

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

The Wisconsin Light

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Police See Nothing Puzzling in Kevin Rotar's Death St. Francis Chief Says

Milwaukee—In an update to our story on the death of Kevin Rotar, the Milwaukee Journal reported that authorities identified a body found on the beach at Virmond Park as being that of Rotar, missing in Lake Michigan since August 9. The beach is about 15 miles north of St. Francis where Rotar was reported to have dived off a boat in pursuit of a hat.

According to Matthew Brooks, a spokesman for the Coast Guard, Rotar and a group of friends were aboard a 30 foot cabin cruiser, the "Just Right" owned by Club 219 manager Chuck Cicarello.

According to a front page story in the Journal on Tuesday, August 26, bylined to Tom Vanden Brook, authorities are continuing to raise questions about Rotar's death.

St. Francis Police Chief Jim Burgess, however, downplayed any inferences that could be concluded about the situation. He said that a "complete autopsy" had been done on Rotar's body and that "no evidence of trauma" had been found.

Burgess emphasized several times that there was "no suspicion of foul play"; that no one was under investigation. He thought that any implication as to that effect and any rumors were "injurious to Rotar's family."

Contrary to other reports, Burgess said that there was no conflict in the stories of those present on the boat. The only exception, he said, was in the differing judgements as to the position of the boat at the time.

Burgess, who said that he had "extensive" experience in ocean diving, denied that police have concerns or questions about the distance the body traveled while in the Lake.

According to Burgess, at the point where Rotar was, the break wall had a low point. The Lake was choppy that day. In those circumstances, Burgess said, the waves pound against the break wall and over the low section. A strong suction is set up. Based on his years of experience, Burgess said that he believes Rotar got caught in the suction and was pulled down and swept out.

Burgess said that the St. Francis Police had received a call "about 4:00 p.m." The Coast Guard and rescue units had been called first, "which is the way it should be," he said.

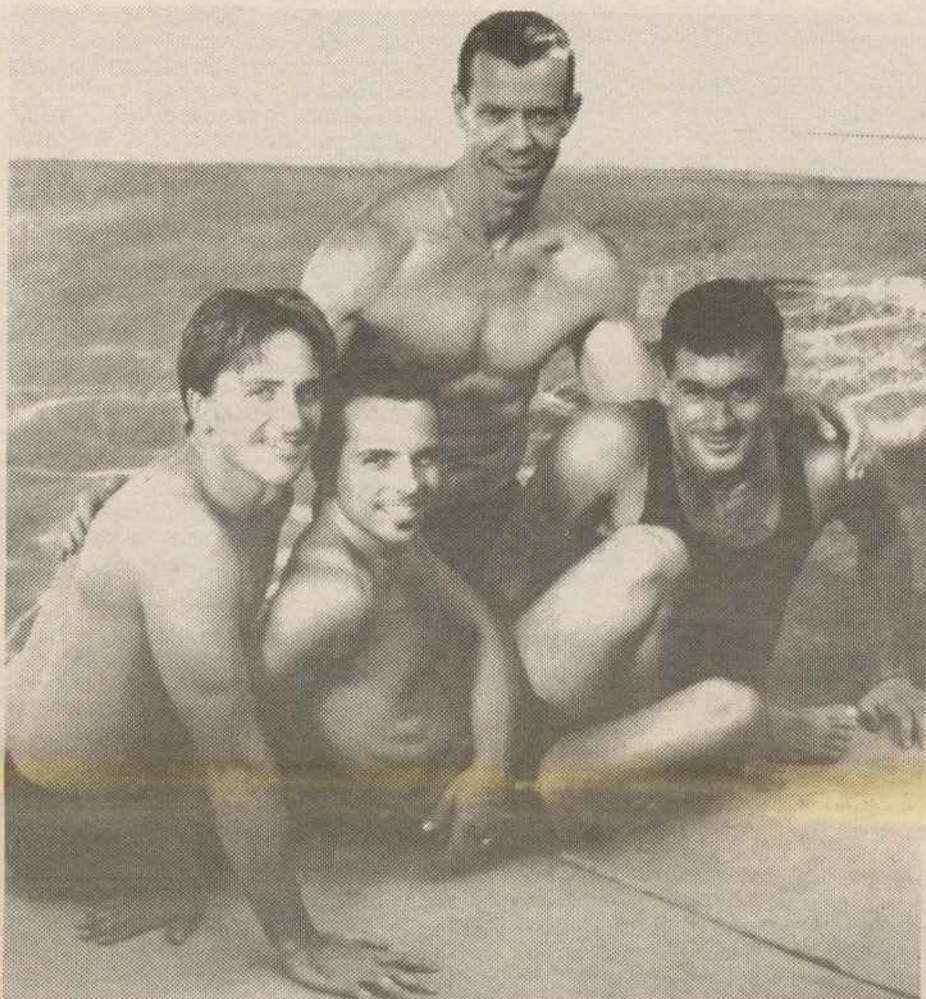
In succeeding days, stormy conditions obtained on the Lake. Burgess said that he believed that Rotar's body would have been swept along by wave action. This explains the distance, he said.

Burgess said that now police await the toxicology report, but it will do "nothing" to change police ideas that there was "no foul play."

Services were held for Kevin Rotar by his family on Sunday, August 24, 1997. He was 41.

Psychologists Denounce Attempts to Change Gays and Lesbians

Overwhelming Majority Attack "Reparative" Therapy



Coming to the Party— Men Out Loud, the openly gay, men's a capella group from Los Angeles will be among the featured entertainers at the Decade of Light party on Sunday, November 9th at the Milwaukee Hilton Hotel. The party celebrates the tenth anniversary of The Wisconsin Light. The group's repertoire includes pop, dance music, classic, R & B and Doo-Wop. Their debut album on Mercury records was released in June to critical acclaim.

Medical College Receives \$4 Million Grant for Inner City Teen HIV Prevention Study

Milwaukee—The Medical College of Wisconsin has received a \$4,166,000 three-year grant to develop and evaluate the effectiveness of HIV prevention programs for teenagers living in inner city and public housing developments. The grant was awarded to the Center for AIDS Intervention Research (CAIR) at the Medical College by the National Institute of Mental Health.

"Recent statistics show that Americans are contracting HIV at a much younger age than in the past," said Jeffrey A. Kelly, Ph.D., director of CAIR, professor of psychiatry and behavioral medicine, and principal investigator of the study. "It is clear that we need to develop large-scale prevention programs for adolescents because they are at high potential risk for contracting the disease."

The three-year study will focus on youths, ages 12 to 17, living in 15 low-income housing developments in the metro areas of five U.S. cities: Milwaukee, Seattle, Cleveland, Roanoke (Virginia), and Atlanta. While many past HIV prevention programs have provided one-on-one and small group counseling, this project will seek to mobilize teens on a community-wide level to take on roles as AIDS prevention advocates to their peers. The youths will not only learn how to protect themselves from HIV, but will also learn how to talk effectively to other teens about the benefits of avoiding AIDS risk, creating a peer environment that supports the decisions of adolescents to protect themselves from HIV.

"For the project to be successful, it needs to be responsive to the values of the

families, so development of the prevention education program will be preceded by six months of meetings with teenagers and their parents to gather their input," Kelly said. Parental advisory committees will also be formed to participate in program planning.

The new study with adolescents follows three years of HIV prevention work already undertaken by CAIR investigators with adult women in 18 U.S. inner-city housing developments. In the now-concluding study, it was shown that women who are liked and well-respected by their neighbors in housing developments can take on roles as effective and credible AIDS prevention advocates to other women.

"We found it is possible to mobilize women to talk with their neighbors about AIDS, and that this approach results in substantial reductions in HIV risk behavior among women throughout the housing development neighborhood," said Kathleen J. Sikkema, Ph.D., associate professor of psychiatry and behavioral medicine and co-principal investigator of the new adolescent study. Similar community methods will be conducted in the new project, which seeks to strengthen young adolescents' intentions to abstain from sex or, if already sexually active, to use condoms during sex.

"It is exciting that the plan for the new project came from women in the concluding study who asked that CAIR investigators extend their work to young people, Sikkema said.

Please Turn to Medical College Page 6

Washington, DC— On August 14, 1997, The American Psychological Association (APA) passed a resolution that represents a serious setback to proponents of so-called "reparative" or "conversion" therapy, according to the Human Rights Campaign (HRC).

The APA is the largest scientific and professional organization representing psychology in the United States.

According to a statement issued by the APA, the resolution "affirmed four basic principles:

- Homosexuality is not a mental disorder and the APA opposes all portrayals of Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual people as mentally ill and in need of treatment due to their sexual orientation;
- Psychologists do not knowingly participate in or condone discriminatory practices with Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual clients;
- Psychologists respect the rights of individuals, including Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual clients, to privacy, confidentiality, self-determination and autonomy;
- Psychologists obtain appropriate informed consent to therapy in their work with Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual clients.

The resolution further states that the APA "urges all mental health professionals to take the lead in removing the stigma of mental illness that has long been associated with homosexual orientation."

According to the APA, the resolution passed "by an overwhelming majority."

"These conversion therapies amount to nothing more than psychological terrorism and are usually performed by practitioners who harbor intense bias against Gay people," said David M. Smith, HRC's senior strategist. "These practitioners usually are affiliated with extremist religious groups that promote the illusion that sexual orientation can be changed to further their political aims."

So-called reparative therapy seeks to convert Gay people to heterosexuality, which many mental health professionals agree cannot be done. Some have compared these techniques to efforts to make some left-handed people right-handed; they may learn to use their right hands but they still are innately left-handed.

Supporters of reparative therapy demanded that the APA make a statement on these therapies because they have been under intensive debate within the profession and in the larger society.

"This resolution reaffirms the fact that since there is nothing wrong with homosexuality, there is no reason that Gay, Lesbian or Bisexual people should try to change their orientations," said Kim Mills, another HRC spokesperson. "We stand with the APA in calling for an end to discrimination against people based on their sexual orientation."

The resolution strongly reaffirms that homosexuality is not a mental illness and that psychologists must not "participate in or condone discriminatory practices with sexual minority clients."

In addition, the APA resolution calls on psychologists to "respect the rights of individuals, including sexual minority clients, to privacy, confidentiality, self-determination and autonomy." And it directs psychologists to obtain appropriate informed consent to therapy when working with sexual minority clients, including minors.

News From The Nation



Couturier Dresses Bishops in Rainbow Colors

Paris, France-AP- A French couturier beloved by superstars for his playful style has designed vestments for the Catholic World Youth Day celebration - but his creation is too controversial for conservative tastes.

Men of the cloth walked under the Eiffel Tower on Tuesday wearing Jean-Charles de Castelbajac's robes - brightly trimmed with a strip of rainbow colors.

With glee, some commentators noted the design resembled the rainbow symbol of the Gay civil rights movement. The Archdiocese of Paris had asked Castelbajac, a devout Catholic, to design the ceremonial robes for the 12th World Youth Day, which culminates Sunday with a Mass led by Pope John Paul II.

Conservative Catholics were up in arms over the resemblance to the Gay rights symbol. At the festival's daily news briefing, church officials defended the style choice. "I am happy homosexuals have chosen for colors a biblical and a human sign. But they didn't invent the rainbow," said Monsignor Michel Dubost, the chief organizer of World Youth Day. "I don't see why you have to be ugly to be Christian," he said.

King's Niece Supports Anti-Gay Discrimination

Sacramento, CA-AP- Martin Luther King's niece denounced legislation Tuesday that would crack down on anti-Gay discrimination, saying sexual behavior does not deserve the same protections as race.

"To equate homosexuality with race is to give a death sentence to civil rights," Alveda Celeste King told about 100 people at a rally on the Capitol steps. "No one is enslaving homosexuals ... or making them sit in the back of the bus."

Recalling the "I Have a Dream" speech by her famous uncle, King said he would not have approved of current laws that prohibit discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. "In California, injustice is being done to family values," King said.

King pointed to openly Gay Assemblywomen Carole Migden, D-San Francisco, and Sheila Kuehl, D-Santa Monica, and charged that the Legislature harbors "forces that want to steal away the civil rights from under our very noses."

School's Gay History Poster Challenged

Duneland, IN- A Gay-positive poster hanging in an English classroom became the center of a firestorm when parent Cathy Podguski charged that it was "propaganda," and that it "promoted coming out." The poster highlighted the accomplishments of Gay and Lesbian historical figures such as Walt Whitman, Michelangelo, and Eleanor Roosevelt, and had been displayed in Chesterton High School since 1991.

Following Podguski's complaint to the Duneland School Corporation Materials Reconsideration Committee, committee member John Corso examined the poster and said he "didn't see any sexual overtones or undertones." Some of the 38 people who testified before the committee argued that the poster should be removed for immorality, or that it should appear only in health classes. The 9-member committee voted unanimously to keep the poster in place.

Petition Seeks to Ban Recognition of Gay Marriage

Sacramento, CA-AP- A group hoping to keep the state from recognizing Gay marriages has received authorization to begin collecting signatures for a voter initiative.

Backers of the group called Defense of Marriage have paid the required \$200 for a title summary and now need 433,269 valid signatures of registered voters by Jan. 2 to make the June 1998 ballot.

But state legislators are baffled by who is sponsoring the initiative. Marilyn L. Hastings is listed as the Sacramento group's proponent, but she provided no contact number.

"It's kind of a mystery. We don't know who the person is who's introduced it," said Andy Pugno, legislative assistant to Sen. Pete Knight, R-Palmdale. "I don't know of any elected representatives that are involved. I get the impression this is truly a grass-roots effort and politicians are being kept in the dark."

Knight has introduced legislation the past two years to prevent California from recognizing Gay marriages. Both times, the bills were defeated.

But similar bills have passed in 25 states, according to the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force.

Cunanan's Siblings Hope to Write Book

Peoria, IL-AP- Andrew Cunanan's brother and sister say they still don't understand what turned a bright, happy boy into a killer, but right now they worry more about how their mother is handling his death.

In a television interview Monday, Mary Cunanan suggested that the Mafia was behind the death of designer Gianni Versace and that her son was killed to cover the crime.

"My mother is not well. She takes medication," said Christopher Cunanan. "She's vulnerable. She can be talked into anything right now. I wish I could protect her."

But his mother lives in San Diego, while Christopher Cunanan and sister Elena Cunanan Johnson make their lives in central Illinois.

He is a machine shop supervisor from Washburn. She is a dance instructor in Peoria. They have turned down requests to do interviews for pay, but the two told the Journal Star of Peoria that they hope to write their own book. They say details they learned from going through their brother's belongings might shed new light on his crimes.

"A person's sexuality is a personal part of life," said his brother. "And Andrew chose not to share that part with us, and that closed off a large part of his life. The Gay community became his second family."

New Laser Can Detect AIDS Virus

Albuquerque, NM-AP- A new hand-held laser that can quickly reveal blood-borne disorders and diseases such as the AIDS virus has been patented by scientists at Sandia National Laboratories.

"It's possible to take a blood sample containing millions of cells and extract information about each cell in a few minutes," said Paul Gourley, project manager at Sandia. "The results are quantifiable."

The lab said Friday the device uses millions of tiny lasers to detect blood problems. Gourley said the laser has important applications in detecting cancerous cells.

"If no cell is cancerous, we get a standard light signal. A cancerous cell gives a bright flash at different wavelengths," he said.

US West Grants Domestic Partners Benefits

Englewood, CO-AP- US West on Friday became the latest company to extend health benefits to the same-sex partners of its employees.

The new health plan also will cover dependents of same-sex couples, but does not extend to unmarried opposite-sex partners "since they have the option of becoming eligible through legal marriage."

Toni Ozeroff, US West vice president for human resources, said the change will help the company attract and keep qualified employees. The costs, Ozeroff added, are insignificant. "We've looked at other companies' experiences and confirmed that the costs of providing domestic partner health-benefits, and the additional effort required to administer those benefits, are both minimal," said

With its announcement, US West joins a number of major companies including American Express, Coors Brewing, Disney and Microsoft, that extend health benefits to same-sex couples.

US West employees who want to take advantage of same-sex partner benefits must complete an affidavit confirming that their relationship is long-term, the equivalent of marriage.

A Focus on the Family Founder Apologizes

Colorado Springs, CO-AP- A man who calls himself a co-founder of Focus on the Family, a Far Right Wing group, publicly apologized to women, ethnic minorities, Gays and Lesbians, religious groups and the media during a blitz Friday to promote his book.

Gil Alexander-Moegerle claims he was one of seven people who co-founded Focus on the Family, a \$100 million-a-year radical Christian organization that.

"I am ashamed of my former colleagues for their attacks on you and for their pattern of slamming the doors of reasonable access in your face," Alexander-Moegerle said in a written statement.

An estimated 5 million Americans tune in to Dobson's weekly radio program "Family News in Focus," which is broadcast by more than 2,500 stations around the world. About 8,000 letters pour into the Colorado Springs Focus on the Family offices daily.

Problems With Benefits in Hawaii

Honolulu, HI-AP- Those eligible for reciprocal benefits through the state are questioning whether they would have to pay the money back if the benefits policy changes.

The Legislature passed the reciprocal benefits concept this year. It allows two adults that cannot legally marry to share health benefits.

The relationships eligible would include a parent and a child; an aunt or uncle and niece or nephew; and Gay couples.

But the attorney general's office is looking into the legality of offering such benefits. Attorney General Margery Bronster has said essentially that most Hawaii companies are not required to provide medical coverage under the law.

Second Gene Found that Hinders HIV

Washington, DC-AP- A second gene mutation that slows the progression of HIV has been found by researchers who studied specimens from 3,000 people, according to a study published August 15.

Scientists at the National Cancer Institute said the altered gene or a similar one discovered earlier are present in about 30 percent of the long-term survivors of HIV infection. The researchers said still other gene mutations that protect against HIV may yet be found.

The mutation, in a gene called CCR2, tends to protect people infected with HIV from rapid deterioration into AIDS. An earlier study identified a protective mutation in a gene called CCR5.

Condom Distribution Causes Prison Riots

Kingston, Jamaica-AP- Soldiers rushed Thursday, August 21, to quell mayhem that killed three people at two major prisons, following a commissioner's suggestion that condoms be issued to guards and inmates. Both groups claimed the proposal by the corrections commissioner, Lt. Col. John Prescod, implied they were having sex with each other. Guards walked off the job Wednesday demanding Prescod's resignation and leaving unsupervised inmates to wreak havoc. Inmates apparently reacted to the perceived slight by stabbing to death two inmates, whom they accused of being Gay.

Prescod sought to clarify his statements, which also triggered a hunger strike by some prisoners. "No inference should be drawn to link wardens to homosexuality within or outside of their institutions," he said Wednesday. "It must be remembered that the use of condoms is not for homosexuals or homosexuality but for the encouragement of safe sex generally." He said he was seeking to stem the spread of AIDS, and meant for the guards to use the condoms "in their private capacity."

Police Pursue Tip in Haitian Beating

New York, NY-AP- Authorities trying to determine whether police savagely beat a Haitian immigrant are pursuing a tip that officers told hospital staff he was injured having sex with other men. The Associated Press has learned.

Investigators were checking a nurse's tip about a possible cover-up attempt by officers from the 70th Precinct stationhouse in the New York City borough of Brooklyn, law enforcement sources who spoke on condition of anonymity said Wednesday, August 20.

Prosecutors contend four officers beat Abner Louima, 30, at the stationhouse on Aug. 9 following a brawl at a nightclub. Two officers allegedly dragged Louima into a bathroom where one shoved a stick, believed to be the handle of a toilet plunger, into his rectum and his mouth while calling him racial slurs.

Four officers were arrested and charged and 14 others faced disciplinary action ranging to dismissal.

Addressing the cover-up claim, Louima's lawyer, Brian Figeroux, accused officers of trying to hide a scandal: "They constructed a story to protect their own."

Doctors at Coney Island Hospital contacted authorities when they became convinced Louima's internal injuries were caused by a blunt object. He has been transferred to Brooklyn Hospital, where he was in stable condition.

Louima has filed a \$55 million claim against the city.

Anti-Same-Sex Marriage Bill Being Resurrected

Frankfort, KY-AP- State Rep. Sheldon Baugh wanted to have "same sex" marriages outlawed last year and could not get a bill passed, but he is making another run at it for 1998.

His drafted legislation would declare void a marriage between people of the same gender, no matter where it was performed. Rights granted by virtue of the marriage, or its termination, would be unenforceable in a Kentucky court.

"The idea of same-sex marriages is ridiculous," Baugh said.

The Rev. Mendle Adams, pastor of High Point United Church of Christ at Union in Boone County, said legislation like Baugh's "would step over the line and define a religious sacrament."

Joan Callahan, a University of Kentucky philosophy professor, said there was no compelling argument, secular or moral, that intimacy between people of the same gender is bad.

