUNDS LIKE A BEAVER WARNING! This nice guy seeks friends or just people to talk to. (Beaver Dam) #3261

FAR EAST YEARNING Good looking, lonely, White male, 49, 5'9, 170lbs, wants to meet Asian males, 18 to 26, for good times and companionship. (Columbia County) #3514

BLOW MY HORN Hot, masculine, White male, 35, 6ft, 190lbs, with Brown hair and Green eyes, seeks other horny men, 20 to 30, for fun times. (Eau Claire) #7099

ALL SYSTEMS ARE GO This 19 year old, White male, wants to get to know other guys, under 30. In my world, everything is go. I like men who are intelligent, humorous, and compassionate. (Eau Claire) #3074

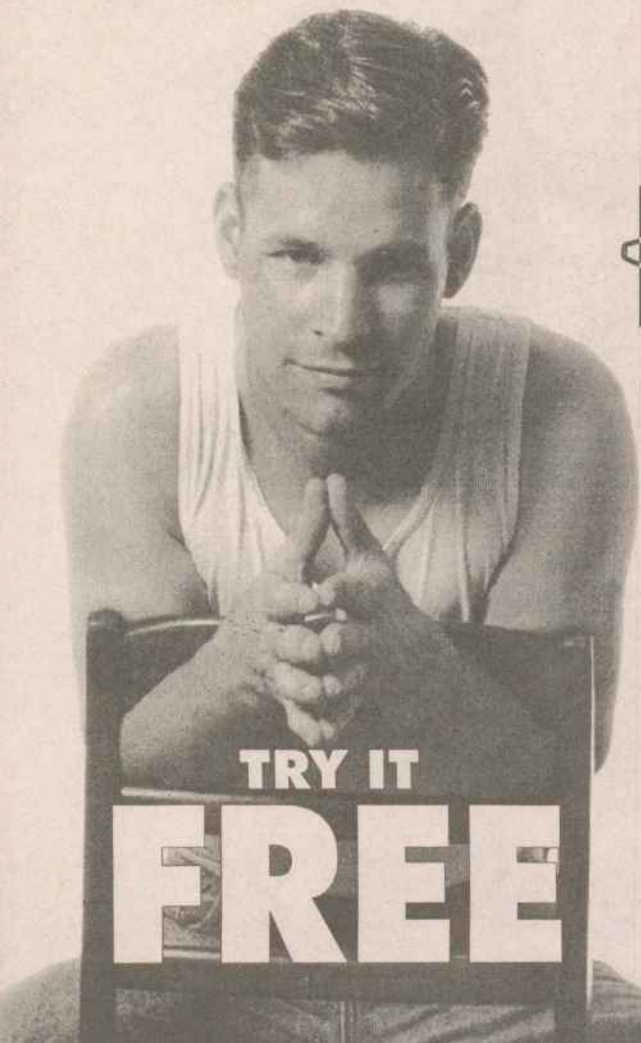
TREAT ME RIGHT I'm looking for a man who can do just that. I'm an 18 year old, White male, 155lbs, with Brown hair and Green eyes. I'm into good times, and would love a relationship, but want for us to be friends first. You should be thin, easy going, and enjoy doing fun stuff. (Kaukauna) #2173

THE WEE HOURS I want to hook up with hot guys in the mornings or late evenings. Let's party. (Madison) #3606

BUD BOWL XXVI I'm a good natured, 26 year old, White male, 5'9, 200lbs, with Brown hair and eyes. I like fishing and hanging out, drinking a few beers. (Madison) #3214

SAUT... AND PIERCE My varied interests include cooking, farmer's markets, body piercing, and alternative music. This attractive, 25 year old, White male, 185lbs, seeks other Bi, or Gay, White males to have fun with. (Madison) #2891

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ANGELS
Continued From Page 13

not imagine the sheer grandeur of the prospect we gazed upon."

TK: In both Perestroika [part two of Angels] and Slavs!, the whole play proceeds from the question: If you don't know where you're going, can you move? And do you even have a choice, or do you just dive in and work it out as you're going?

You can't stay back. The fundamental question is: Are we made by history or do we make history—and the answer is yes. I was rereading Marx's *Eighteenth Brumaire of Louis Bonaparte* recently. The whole tradition in socialist struggle is looking to the past for an antecedent form upon which the present revolutionary response is to be modeled. We may need to stop doing that.

I still believe in a dialectical ordering of the universe. There is a dynamic principle at work—it isn't always mechanically moving things toward the good, but there's always either some sort of progress or decay. And there's too much misery in the world. That is not something that can hold.

AB: What do you think is to be done?

TK: I'm 38 now. One of the painful rites of passage that everyone on the left goes through is to realize it's a lifelong struggle. What we're dealing with from Nixon on as a counter-reaction to the '60s is a very widespread, long-term historical trend. It's going to take many years and probably a few decades to reverse. People need to be willing to take an issue that they feel passionately about, address themselves to it as extensively as they are capable of and build common cause between issue groups.

Everybody on the left needs to start talking about how to create, first on local levels and eventually on a national level, a third party or at least a party that could establish some kind of position in Congress. That's the eternal dream of the left.

AB: You think there's no hope for revitalizing the Democratic Party?

TK: It's a waste of time at this point.

AB: There's a lot of discussion now about the second wave of the AIDS epidemic, and about Gay men not practicing safer sex. Where do you weigh in?

TK: It's very difficult to ask people to abstain from pleasure indefinitely, especially sexual erotic pleasure, which is so incredibly important to human beings and the enjoyment of which among Gay people is so much of a political battlefield. There is absolutely no question that safer sex is not as gratifying and that given all the despair and the unbelievably imponderable weight of loss that the community has had to deal with, self-destructive behaviors are going to be engaged in.

I was scared about writing a play where there's a couple, one has AIDS and the other walks out. I thought, this is trans-

gressive and scary and am I going to become public enemy number one in the Gay community for having written a character like Louis? On the other hand, you have to be willing to scare the horses. You have to be interesting and you have to be daring and you have to be willing to write things that shock. Shock is part of art. Art that's polite is not much fun.

MUSIC
Continued From page 12

Frankel was principally a "serious," classical composer, but his talents led him to compose at least one significant, wonderfully dramatic film score, that being *The Battle of the Bulge* (1965).

English composer Sir Malcolm Arnold, along with Ralph Vaughn Williams, was England's most popular composer of the 20th century. He was a respected classical composer and one of England's most prolific film scorers of the 1950s. Arnold wrote the scores to *The Captain's Paradise* (1953), *Trapeze* (1956), *Island in the Sun* (1957), *The Inn of the Sixth Happiness* (1958), and *Tunes of Glory* (1960).

However, the score with which he gained worldwide fame was also the one that gave him an Oscar—"The Bridge on the River Kwai" from 1957. Arnold's terrific Kwai score is as evocative of a whole era of film making as it was of the film itself, exciting and eloquent, even to the casual listener.

One of the great ironies of film score history is that many of the classic Hollywood Westerns of the '40s and '50s were penned by a Russian-born composer. At the height of the Cold War, a native of the "Evil Empire" wrote compelling, authentic-sounding music for the most American of all movie genres—the Western.

I'm speaking here of Dimitri Tiomkin. Tiomkin also had a close association with famed director Alfred Hitchcock, and was thus the composer of the scores for *Shadow of Doubt*, *I Confess*, *Strangers on a Train*, and perhaps his finest, *Dial M for Murder* (1954). He also composed the wonderful score of the heroic war movie *The Guns of Navarone* (1961).

But it was the Hollywood Western in which Tiomkin excelled, and as authentically American West as his music sounds, the discerning listener can still hear subtle inflections of his native Russia now and then.

Tiomkin scored the music for *Duel in the Sun* (1946), *Red River* (1948), *High Noon* (1952), *Giant* (1956), *Rio Bravo* (1959), *MacKenna's Gold* (1969), and perhaps his best, *The Alamo* (1960).

For Tiomkin, *The Alamo* presented a wonderful opportunity to create a massive, significant, new score in the genre in which he excelled; indeed, his music for the 200 minute outdoors saga is everything a great Western should be—vibrant, exciting, teeming with themes that capture the scope of the action as well as the natural setting in which it is played. Unfortunately, Tiomkin, already a recipient of the reputable Golden Globe Award, lost the best score Oscar to Ernest Gold's *Exodus*. Two "pop" songs came out of Tiomkin's *Alamo* score: Marty Robbins' "Ballad of the Alamo," and "The Green Leaves of Summer" by the Brothers Four.