Sexual Orientation Reference Rescinded

Westland, MI-AP- Less than a year after adopting the measure, Wayne-Westland school officials have deleted the sexual orientation category from the district's policy protecting students and staff from discrimination.

The seven-member school board voted 6-1 this week to remove the wording from the policy that also covers race, creed and religion. The Detroit News and Detroit Free Press reported on August 20.

Board President Debra Fowlkes said that while she is concerned about the rights of Gays and Lesbians within the district, the sexual orientation language is not needed in the policy. She said existing codes of conduct exist to prevent taunting and discrimination.

Board attorney Joseph Bennett said "Districts can prohibit vulgar speech, but there are other comments about sex that aren't obscene, like 'I don't like homosexuals,'" Bennett said. "You can't have a policy that controls that kind of speech."

Court May Sidestep Same-Sex Marriage Ban

Tallahassee, FL-AP- Just days after a new law banned Gay marriages, Florida attorneys are hearing from Gay and Lesbian couples about a court ruling backing another form of "nuptial agreement."

The sponsor of the same-sex marriage bill is questioning the appellate court's power to uphold such a pact between parties the law says cannot be married.

The ruling by a three-judge panel in Daytona Beach upheld a contract between two Brevard County women, one of whom seeks a review by the full 5th District Court of Appeal.

There's nothing wrong with an appellate judge that a good election would not cure," Rep. Johnnie Byrd said Wednesday.

Though the comment was wry, the Plant City Republican said his point was serious: the court was trying to undo what lawmakers had done.

The judges discussed in the opinion whether the contract should be voided because it violated public policy.

"It was a nuptial agreement entered into by two parties that the state prohibits from marrying," the ruling said. "But even though the state has prohibited same-sex marriages and same-sex adoptions it has not prohibited this type of arrangement."

No Matter What the New Drugs Promise, There is No Cure for AIDS

New York, NY—As AIDS treatment decisions become more complicated, those with AIDS and their loved ones need to educate themselves and work with experienced doctors who can help them understand their options.

Despite the new hope generated by the latest "cocktails" of medicines called protease inhibitors, the surprising effectiveness of these drugs may not be permanent. That's because if the virus outsmarts one drug in the cocktail, it may also become resistant to other, similar drugs.

Treating AIDS has become more like a chess game where the doctor and patient must think of several moves in advance to outsmart the virus and keep medicines from losing their potency. Unfortunately, the success of the new medicines has given some people at risk for AIDS a false sense of security. There have been reports of people having unsafe sex and using injection drugs, thinking that they don't have to avoid AIDS because it can be treated. Wrong - AIDS remains a serious, incurable disease.

Although the protease inhibitor cocktail has made HIV undetectable in people's blood, made them feel healthy, regain lost weight, and even return to work and a normal lifestyle, it has not necessarily cured them. Current technology may not be sensitive enough to detect the virus in the blood, or the virus could be lying dormant in other parts of the body.

The drug cocktail itself is not an easy path to follow. Patients must take up to 20

pills a day, always watching the clock and timing their meals because some drugs must be taken on an empty stomach, others after eating.

Another drawback is that the drugs, which can cost over \$20,000 a year, are so new that no one knows if they are safe for long periods of time.

And not everyone can withstand the combination of therapies for AIDS infections. Some may experience side effects or toxic interactions. For example, certain treatments for tuberculosis, a common disease among people with AIDS, interact with certain protease inhibitors. Because the combination can make people sick, doctors may be forced to choose whether to treat the tuberculosis or the AIDS.

Still, these medicines are our best hope yet. We now have a total of 11 powerful drugs against AIDS, and doctors are trying to learn the best way to wield these pharmacological weapons, because the virus may become resistant to the ones we use first, limiting our options in the future.

April

David Mamet's **Glengarry, Glen Ross** will receive a truly versatile twist in this Boulevard production. Midwest director Timothy X. Troy will return to the Boulevard to stage Mamet's scathing expose of real estate shenanigans for this early April through early May production.

The Boulevard Theater is located at 2252 S. Kinnickinnic. All performances run Thursdays through Sundays. For more information, call (414) 672-6019.

Scott Stokes, MAP Staff Member, Asked to Speak at Conference in Poland

Milwaukee—Nineteen ninety-seven has been a busy year for the Prevention Department at the Milwaukee AIDS Project.

On February 11, 1997, the Milwaukee AIDS Project was licensed for Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse (AODA) as the state's first, and perhaps the first in the nation, to provide drug treatment using the "harm reduction" model which targets injection drug users.

Milwaukee's success with the harm reduction prevention strategy and the new AODA licensure have led to several speaking engagements for Scott Stokes,

director of prevention services at the Milwaukee AIDS Project.

Stokes spoke in April at the Detroit Harm Reduction Experience about Milwaukee's history and experience with harm reduction and at the North American Syringe Exchange Convention in San Diego on harm reduction compared to the 12-step recovery approach.

Most recently, he spoke at the **International Conference/Harm Reduction In Eastern And Central Europe**, in Warsaw, Poland, June 11-13, 1997. Stokes also spoke at three national conventions in

1996.

"Harm reduction is a humanistic approach in dealing with a population in which HIV infection is totally preventable," said Stokes. "Many folks assume that an active injector has no regard for his or her health. Our experience is contrary to that assumption. The harm reduction approach allows us to provide welcomed life saving services in a non-judgmental manner that is delivered with respect and preserves the client's dignity."

At the International Conference, an impressive list of doctors and other experts spoke from around the world: New York, New York; Warsaw and other cities in Poland; Melbourne, Australia; Vienna, Austria; Kiev, Ukraine; Frankfurt, Germany; Brussels, Belgium; Bratislava, Slovak Republic; Riga, Latvia; Vilnius, Lithuania; Prague, Czech; Skopje, Macedonia; and more.

Stokes was selected as the only presenter from the Midwest as an expert on the harm reduction model and its importance.

"I have been asked to speak at different venues because of the Milwaukee AIDS providers do not want to deal with. We are one of few programs nationally that offers drug treatment without demanding abstinence. Our harm reduction programs are models used by other providers across the country."

Stokes has been in the field of HIV prevention since 1989 when he began his work as an Outreach Worker targeting injection drug users.

In 1993, he took on the responsibilities as the Outreach Manager for the Milwaukee AIDS Project. Soon after his employment with the agency, he began implementing LIFEPOINT, a clean needle exchange program, and was promoted to manager of harm reduction programs.

Currently, Stokes is the director of prevention services, is a member of the National Harm Reduction Working Group, sits on the World Service Board of Trustees for Cocaine Anonymous and is involved with the "National Coalition to Save Lives Now," which is working on strategies to get the Federal Government to lift the ban on using federal dollars for syringe exchange programs.

Project's reputation of providing effective harm reduction programs," said Stokes. "Each and every visitor that goes on the streets or visits the Milwaukee AIDS Project's Dennis C. Hill Harm Reduction Center is blown away by the breadth of services for a population that most service



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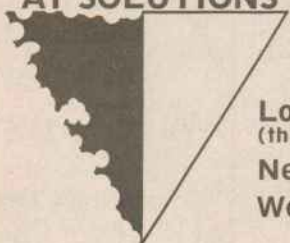
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Editorial

Welcome To M.I.S.T.

For the second time this year, Milwaukee's Wick Field will see spectacular plays, and exciting competition in a Gay Softball Tournament. M.I.S.T., The Midwest Invitational Softball Tournament, makes its Milwaukee debut on August 30 and 31st.

In a sense this tournament is the icing on the cake. It culminates an exciting twentieth anniversary season of one of America's oldest Les/Bi/Gay leagues, Milwaukee's Saturday Softball League and it follows the success of America's oldest Gay softball tournament, the Milwaukee Classic held over the Memorial Day Weekend.

The league and its tournaments are rightfully a source of pride for all of us. We are also proud of the Cream City Foundation and the Miller Brewing Company whose financial support of this tournament made it possible, and of all those who worked so hard to make it a success. We owe them and the SSBL our thanks.

Perhaps the best way to show our thanks and our pride is to come out to Wick Field and cheer on your favorite team or teams. With an excellent field comprised of twenty eight teams, M.I.S.T. will be an exciting tournament to watch.

Together these teams, along with their fans, the sponsors and even the umpires bring a colorful display of competition, fun and sportsmanship for everyone to enjoy.

To all of them we say Welcome to Milwaukee! Let's play Ball!

Pride Around the State

The Labor Day weekend will see two important pride celebrations in Wisconsin, the Twin Ports Pride Weekend in Superior and Duluth, and the Rainbow Over Wisconsin Pride Celebration in the Fox Valley. These are not as big as, or as glitzy as some others but there are no less important.

In fact the open celebration of Pride in small town Wisconsin is perhaps even more important than those in the larger cities. ROW and the Twin Ports Pride Committee remind us that we REALLY are everywhere. They also work to change attitudes in areas and promote tolerance (if not acceptance) in areas of the state represented by elected officials who have all too often ignored the call for equality.

We extend our congratulations and best wishes to all of those who have worked so hard to produce these important events. We urge those who can do so to attend and support them in every possible way.

Last but not least to the Les/Bi/Gay communities of the Fox Valley and the Twin Ports area we say "Happy Pride Days and many happy returns."

Letters

Is the Bible Worth It?

TO THE EDITOR:

I am 53 yrs young, been married and fathered two sons(one of whom made me a grandfather Aug 12), divorced and in a committed gay relationship for 7 yrs Sept 16. I am a recovered conservative Lutheran and my partner is a recovering Catholic.

We are both members of a United Church of Christ (Congregational) church here in La-Crosse. We are both on church committees and Darren was voted vice pres of his which makes him automatically a member of the church council. We have not arrived, but we are arriving. Getting here was not an easy journey for either of us.

After we met, we tried the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) and somewhere in there, Darren tried to continue with the Catholic church. Neither worked.

One Sunday Darren walked out in the middle of a catholic service saying, "I can't do this anymore." And, tho we participated in the local congregational discussions on Human Sexuality in the ELCA as the gay couple in that congregation during that time when they were going thru all those motions, we finally became too insulted with their collective agonizing about homosexuality and left the church.

There followed a 3-4 year period when we participated in no religious observances. In retrospect, we now see that those were years of strife in our life and relationship as we struggled to fill the spiritual void with some of the false "spiritual" alternatives that the homosexual world has to offer.

Tho we still struggle with the effects those activities had upon us, we are fortunate that our relationship survived that time to where we began to realize, together, that those activities weren't working and we began our search to return to a real spiritual home. That led us to UCC.

The recent letter writer, Richard Mence of Milwaukee, is right on when he asserts that "when God closes a door, he opens a window."

None of this comes easy for us. We need to unlearn and then learn all over again. We need to leave our internal homophobia (and for too many of us, our loved ones) behind as we find God within ourselves in spite of what "the church" tells us officially. You need nothing less than to be truly "reborn."

You need not even look too closely anymore to see that the Christian church in America no longer speaks with one voice on this issue. The UCC is rapidly becoming a gay-accepting church. And yes, the ELCA isn't far behind. And the Catholic church is finding it increasingly impossible to hide the rebellion brewing within its Medieval folderol.

I urge you to inform yourself because you sound like a man floundering in a spiritual void and the truth is before you. Please read the following books: *Christianity, Social Tolerance, and Homosexuality* and *Same Sex Unions in Premodern Europe* by John Boswell; *Wrestling With the Angel* - Faith and Religion in the Lives of Gay Men, edited by

Brian Bouldrey; *Stranger at the Gate - To Be Gay and Christian in America*, by Mel White, former ghost writer for several well known media evangelists; and, most importantly I think, *What the Bible Really Says About Homosexuality* by Daniel Helmeniak, a priest and psycho therapist. The latter book is the most definitive I have found about the truth of what the Bible says on this issue.

In this limited forum, I can't say much more. But that's perhaps as it should be. Ultimately, each of us must find our own way. But you are not alone.

Bill Steffenhagen
Onalaska, Wisconsin

Gays and the Churches

TO THE EDITOR:

In the August 13, 1997, issue of *Wisconsin Light*, Terry Sanderson recommended that Gay Christians give up on the churches. In the August 27th issue, *Light* published rebuttals from Messrs. Mence, Miller, and Zopp. Here are two additional objections to Sanderson's recommendation.

Without the help of the Christian Church, the Wisconsin legislature would not have passed AB70—the law that made this state the first in the nation to prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation. Testimony from the Milwaukee Roman Catholic Archdiocese and several main-line Protestant Churches, was vital to our efforts to convince legislators to vote for this important civil right.

Secondly, many individual congregations within mainstream Protestant denominations have publicly stated that Gays and Lesbians are fully welcome in all phases of church life. The United Church of Christ, now in communion and pulpit-sharing with the largest Lutheran group and several other large Protestant churches, practices and preaches non-discrimination based on sexual orientation.

Surely, there are still some obstacles to full acceptance of Gays and Lesbians in the Roman Catholic Church and in many mainstream Protestant denominations—but the trend is certainly hopeful. If we withdrew from these churches, the "Gay movement" would lose much of its growing clout in our society.

Obviously, Mr. Sanderson, writing from the "other side of the pond," has no idea of the amount of diversity within the Christian Church over here in the colonies. Neither the Southern Baptists nor others on the religious right (or wrong), speak for the mainstream American Christian community.

Bob Moore
Milwaukee

Policy

Letters to the Editor

As a matter of policy, *Wisconsin Light* will not print a Letter to the Editor sent to or appearing in any other publication. This is general journalistic practice.

18, Gay, and a Devoted Father

By Paul Hatton

I carefully open the door to the hospital room, not really knowing what waits for me inside. A dim light filters through the curtained windows, and I can see Carrie, in bed, holding our daughter. I give Jeff the OK to come in and we enter together, walking to the bed. Carrie is fully awake and flashes her furious glare first at Jeff and then at me. Maybe he should leave. He gets the hint.

Carrie still wasn't too comfortable being around my boyfriend. Especially at a time like this, right after our daughter had been born. My daughter, Teresa. Only hours old and Carrie asks me to hold her! Oh I cannot, what if I squeeze too hard? What if I drop her?

Carrie asks me why I brought Jeff. I told her I wanted to. I was 16, and thinking back, I realize that probably wasn't the best of answers. But I was so terribly confused. In my arms I held a child. A child I helped to create, a being I gave life to. She was a part of me.

I met Carrie in the ninth grade. We became good friends, talked on the phone a lot, wrote lots of little cutesy notes back and forth and grew closer. I knew I was Gay—but I "asked her out," thinking it was the right thing to do.

I tried very hard to enjoy myself—I tried for two years. Things just didn't feel right. I would catch myself watching cute boys, wondering what it would be like to be with them. But I didn't dare leave her—she loved me too much, and I couldn't bear the thought of hurting her. So I stayed.

One day she came over to my house. We sat in my room and talked. She said "I need to tell you something" and I could tell something was wrong. Jokingly, I said "What, are you pregnant?" She looked down at the floor and I knew.

The two years since then have been really tough. When Teresa was born, I got a job at a local miniature golf course. My parents and I consulted our lawyer regarding child support. Because I was so young and would not be able to work full-time, I did not make enough money to legally have to pay Carrie anything.

I asked the lawyer if there was a fixed percentage. She told me what it was, and I decided to use that to personally provide support for Carrie. I was a junior in high school when Teresa was born. Carrie had already graduated and had a full-time job with a florist. It was difficult to see them during the school year, but I tried my best to see both of them often.

Carrie and I remained friends and I am very grateful for that. It's been especially hard on her, losing her Gay boyfriend and having to live with her parents.

Teresa grew up so fast. Soon after her first birthday I left for college, three hours away. I was lucky if I saw Teresa once a month. By the time I came home and was able to spend time with her, she was talking. We hold conversations; she cries says "no!" when I don't push her on the swing-set.

And, due to her mother's training using an old photograph of me, she calls me Daddy. Or Paul. She calls me either. But I wonder what our future holds.

Carrie is engaged now—eventually Teresa may have three fathers and one mother. Will she accept it? What will her friends in school say when she tells them her father is Gay? Will they tease her? Will they call her a Lesbian? And if so, will she regret having told them?

It's scary, living as a Gay father and one so young. I have matured quite a bit the past two years, but it still amazes me that I have a child. That I took on such a responsibility. Thoughts like these are a daily issue for me. Always wondering, always hoping. But never regretting.

If I could go back in time I wouldn't have done anything differently, really. Teresa is wonderful, and she is my daughter. I know that in time, when Teresa can understand, things will be fine between us. I will always be there for her no matter what happens. And although I may feel like just a father "figure" at times, we will both always know that I am her father.

Her Gay father.

Editor's Note: Paul Hatton is an 18 year old clarinet major at James Madison University in Virginia.

At least 6 million children in the United States are estimated to have Gay or Lesbian parents. - *Schulenberg, Gay Parenting*, Anchor Press, NY 1985

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Deadlines

Sept. 11th Issue
Articles Friday, Sept. 5th
Ads

Non-Camera Ready—Sept 5th
Camera Ready—Sept 8th
5:00 p.m.

September 25th Issue
Articles—Sept. 19th
Ads

Non-Camera Ready—Sept. 19th
Camera Ready—Sept. 22nd
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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will find their own way.

The Wisconsin Light



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Those Living With or Affected by HIV/AIDS Need Not Lack Support

Milwaukee—Support groups focusing on the issues affecting individuals living with HIV disease:

AIDS Information Milwaukee (AIM)—Wednesdays, 7 p.m. at the Milwaukee AIDS Project, 820 N. Plankinton Avenue. Discussion group open to anyone who is HIV positive. Guest speakers the first Wednesday of every month. Contact Paul, 963-0933.

HIV Positive People—Wednesdays, 10-11:30 a.m. at the Milwaukee AIDS Project, 820 N. Plankinton Ave. Providing group education and support. Contact Michelle, 225-1571.

HIV Positive Support Group—Thursdays, 10:30 a.m. at STD Specialities Clinic, 3251 N. Holton. Targeting the needs of those who are dealing with being HIV positive. Contact Paula Phipps, 264-8800.

HIV Positive Gay Men—Wednesdays, 7-8:30 p.m. at BESTD Clinic, 1240 E. Brady Street 2nd floor north room. For any Gay man who is HIV infected and is interested in clinical & support discussion. Contact Erv Uecker 353-4798.

HIV Positive People—Wednesdays, 2-3:30 p.m. at Lisbon Ave. Health Center,

3522 W. Lisbon Ave. Focusing on people who are HIV positive. Contact Nadirah Fenner, 931-8111 x211 or Sara Fox-Reilly, 937-6616.

HIV Positive Men—Tuesdays, 11 a.m.-12 p.m. at St. Camillus Health Center Group Room, 10100 W. Blue Mound Rd. A support group for HIV positive men to provide a safe place where confidential conversation can take place and supportive connections can be made. Contact Eric Gravenkamp at 259-4668.

HIV Basics—Thursdays, alternating 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. at the Milwaukee AIDS Project, 820 N. Plankinton. Emotional support for newly diagnosed HIV positive people. Contact Doug at 225-1548.

Positive and Aware—Mondays, 7-8:30 p.m. at BESTD Clinic, 1240 E. Brady Street 2nd floor south room. Gay HIV positive men who are newly diagnosed or asymptomatic. Contact Erv Uecker, 323-4798.

Support Groups for Women infected with HIV—First and third Saturdays of each month, 10 a.m.-12 noon; second and fourth Wednesdays of each month, 6-8 p.m. at St. Camillus Campus Court East,

10100 W. Bluemound Rd. A safe place where confidential conversation can take place and supportive connections can be made. Contact Kathryn O'Connor Kuhn at 259-4664.

Spiritual Journeying for Persons with AIDS—Second Thursday of each month, 7-8 p.m. at Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist, 802 N. Jackson St. Everyone invited, people with AIDS/HIV, families and partners, caregivers, friends, neighbors. Contact Fr. Michael Hammer, 223-5105.

Native American/American Indian Group—Mondays, 7-8:30 p.m. at the Milwaukee AIDS Project, 820 N. Plankinton Avenue. This weekly group meets to explore American Indian wisdom and ceremony. Facilitated by Patrick Price and open to all interested Milwaukee AIDS Project clients. Contact Maggi Cage, PhD, 225-1531.

Support groups focusing on the issues facing the loved one's of people living with HIV disease:

Family, Friends and Partners—Alternating Tuesdays, 7 p.m. at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, enter at 1306 N. Marshall. A group for family, friends and partners of HIV infected people. Contact Paula Phipps, 264-8800.

Male Spouses/Partners/Lovers of Gay HIV Positive Men—Wednesdays, 7-8:30

p.m. at BESTD Clinic, 1240 E. Brady Street 2nd floor south room. A support group for Gay men whose male spouses/lovers/partners are HIV infected. Therapeutic support. Contact Erv Uecker 353-4798.

Queer Youth Make it To Prime-Time TV

New York, NY—The Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD) announced that the fall 1997 television lineup will include an all-time record of 30 Lesbian, Gay, and bisexual characters, including one Gay youth.

Fox's 413 Hope Street will feature Karime Prince in the role of Melvin, described by GLAAD as "a flamboyantly fierce HIV-positive black Gay youth." Melvin will be the second Gay character of color on prime-time television. The first is Spin City's Carter, played by Michael Boatman.

Joan M. Garry, GLAAD's executive director, remarked "GLAAD is particularly pleased to see the introduction of Melvin, a black HIV-positive youth, to the fall line-up. We hope that future programming looks at the true diversity within the Lesbian, Gay and bisexual community." GLAAD, as part of its mission, monitors the portrayal of LGBT people on television.

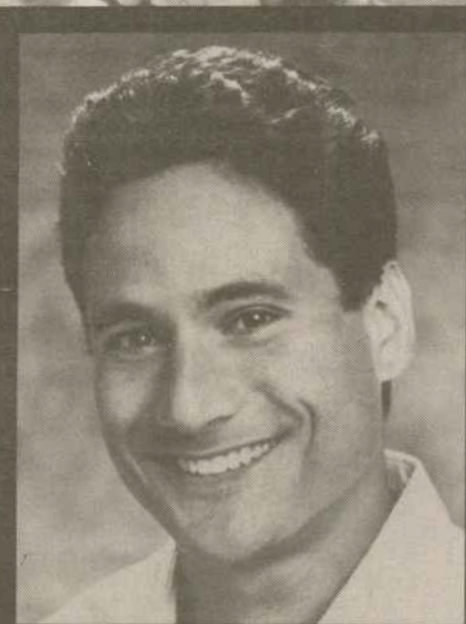
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Greg Louganis to be Honorary Chair of AIDS Walk Wisconsin

Milwaukee— Greg Louganis, the world's greatest diver and four-time Olympic gold medalist, will be in attendance as honorary chair of the eighth AIDS Walk Wisconsin on Sunday, September 21.

The day will begin with Louganis speaking at the AIDS Walk Breakfast held at 9:00 a.m. at the Italian Community Center. Tickets can be purchased by calling 414-225-1517. He will then welcome walkers at the Opening Ceremonies at 12 noon, cut the ribbon and start the Walk at 12:30 p.m.

All walkers turning in \$2,000 or more in pledges when they sign-in the day of the Walk will get their picture taken with Greg Louganis.

ARCW Executive Director Doug Nelson said Louganis is the perfect choice to lead this year's AIDS Walk.

"Greg will come to the Walk with a strong message," said Nelson. "As a gay man who is living with HIV disease and an American Olympic hero, he will rally Wisconsin to make a greater commitment to the fight against AIDS."

Louganis was diagnosed as HIV positive in 1988, however, he had begun his part in the fight against AIDS in 1986 after meeting Ryan White, whom Louganis calls his "inspiration and guardian angel."

The 10k walk along Milwaukee's Lakefront is Wisconsin's largest AIDS fund raiser, benefiting 18 organizations throughout the state. Past honorary chairs include Bette Midler, Vice President Al

Gore and Tipper Gore, Milwaukee Brewer Darryl Hamilton and Magic Johnson, among others.

The 1997 AIDS Walk Steering Committee co-chairs are Richard Strong and Steve Swetlik. Since the Walk began in 1990, over \$4 million has been raised for AIDS care, prevention and research programs. Last year alone, more than 12,000 walkers raised almost \$1 million.

Pre-registration for AIDS Walk Wisconsin is required and easy. People interested in participating in this year's Walk should call 800-348-WALK or register online at www.arcw.org. Once registered, participants will receive everything they need to have a successful Walk experience, including pledge forms, Walk updates and tips on how to collect pledges.

Sponsors of the event include Miller Brewing Company, TODAY'S TMJ4, 94 WKTI, Wisconsin Energy Corporation, United Airlines, Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, Aurora Health Care, P & C Media, Inc., Oneida Nation/Oneida Bingo & Casino, Cellular One, National Association of Theater Owners of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan, Ace Chemical Products, Inc., American Family Mutual Insurance, Bank One, Blockbuster Entertainment, Mortgage Guarantee Investment Corporation, Pick 'n Save Supermarkets, Starbucks Coffee, Time Insurance/A Fortis Company, Aveda-Salon Systems, Herbert H. Kohl Charities, Inc., Humana Health Care Plans and Lab Safety Supply, Inc.



Greg Louganis is the Honorary Chair of the 1997 AIDS Walk Wisconsin

To Achieve Victory, Gays Must Gain the Aid of the Straight Majority

Commentary by Keith St. Clair

The Gay movement has spent much of its resources encouraging Gays to come out and stand up for their cause, thereby marshaling their strength in numbers. This is worthwhile, but no matter how large the count grows, it is still unlikely to be anything other than a minority. If every Gay man and woman in America came out today and politically voiced their demand for civil rights, still nothing would change. To have a lasting impact, the Gay movement should learn from the civil rights struggle of other minorities.

Given that America is a democracy and that nothing happens in a democracy unless the majority gives its consent, the key to victory is cooping the majority. The African-American struggle for civil rights is a case in point. Its leaders and the historical demonstrations they helped to create took great courage and were entirely necessary for the successes of the movement. However, what is often forgotten is that their efforts would have been for naught had it not been for the support of many white Americans.

Despite his frequent speaking of truth, Malcolm X was wrong to think that Blacks must succeed by themselves. Instead, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., was right to encourage the assistance of white allies. The worst thing the Black movement ever did was to take its white membership for granted. White Southerners, prior to the 1960s, did not seriously feel threatened of losing the struggle for segregation until they saw whites protesting against it.

Recent gains have been made in the Gay movement, especially in television, but most Americans still remain unaffected by the struggle for Gay civil rights. Few supporters will broach the subject outside of their inner circle. Nevertheless, groups like PFLAG are beginning to organize straights and flex their political muscle at the capital, reaching beyond the label of a support group. However, the letters PFLAG still mean nothing to most Americans.

Many straights are reluctant to support the Gay movement for fear of being labeled Gay themselves, thus risking social derision. Many can assuage their conscience by wearing the red ribbon and supporting the victims of AIDS. Given that the vast majority of AIDS victims in America are Gay, this is somewhat a cop out.

To those straights in America who wear the red ribbon for their sick friends, "Can you take it one step further and voice your support for the real object of your compassion: Gay America." Must one be dead or dying to receive this compassion?

With fear of social repercussions, it is not easy for straights to wear a pink triangle or other Gay symbol. Although unwilling to admit it themselves, many straights are afraid of being labeled Gay.

This is not something that inhibited whites that wanted to support African-

Americans in the '60s. Whites were not going to be mistaken for being Black. Even if they had been, not everyone back then automatically equated Black with immorality.

Being Gay, however, is. If they were confident in not being mistaken as Gay, I believe many straights would stand up for Gay rights. For example, many will wear a button proclaiming "Straights for Gay Rights."

I have made such buttons and have met success in selling them, with many compliments from straights. Yes, I suggest that such buttons be at least sold at cost rather than given away.

This does two things. 1. It prevents opponents from trashing free buttons. 2. It also shows commitment on the part of the recipient that they will actually wear the button. If nobody is going to see the button, it's wasted anyway. I am convinced that if more were made available, its success would grow exponentially.

Civil rights for Gays will succeed only by winning over the majority voter, one at a time. This is retail politics.

In a democracy, the majority must always succeed. Therefore, one straight woman voicing her support for Gay rights is worth perhaps ten Gays doing the same. A straight male, perhaps twenty Gays. A straight male professional football player's endorsement must be worth a 1000 Gay protesters.

Gays must win over straight America and it must be done by accommodating its fears. Any ridicule experienced will then only strengthen their resolve. Hate is everywhere and most are oblivious to it. Literally wearing one's beliefs on one's sleeve will make that hate more obvious to those who don't ordinarily experience it, as well as serving to dispel it.

Editor's Note: The author, recently a grad student at UW-Milwaukee, has gone with his wife to take a teaching position at Muskegon Community College, Muskegon, Michigan.

Medical College Continued From Page 1

To determine the success of the adolescent community-wide intervention, the housing developments will be divided into three groups. Adolescents in five of the housing developments will be invited to attend special HIV risk reduction workshops designed specifically for young people.

Adolescents in five other housing developments will attend the same workshops, but will also carry out a year-long peer education HIV prevention community campaign planned by the young people themselves.

Popular and well-liked adolescents will serve as AIDS prevention advocates to other young people living in the same housing developments.

In five other developments, adolescents will receive standard AIDS education

materials. The three groups will then be compared one year later to determine how effectively each approach helps adolescents avoid HIV risk behavior.

In addition to Drs Kelly and Sikkema, other Medical College study investigators are: Raymond Hoffman, Ph.D.; Timothy McAuliffe, Ph.D.; Timothy G. Heckman, Ph.D.; and Steven D. Pinkerton, Ph.D.

Directed by the Medical College of Wisconsin team, study field activities will also be carried out by collaborating research teams at the University of Washington, Case Western Reserve University, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Georgia State University, and the University of Vermont.



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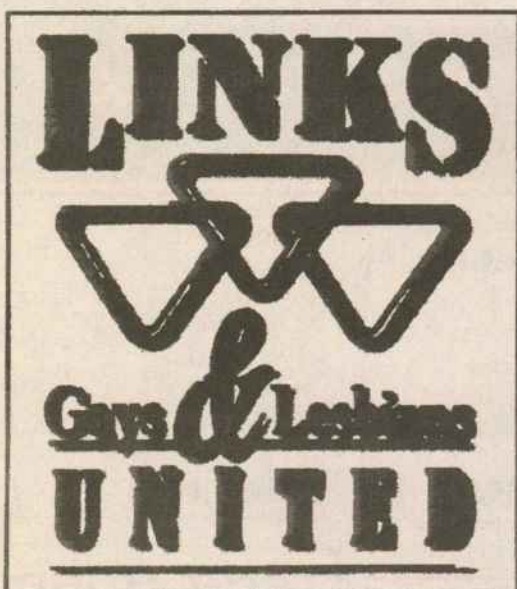
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The Right To Marry is Inherent in Our Right to Live in Dignity Among All Human Kind

On August 19, 1997, four individuals testified before the Kentucky House Senate Judiciary Committee Site which was holding hearings on a bill to ban recognition of same-sex marriage.

The following are the remarks given by Everett Hoffman, Executive Director, ACLU of Kentucky. In our opinion, what he had to say beautifully expresses what marriage, same-sex or differing-sex, is all about.

**

In a few months, my wife Cathy and I will be celebrating our tenth wedding anniversary. As that date approaches, I often think of the vows we took together: "To have & to hold from this day forward / for better or for worse / in sickness and in health / to love and to cherish / as long as we both shall live."

These are the traditional vows that express the core values of the institution of marriage -- indeed, they are the very embodiment of traditional family values. A couple's lifelong commitment to one another is special, and it is certainly appropriate for the Commonwealth of Kentucky to adopt policies that promote this kind of commitment between two people.

That is why it is baffling to me why we would want to adopt policies placing unwise and unjustifiable restrictions on the opportunity of marital commitment.

The American Civil Liberties Union opposes all legislation denying legal recognition of same-sex marriages. Marriage is a basic human right and an individual personal choice, and the State should not interfere with same-gender couples who want to marry and share fully and equally in the rights, responsibilities, and commitment of civil marriage.

Civil marriage is the way our society defines our most intimate, committed relationships. It is also the device our society

Chicago's Halsted Street Gets New Rainbow Arches

Chicago-- The renovation of a street in a neighborhood that is home to a large Gay and Lesbian community will include two gateways to mark the area as friendly to Gays.

The gateways, along with 22 steel pylons along Halsted Street on Chicago's North Side, will include a rainbow ring of lights, reflecting the colors in the Gay pride flag. The project, costing \$3.2 million, includes planting 180 trees and widening sidewalks.

It is the city's second major initiative in five months to recognize its Gay community. In March, the City Council extended health insurance benefits to the live-in partners of Gay and Lesbian city employees.

The gateways will be located nearly a mile apart on Halsted Street, giving a clear message that it is a special area for Gays.

"If I were coming from out of town, (as a Lesbian) I would identify this as a neighborhood that is friendly to Gays," said Mary Morten, Chicago Mayor Richard Daley's liaison to the Gay and Lesbian community. "The overarching theme is that this is a diverse community. It's not about it being only a Gay hub."

City government designating a neighborhood as Gay-friendly is unprecedented. "Chicago is definitely a first," said Mark Johnson, spokesman for the National Gay & Lesbian Task Force. "But I don't think it will be the last time you'll see it. It'll be trend-setting for other areas as well."

The city wanted to acknowledge the contributions of the Gay and Lesbian community, said Greg Harris, a community activist involved in the plan.

Business owners along the street have not objected to the effort.

"It's always been a liberal street, ahead of its time," said Marshall Hornick, owner of Chicago Diner. "It's half Gay, half straight. Who cares?"

uses to identify our partners for virtually every situation in which it is important to identify the person who is closest to us -- for everything from retirement programs to critical medical decisions to the simple right to be together in crisis situations, like hospital emergency rooms.

State-sanctioned marriages confer an enormous array of practical rights that greatly affect one's ability to receive benefits, acquire wealth and care for children.

Denying Lesbians and Gay men the right to marry denies them simple, basic dignity and has serious practical and legal consequences. This is discrimination. It is wrong, and we in the ACLU believe it is unconstitutional as well.

For more than sixty years, the U.S. Supreme Court has recognized that the right to marry is a central part of the liberty protected by the Constitution's Due Process clause. The Court has said that "it is clear that among the decisions that an individual may make without unjustified government interference are personal decisions relating to marriage and family relationships."

Because marriage is a fundamental right protected by the Constitution, government is prohibited from denying it to whole classes of people without compelling justification.

This year, we celebrate the 30th anniversary of the U.S. Supreme Court's landmark decision in Loving v. Virginia, in which the Court struck down the Commonwealth of Virginia's prohibition against interracial marriage.

Because the only conceivable justification for prohibiting interracial marriage was the maintenance of White Supremacy, the Court found that Virginia had violated not only the Lovings' fundamental right to marry but also the Constitution's guarantee of Equal Protection of the laws.

Although the deplorable history of White Supremacy and racism that formed the basis of the Loving decision are unique, the principles of fundamental liberty and equal protection cited by the Court are universal.

Just as 30 years ago, the Commonwealth of Virginia could produce no legitimate and compelling reason to deny interracial couples the right to marry, the testimony presented before this committee today demonstrates that the Commonwealth of Kentucky has no legitimate and compelling reason to deny same-sex couples the right to marry.

It is important to emphasize that what we are talking about is civil marriage -- a legal institution. Legal recognition of same-sex marriages would not mean that a particular church or temple must change its views. The religious view of same-sex marriages will remain a matter for individuals and their religious communities to determine.

Finally, we must recognize that the institution of marriage has not been a static one -- it is an institution that continues to evolve over time.

Indeed many traditional notions of marriage that prevailed for centuries are now obsolete.

Just as marriage has traditionally been defined as a union between people of different sexes, prior to Loving, it was also traditionally defined as a union between people of the same race. At one time, marriage was also "traditionally" understood to sanction male ownership of women as property. And until relatively recently, rape, assault, and other kinds of domestic violence and abuse were thought of as natural components of marriage that should be tolerated.

As a civil institution, marriage has become more egalitarian over time, with the focus increasingly on consent and commitment. Recognition of same-sex marriages is the next logical step in this progression.

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Win-Tammy-Win That was the chant heard at Café Melange during the fund raiser for State Representative Tammy Baldwin's bid for Congress in Wisconsin's Second Congressional District. The openly Lesbian politician is said to have a good chance to become the first open Lesbian ever elected to Congress. Shown above (L-R) are In Step founder Ron Geiman, Baldwin, Aids Resource Center of Wisconsin Executive Director, Doug Nelson and This Is It Owner, Joe Brehm.

Religious Extremists Try to Boycott Comic Strip, "For Better or For Worse"

New York, NY—The comic strip "For Better or For Worse," which runs in 1,700 newspapers nationwide, including the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, faced a stealth boycott by radical religious groups and the threat of being dropped by dozens of newspapers, due to its inclusive storyline in late August, which includes two Gay characters.

The Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD) called for a show of support for Lynn Johnston and the comic strip she has created.

GLAAD asked that all fair-minded people across the country buy three copies of the newspaper during the days of August 20 to 23, when the strip ran nationwide. Readers should keep one for themselves, then send one copy each to the Christian Family Network in Dayton, OH and the American Family Association of Tupelo, MS.

Both groups, with aggressively anti-Gay agendas, have called for their members to refuse delivery of their newspapers from August 20 to August 23, to show their opposition with the strip. Individuals who refuse delivery do not pay for those days' newspapers, thereby boycotting the newspaper by affecting their business livelihood.

"These radical religious groups asked their members to boycott newspapers sight unseen," said Joan M. Garry, Executive Director of GLAAD. "It's ironic, since Lynn Johnston's strip is one of the most family-friendly comics running today. We feel that everyone should read 'For Better or For Worse' and make up their own minds about the storyline. By sending these groups the newspapers, we hope they will take the opportunity to do just that."

"For Better or For Worse" faced threats

HIV-Positive Doctors Fight for the Right to Practice Their Art

San Francisco—It's been more than six years since Dr. Paul Scoles was diagnosed as HIV-positive. It's been almost as long since he's picked up a scalpel to cut a patient.

The orthopedic surgeon blames vague federal guidelines and patient fear for keeping him and other health care workers with the AIDS virus from doing their jobs, despite numerous studies that say the risk to patients is minimal.

"Good people, talented people, people who want to work, are being kept from working," says Scoles, one of the speakers at the Gay and Lesbian Medical Association conference that opened on August 21st, in San Francisco.

The topic has even been tackled on the television show "ER," in which character Jeanie Boulet, a physician's assistant, finds out that her husband has infected her with the virus.

Jeanie hasn't had to deal with some of the harsher consequences facing HIV-

positive doctors in real life, including having malpractice insurance yanked or dealing with employers who are skittish about liability.

It's not a medical issue, it's a PR issue and a legal issue," said Naphtali Offen, who coordinates a retention program for HIV-positive health care workers for the gay medical association, a national professional organization for LGBT doctors and health care workers.

For example, a physician's assistant in Utah was relegated to a secretarial position, while a medical student in the Northeast was prohibited from doing basic things like drawing blood, Offen said.

"I am hard-pressed to know what to tell them," Offen says. "They are basically treated like pariahs."

At the heart of the issue are guidelines set up by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and Prevention in 1991, formulated after a Florida dentist infected patients with the AIDS virus. Since then, there has been only one other documented case of doctor-to-patient transmission, in France in 1996, according to the CDC.

While the guidelines are currently under review, the CDC recommends that health care workers with HIV or hepatitis not perform "exposure-prone procedures."

But medical organizations and even the CDC admit that defining "exposure-prone procedure" is all but impossible. As a result, state policies, which Congress says must either match or be comparable to the CDC guidelines, vary.

Still, most agree that the chance of a health care worker transmitting the AIDS virus to a patient is extremely low. In fact, CDC statistics show that health care officials are much more likely to be infected

by patients than vice versa.

Scoles, 47, learned he was HIV positive in 1991. The hospital soon found out and gave him a choice of telling his patients, or they would intervene. He refused, and found himself without a job.

"Largely as a result of what happened to me, most physicians who are HIV-positive stay very, very quiet. And that's my advice," says Scoles, who settled a lawsuit with his former employer in 1995 for disclosing his HIV status to his patients.

Keeping quiet would, however, be illegal in states such as Minnesota, which requires HIV-positive health care workers to register with the state.

California, on the other hand, has no such reporting requirement.

People shouldn't assume that HIV transmission to a patient would never happen, said Dr. Julie Gerberding, an as-

sociate professor of medicine and infectious diseases at the University of California-San Francisco.

"But if we have restrictive policies, we just drive this problem underground. And that's just really a self-defeating approach," she said.

The solution, she said, is taking extra precautions, including wearing two pairs of gloves during surgery and other invasive procedures.

Scoles now works for an AIDS foundation and teaches part-time at Case Western Reserve Medical School in Cleveland. He says his skills are so rusty that it would be all but impossible for him to work as a surgeon.

"Would I like to go back to practice? Sure, I'd go back tomorrow," Scoles said.

"Is that likely? No."

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A Christian Decides that Love Might be the Answer When it Comes to AIDS

Asheboro, NC--Brenda Jones never thought she would be alive today to talk about her battle with AIDS, let alone share her tears and laughter at a conference center run by Southern Baptists.

Often felt rejected by the church and members of the nation's largest Protestant denomination, some HIV patients are finding comfort at a retreat in North Carolina designed to renew their spiritual bodies.

Dozens diagnosed with the virus have discovered faith through HIV/AIDS retreats sponsored through the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina.