The Classical tradition—principally the German Romantic tradition of the turn of the last century—has truly been a great blessing to the world of classic film music. Indeed, it's not too far fetched to think of a modern-day film score as the latter-day counterpart to the incidental music for stage dramas or operas of those early times.

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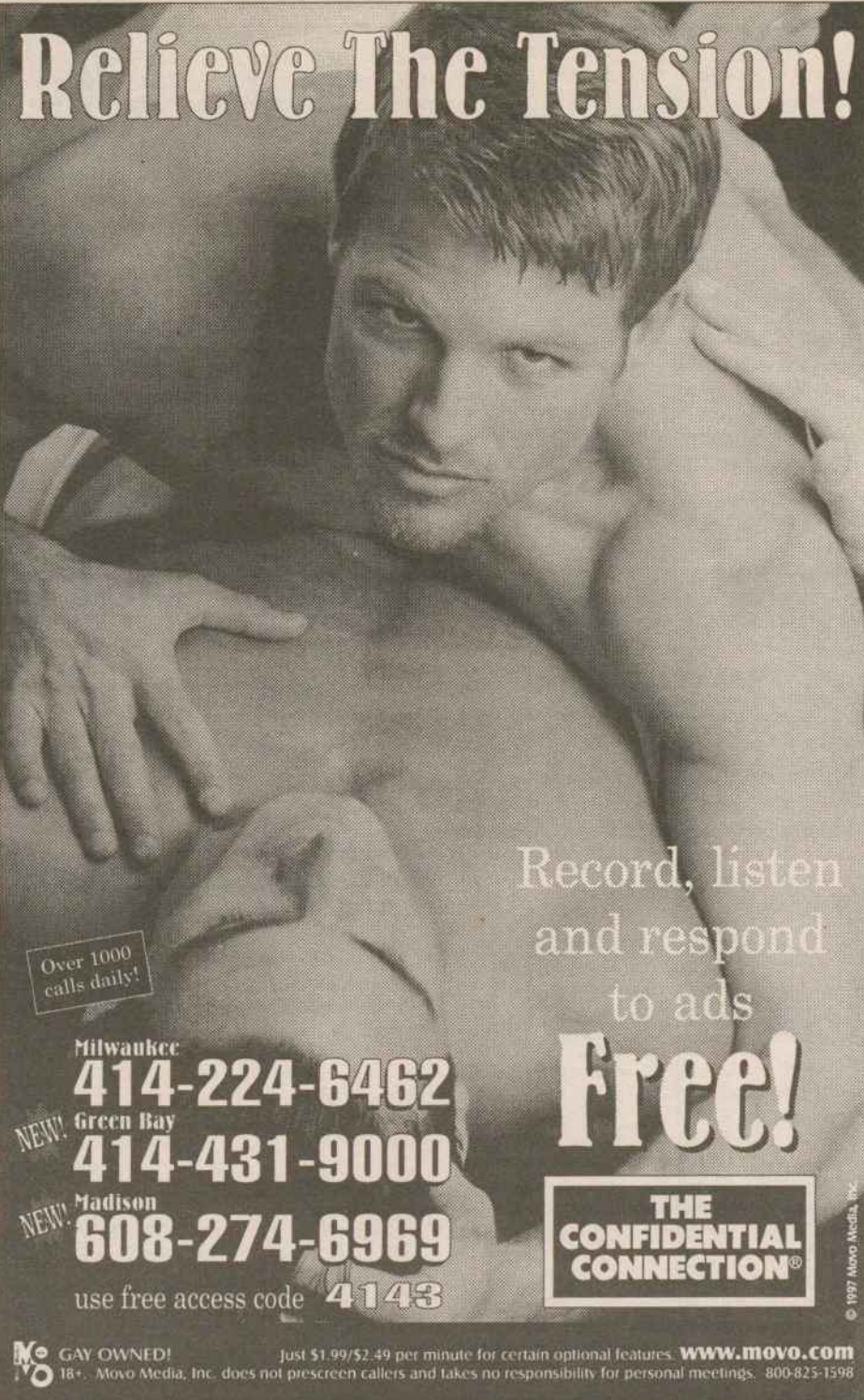
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Obituary

Robert E. Lutz

Sept. 29, 1953-July 4, 1997

By Bobby "Positive" Lutz

I was truly blessed. I loved life and I lived well. My parents loved me and each other. My siblings loved me and accepted my homosexuality, and later, my AIDS.