"I thought I'd drop off the face of the earth and die. I thought it was a death sentence," Jones, diagnosed eight years ago with HIV, told fellow patients during a small-group meeting at rustic Caraway Conference Center this month. "But you're not going anywhere until (God) calls you home."

The AIDS retreat, unique in the Southern Baptist denomination, gives patients and their caregivers a chance to talk about their sickness and find some sympathy with fellow patients in the rolling hills of rural Randolph County. The convention held a similar camp this week for children with AIDS.

"It's a place to get away and meet other people," said James Atkins, a Moore County native diagnosed with HIV 11 years ago. The 45-year-old ex-soldier attended each of the four retreats the state convention has sponsored going back to August 1995. "There's a lot of churches out there that really aren't open to this type of health work."

The retreat in part tries to dispel the stereotype that Southern Baptists are unconcerned with the AIDS crisis. The denomination's boycott of the Walt Disney Co. this summer for its "Gay-friendly" policies didn't help to change that image.

"This is a place where they can be open about their disease," said Eric Raddatz, executive director of the Baptist AIDS Partnership of North Carolina. "A lot of people have bad feelings about the church. But when we bring them together, we say 'this, this is the church.'"

The dozen AIDS patients at the five-day retreat come from different backgrounds and different parts of the state. Some are gay, others not, but they all share the same feelings associated with their disease.

They feel lonely fighting their illness, some likening it to the way people in Biblical times viewed leprosy. They feel abandoned by friends and the church.

Others like Sandy are still trying to come to terms with her illness. The young woman from Goldsboro, who didn't want to give her last name, just learned seven months ago she had HIV.

"I never had to go through anything like this," Sandy said. "I was popular in school. I got along with everybody ... Even though my family loves me, I feel I'm still alone. I just don't want to be alone. I'm not ready to die."

Jones, who was attending her second retreat, says the drugs she is taking is

helping her live longer than she ever thought she would. AIDS death rates are dropping and drug combinations including protease inhibitors are increasing the hope of the ill.

But many are poor, unable to work anymore and depend on Social Security payments for food and shelter and Medicaid to pay for the pills that keep them alive.

"It's hard to feel normal when you take your medicine in the morning and you take your medicine again at night," Donald Bloodworth of Lumberton told other camp participants.

Raddatz says the retreat's goal is to make the patients feel normal. Bible studies focus on community, forgiveness and mercy.

The Rev. George Fuller taught a Bible study from the New Testament book of Ephesians. The Bible's message, said Fuller: all are sinful and unworthy of God's love, but Jesus' death on the cross makes everyone complete.

"Has anybody here been misunderstood?" Fuller asked the group. Everyone nodded. "I think that's why so many people don't know God because they misunderstand him."

"... His grace and mercy and great love are big enough for everything we've done wrong."

The camp also includes nightly worship, singing, free time and a memorial service for patients and caregivers who want to remember those who have died to AIDS.

Raddatz, a California native, started the Baptist AIDS Partnership after attending Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest. His father, who got the virus from a blood transfusion, died of AIDS in 1993.

"There was a real need for some work in this area," said Raddatz, 54. "So many people in the church weren't going to secular organizations to work because there is so many agendas associated with them. We wanted to do something positive."

The denomination has not universally backed his mission, but he keeps the partnership alive with a cross-section of congregations.

"People say I shouldn't be working with homosexuals," he said. "But I tell them all I'm trying to do is follow what Jesus said to do. To love your neighbor as yourself."

"We're being non-judgmental and loving and not condemning ... my job is not to judge. I don't condone the behavior, but my job here is not to do that. What would Jesus do? He would be here."

If it wasn't for Southern Baptists like Raddatz, Diane Duncan of Wayne County would have left the church a long time ago.

"I've experienced more spiritual growth and felt more close to God," said Duncan, who contracted the virus through her husband. "It's a shame that it took something like this to bring me closer to God."

Employees Protest United Airlines

San Francisco-AP-- On Saturday, July 12, United Airlines flight attendants, represented by the Association of Flight Attendants, AFL-CIO, and the Harvey Milk Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual Democratic Club held a joint rally against United Airlines to protest the airline's hypocritical treatment of its flight attendants and the Gay community. The rally was held in front of United Airlines' ticket office, 124 Geary Street, at 11 a.m.

Earlier this year, United Airlines made a commitment to implement San Francisco's new domestic partner legislation in return for a 25-year lease with the San Francisco Airport. Now, after reaching this agreement with city officials and negotiating a two-year exemption from the law, the airline is actively pursuing a legal effort to overturn the law.

The domestic partner legislation, which was originally conceived and written by the Milk Club, requires any entity that contracts with San Francisco to provide equal benefits to its employees' domestic partners that it offers married spouses.

"United Airlines has established a pattern of deception in its negotiations with the flight attendants and with the City of San Francisco," states Elizabeth Loeffler, local union president for United flight attendants based in San Francisco. "Flight attendants are angered at the disrespect United has shown for them as employees and as members of the Gay and Lesbian community."

United Airlines flight attendants, represented by the Association of Flight Attendants, AFL-CIO, are in contract negotiations with the airline, seeking "raises, retirement and respect." The negotiations have been ongoing for more than a year, during which time the flight attendants have begun a CHAOSTM campaign to inform the public of their issues. CHAOS, which stands for Create Havoc Around Our SystemTM, could result in intermittent strikes and other actions if negotiations with the company end without a new agreement.


The Association of Flight Attendants, AFL-CIO, is the largest flight attendant union in the world, representing 41,000 flight attendants at 27 airlines, including 21,000 at United.

Army Discharged Gay Lieutenant

Dallas, TX-AP-DALLAS (AP) - The Army has discharged a Gay lieutenant colonel one week before he would have qualified for a full retirement, concluding the decorated officer had engaged in unbecoming conduct.

Steve Loomis, 50, of Killeen learned of his "other than honorable" discharge last week. An Army board of inquiry concluded that the 20-year veteran engaged in "conduct unbecoming an officer" - homosexual acts and use of "force, coercion or intimidation."

Loomis said Army officials were being vindictive because he is Gay. "In my case, it was private relations with another soldier, off-post, off-duty, not in my chain of command, and they say conduct unbecoming - read that 'sodomy,'" Loomis said. "But how many single soldiers or ... married soldiers do exactly the same thing? And how many of them have it held against them?"



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Poll Shows that Support for Needle Exchange Programs Continues to Grow

Washington, DC—Needle exchange programs continue to gain support among responsible Americans as mounting scientific evidence shows they are an effective way to curb the spread of HIV and AIDS, according to the Human Rights Campaign (HRC).

"From the American Medical Association to the American Bar Association, respected professional and public health organizations are lining up behind these programs because they save lives without increasing drug use," said Kim Mills, an HRC spokeswoman.

Needle exchange programs provide intravenous drug users with sterile syringes in exchange for used ones. Such programs have been implemented in more than 100 communities around the country, including Milwaukee, and have been shown to stem the spread of HIV and other blood-borne diseases transmitted through the sharing of injection equipment.

Approximately one-third of reported AIDS cases are related to intravenous drug use.

In February, a report by the Department of Health and Human Services found that

needle exchange programs are effective in slowing the spread of HIV and AIDS. Six federally funded studies have reported that needle exchange programs reduce HIV transmission and do not increase drug use.

Also in February, a panel of public health experts at the National Institutes of Health concluded that needle exchange programs are a powerful and proven weapon in the war against HIV and AIDS.

Plus, a majority of the American public -- 55 percent -- favors needle exchange programs as a method to curb the spread of HIV and AIDS, according to a bipartisan poll conducted for the Human Rights Campaign.

The poll found 55 percent "strongly favor" or "somewhat favor" needle exchange programs while 38 percent "somewhat oppose" or "strongly oppose" them.

The poll was conducted for HRC by the Tarrance Group, a Republican firm, and Lake Sosin Snell and Associates, Democratic pollsters. The results are based on a survey of 1,000 registered voters contacted between April 8-10.

The poll found that 64 percent of Democrats, 58 percent of independents and 45 percent of Republicans favor needle exchange programs.

In addition, needle exchange finds support in ever region of the country, with 64 percent of Americans favoring it in the West, 60 percent in the Northeast, 51 percent in the South and 49 percent in the Midwest. The poll's margin of error is +/- 3.1 percent.

Earlier this month, the American Bar Association endorsed the use of needle exchange programs, joining such groups as the American Public Health Association, the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials, the National Academy of Sciences, the National Black Caucus of State Legislators and the U.S. Conference of Mayors.

Yale Nixes Larry Kramer

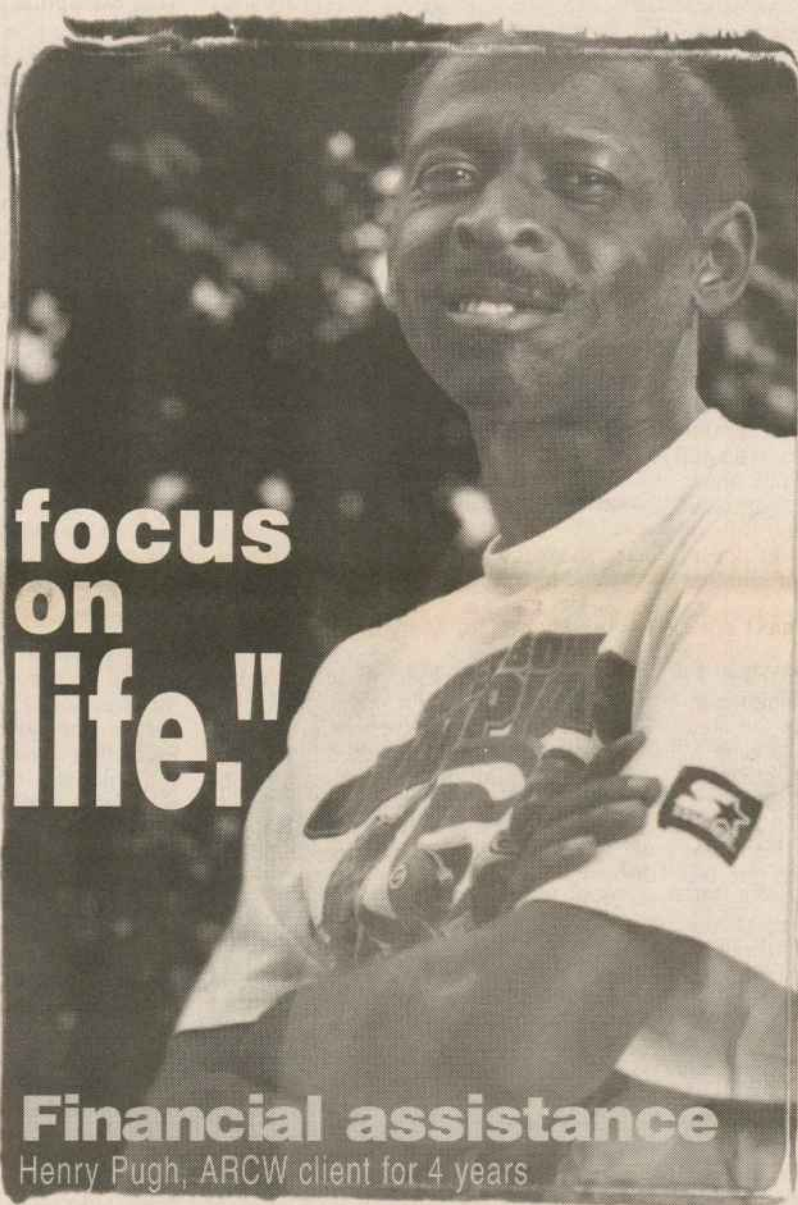
New Haven, CT-AP-Larry Kramer, playwright and in-your-face AIDS activist, is in Yale University's face now. The 1957 graduate is accusing the Ivy League school of homophobia for rejecting his multimillion-dollar offer to endow a professorship in Gay studies.

Kramer, who helped create the Gay Men's Health Crisis support organization in 1981 and founded the confrontational AIDS activist group ACT UP in 1987, said he gave Yale about a dozen proposals and all were dismissed.

In a letter to Kramer, Provost Alison Richard said Gay and Lesbian studies is too narrow a field for a permanent professorship. Yale also said that there is a freeze on faculty hiring and that the university could not add a professorship without cutting one elsewhere. Richard, an anthropologist who studies lemurs in Madagascar, did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

Kramer would not disclose how much money he offered to Yale but said that it was in the millions and that it would have endowed one or two full professorships. Endowed professorships at Yale cost \$2 million.

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ACROSS

1 20th century American author Hemingway, initials ("So far, about morals, I know only that what is moral is what you feel good after and what is immoral is what you feel bad after.")
4 cable TV's The Learn-

15 to coat with tin
18 newest album of 50 Down
21 French masculine pronoun
22 one from Samaria
24 Jesse Helms' state, abbr.
25 radioactive metallic element
27 joke made with play

a mirror
35 fasten fabric together by stitches of thread to make a drag dress
36 short for registered nurse
37 that one
39 Armistead Maupin's newspaper column that became PBS miniseries, 4 words

illegally
54 motor hotel

DOWN

1 19th century American poetess Dickinson, initials ("Fame is a fickle food/Upon a shifting plate.")
2 Atlanta's annual August gay river expo
3 calcium-containing mineral used in plaster of Paris
4 MATT in a mirror
5 angel
6 sleep
7 subatomic particle, contraction of pi meson
8 "Don't ... don't tell." Huh!
9 spear
11 fibbed
12

ing serum, the watery part of blood
32 abbr. for an entity formed into a legal body
34 she went to Wonderland
35 popular gay vacation spot, northern Calif. city founded as Yerba Buena, initials
38 region of the Alps in Italy & Austria
39 clump of hair
40 cause to end
41 American comedian Berle, initials ("A committee is a group that keeps minutes and loses hours.")
42 hurry
43 THAI in a mirror
48 Hillary Clinton's home state, abbr.
49 informal British for 'thank you,' usually said twice
50 lesbian singer lang's first name
51 I am, contraction
52 in a direction toward
Solution elsewhere this issue c.1997 GULF FEATURES, PUZZLE GAYS

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
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53						54		

ing Channel
6 tall drag queen who said he would bid on Princess Di's clothes
10 Ms. Par-ton, "Queen of Country Music" always playing in gay clubs
13 Scottish for 'to have'
14 exists

on words
28 last name that sounds the same as Ray
29 sounds like 'cue in'
30 state that is 'Land of Enchantment,' abbr.
31 pseudonym of MTV's Simon Rex in his porn days
33 VAT in

44 noun suffix, one that does
45 ball
46 burgh of S.W. Scotland at the mouth of the river of the same name
47 employee with misc. duties
50 Har-ing, late gay graffiti artist
53 entered

lane abbr.
16 escape hastily
17 intestinal worms
19 in French, the main man
20 foolishness
23 not suitable
25 sounds like 'are cue'
26 commits money in hope

Crossword Puzzle Answers on Page 35

Minnesota Teen Enters the Battle Against AIDS by Promoting Safer Sex

Backus, MN—Teen-agers may hear the statistics about HIV-AIDS, but are they listening?

Not really, especially teens who live in rural communities, said Casey Bolstad, 18, of Backus. Which is why the recent Pine River-Backus High School graduate became a certified Red Cross HIV-AIDS instructor. She wants to educate rural teen-agers who think the deadly virus could never affect them.

Bolstad, who would like to become a pediatric surgeon, became involved with AIDS awareness and activism while finishing her senior year of high school at Central Lakes College. A sociology class required 30 hours of community service, so Bolstad contacted Red Cross HIV-AIDS coordinator Renee Steffen, also of St. Joseph's Home Health Care.

Steffen put Bolstad to work helping assemble the Minnesota AIDS quilt displayed at the college last December. Bolstad helped cut symbolic red ribbons, manned display booths and got her high school teen improvisational team to perform a skit for elementary students about compassion.

She then decided to take her activism a step further and become an instructor herself. She received her certification after attending Red Cross classes in February. She will be a guest speaker in health classes at her former high school next year.

"Some people look at you weird and wonder why you're involved," said Bolstad. "I see a lot of people having sex and they're so young. It scares me."

When the topic of conversation with

friends and classmates turns to sex, Bolstad will boldly use the opportunity to remind them of the importance of safer sex, and why latex condoms should be used every time. She admits she has embarrassed friends with her frank discussions, but adds that a friend or classmate will usually come up to her later and quietly ask for more information.

Most teens aren't using condoms because they are embarrassed to buy them for fear of running into someone they know, she said. One classmate wouldn't buy condoms because he didn't know what kind to buy. Many times Bolstad has gone into stores and bought boxes of condoms for classmates too embarrassed to do it themselves.

"It doesn't bother me, at least I know they have them," she said.

Bolstad would like to see parents talk more openly with their teen-agers. Most of the stigma about buying condoms is that teen-agers are scared their parents will find out, she said.

"They know condoms protect, but they think they're safe if they get on the pill," she said. "There's not just pregnancy to worry about."

Bolstad would like to become more of a peer counselor, an AIDS educator who speaks to students through humor instead of statistics and stuffy medical terms. She plans to continue her education at Central Lakes College next year and hopes to become more involved with AIDS education in her community.

You've gotta make them listen and talk to them, not at them," she explained. "But no matter what, you gotta have fun."

Dalai Lama Meets With Gay Buddhists

San Francisco, CA-AP- The Dalai Lama, spiritual leader of Tibet and millions of Buddhists worldwide, met privately with Gay Buddhists to discuss his views on homosexuality.

The Gay Buddhists, all from the San Francisco Bay area, requested the Wednesday meeting because of their concern about the Dalai Lama's past statements, which deem oral and anal sex to be improper but, on the other hand, seem to approve of same-sex love.

The Dalai Lama reiterated the teachings of the ancient Buddhist scriptures that proclaim certain sexual acts are wrong, even when performed by married couples.

"Man to man, woman to woman, that's also sexual misconduct," he said in explaining the Buddhist teachings which, he said, apply only to those who practice Buddhism.

But he said he cannot be solely responsible for interpretation of the scriptures.

"It is something that needs to be consulted with other Buddhist traditions as well," he said.

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TRAVEL

On the Net, Try Going Over The Rainbow to Find Out Where to Go

By Sasha Alyson

"Las Vegas?!" groaned my friend Matthew Burns. "Of all the cities that have big convention centers, why did they have to pick this one?" Then he turned to me. "I'm there for six days, and I have several dinner meetings. But most evenings I'm free. One night in a casino is enough. Do I have any other options in Las Vegas?"

We've all been in these situations. Conventions, business travel, and family reunions often take us to cities that didn't top our "fun destinations" list. Where do you meet people in a new city? The traditional approach is to head for a Gay bar. But any city big enough to host a large convention also offers a wide range of Gay and lesbian activities, nearly every night of the week. They may not be obvious to the casual visitor, but most (at least with a little planning) welcome newcomers.

Here are a few ideas I threw out to Matthew for tracking them down.

First, do a little homework before you get there. The Internet has a wealth of information; as usual, the trick is to find it. On America Online, the most popular service, try this: Go to keyword GAY, then scroll down and click on "Over the Rainbow". Now click the City Guides icon, then (at the bottom of the screen) "SEARCH". Now type in the city you want.

Over the Rainbow is one of the most comprehensive and best GLBT guides on the Net. Each city's Gay sights of interest are described by someone who lives there and knows their way around. That's certainly true of Milwaukee.

Or just look in the Gayellow Pages, the most useful book on my desk. Here you'll find Gay, lesbian, and women's bookstores; bowling and softball and volleyball; Dignity and MCC and other religious groups; AIDS organizations; and much more.

Call up a few and see what they've got planned. If you live in a town that's blessed with a good Gay bookstore, such as Afterwords in Milwaukee, tell the clerk where you're headed, and ask for recommendations. They may carry a Gay newspaper from your destination, or a guidebook that covers it in depth.

(I mention Milwaukee because they're one of a handful of Gay papers in the country with its own web site. Check out Wisconsin Light at www.Wilight.com).

Finally, on your pre-departure checklist, call the Gay helpline at your destination. (These phone numbers are in the Gayellow Pages, and sometimes on the Internet.) Helplines are usually volunteer-staffed, and vary in reliability. If the person who can't suggest an activity or group that interests you, try again a day or two later. You may get a different volunteer with different interests.

Once in town, pick up the local Gay newspaper at a bar or newsstand (those near a campus are your best bet). Matthew later told me that this was where he hit pay dirt. A community calendar in the Las Vegas Bugle listed a Gay skating night. He befriended a Gay couple there, who invited him for dinner the next day. At last report, he couldn't wait to go back for next year's convention.

And now, recommendations from Out & About editor Billy Kolber-Stuart, for those heading off to any of four popular convention cities.

Traveling to a convention city can pose a housing dilemma: Whether to stay close to Gay nightlife, or close to business. In some spots, you can find a good compromise.

New Orleans: The French Quarter is the heart of the city's entertainment district, with the two most popular Gay bar/discos, OZ and The Bourbon Pub/Parade, facing each other at 800 and 801 Bourbon Street. Around the corner is The Bourbon Orleans (800-521-5338), the most Gay-popular mainstream hotel, charming, well-kept, and friendly. While not particularly convenient to the convention center, it is probably worth the extra cab fare if you're planning to indulge in the city's Gay nightlife.

Atlanta: Atlanta's Gay community claims Midtown as its home, a location convenient to the city's many business centers. The Four Seasons (800-332-3442) and Sheraton Colony Square (800-325-3535) are popular business choices in the neigh-

borhood. The Regency Suites Hotel (800-642-3629) and Grenada Suite Hotel (800-548-5631) are adjacent to the MARTA Midtown station, offering rapid rail transport to the airport, Downtown, and Buckhead.

Las Vegas: Most of the Gay nightlife is on or near Paradise Road, at the airport end of town. This makes two hotels off the strip particularly convenient. The Alexis Park Resort (800-582-2228) is the only deluxe hotel in Vegas that has gaming tables or slots. The Hard Rock Hotel (800-693-7625) offers the full Las Vegas glitz experience, just down the road from the cluster of Gay nightlife.

Chicago: Any large convention utilizes hotels throughout the city, with frequent shuttle service to McCormick Place. Since the Gay nightlife is north of downtown, choosing the northern-most hotel on the shuttle route will make evening transportation easier. To stay even closer, three small hotels in the Near North Side market themselves to business travelers under the banner of Neighborhood Inns of Chicago. The Surf Hotel (800-SURF-108), the Park Brompton Inn (800-PARK-108) and the City Suites Hotel (800-CITY-108) are all convenient to Gay nightlife, Gay-friendly, and affordable.

Milwaukee: It isn't a popular convention city, at least not yet, but it's growing fast. As I said above, check out the Wisconsin Light web site to find out where to go and what's going on. When I owned Alyson Publications, the editor there published a book with me, *Out of All Time*. He's a little crazy—all writers are—at least those who have any talent—but he knows what he's talking about when it comes to Milwaukee. Call him at (414) 372-2773. If he's in a good mood, he'll actually talk to you, but don't count on it.

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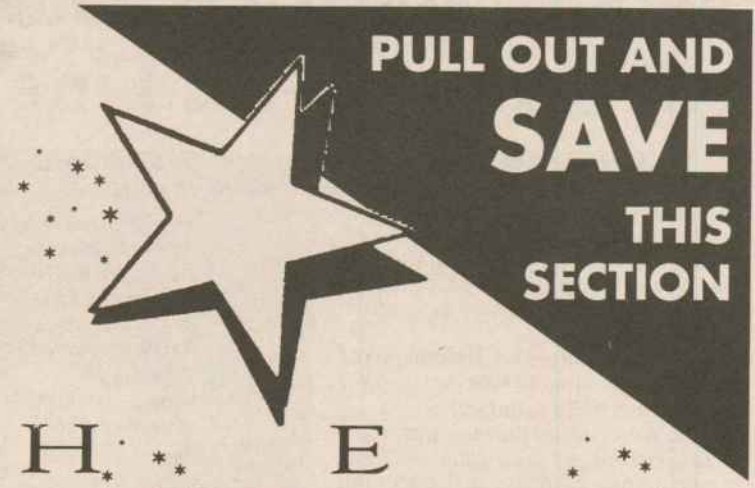
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MARCUS CENTRE FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS



DALE GUTZMAN PRODUCTIONS



1997-98 WISCONSIN PERFORMING ARTS PREVIEW

There Is Much To Look Forward To In Wisconsin This Fine Arts Season

By Bill Meunier

Milwaukee— Looking over all the brochures, flyers and press releases from various arts groups around the State, I feel like a kid who woke up on Christmas morning to see dozens of brightly colored packages under the tree. There is so much to look forward to.

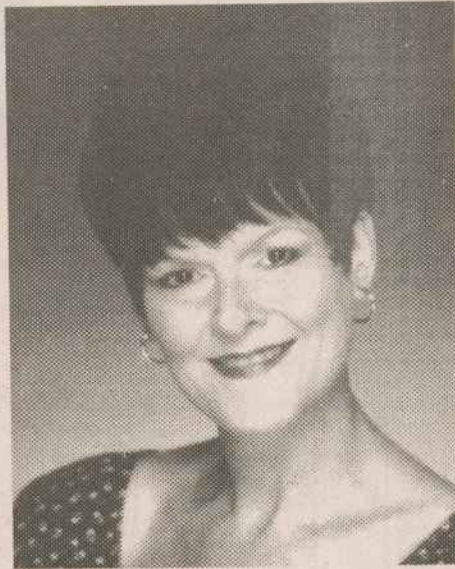
Some boxes are bigger than others but as anyone knows good things can and often do come in small packages.

Together these boxes represent presents to all of Wisconsin. The gifts of talent spirit and cultural diversity that make our society great. Together they represent a cornucopia of offerings that makes a lie to the rumor that Wisconsin is some kind of cultural backwater.

Unfortunately space and time didn't allow us to give you more than a glimpse at what awaits audiences in theaters and concert halls around the state. There will be many highlights and gems in the upcoming season. It is up to us to take advantage of them.

Touring Broadway musicals have finally discovered the Badger state. The Marcus Center for the Performing Arts in Milwaukee will offer *Show Boat*, *State Fair* and the huge new hit, *Chicago*. The Weidner in Green Bay is pleased to provide the Wisconsin premier of *Miss Saigon* plus the touring company of *Grease*. These are but a few of the companies hitting our State in the next few months.

There will be dramas and comedies. Of course all of Milwaukee is eagerly awaiting "Angels in America" a joint production of the Milwaukee Repertory and the Milwaukee Chamber Theater. But that's not all the Cream City has to look forward to. Theater X will again many fine productions some of which are Gay oriented. Next Act has four Milwaukee premiers.



Rose Pickering stars in "Angels In America"

The Florentine Opera Company's production of *La Boheme* is doing so well they have added an extra performance. And if opera is your thing check out the New York City Opera's "Daughter of the Regiment" at the Madison Civic Center.

Speaking of Madison, that City has a very lively arts community. The Civic Center will host the world famous Bolshoi, Marcel Marceau, and a fine production of Gilbert and Sullivan's "The Mikado" among many other concerts and theatrical productions.

The Madison Rep and it's innovative Broom Street Theater are always worth the price of admission.

If Dance is your thing there is plenty of that as well. The Milwaukee Ballet is

considered one of the best Ballet companies anywhere in the country. Plus touring companies like Chicago's Hubbard Dance Theater, Phildanco and the Trinity Irish Dancers will be performing in various venues around Wisconsin.

If you like comedy check out Second City at the Oshkosh Grand Opera House or Howie Mandel or the Capital Steps at the Madison Civic Center.

This season also has an international flair. The Red Army Chorus and Dance Ensemble will be at the Opera House in Oshkosh as will the Peking Acrobats. In addition to the Bolshoi, the Madison Civic Center is also bringing in the Russian National Orchestra and the Shanghai Acrobatic Theater.

The point is that this year offers a rich bounty of great theater, dance and music. In these days when funding for the arts is under attack from conservatives in Congress, it's more important than ever to support them.

It helps that people all over the State have worked hard to make that support easier than ever. But the bottom line is that it is up to each of us to show our appreciation for their efforts by buying tickets.

We have so much to look forward to.

M & M Club Offers Dinner Theater Packages for 'Angels in America'

Milwaukee— A fabulous evening of food and theater awaits those who reserve a spot for The M & M Club's two special Dinner and Theater packages for the Milwaukee premier run of "Angels in America."

The popular Milwaukee bar and restaurant will offer these packages on Wednesday September 24 for part 1 of "Angels" and on Wednesday October 22nd for "Part Two."

An elegant pasta buffet will be served

on September 24th. The menu includes M's famous pasta dishes, Mostacoli, Spaghetti and meatballs, and Linguine with clam sauce as well as vegetables, and breads.

On October 22nd the Club offers a tempting chicken and fish feast.

Both dinners include wine with the meal. Both evenings also include coffee and desert (assuming you have any room left) after the show.

The cost is \$60.00 for show and dinner. The September 24th package includes transportation to the theater. The October 22nd performance is within easy walking distance of M & M's.


Both dinners will be served in the upstairs Banquet room. Seating is limited so early reservations are recommended. Advance payment is required.

Call the M & M Club for reservations at (414) 347-1962 or stop in to the reserve your spot.


Another Dinner and Theater package will be offered for the Milwaukee premier of "Boys in the Band" at a date to be announced later.

M & M's is located at 124 N. Water Street in Milwaukee.

Angels in America



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Dancing Up A Storm! "Show Boat," the hit Broadway musical come to Milwaukee's Marcus Center for the Performing Arts from July 21st to August 15, 1998.

Boulevard Ensemble Celebrates 12th Season With a Stellar List of Plays

Milwaukee—The Boulevard Ensemble will be celebrating its 12th season with its usual delicious mix of innovated and traditional plays. The following is the 1997-'98 lineup.

September

The season opens with a mixed-media production of Lillian Hellman's *The Children's Hour*. This exciting production will run September 12 through October 12 and will be directed by Polaris Puppet Theater's Artistic Director Nancy Aldrich. Hellman's riveting drama of malicious accusations and sexual tensions will feature puppets portraying both children and adults alongside human actors in what will prove to be one of the most exciting productions in the upcoming season. This five week run will play Thursdays through Sundays.

November

November will see a traveling reading of Jules Verne's *Around the World in Eighty Days*. This traveling reading will combine sound effects, radio show momentum, and choral singing to bring Verne's novel to the stage.

The reading will be divided into sections and will play at three different locations in Milwaukee. The reading will culminate in all the sections being put together in a final grand staging at a location that will feature the entire reading and refreshments. This final culmination will serve as a fundraiser for the Ensemble's 12th Season. The reading will be directed by Ensemble Artistic Director Mark Bucher.

The four locations will be announced.

December

Take 7 young children in a New York neighborhood in 1962, a discovered bag of money, a dead bird, a missing latchkey and blend in gentle humor and a delicate nostalgia and you have playwright Donald Margulies' *Found a Peanut*. This Christmas bonbon will run late December through mid-January and will be directed by Ensemble Artistic Director Mark Bucher.

February

The Boulevard will present Edward Albee's Pulitzer-prize winning comedy, *A Delicate Balance*. Local director and actress Maureen Kilmurry will bring Albee's poised and delicious comedy of family ties versus familial bonds to the Boulevard stage. Kilmurry (who has directed for the Boulevard Ensemble, Playwrights Studio Theatre, and Amethyst Productions), will bring her directorial finesse to this witty script which will run early February through early March.


April

David Mamet's *Glengarry, Glen Ross* will receive a truly versatile twist in this Boulevard production. Midwest director Timothy X. Troy will return to the Boulevard to stage Mamet's scathing expose of real estate shenanigans for this early April through early May production.

The Boulevard Theater is located at 2252 S. Kinnickinnic. All performances run Thursdays through Sundays. For more information, call (414) 672-6019.

MADISON CIVIC CENTER

The 1997-98 Season



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For tickets, visit the Civic Center at 211 State Street, call (608) 266-9055.

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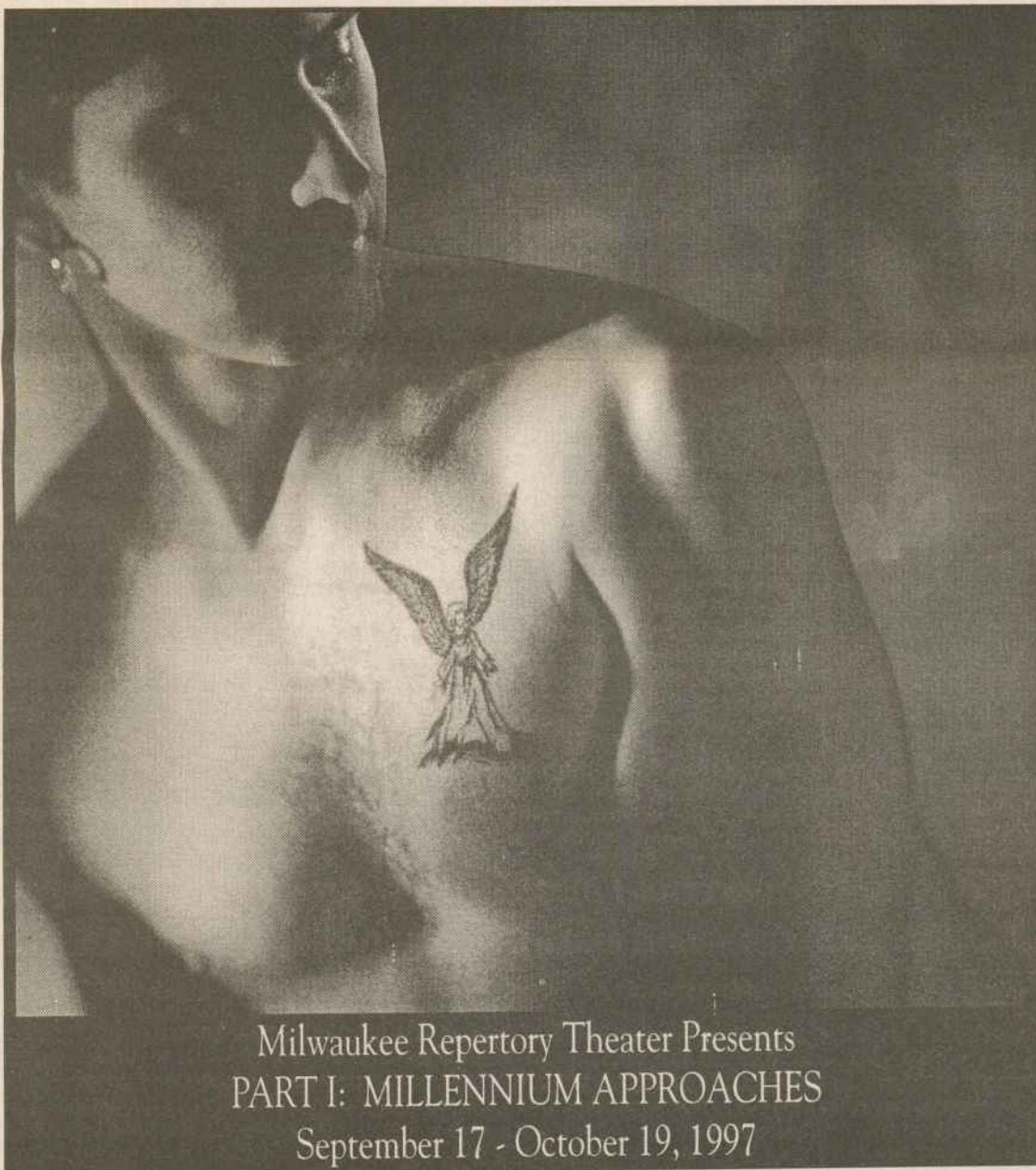
A Gay Fantasia on National Themes

ANGELS IN AMERICA

MILLENNIUM APPROACHES

PERESTROIKA

by Tony Kushner



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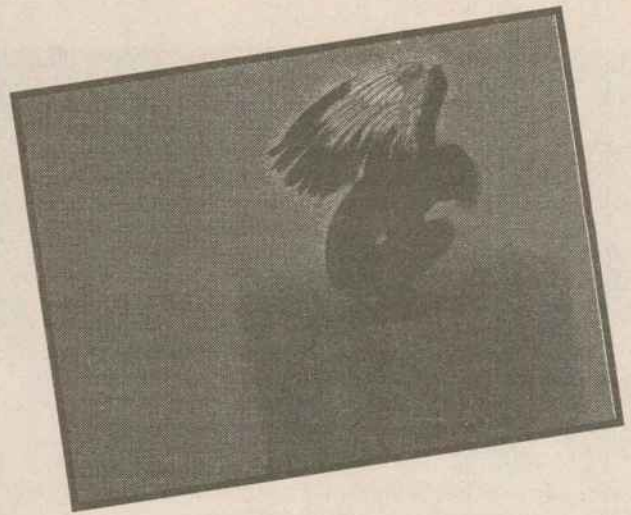
-Dallas Morning News

"A True Millennial Work of Art,
Uplifting, and Hugely Comic"

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Visionary, Poetic, and Profound"

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PART II: PERESTROIKA
October 18 - November 9, 1997

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The 1997-98 season includes: *Dames at Sea*, *Beast on the Moon*, *Blues for an Alabama Sky*, *Triple Espresso*, *Sylvia*, *Long Day's Journey Into Night* and *Master Class*.



For Subscriptions & Playbooks Call
(608) 256-0029
For Single Tickets Call
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Madison Repertory Sets Sail for a Full Season of Theater

Madison—Madison Repertory Theatre's 29th season is already in full sail. The season officially starts with their summer production of *Dames at Sea* which is running now through August 31. *Dames at Sea* is a toe-tapping tribute to the movie musicals of the 1930's. Its all-star cast features talent from Milwaukee, Chicago, and Madison including Tony Clements, Norman Moses, John Staninas, Carolynne Warren, Becky Spice, Tonya Kay, and Kelli Clement.

In September, the theater opens its production of *Beast on the Moon* by Racine-native Richard Kalinoski. Running from September 12-28, *Beast on the Moon* is a warm story of two Armenian immigrants making their way in 1920's Milwaukee. Survivors of the Turkish persecutions, Seta is a giggling 15-year-old when she meets Aram, her "arranged" husband. Their struggle to define their uneasy marriage makes for a moving love story that is both hopeful and original.

Blues for an Alabama Sky takes center stage at the Rep in November. Set between the Harlem Renaissance and the Great Depression, *Blues* is an engaging story of two dreamers and two realists. The intertwined lives of former cabaret singer Angel Allen, her friends and neighbors provide a rich collage of comic turns, heated confrontations and romantic twists.

Running from November 7-23, *Blues for an Alabama Sky* is a compassionate story with rich and vivid characters.

Triple Espresso is a wildly funny musical revue that is sure to please this holiday season. Running from December 12-31, this is the only show of the season that is performed at the Mitchell Theatre in Vilas Hall on the UW campus. This is new vaudeville at its best—full of singing,

dancing, magic and laugh-out-loud silliness.

A.R. Gurney's hilarious *Sylvia* is scheduled to run from January 9 through February 1. This comedic tale focuses on middle-aged businessman Greg who has stumbled upon a dog named Sylvia in the park. It's a case of "two's company, three's a crowd" as Greg's wife Kate realizes that Sylvia is chewing a hole in their marriage.

The Rep returns a modern classic with their production of *Long Day's Journey into Night*. This haunting play digs deep into the psyche of an American family. This poetic tale of the search for truth and the cohesive effect of family love, will run from March 13 through April 5.

Opera diva Maria Callas, her life and her work are explored in *Master Class*, the final offering in the Rep's season (pending availability). This award-winning play focuses on the master classes she taught at Juilliard. A forthright and often funny exploration of her life, *Master Class* is scheduled to run from April 17 through May 10.

Madison Repertory Theatre offers subscription packages for 6 or 7 plays that range from \$101 to \$138. The theater also offers Playbooks which have 4 or 8 discount vouchers, each good for one ticket, for any performance of any play. The Playbook offers maximum flexibility for a price of \$74 for a 4-voucher Playbook or \$142 for an 8-voucher Playbook. Subscriptions and Playbooks are available by calling 608-256-0029. Single tickets are \$18 for Wed., Thurs. and Sun. performances, \$22 for Fri. & Sat. performances. Single tickets are available at the Civic Center ticket office, 211 State Street, or by calling 608-266-9055.

Marcus Center and PACE Prepare to Put On Some of Broadway's Best Musicals

Milwaukee—Partnerships play a vital role in the Marcus Center's success year after year. The Center is proud of all its partners, which include the board of directors, staff, government, tenants, corporate supporters and of course, our patrons.

One partner the Marcus Center credits with its success is PACE Theatrical Group. PACE operates theaters and Broadway subscription series in 23 cities. The list of shows it has produced includes *Tommy*, *Damn Yankees*, *Man of La Mancha*, *Hello Dolly!*, *West Side Story*, and *Grease*. PACE Theatrical Group is a division of PACE Theatrical Entertainment Corporation, a leading producer and presenter of live entertainment, including music, theater, and sports for over 25 years. It also develops and manages amphitheaters, arenas, and theaters.

The Marcus Center joined forces with PACE, one of the nation's largest presenters of Broadway shows, back in 1994 to bring the excitement of Broadway to Milwaukee. The Center is proud to unite with PACE to present another fabulous MasterCard Broadway Series.

PACE and Marcus officials are excited about what's waiting in the wings: two shows that rejuvenated Broadway, and a pair of shows that will bring Broadway stars to Milwaukee—all staged in the newly renovated Uihlein Hall.