God blessed me with a logical mind. My father taught me business, my mother, empathy. I was paid well for work I loved so much I'd have done it for free.

I had several wonderful relationships and two great loves. When my spouse of 11 years, artist Jon Reich, died in September, 1992, I didn't think I'd love again. In December, 1993, Rich Cristobal came into my life. It was love at first sight for both of us. When it's right, you feel it in every cell of your body. Rich moved in a week after we met, and we've been madly in love since. I'll miss him most of all. If there are guardian angels, I'll be Rich's.

I was blessed with many friends, too numerous to list. I loved you all. I'll miss you.

I stopped believing in Catholicism in the 8th grade, the bible a short time later. If there is an afterlife, I'm hoping the way I lived my life will qualify me for a plea bargain. Most of my friends from the early '80s have already died of AIDS. Some were good and some were not, so heaven or hell, I'll have friends to comfort me.

I'm especially grateful to my team of caregivers, including the staff of Illinois Masonic Medical Center's AIDS unit. Nobody does it better.

When the disease struck, I had all the advantages: supportive family, health insurance, ample savings and good doctors. If you want to do something in my memory, show your love to a person with AIDS who lacks my advantages.

I regret not having children. I would have been a good father.

I regret withholding the complete truth from my co-workers and professional friends. I was afraid some of them would fear my AIDS out of ignorance.

I am most proud of the nurturing I gave that helped others improve their lives. I'm proud of the responsible way I handled my sex life after learning of the virus. I'm proud that Rich is HIV- and determined to stay that way. I'd consider it murder to knowingly pass on this disease. Life is precious.

There will be a celebration of my life. I'll be the skinny bag of bones wearing too much makeup. I won't get up to greet

you, but be careful what you say. I will be listening. My spirit will fill the room.

I want a rowdy wake with loud voices, laughter, joy and inappropriate jokes. No whispering church mice for me. Interment is where I want a big show of grief. Hire professional wailers and play taps.

If you eulogize me, please limit yourself to two bible references. Too many services I've attended sounded like sermons. The deceased was honored with tired cliches from a preacher who didn't really know them. I want you to expose me at the wake. Stand up and tell the others who I was, faults and all. Share me with each other.

Mourn my loss if you like, but don't feel sorry for me. We all have things we want to do before we die. I got to do mine. I loved life and lived well. My mission is complete. I'm the luckiest boy who ever lived.

**

Robert E. Lutz of Chicago died of complications of AIDS on July 4, 1997. A celebration of his life was held in Chicago on July 6th with burial on July 8th in Venice, Florida. He was known as "Bobby Positive," the pen name he used for a number of booklets he wrote in the last two years of his life.

The most popular booklet was "AIDS 201: Survival Tips for Symptomatic PWAs," 51 pages of tips, advice, suggestions, and practical wisdom gleaned from living with HIV and AIDS for many years.

In partnership with the BestD Clinic of Milwaukee, Lutz had the booklet published and 30,000 copies have been distributed to individuals and agencies around the world. Excerpts have been published in *Positively Aware* and *POZ*, both distributed magazines for the HIV community. Newsletters from Maine to California and Guam to Kamloops, British Columbia have also either highlighted or serialized his work. Roxanne Laboratories has not only been distributing "AIDS 201" at their regional seminars across the nation, but have taken on the task of translating the booklet into Spanish and bearing the cost of printing it.

The partnership with BestD Clinic began with the friendship that Ross Walker and Erv Uecker have had since 1982 with Bob and his deceased life partner, artist Jon Reich. Jon died from complications of AIDS in September, 1992.

Preparing for an exhibit of Jon's work at BestD Clinic early in 1996, Walker and Uecker encouraged Bob in his writing and worked with him in polishing up "AIDS 201" by making suggestions, editing and proofreading. Bob then asked if BestD Clinic would take on the publishing and distribution of the book, which its Board willingly did because of the potential positive impact it could have. A third printing of 15,000 copies is in the works through a Chicago printer.

BestD will carry on "Bobby Positive's" work and continue to make all of his

booklets available for as long as they are useful.