State Fair
January 6-11

The all-American charm of this musical has made it a hit since it first burst on the silver screen in 1945. Following the story of an Iowa farmer whose family finds love and adventure on the Midway, *State Fair* features a Rodgers & Hammerstein score that includes "It Might As Well Be Spring" and "A Grand Night for Singing."

Peter Pan
March 3-8

Broadway star and Olympic gymnast Cathy Rigby soars in this new production of the beloved classic about a little boy determined never to grow up. Rigby's *Peter Pan* broke box office records, garnered rave reviews, and received Tony Award nominations for Best Actress in a Musical and Best Revival in 1991.

Show Boat
July 21-August 15

This epic production, directed by Hal Prince, won five 1995 Tony Awards, including Best Musical Revival. *Show Boat* spans four decades to tell the tale of "The Cotton Blossom," a floating theater, the Hawks family, and their show boat troupe of actors.

Chicago
August 25-30

The hit musical vaudeville that has taken Broadway by storm boasts what may be Kander and Ebb's finest score,

and choreography in the style of the late Bob Fosse. *Chicago* tells the story of Roxie Hart, a murderess who manipulates the media and uses her notoriety to become a star.

Season tickets for all four shows in the series are now on sale. For more information or to purchase season tickets, call 1-800-905-SHOW.

"The Odd Couple" Begins a Run at Melanec's Wheelhouse

Milwaukee—Neil Simon's long running Broadway comedy, *The Odd Couple (Female Version)* will bounce onto the stage at Melanec's Wheelhouse Dinner Theater on Friday, September 5th. In this version, Mr. Simon has creatively flip-flopped the roles of Felix and Oscar into Florence and Olive; their friends come over to play Trivial Pursuits instead of poker; and the sisters upstairs become the brothers upstairs.

The rendition at Melanec's has Deanne Phillips injecting humor into the Olive character and Christine Horgen portraying Florence. Christina Madison is Mickey the cop. The antics of Sylvie and Renee are brought to the table by Kathy Frisch and Lynn Janke respectively; and Anne Catalane is featured in the role of Vera. Rick Anderson and Clair Anderson though not brothers in real life, carry off the roles of the Consuelo brothers with wit and infectious laughter. Waiting in the wings as understudies are Mary Rohde and Matt Eulgen.

Horgen of Wauwatosa has been active in area community theaters since the late 1970s. Phillips, also of Wauwatosa, took a BFA from NYU's Tisch School of the Arts. She is currently the drama director for St. Francis High School, drama instructor for The Milwaukee Ballet School and directs The Teenworks Program for The Milwaukee Rep.

This production of *The Odd Couple* is directed by Ray Bradford of Whitefish Bay. He has been directing The Bay Players for 12 years since coming to Milwaukee from Chicago.

The Odd Couple begins on Friday, September 5th and continues through November 15th. Shows are scheduled for Friday and Saturday at 8:00 p.m. and Sundays at 3:00 p.m. Dinner is served an hour prior to showtime. Melanec's Wheelhouse is located at 2178 N. Riverboat Road in Milwaukee.

For reservations and ticket information, call (414) 264-6060.



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January 6-11, 1998



Cathy Rigby
as

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March 3-8, 1998



Music by **Jerome KERN**
Book and Lyrics by
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Dates, times & actors subject to change without notice.





Churn It Johnny! John Davidson reprises his Broadway role in "State Fair," coming to Milwaukee's Marcus Center for the Performing Arts January 6 - 11, 1998.

New Music Director, New Performance Hall, New Generation!

By Rosie Cannizzo

Milwaukee—When he accepted his appointment as the new Music Director of the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra, Andreas Delfs promised "refreshingly different" programming and an "out of the box" presentation style.

Delfs delivered on his promise when he announced his plans for the MSO's 39th Classics season. In his first year as Music Director of the MSO, Delfs will host a huge season-opening "block party" and concert at the breathtaking, newly restored St. Josaphat Basilica; he will collaborate with actor John de Lancie (Star Trek's "Q") in theatrical/musical performances at the Pabst Theater; and he will bring stunning visuals—including flamenco dancers and a gypsy singer—to enhance the music on the Uihlein Hall stage.

Adding to the excitement of the season, the acoustically-refurbished Uihlein Hall will be unveiled at the beginning of November in a series of concerts conducted by Delfs, featuring the Milwaukee Symphony Chorus in Beethoven's monumental Ninth Symphony.

World-renowned violinist Joshua Bell will join Delfs and the MSO for Mendelssohn's Violin Concerto. With the renovations, Uihlein Hall will take its place as one of the finest concert halls in the United States, providing a visually and sonically enhanced concert experience.

Ko-Thi Dance Company to Produce "HARVEST" at the Pabst Theater

Milwaukee—Ko-Thi Dance Company will produce its HARVEST performance November 14 & 15, 1997 at the Pabst Theater. Both performances will begin at 8:00 pm.

HARVEST will premiere a new work by founder and Artistic Director Ferne Caulker. In 1995 she traveled to Tanzania, East Africa under a Fulbright Fellowship. The experiences and research from this trip and corresponding studies will be incorporated in her work entitled CALL, which will use images and chants from various cultures such as European, Native American and African (Makonde, Masai.)

"This work represents a theatrical burial ritual that speaks to our total human experience; a 'healing' symbolizes the connections and bonds we all have as we share this gift of life on our planet" states Caulker.

Through this production of CALL, Ko-Thi intends to facilitate an artistic environment between the audience and performers ... a healing and closure thereby honoring those departed souls. An original sculpture will be commissioned along with a musical score written by Ko-Thi's Musical Director, Dumah Saafir, with choreography, chants and songs by Ferne Caulker.

The Studio/Community Classes offer discipline and training in the dance, music, philosophy and history of African based culture. The classes for the Fall session will take place on Saturday mornings, September 20 - December 13. Classes are held place at the Milwaukee High School of the Arts, 2300 West Highland Blvd. Classes are for children and adults (Ages 5 - 105).

For more information about any of the above programs, please call 273-0676.

Many of the MSO's Classics concerts are designed to bring drama and variety to the season, presenting the orchestra in a fresh light.

"We start the season differently right off the bat," noted Andreas Delfs, "by taking

the orchestra out into the community to locations not usually associated with MSO subscription concerts. This gives us the opportunity to offer different music than we usually perform...people will see and hear the orchestra in a whole new light."

Although rich with innovation, Delfs' new season remains firmly grounded in the great Germanic classical tradition, which he says is "the orchestra's—and my—bread and butter."

Slated for performance this season are Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 4, Mendelssohn's Violin Concerto, and an all Brahms concert featuring the Symphony No. 1 and the Violin Concerto (performed by Pamela Frank).

Also included in the 39th season are Tchaikovsky's Violin Concerto, his rarely-heard Symphony No. 1, and the more well known Symphony No. 6, "Pathtique," as well as a 100th birthday celebration for George Gershwin, featuring the Concerto in F and the popular American in Paris.

The 1997-98 MSO Pops season, led by Principal Pops Conductor Doc Severinsen, matches the Classic season for interesting and exciting guests and programming. Of special interest to the gay community is the October 11 concert featuring the reigning queen of Broadway, Bernadette Peters.

Fresh from her critically acclaimed Carnegie Hall debut—a benefit for Gay Men's Health Crisis—Ms. Peters will sing show-stopping favorites from her Tony Award-winning Broadway performances as well as from her many successful solo

albums.

Another highlight of the MSO's upcoming season is the Classical Conversations series, held at the glittering Pabst Theater and hosted by Resident Conductor Neal Gittleman. This year's series, "Conversations with Lenny," will focus on the life and music of one of America's greatest musicians, Leonard Bernstein.

The charismatic Gittleman adopts Bernstein's former role as conductor and teacher, engaging in a relaxed and informative dialogue with audience members about Bernstein's many musical achievements.

The informal talk-and-play format produces the perfect introduction to the world of symphonic music. For those who are already aficionados of orchestral repertoire, Classical Conversations concerts provide a refreshing alternative to the more traditional Classics concerts, and an opportunity to learn even more about great music.

It's not too late to subscribe to a season of phenomenal music! A wide variety of subscription packages, performance dates, starting times and prices are available in all series. Classics subscription prices begin at \$75 for 6 performances, and Pops subscription prices begin at \$77 for 5 concerts.

MSO subscribers receive discount prices on single ticket purchases to other regular Classics or Pops concerts. The three-concert "Conversations with Lenny" series starts at \$31 for all three concerts. For assistance or information about subscribing, call the MSO sales department at (414) 291-7605 or 1-800-291-7605.

Alluring Radiant Glamorous

Bernadette Peters

& the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra
Neal Gittleman, conductor

Saturday, October 11, 8 pm
Wisconsin Center Arena

Ask for information on the entire new season, introducing new Music Director Andreas Delfs. Highlights include: music of Tchaikovsky, Bernstein, Gershwin, Beethoven, and Mozart; guest artists Pinchas Zukerman, Lynn Harrell, Evelyn Glennie, Marvin Hamlisch, Ben Vereen; A Symphonic Night at the Movies (with film clips!), Stars of Broadway, and more!

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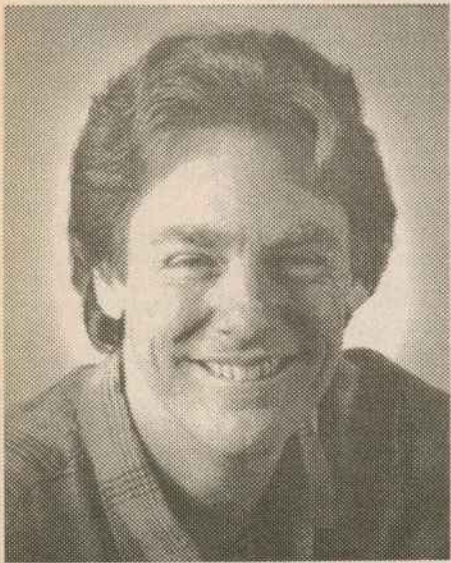
Open It Up—Above is a scene from the female version of the "Odd Couple" which opens at Milwaukee's Melanec Wheel House dinner theater for a run from September 5 - November 15.

The 1997-'98 Milwaukee Rep Season at a Glance

Milwaukee—Milwaukee Repertory Theater Artistic Director Joseph Hanreddy has announced the theater's 14-show schedule for the 1997/'98 season.

The Season at a Glance
Powerhouse Theater
Angels in America, Part I: Millennium Approaches
 September 17-October 19

Winner of the Pulitzer Prize and more Tony Award nominations than any play in Broadway history, *Angels in America* has been hailed by *Newsweek* as "the most ambitious American play of our time." Brought to Milwaukee through the generosity of the Miller Brewing Company, the play presents a triumphant and altogether lyrical celebration of the human spirit. This epic comedy-drama miraculously weaves gripping plots about love and loss, fantasy and reality into an uncompromising and compassionate work.



Artistic Director Joseph Hanreddy

Over the Tavern
 October 23-November 23
 Growing up in the late '50s, Rudy Pazinski, a bright, wise-cracking 12 year-old boy, locks theological horns with his nemesis, a 70 year-old nun. While Rudy devises Ed Sullivan comedy routines and engages in prayerful negotiations with Jesus, his father battles personal demons, brother Eddie's hormones rage, and brother Georgie learns vocabulary that his mother wishes he wouldn't.

Having Our Say
 December 3-January 11
 Come sit down and make yourself comfortable, while the Delany sisters open up their home and hearts and recount their remarkable, inspirational lives. Through a fascinating series of events and anecdotes, Sadie, 103 and Bessie, a mere 101, share recollections about their careers as pioneering professionals during the bitter era of Jim Crow and segregation.

Daughters of a former slave who became the first elected African-American bishop in the Episcopal church, the centenarian Delany sisters drew strength from

their rich family history.
An Ideal Husband
 January 21-February 22
 This comedy of political manners by Oscar Wilde, charts the rise of Sir Robert Chiltern, a brilliant statesman with a shadowy past.

The General from America
 March 4 - April 5
 Commissioned by the Royal Shakespeare Company, Milwaukee Rep is proud to present the American premiere of this play. Set during the closing days of the American Revolution, this true saga powerfully depicts the astonishing chain of events surrounding Britain's attempted seizure of West Point.

The School for Wives
 April 15-May 17
 In the tradition of classic French farce, this play by Moliere is a delightful comic romp through the complexities of love.

Stiemke Theater
Nixon's Nixon
 September 19-October 12
 Set on the eve of Richard Nixon's resignation, the play is a fictional enactment of the historical meeting between the 37th President and Secretary of State Henry Kissinger.

Private Eyes
 October 31-November 23
 Simple attraction gives way to jealousy and revenge in this delightfully intricate comedy about the fantasy of lust and the reality of love.

The Turn of the Screw
 January 23-February 15
 A face at the window, a vexing riddle, and a secret locket are but a few of the many haunting pieces to the psychological jigsaw puzzle that has been called "the world's greatest ghost story."

Stackner Cabaret
Just for a Song
 September 6-November 9
 Milwaukee's popular Cabaret couple returns with more of their favorite musical characters, as well as refreshing renditions of some of the most delightful songs you're likely to hear this side of 42nd Street.

Don't Touch that Dial!
 November 15-January 4
 A wild and wacky ride through television's unforgettable theme songs.

Carolyn' Carolynne: Life Out Loud
 January 10-March 1
 Carolynne Warren and the delightfully kooky characters she brings to life light up the Cabaret once again.
From My Hometown
 March 7-April 26
 Featuring over 40 classic R&B songs by artists such as The Temptations, Otis Redding and Marvin Gaye.

Pabst Theater
A Christmas Carol
 December 4 - December 28
 Milwaukee's favorite holiday tradition returns to the Pabst Theater for the 22nd consecutive year. It is generously sponsored by the Miller Brewing Company.

For more information, call (414) 224-9490.

Next Act Theatre To Feature Four Premieres And One Classic For 1997-98 Season

Milwaukee—Next Act Theatre will bring three Milwaukee premieres; one world premiere, and one classic for its Eighth Great Season.

The first production will consist of two one-act plays, *Artis Generis* by James Devita and *Descent* by Tom Patrick playing September 25 through October 12, 1997. *Artis Generis*: (World Premiere) was commissioned by Next Act to open the evening.

This brand-new work set at a TV Talkshow has two primates debating the worth of art and the value of artists in today's society while their human host looks helplessly on as the fur flies. *Descent*: (Milwaukee Premiere) is a new play that takes us into the business world jungle of cutthroat practices, downsizing, long-term unemployment, and the psychological pressures endured by real people trying to make a living.

Artis Generis and *Descent* will feature Mark Ulrich, Peter Reeves, and Jane Hanley. Directing *Artis Generis* and *Descent* is Jenny Wanasek. The production will be presented in the Humphrey Scottish Rite Masonic Center.

The Milwaukee premiere of Simon Gray's suspense thriller, *Stage Struck* plays December 4 - 21, 1997.

Known for scripts of intelligence and wit, British playwright Gray has brought the best of Alfred Hitchcock and Agatha Christie to the stage. Spurned and belittled by his actress-wife, Robert stages an elaborate ruse with the intention of flushing out her secret lover.

The theatrical thrills of lightning-fast dialog, gripping suspense and shocking surprise will keep you on the edges of your seats. *Stage Struck* will feature David Cessarini, Carrie Hitchcock, Norman Mosses, and Steve Koehler. Directing will be Jonathan Smoots. The production will be presented in the Stiemke Theater.

Next Act's final premiere of the season will be *Someone Who'll Watch Over Me* by Frank McGuinness runs February 26 through March 15, 1998. An Irishman, a Britisher and an American are held hostage by an unknown Islamic sect, somewhere in Lebanon.

Each man hangs onto outer and inner life in his own way. Watching the three innocent prisoners endure extreme deprivation, an intense realization is burned into Next Act's brains: that the two sustaining conditions of life are freedom and love.

Someone Who'll Watch Over Me will feature J.D. Nelson, C. Michael Wright, and an actor to be announced. Directing will be NAT Producing Director, David Cessarini. The production will be presented in the Stiemke Theater.

The classic Arthur Miller piece *The Price* will bring Next Act's eighth season to a close. Running from April 16 through May 3, 1998. *The Price* examines the estranged relationship of two brothers, one who stayed at home to care for their ailing father, the other who pursued a successful medical career.

The older brother is ready and willing to begin the healing process but it becomes apparent that the younger brother has allowed bitter resentment and blame to become essential to his view of the world—he won't give up the feud.

The Price will feature David Cessarini, Jenny Wanasek, Jonathan Smoots, and Robert Spencer. Directing will be NAT Associate Artistic Director, C. Michael Wright. The production will be presented in the Stiemke Theater.

Next Act offers a group discount of 20% for groups of ten or more. Seniors and students also receive discounts. For more information on Next Act Theatre call 414.278.7780.

Racine Symphonic Chorus to Hold Auditions

Racine—The Racine Symphonic Chorus is holding open auditions for its 11th Concert Season. The Chorus is looking for talented singers for all singing parts, especially tenor and bass voices.

This year the Chorus will be performing a four-concert program beginning with the Christmas concert, "A Festival of Lessons & Carols," Mozart's Mass in C Minor with the Racine Symphony Orchestra, pieces by Burleigh & Thompson, and finally a patriotic salute to Flag Day, "Let Freedom Sing."

The next auditions are: Tuesday, September 2, 7:00-9:00 p.m.; and Monday, September 8, 7:00-9:30 p.m.

Rehearsals will begin Tuesday, September 9. If you are interested, call Char Osenaga at (414) 634-7669.

SEPT. 25 - OCT. 12, 1997		DEC. 4 - DEC. 21, 1997	
<p>ARTIS GENERIS a World Premiere by James Devita & DESCENT a Darwinian comedy by Tom Patrick</p>		<p>STAGE STRUCK a British suspense thriller by Simon Gray</p>	
1997 NEXT ACT 1998 THEATRE			
<p>SOMEONE WHO'LL WATCH OVER ME a story of survival by Frank McGuinness</p>		<p>THE PRICE a classic family drama by Arthur Miller</p>	
FEB. 26 - MAR. 15, 1998		APR. 16 - MAY 3, 1998	



Family Matters - The Chemille Sisters perform at the Oshkosh Opera House on February 1, 1998

Chamber Theatre's 1997/'98 Season, filled with highly acclaimed plays

Milwaukee—Milwaukee Chamber Theatre's (MCT) 97/98 season, which opens with a North American premiere in celebration of the 150th Anniversary of Milwaukee's Cathedral of St. John, and continues with highly acclaimed and Pulitzer prize-winning comedies and dramas by Shaw, Kushner, Fugard, and Albee, will take flight beginning this September.

Artistic Director of Milwaukee Chamber Theatre, Montgomery Davis, calls this season "one where we will reach to heaven to embrace life, challenge death, and welcome hope. Filled with sparkling stars of plays brought to us by some of this century's greatest playwrights."

Audiences will witness a first-time partnership this fall when Milwaukee Repertory Theatre and Milwaukee Chamber Theatre stage the Pulitzer Prize-winning play, *Angels in America*.

Also to be staged is the revival of MCT's smash hit *Beyond the Fringe* with an all new "next generation" cast, and the Milwaukee premieres of Fugard's masterful *Valley Song* and Albee's Pulitzer Prize-winning *Three Tall Women*.

The 16th Annual Milwaukee Shaw Festival will feature Bernard Shaw's comic parody *Too True to be Good* and Beckett's *Waiting for Godot*.

Milwaukee Chamber Theatre's 15th subscription season will also include the free MCT Readers Series featuring two staged readings throughout the season, including a new play by Milwaukee Alderman and Playwright, Wayne Frank, entitled *Freddy* on November 3 at 7 p.m., and Bernard Shaw's rarely performed *Jitta's Atonement* as part of the Milwaukee Shaw Festival and new International Festival of the Arts on February 7 at 2 p.m.

Chamber Theatre will open the season with three performances of Christopher Fry's *One Thing More* as part of the Cathedral of St. John's 150th Anniversary. Tickets for this event are available by calling the St. John's music office at 414/276-7455.

Milwaukee Chamber Theatre, one of the Midwest's most acclaimed professional theatre companies, is a resident company of the Broadway Theatre Center. Co-founded by Artistic Director Montgomery Davis and actress Ruth Schudson, MCT is dedicated to producing classic and con-

temporary plays of literate and philosophical merit while utilizing a pool of the finest local professional actors and artisans.

Subscription orders are currently being taken for the entire season. Ticket packages range from \$64 to \$165 and include a 6-Play, 4-Play Mini, 6-Voucher FlexPass, and a low price student subscription. For subscription information or to receive a free season brochure, call 414/276-8842. Single tickets will go on sale for the 1997/1998 season beginning September 8, 1997 at the Broadway Theatre Center Box Office, 158 N. Broadway, (414) 291-7800.

The Season at a Glance

Angels in America: Perestroika

October 18-November 9

Part two of the Pulitzer Prize and Tony award-winning, Heaven-storming epic continues. In a first-time collaboration between the Rep and the Chamber Theatre, *Angels in America* makes its Wisconsin premiere. In *Perestroika* the characters of Part One come together in astonishing ways, blending religion and philosophy, sex and drugs, life and death.

Beyond the Fringe

December 6-January 4

This zany, hilarious and completely mad production returns to the Chamber Theatre stage with an all new "next generation" cast.

16th Annual Milwaukee Shaw Festival

February 21-March 8

Too True to be Good, Shaw's comic parody of adventure movies and "smart young things" of the 1930's.

Waiting for Godot by Samuel Beckett is a fitting companion piece to Shaw's comedy.

Valley Song

March 28-April 19

The latest from Athol Fugard, the master South African playwright.

Three Tall Women

April 18-May 3

This Pulitzer Prize-winning drama rises to poetic and dramatic heights in the surrealistic atmosphere of a woman's life reflected and refracted over ninety years.

Green Bay's Weidner Center Offers Touring Broadway Shows Including "Miss Saigon"

Green Bay—Green Bay may be known for more than the Packers if the Weidner Center for the Performing Arts has its way. The Weidner is becoming a mecca for touring Broadway musicals.

This year's season has already included a week long run of "Forever Plaid," and from August 26-31" features "The King and I" starring Haely Mills.

The fabulous sizzling choreography and syncopated tap dancing of "42nd Street" has captured the hearts of audiences across the country (not the mention the praise of critics everywhere.) The musical will play the Weidner from September 30 to October 5.

"42nd Street" offers audiences a sneak peek behind the scenes of "Pretty Lady," a show that holds the hopes and dreams of many including its cast and Director.

The Grammy Award winning "Smokey Joe's Café," will play the Weidner from November 18 to the 23. This musical celebrates the songs of Jerry Leiber and Mike Stoller, which include "Hound Dog", "Stand By Me", "Jail House Rock" and "Love Potion Number 9."

"Smokey Joe's Café," takes its audiences into a world of first kisses, last dances and hot summer nights along with midnight struts, blue light diners, and red hot rock

and roll.

"Peter Pan" starring Olympic gymnast, Cathy Rigby in the role that won her a Tony Award nomination plays the Weidner from February 3 to February 8.

Audiences will find the story of the Darling children and their adventures in "Never, Never Land," just as charming as ever.

The highlight of the season is a nearly month long run of the fabulous "Miss Saigon." The acclaimed musical portrays the story of a young Vietnamese girl and an American soldier during the fall of Saigon. It will be at the Weidner from April 1 to the 25.

This will be the Wisconsin premier of "Miss Saigon," which many critics compare to its creators other hit, "Les Misérables."

In addition to its Broadway Series, the Weidner hosts performances by community arts groups, the Weidner's Main Stage Season, the UW Green Bay performing arts groups, and other shows.

Over 300,000 people are expected to attend performances at the Weidner during its 1997-98 season.

For ticket information contact the Weidner at (920) 465-2726.

Milwaukee Ballet's 28th Season Spans Contemporary to Classic

Milwaukee—For its 28th season, the Milwaukee Ballet has planned a remarkable assortment of productions that span dynamic contemporary performances to romantic classical ballets.

The range of performances this season showcases the breadth of talent within the company. From the grace and energy of the company's talented dancers and choreographers, ranked among the nation's best, to the brilliance of the Milwaukee Ballet Orchestra, and to the breathtaking scenery and costumes created by the company's renowned production and costume departments, the 97/98 season is sure please audiences of all ages and tastes.

Choreographers' Showcase

September 25-28, 1997

The season kicks off with the spotlight on contemporary dance. Choreographers' Showcase includes several stunning productions created by three gifted and nationally recognized young choreographers.

The performances begin with the animated and quirky "Panoramagram." From Charles Moulton's trademark ball-passing routine to intensely physical solos, "Panoramagram" demands precision, strength and energy from the entire cast.

James Canfield's "Equinoxe" is a sensuous journey into the underwater world. Exotically costumed dancers carry out hypnotic movements to the enchanting music of Jean Michel Jarre.

The performance concludes with "Concerto for La Donna," which proves that a classical ballet can be at its contemporary best.

This production choreographed by Jimmy Gamonet De Los Heros combines exhilarating dance with the romantic music of Max Bruch's familiar Violin Concerto No. 1. The ornate grandeur of the Pabst Theater will provide an intimate, romantic backdrop for this very special performance.

"Romeo & Juliet,"

November 13-16, 1997

One of the most beloved classical ballets, "Romeo & Juliet," returns to Milwaukee this season. Dramatic and passionate performances by Milwaukee Ballet's principal dancers Mireille Favarel and Rolando Yanes preserve the depth of Shakespeare's tragedy. Sergei Prokofiev's haunting score accompanies this full-length ballet by choreographer Bruce Wells.

The Nutcracker,

December 11-14, 17-23, 1997

A perennial holiday classic, "The Nutcracker" returns with its familiar score by Tchaikovsky and enchanting dance and costumes. Sponsored by Miller Brewing Company, "The Nutcracker" features well-known scenes, such as Dance of the Sugarplum Fairy and the beautiful snow scene to delight audiences of all ages.

This will be the last opportunity for Milwaukee audiences to see this version of the Milwaukee Ballet's now famous production of "The Nutcracker" before it stages an all-new production in 1998.

"Les Nuits D'Ete" and

"Carmina Burana,"

February 12-15, 1998

Principal dancer Mireille Favarel will

dance the lead in "Les Nuits D'Ete" ("Summer Nights"), a love story told through passionate dance and the powerful vocals of the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra Chorus.

Not to be upstaged, an explosion of sound raises the curtain on the second production of the evening, "Carmina Burana," to reveal the Empress of the World and the 70 voices of the MSO Chorus.

An exciting new version of this celebrated ballet, "Carmina Burana" relies on German choreographer Ernest Uthoff and the music by Carl Orff to interpret early 13th century poetry in this classic tale.

"An Evening of Antony Tudor"

April 2-5, 1998

Rewarded for the company's high artistic standards, the Milwaukee Ballet will present a full evening of ballets from the choreographer Antony Tudor. Tudor (1909-1987) is considered a ballet legend as a truly original choreographer and gifted artistic director.

Given special permission to perform the Tudor ballets, an honor in the artistic community, the Milwaukee Ballet's production will include four diverse productions demanding a staggering range of dance techniques and dramatic performances.

"Continuo" features some of the most beautiful choreography in existence enhanced by Pachelbel's familiar, romantic score; "Judgement of Paris" is a black comedy set to the music of Kurt Weill's "Three Penny Opera;" the crushing anguish of "Dark Elegies" allows the company's dancers to immerse themselves in emotion; and "Gala Performance" is a hilarious tale of the rivalry between three turn-of-the-century ballerinas.

"An Evening of Antony Tudor" may be Milwaukee Ballet's most striking productions this season.

"The Tempest,"

May 21-24, 1998

The Milwaukee Ballet will conclude its season with its acclaimed production of "The Tempest," an Emmy Award-winning ballet. Created by choreographer Michael Smuin for the San Francisco Ballet, "The Tempest" is a visual extravaganza of Shakespeare's comedy.

The Milwaukee Ballet is the first dance company outside of San Francisco to stage the production and is credited for resurrecting the ballet. Between its breathtaking costumes and scenery, enchanting music and spectacular choreography, "The Tempest" is the most theatrical production in the company's repertoire.

All performances of the Milwaukee Ballet will take place at Uihlein Hall at the Marcus Center for the Performing Arts, except for the opening series of "Choreographers Showcase," which will be staged at the Pabst Theater.

Full-season subscriptions includes five performances (all except "The Nutcracker") and are available for \$51-200. Four-show passes are \$48-169, and three-show passes are \$36-126. Tickets to "The Nutcracker" are offered first to season subscribers at the time of ordering packages. To order or request a brochure or more information, please call (414) 643-7677.



Flying High! "Peter Pan" starring Kathy Rigby will make two stops in Wisconsin. The hit Broadway production will be at the Weidner Center in Green Bay February 3 to February 8 and at the Marcus Center for the Performing Arts in Milwaukee, March 3 - 8, 1998.

Skylight Opera Theatre Announces It's 1997-'98 Season of Opera and Musical Theatre

Milwaukee—The Skylight Opera Theatre announces its 1997-'98 season running from September 26th through May 31st. All productions will be performed in the Broadway Theatre Center's Cabot Theatre and the season offers a wide spectrum of opera and musical theatre from the classics to the contemporary.

Cinderella

September 26-October 12

This memorable story of the kitchen maid turned princess has the twist of magic and mistaken identity. Gioachino Rossini's score lifts this version of the classic tale into a fable of hope and humor for all ages.

Guys and Dolls

November 28-December 21

Two gambling guys lay down their bets, but what's really at stake are the hearts of two dolls. It's a classic musical of love and laughter with a memorable score of songs like "Luck be a Lady," and "Sit Down, You're Rockin' the Boat."

The Threepenny Opera

January 30-February 15

Set in Victorian London, this musical follows the destructive path of a predatory outlaw known as Mack the Knife. Time and again, he plays on the hypocrisy of the Bourgeois to ingratiate himself and save his own skin.

A Chekhov Trilogy

March 27-April 12

The characters of Anton Chekhov's stories come alive in the Midwest premiere

of these one-acts. In the comic opera "The Seduction of a Lady," we meet a self-proclaimed Don Juan who seduces a woman through the praise of her husband.

An aristocratic landowner in "A Visit to the Country" schemes to save her estate by inviting a suitor to fall in love with her younger sister.

And in "The Music Shop," a musical farce, a henpecked husband forgets the music he has come to buy and fears the wrath of his wife.

Once on this Island

May 15-31

In the wake of a storm, island villagers comfort a frightened little girl by telling the story of a peasant girl, a rich boy and impossible love. This contemporary musical blends myth and reality with a Caribbean beat in ninety minutes of non-stop celebration.

What's New?

Opening night will now be on Friday. This is a change from the original Wednesday opening night.

All evening performance times will be at 7:30 p.m., including Friday and Saturday. Friday and Saturday performances used to begin at 8:00 p.m. Matinee performance times will remain at 2:00 p.m.

Tax is now included in the price of subscriptions and single tickets.

For more information or to order subscriptions, call the Broadway Theater Center Box Office at (414) 291-7800.



Critically Acclaimed The Shanghai Quartet will be performing at the Oshkosh Grand Opera House April 3, 1998.

Oshkosh Grand Opera House Has Variety of Offerings for Exciting Season

Oshkosh—The Oshkosh Opera House Foundation, a non profit arts organization which manages the Grand Opera House announced its 1997-98 Touring Artist Series. The series features a diverse line up offering more than 20 artists in 28 performances certain to provide something for everyone.



Eugenia Zakerman will perform in Oshkosh with the Shanghai Quartet April 3, 1998.

The year's season includes The Nylons, Sunday November 9, Guy Lombardo's Royal Canadians, Saturday November 1st, featuring, Director Al Pierson, Altan, the Coasters, the Drifters, and Marvelttes in a Mowtown extravaganza, Saturday December 20th.

It will also bring a international flair to the Opera House. The renowned the Peking Acrobats will perform on on Thursday March 5.

The Aquila Theater Company of London, will bring Shakespeare's "Julius Ceasar," to the stage on Sunday November 16. The Red Army Chorus and Dance Ensemble, the premier performing military group from the former Soviet Union, will perform on Sunday March 22nd.

If comedy is your thing you may want to check out Second City on Friday February 20th. This hilarious troupe gave starts to a number of nationally famous comics including Gilda Radner, Martin Short, Bill Murray, and John and Jim Belushi.

In addition to these acts, other highlights of the season include performances of "Miracle on 34th Street," (Sunday November 30), Phildanco on Saturday April 4 presents the Philadelphi Dance Company and the Dirty Dozen on Saturday May 23rd.

Response to the Opera House is growing. Last season 78% of its seats were sold for every performance. The theater saw a 300% jump in season subscribers last year.

Season subscriptions for new subscribers go on sale on September 8th. Existing subscribers can renew their tickets starting on August 25. Tickets for individual shows go on sale September 22nd. The Grand Opera House has several subscription plans.

For more information or to be put on a mail list to receive publications, call (920) 424-2350.

THE SKYLIGHT 1997-98 SEASON

CINDERELLA

September 26 - October 12, 1997

GUYS & DOLLS

November 28 - December 21, 1997

THE THREEPENNY OPERA

January 30 - February 15, 1998

A CHEKHOV TRILOGY

March 27 - April 12, 1998

ONCE ON THIS ISLAND

May 15 - 31, 1998

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SKYLIGHT OPERA THEATRE
Intimate, Innovative and in English

Cathedral Fine Arts Commission Presents "One Thing More"

Milwaukee- The North American premiere of *One Thing More* by Christopher Fry will be presented as part of the Cathedral of Saint John the Evangelist's Sesquicentennial Celebration, September 19-21, 1997.

The musical drama, written in 1986, and first performed in that year at Chelmsford Cathedral and BBC Radio in England, tells how Caedmon, a pagan with an unhealed wound, comes to embrace Christianity in the seventh century.

One Thing More represents Fry's latest dramatic thought and his return to writing poetic church dramas. With the encouragement of T. S. Eliot, Fry first wrote *The Sleep of Prisoners* and *Boy with a Cart* in this style. *One Thing More* is rooted in religious ritual, and is the infusion of the Spirit in mankind and the illumination of spiritual poetry.

Performances will be held Friday, September 19 and Saturday, September 20 at 8 p.m., and Sunday September 21 at 2 p.m. at Saint John's Cathedral, 802 North Jackson Street. The ticket price is \$20 for general admission seating. Tickets will go on sale beginning August 18, 1997. Call Barbara Wood of the Cathedral Fine Arts Commission at 414/276/7455 for a mail order form.

Saint John's Cathedral members and Milwaukee Chamber Theatre subscribers will receive a special priority order form for tickets. No phone orders will be taken. Tickets will be processed in order of date received. For information call Saint John's Cathedral Music Office 414/224-0250. Order your tickets immediately. Due to artistic concepts for the production, only 425 tickets will be sold per performance. General admission seating will be in the front half of the Cathedral only.

Montgomery Davis, Artistic Director of Milwaukee Chamber Theatre and director of *One Thing More*, was presented with a copy of this, Fry's last play, when he

1997-1998 at Theatre X

Milwaukee- Milwaukee's Theatre X announces its 1997-1998 Season.

Good

(A play with music)
September 26-October 26
(A Milwaukee Premiere)

Good is a triumphant, wonderful and incandescent evening in the theatre, said Clive Barnes of the *New York Post*. How does an English professor get caught up in the nightmare of the Third Reich? As the professor begins to doubt his sanity, he hears "bands and orchestras." Soon everyone, including Hitler and Eichman, croon songs of the period which accompany the downward spiral of this "good" man.

Indiscretions

November 7-30

(A Milwaukee Premiere)

Truly wicked as only Parisians can be, the play follows the eccentricities of a Parisian family through their agitations and assignations. As their worlds collide, things get stylishly complex, comic and surprising.

Mrs. Klein

January 16-February 8
(A Milwaukee Premiere)

This play was a huge success in London two years ago and again on Broadway last season. A brilliant and unorthodox psychoanalyst whose single-mindedness threatens to destroy those closest to her including her daughter and a young woman on the run from Hitler's Germany. These three psychoanalysts vie for dominance in this sharp, literate, intelligent and biting funny play.

The Seven Deadly Sins

February 19-March 1
(Milwaukee Premiere)

A co-production with Wild Space Dance Company. By the team that brought you *The Threepenny Opera*, this music, dance, theater piece represents the journey of two sisters from the South (here in America) to get enough money to purchase a house for themselves and their family and to avoid the seven deadly sins.

The Block

May 8-31

(A World Premiere)

A new play will be written for the finale of Theatre X's 1997-'98 season in celebration of the Wisconsin Sesquicentennial: a history of one block of what is now Sherman Park in Milwaukee. We will tell the story of the people of diverse cultures who lived in Milwaukee during the past 150 years.

For more information, call (414) 278-0555.

first visited him at his home in East Dean, outside Chichester in Sussex.

"Ever since our very successful production of T. S. Eliot's *Murder in the Cathedral*, Chamber Theatre has wanted to do another church drama that celebrated the union of architecture, the Word, and the Spirit" Davis said.

Christopher Fry, a British playwright born in 1907, is noted for his charming and witty verse plays of the 1940's and 1950's - *Venus Observed*, *The Dark is Light Enough*, and *The Lady's Not for Burning*, which MCT produced in 1992's Shaw Festival. Fry's view of mankind is marked by a tolerant Christianity that has sometimes made his plays unfashionable. This year marks his 90th birthday.

"Throughout the centuries, Cathedral churches have played a major role in the arts," said Michael Batcho, Director of Music at the Cathedral of Saint John the Evangelist. "This is most evident in music, stained glass windows, statuary and architecture. However, drama has had a place among the other art forms as well: it was vital to Cathedral life in the Middle Ages."

Actors featured in *One Thing More* are Jim Butchart, Troy Dunn, Carol Greif, Richard Halverson, Robert Janacek, Raeleen McMillion, Ruth Schudson, James Tasse, and Jonathan Wainwright. The production staff include John Devlin, Set Designer; Christine Martin, Costume Designer; Dan Brovarney, Lighting Designer and Jym Pieper, Stage Manager. For information regarding Milwaukee Chamber Theatre's production call David Anderson, 414/ 276-8842 at the Milwaukee Chamber Theatre.

The Cathedral Fine Arts Commission fosters Christian unity through shared artistic expression of music, art, architecture, drama, and history. The current 96/97 Series has presented performances and exhibits including Mormon Tabernacle Organist Clay Christiansen, Present Music, Anonymous 4, the Milwaukee Youth Symphony Ensembles, the Froncyllite Male Voice Choir from Wales, England, the Waukesha Area Symphonic Band, and the Treasures of the Cathedral Art and Artifacts Sesquicentennial Exhibit by Exhibition Curator Virginia Jones Maher and opening lecture by Rev. Kenneth J. Augustine. The Cathedral Fine Arts Commission is chaired by Susan Foley and Evelyn Van Rens.

The Cathedral of Saint John is committed to sharing the arts with the community in the beauty and spiritual setting of this historical landmark.

"Church sanctuaries in the past often provided the stages for morality plays and other dramatic efforts to entertain as well as reach the minds and hearts of those who see them," said Father John H. Endejan, Pastor, Cathedral of Saint John the Evangelist. "During the 150 years of our Cathedral, we have experienced dramatic efforts in our Cathedral, most recently *The Play of Daniel*. It is our hope that this present effort will continue this artistic expression of the spiritual quest of us all."

Milwaukee Impresario Dale Gutzman Presents His Most Ambitious Season Yet

Milwaukee- In his new theatre home at Centennial Hall, local Gay producer and director Dale Gutzman, presents his most ambitious and varied season yet with virtually something for everyone.

Gutzman begins on September 12, 13 and 14 with the musical version of Neil Simon's award-winning comedy *The Goodbye Girl*. The songs for this fun-filled comedy and dance extravaganza were written by Marvin Hamlisch of *Chorus Line* fame. Karl Miller choreographs and stars as a New York actor forced to share an apartment with a bitter, jilted ex-dancer and her pre-teen daughter.

For the second show of the season, Gutzman has created an entertainment geared especially to the Gay audience.

Coward's Last Concert is a musical revue tracing the career of music and theatre genius Noel Coward, in which he returns from retirement one last time to tell the truth about his life and loves. Mixed in with his romantic ballads and clever patter songs are shocking revelations about his sexual affairs with James Cagney, Michael Redgrave, and Prince George of the Royal Family.

The show explores the relationship between art and emotion and examines the effect of having to hide one's being Gay in one's career. Gutzman himself plays Coward, supported by a stellar Milwaukee case with Eric Melner at the piano. Cow-



Jumping for Joy The world famous Red Army Chorus and Dance Ensemble will perform at the Oshkosh Grand Opera House on March 22, 1998.

The Florentine Opera Celebrates 65 Years with Grand Opera's Greatest Composers

Milwaukee- Milwaukee's Florentine Opera Company will present a season of grand opera in 1997-'98 that reflects three of opera's greatest and grandest composers: Puccini, Mozart, and Wagner. Dennis Hanthorn, General Director of the Florentine Opera, calls the Florentine's upcoming season "a perfect balance of operatic periods from the verismo of Italian of *La Boheme*," to classical comedy of *The Abduction From The Seraglio*" to the romantic German of *The Flying Dutchman*."



Eric Mills

Hanthorn and Artistic Advisor Joseph Rescigno have put together a dazzling 65th Anniversary season that features bright new stars making their debuts with the Florentine Opera. While many of the Florentine's favorites will return to grace the newly renovated stage of Uihlein Hall of the Marcus Center for the Arts.