Bob Lutz is survived by his current "second love" and life partner, since 1994, Rich Cristobal, his father, Eugene, sister, Marigene and brothers, Jim, Chuck and Tom and, of course, countless admirers around the world.

DAMES

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Plaid was a hit with Madison audiences. Since then, her directing credits have included the off-Broadway production of *Zombies from the Beyond*, Cabaret for the Milwaukee Jewish Community Theater and *Little Shop of Horrors* at Cardinal Stritch College. Milwaukee-based Richard Carsey will serve as musical director. Carsey is artistic director of Skylight Opera Theatre. He has conducted hundreds of performances ranging from the Marriage of Figaro to Sweeney Todd. He is also the founder of the Skylight Music Series and co-author of Broadway Cabaret.

Determined, wide-eyes Ruby is played by 20-year-old Tonya Kay. She has recently been seen in Theatre at the Center's Finian's Rainbow and as Patsy in *Crazy for You* with the Peninsula Players. Other credits include *The Elephant Man* and the first national tour of *The Tap Dance Kid*. Tony Clements plays Ruby's romantic interest, Dick. Clements returns to Madison Rep after his crowd-pleasing performance in *Forever Plaid*. He recently starred in *Falsettos* at the Skylight Theatre in Milwaukee.

Other performances at the Skylight include the role of Anthony Hope in *Sweeney Todd* and Billy in *Wings*. The dramatic role of Broadway diva Mona is played by Carolynne Warren. For the past three years, Warren has been touring her one-woman musical revue, *The Carolynne Show*. Warren is the recipient of Chicago's After Dark Award for Outstanding Cabaret Artist of the Year.

Making her Madison debut, Becky Spice plays the role of the wise-cracking showgirl Joan. Spice has performed primarily with the Skylight Opera Theatre in their productions of *West Side Story*, *Cabaret*, *Falsettos*, and most recently as Eliza Doolittle in *My Fair Lady*.

Other credits include Bonnie in *Anything Goes* with Music Under the Stars and Guenevere in *Camelot* with The Milwaukee Players. Joan's talented sailor beau, Lucky, is played by John Staniunas. Staniunas returns to the Rep where he has been seen in *Forever Plaid* and *Goodnight Desdemona*. His credits include teaching at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and acting and directing at regional theaters across the country.

The roles of Hennesey, the producer/manager, and Captain Courageous are played by Norman Moses. Moses has been seen in the Rep's productions of *The Mystery of Irma Vep* and *All in the Timing*. He has also performed with The Skylight Opera Theatre, Next Act Theatre, The Milwaukee Rep, and the Goodman Theatre.

Completing this outstanding cast is Kelli Clement, playing the hard working, toe-tapping showgirl Ginger. Clement is returning to Madison Rep after playing Sister Mary Hubert in *Nunsense II* last summer. Her recent credits in Madison include

Death Defying Acts and The Sisters Rosensweig.

Dames at Sea's set designer, Frank Schneeberger, has designed Rep sets for 19 seasons. Highlights include *Who's Afraid of Virginia Wolf?*, *All My Sons* and *I Hate Hamlet*.

Lighting designer, John Frautschy, lights up the Rep stage as he has for the Rep's productions of *A Raisin in the Sun* and *Goodnight Desdemona*. Frautschy has also designed for New American Theater, Rockford Dance Company, and has assisted at the Milwaukee Rep.

Sharon Sobel, guest costume designer, has designed costumes for over fifty productions. Theaters include The Julliard School, Long Island Stage, Brooklyn Academy of Music and Connecticut Repertory Theatre.

Sound designer Caleb Pourchot's work has been heard in the Rep productions of *Forever Plaid*, *Season's Greetings* and *Nunsense II*. Production stage manager is Sara Young.

Dames at Sea opens on Friday, July 25 at 8:00 p.m. and runs through Sunday, August 31. There will be post-performance discussions held after the Sunday, July 27 and the Wednesday, August 6 performances. Audience discussions are free and open to the public. The Sunday, August 17 performance at 7:30 p.m. will be interpreted in American Sign Language. TDD: 267-2674.

Single ticket prices are \$18 for Wednesday, Thursday and Sunday performances and \$22 for Friday and Saturday performances. Discounted rush tickets are available by request on the day of the show at the Civic Center Ticket Office. Discounts

are available for groups of 15 or more. Group information is available by calling the Rep offices at (608) 256-0029. Tickets are available through the Madison Civic Center Ticket Office at 211 State Street or by calling (608) 266-9055.

The Rep's production of *Dames at Sea* is supported in part by the Wisconsin Arts Board with funds from the State of Wisconsin, the Dane County Cultural Affairs Commission with additional support from the Madison Community Foundation, the Shubert Foundation and the Madison Civic Center Foundation. Corporate Sponsors are the *Wisconsin State Journal* and *The Capital Times*.

DAVIS

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hopelessly dated dialogue. For agedness, she allocates too much somber weightiness to the dialogue, she pitches her voice too low, and adopts some twitchy-palsied hand and body movements, unusual even for her. Since Flynn performs like a high school student who hates English, Bette is left monolithically alone to balance the production. She's interesting, if imperfect, as the older queen in comparison to the previous Carlotta, but the public loved it.

The Old Maid (1939) was an even greater success and doubtless the grandest soap opera of the year. As Aunt Charlotte, who allows her rapacious best friend, Miriam Hopkins, to adopt and give respectability to her illegitimate daughter, finally becoming an embittered spinster resented by her unaware daughter, Bette was at her best, but the story is hopelessly dated. Although masochism was not Davis' forte, she convincingly changes from a sweet girl in love (with the ever-present George Brent), to a saddened young woman too tainted (by 1865 standards), for anyone to marry, finally to a sour spinster cloaking her love for her daughter under a self-sacrificing guise of spiteful propriety. The girl grows up hating mean old Aunt Charlotte. Even to such drippingly overripe material, Bette brings life and sensitivity. Miriam Hopkins, herself a skilled performer, seems stagey and artificial by comparison.

By now, Bette had demonstrated that her unique vitality could override all manner of melodrama. Her signature versatility had a curious sense of artistic grandeur, but she was never static. Her performances had a stand-up-and-bowl-them-over quality which etched her characters unforgettably into memory. In 1940, Bette Davis had replaced Shirley Temple as America's Favorite Actress, according to popular polls. More importantly, she was almost single handedly improving movie goers' appetites for fine dramatic acting. Bette Davis had become an international icon. By 1940, Bette entered her classic phase. Her acting, while losing none of its bite, had become more fluid and actually increased in emotional intensity.

The Letter (1940) was her second collaboration with William Wyler. Both were at the height of their powers. The story of Leslie Crosbie, who, claiming attempted sexual assault, shoots her secret lover on her veranda on a Malaysian rubber plantation, was based on a famous Somerset Maugham short story and play. Often acclaimed as Davis' best film, it was a masterful production and holds up well.

Superbly photographed, some of the sequences remain unforgettable: the long opening tracking shot of the silent jungle underbrush punctuated by gunshots; Bette silent and motionless, looking down at the body, gun in hand; her increasing anxiety when confronted by her lawyer with a copy of the incriminating letter sent to her lover.

Several scenes are created with a minimum of dialogue; Bette forced to kneel at the feet of the Malaysian wife, who contemptuously throws the now ransomed letter to the ground...a long sequence staged in a cloud-filled opium den; Bette agonizingly blurring out the famous line, "With all my heart I still love the man I killed."; when her husband tries to embrace her; and finally, her exhausted look of tragic resignation as she walks wordlessly to her death in her silent, moonlit garden.

Wyler's powerful conceptualization of the drama has never been equaled in subsequent remakes. He might almost have reigned in Bette to becoming a "director's tool" while clearly showcasing her, but Davis remains her own mistress by giving a powerful, if restrained, performance, while attesting to her own integrity as an artist by deferring to Wyler's superb structuring of the film. Still, Bette's name precedes the film title in a separate frame. Warner Bros knew what they were selling. This very, very high quality merchandise, Bette Davis, was at the height of her prestige. Although contemporaneous and down to earth, even in period films, her gutsy style was acquiring an almost aristocratic poise which other fine actresses couldn't quite match.

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Organizations

Galano Club A social club serving the recovering Gay and Lesbian community. Regularly scheduled AA, NA and Al-anon, ACOA and other 12 step meetings. Openly nightly, 2408 N. Farwell Ave., (414) 276-6936