"La Boheme"

Nov. 21, 22 & 23

In Puccini's *La Boheme*, the exciting young Mexican tenor Fernando de la Mara debuts as Rudolfo and the captivating Robin Follman debuts as Musetta.

Elizabeth Hynes, who captivated Florentine audiences as *Butterfly* and *Donna Elvira*, returns in the tender and dramatic role of Mimi.

Madison Symphony musical director John DeMain will lead this great cast and the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra in a lavish production from L'Opera de Montreal, that will be directed by Bliss Hebert.

"Abduction From The Seraglio"

Feb. 20, 21 & 22, 1998

Mozart's great comic opera, *Abduction From The Seraglio* (Die Entführung aus dem Serail) will bring back to Milwaukee a great ensemble cast that features the stunning coloratura of Eric Mills in the treacherous role of Constanza, and in the role of Belmonte, the lyrical tenor of Bradley D. Williams who sang a magnificent Don Ottavio in Milwaukee in 1996.

One of opera's leading stage directors, Linda Brovsky, will direct this production from L'Opera de Montreal. Arthur Fagen will conduct the cast and the Milwaukee Symphony.

"The Flying Dutchman"

May 1, 2 & 3, 1998

For the first time in 20 years, the Florentine Opera will present Wagner's early romantic opera, *The Flying Dutchman*. The stellar cast for this opera includes two of the great baritones of our age, John Cheek and Donnie Ray Albert, alternating in the demanding role of the Dutchman. Frances Ginzer, a soprano of great warmth and strength, makes her Florentine debut in the pivotal role of Senta.

A Special Event

Sept. 19-Oct. 12

The Florentine's 65th Anniversary Season also includes a special operatic event for the entire family. The Florentine has joined forces with First Stage Milwaukee to bring Milwaukee audiences a production of the Chinese fable *The Nightingale* in the Todd Wehr Theater of the Marcus Center.

Milwaukee's outstanding contemporary music ensemble, Present Music, will provide live musical accompaniment for the full scale production with 8 principal adult singers and 6 children.

Regular Florentine subscribers have the opportunity to purchase premium single tickets for this opera with their regular season order.

To subscribe or for more information, call (414) 291-5700; 1-800-32-OPERA; or fax (414) 291-5706.

son subscriptions are available at \$60 by calling the same number.

Gutzman is also offering a series of special attractions. In mid-September, he brings the world famous Odessa Russian Drama Theatre to Waukesha at Carroll College and to the Madison Civic Center with a bi-lingual production of *MacBeth*. Famous Russian film and television stars join local actor James Strange in this terrifying version of Shakespeare's classic.

In October, Gutzman takes his Gay nightclub revue *Showstoppers* to Thailand to perform at Le Cafe Royale, the well known Gay hotel and supper club. Before he leaves for Southeast Asia, Gutzman will present the show twice in Milwaukee.

At Christmas time, he will once again present Milwaukee's oldest Wintertime entertainment...his music and comedy *Holiday Punch* now in its 18th year. This time, the Punch gang includes "Milwaukee River Dance!" and a spoof of the Broadway hit *Titanic*.

All in all, few theater companies anywhere in the country present as varied and exciting a season as Dale Gutzman Productions.

This year, each of Gutzman's shows will play on a Friday and Saturday evening at 8:00 p.m. and on Sunday afternoon at 2:00 p.m. Tickets are \$15 and may be ordered by calling (414) 466-4049. Sea-

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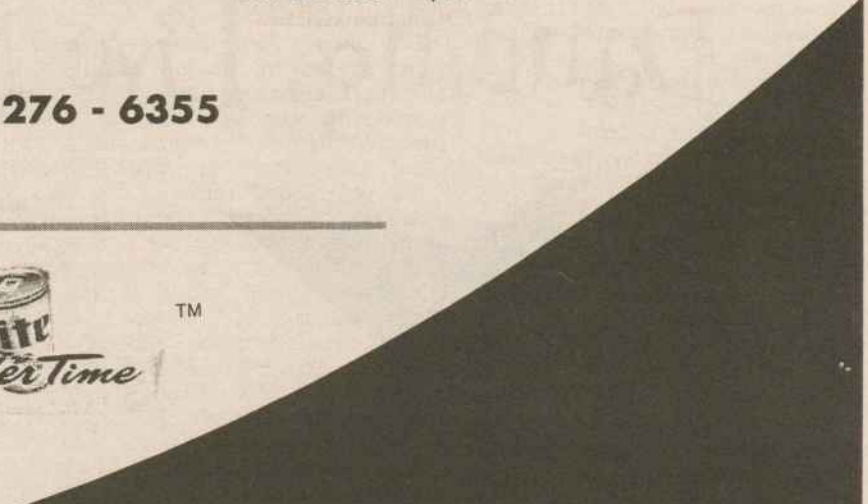
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FRIDAY AUGUST 29

SUPERIOR'S PRIDE CELEBRATION BEGINS

Superior and Duluth kick off their big Pride Weekend long celebration with a big bonfire at dusk on the beach at Wisconsin Point.

Other activities include Saturday's Pride Parade and Picnic and Sunday's "Fruit Float" harbor cruise.

All of the events are free and open to everyone.

SATURDAY AUGUST 30

MIST GAY SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT IN MILWAUKEE

Loads of exciting action (and some pretty good softball too) will be on tap at the Midwest Invitational Softball Tournament to be held at Wick Field (52nd and Vliet) in Milwaukee.

Twenty-Eight teams from all over the country (including 8 from our own SSBL) will be competing in this fall classic.

The tournament concludes on Sunday August 31st. Admission is free.

ROW BOWLING WITH PRIDE NINE PIN TAP TOURNAMENT

Rainbow Over Wisconsin's annual Nine Pin Tap tournament will take place at Riviera Lanes, 2750 University Ave, Green Bay.

The toumey fee is \$25.00 and includes a buffet, shoes, bowling and a donation to ROW.

WALKER'S POINT BLOCK PARTY

For the first time the Gay and straight bars in Walker's Point are combining to put on a huge block party.

The Party which will run on National Ave from 1st to Second Street and on Sound Second Street from National to Mineral will include plenty of great entertainment, food, and loads of fun.

La Cage and Zippers will have shot bars on the street and will be open during the entire event.

The party includes entertainment from the Love Monkeys on Saturday and Interbang and Mount Olive on Sunday.

Admission is free!

FRONT RUNNERS' PICNIC

Everyone is invited to attend the first annual Front Runners-Milwaukee picnic to be held at the fountain near St. Mary's Tower (eastern most end of E. North Avenue). The picnic will follow the weekly run/walk that begins at the Tower at 9:00 a.m. Participants may bring their own baskets or make a quick trip to one of the delis in the neighborhood.

SUNDAY AUGUST 31

LINKS BLOCK PARTY TO BENEFIT AIDS CHARITIES AND BREAST CANCER RESEARCH

The annual LINKS Block Party will be held outside of Fannies, 200 E. Washington from 1 PM to 11 PM.

This year's party includes the nationally known Tina and the B-Side Movement plus many other fabulous entertainers, food, fun and booths.

Proceeds from the event benefit the Milwaukee AIDS Project and Breast Cancer Research.

ROW PRIDE PICNIC IN FOREST JUNCTION

The second annual Rainbow Over Wisconsin Pride Picnic will be held on a farm located at N 8287 Hwy 57.

Great entertainment headlined by Terry Van, fun games, food, merchandise booths and more will be on tap.

You have to be 21 or older to get in.

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 4

NO NAME, NO COVER SHOW AT MADISON'S SCANDALS

If you would like to see some fresh meat, we mean talent on the stage then Scandal's No Name No Cover Show is just the thing.

This fun evening will be highlighted by the fact that there will be no big name stars performing. The show offers a unique opportunity to bring out the star quality in other lesser known performers.

Best of all it's free. Scandals is located at 121 Main Street Madison. Show time is 10 PM.

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 5

GRAND OPENING WEEKEND AT OZ BEGINS

It will be a hot time in Wausau all weekend long when Oz opens up. The festivities start out this evening with a special appearance from the Portfolio Men of Minneapolis. Saturday September 6, there will be plenty of talent on the stage for the Land of Oz Show. Then on Sunday September 7, the whole thing wraps up with a beer bust, food and fun.

Dorothy and Toto would be soooo proud. Oz is located at the site of the former Mad Hatter, 320 Washington Street, Wausau.

JEFF JENNINGS AT M & M'S IN MILWAUKEE

That hot stud, Jeff Jennings, will be making a rare appearance in Milwaukee when he comes to the M & M Club, 124 N. Water Street for a special show from 9 PM to 1 AM.

Besides being Mr. Gay Wisconsin, US of A for 1997, Jennings has a really fine singing voice. (among other talents)

Check him out at M's.

Block Parties High Light Milwaukee's Labor Day Weekend August 30-31

Milwaukee-- Labor Day weekend will see two great block parties in Milwaukee's Gay community, the Walker's Point Block Fest and the annual LINKS Block Party.

A great time awaits those who attend the first annual Walker's Point Block Fest.

This giant Block Party will be held on National Avenue between 1st and 2nd Street and on South 2nd between National and Washington.

This is a unique event in that eight bars, six straight and two Gay will be participants. La Cage, and Zippers are the Gay bars. They will be joined by Steny's Fritz's, Louie's, Mug Shots, Wild Night's and Zur Krone.

A food stand in front of La Cage will be serving up some tempting snacks and appetizers like Mozzarella Marinara, French fries, mini tacos, and poppers (the kind you eat, not the kind you sniff)

The Zipper's food stand will be doing pizza. There will also be shot bar in front of each bar.

Music for the event includes Inner Bang, and the Love Monkeys on Saturday and Mount Olive and Toys on Sunday.

Hours are 3:00 till bar time on Saturday August 30 and 2:00 til bar time on Sunday, August 31st.

La Cage owner, George Prentice says that he is excited about the event. "This is a great chance for all of us to show that Gays and straights can get along with each other and have a good time together."

LINKS Block Party

The other big Block Party is the annual

LINKS Block Party held in front of Fannies on E. Washington and Barclay. It will be held on Sunday August 31st from 1:00 PM to 1:00 AM.

LINKS is a benefit for AIDS related charities and for Breast Cancer Research. The fun day includes lots of entertainment, great food at reasonable prices, a silent auction, games and more.

For the first time, LINKS will feature a nationally known act. Tina and the B-Side Movement sponsored by the Miller Brewing Company will take the stage at about 9:30 PM.

This fabulous act headlined one of the Summerfest stages for two days earlier this summer, where it won many new fans among its audience and the critics.

Tina and the B-Side Movement's appearance at LINKS is sponsored by the Miller Brewing Company.

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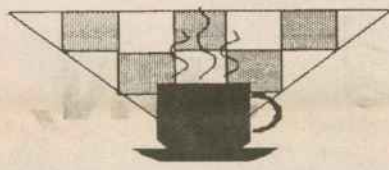
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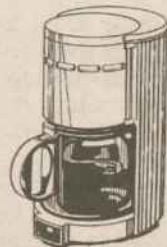


PSYCHIC READINGS

by Heather

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SPORTSCOLUMN

Club 219, Ball Game Do Well in World Series, SSBL Season Ends

Milwaukee--Milwaukee teams made a big impression in the Gay World Series Class C division tournament held in San Diego the week of August 12 to the 18.

The Club 219 Pride took the fourth place trophy home to Milwaukee, while the Ball Game Rangers finished a respectable 9th out of over 30 teams.

Club 219 amassed an 8 and 2 record and made it to the semi-finals. The Pride's run for the championship was derailed by a disappointed 11-10 loss to a team from San Francisco in the first world series night game, since Milwaukee hosted the series in late 1980's.

Along the way, the Pride defeated teams from Boston, Seattle, Portland, Philadelphia, Chicago, Tucson and Washington DC (which they beat twice.)

Some of these teams were defeated with relative ease, some were not.

Club 219's most exciting win came against rival North End of Chicago. Facing elimination, the Pride trailed 11 to 1 in the bottom of the fifth inning. They ran across the plate five times in that inning to narrow the score to 11 to 6. Still behind in the final inning, the Pride scored 5 more runs to win 12 to 11.

The Ball Game Rangers also did well in compiling a 5 and 2 record in that teams first ever World Series appearance. The Rangers defeated the LA Bad Boys and the Atlanta Heretic Saints in the Round Robin. In the double elimination they beat Phoenix and then lost to the San Francisco Posse.

The Rangers came back to defeat Fort Lauderdale and Birmingham, Alabama before being ousted by Chicago's Big Chicks team.

The A Division was won by the Los Angeles Stray Cats. Second went to Atlanta Buckshots, 3rd to San Diego Rich's and 4th to New York's Sunny Day. The A Division included 18 teams.

In the B Division which attracted 29 entrants was won by the Twin Cities Gay 90's Bandits. Second went to Chicago Fusion. Third place was earned by the Atlanta Eagles and the Birmingham Braves won fourth.

The C Division of 30 teams was won by the Toronto Crew. Second went to the Atlanta Angles. The San Francisco Posse took third and Club 219 won fourth.

Position Round

The SSBL's second position round of the season was a disappointment in that two teams failed to show or even to provide the courtesy of a phone call to notify the league that they wouldn't be there.

Nonetheless the remainder of the league was in action for the final week of play in the SSBL's 20th Anniversary Season.

A shorthanded Club 219 team was thumped by the Ball Game Rangers 16 to 2. Mama Roux's won third place beating a shorthanded M & M team, 14 to 6.

Club 219 rebounded to pound out a 22 to 7 victory over Balistreri's. Balistreri's rebounded to win a 11 to 7 decision over The Ball Game.

The CCF team finished its first season with a win over the Triangle 17 to 1.

Manoeuvres and In Between failed to show. Manoeuvres forfeited its games with Mama Roux and the M & M Club. In Between forfeited its games with CCF and the Triangle.

Final SSBL League Standings

1. Club 219	18	2
2. The Ball Game	15	5
3. Mama Roux	14	6
4. Balistreri's	13	7
5. M & M Club	11	9
6. Manoeuvres	6	14
7. CCF/Riverwest	6	14
8. Triangle	5	15
9. In Between	2	18

Dusty's Tips For Watching the M.I.S.T. Gay Softball Tournament

So you are planning to attend M.I.S.T., Milwaukee's second national Gay softball tournament of the summer, good choice.

Here's a few tips from my own personal experiences of participating in and watching this type of exciting sporting event.

Equipment Since the M.I.S.T. Tournament is being held in late summer instead of late spring like the Milwaukee Classic is, the weather will (hopefully) be better. You can probably leave the logs for the campfire to keep you warm, the signal flares, and that radio permanently tuned to the Emergency Broadcasting System at home.

You should, however, remember to bring your pom poms, tanning lotion and your friends along.

Parking Wick Field has a smallish parking lot and after a hard day of playing ball, it's a real bitch to carry that bat bag back to your car, so if you aren't a player please park on the street and leave the more convenient spaces for those who need them.

Cheering Cheering is not only permitted it is very definitely encouraged. Just remember to cheer the players for their playing ability as well as their looks. It's considered good form to applaud a great play even if it is made against the team you are rooting for.

Sportsmanship Tripping players, throwing objects at their heads, tying them up and beating up on them (outside of their hotel rooms and only then if they want you to do such things) is very definitely NOT encouraged.

Keep in mind too that many of the umpires will be from other cities so if you feel compelled to object to a call yelling things like "That call smelled worse than the alewives on Bradford Beach" or "Your umpiring stinks worse than the Trostel Tannery," may not elicit anything other than a puzzled look.

Make some discreet inquiries into the umpires point of origin and then be creative. For example if the umpire is from Cleveland you may want to say, "You're about as reliable as the Browns." If the ump is from Chicago you may want to inform him/her that the last call was off about as much as the Bears when they play the Packers.

Hospitality Show the players (especially the out of town players) the kind of hospitality that we in Milwaukee pride ourselves on. Teach them how to the proper way to

eat a brat (we're talking the kind that goes into a bun here). You may even wish to make sure they get back to their hotel and safely tucked in at night.

After all no sacrifice is too great when dealing with a cute hunky, I mean a guest of our fair city and state.

Seriously though show them around (and not just around your bedroom). There are two big block parties taking place over the Labor Day weekend and plenty of other things to do as well.

Above all else enjoy yourself. With six diamonds and twenty-eight teams there will be plenty of action on the field. Action off the field is well um, er, up to you.

M.I.S.T. Update

Milwaukee--As we went to press, The Wisconsin Light learned that some changes had been made in the M.I.S.T. tournament to be held in Milwaukee at Wick Field on Saturday, August 30 and Sunday, August 31.

Due to a lower number of teams than was expected, the Round Robin play used to seed teams into either the upper or lower bracket will be expanded to three games instead of the originally planned two games.

Twenty Eight teams were expected to enter but only twenty-four did so by the deadline to receive entries.

The tournament field includes teams from Milwaukee, Chicago, Toronto, Detroit, Cincinnati, St. Louis, Columbus, Phoenix and Cleveland.

Round robin play will begin at 9:00 with the last games scheduled for 2:00.

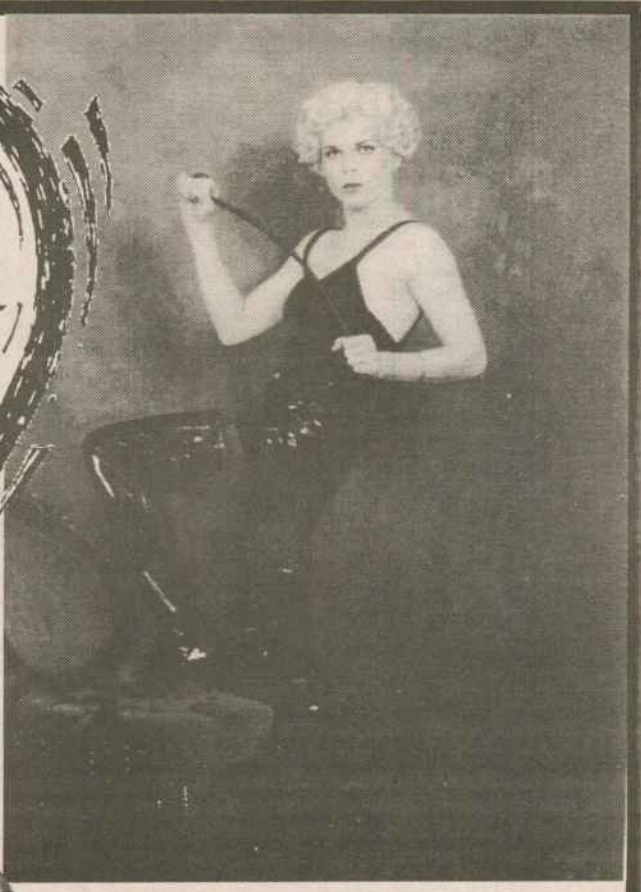


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A Gay Time In San Diego -- Above are shots taken in San Diego during the 1997 Gay World Series held there the week of August 11 to August 17. Over 50 teams competed in three men's divisions. They included two Milwaukee teams, the Ball Game Rangers and the Club 219 Pride, both of whom were in the C Division. The Club 219 took home the fourth place trophy while the Ball Game finished tied for ninth.



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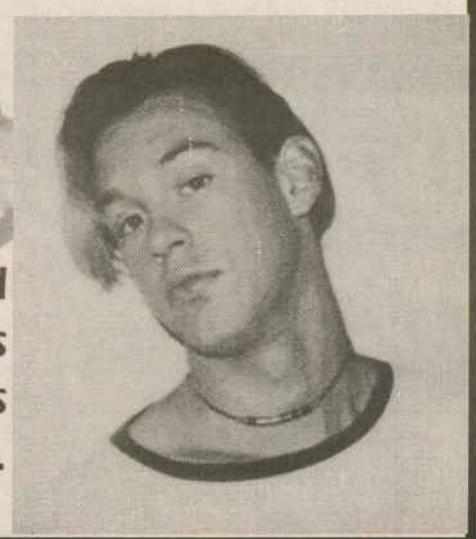
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Dear Ruthie

Hello all you crazy people out there! Looks like summer is ending - but there's nothing wrong with that. I hope you all took advantage of what the season had to offer! My little trailer smells of stale beer, stale men, suntan lotion, and Edna's tequilla/barbecue hot sauce. I've got sand in my rugs and in my girdle. I've had it with the impromptu peep shows provided by sunbathing neighbors and I've found that Wisconsin mosquitoes have a thing for my breasts. Yes, I'm ready for fall.



Ruthie

Dear Ruthie,
I am married and have children. Am I cheating if I would make love or perform sex with another male without any love involved?

(signed)
Cheating???

Dear Cheater,

Well, sew a scarlet letter on my chest and call me Demi. Why, whenever any of my husband's copped a feel with another person - male or female - they were out the door quicker than an audience leaving a Yoko Ono concert.

Cheating can be defined several different ways. Let's say, I had some crazy plague and the only way to cure it would be to wrestle with you in the nude. Would that be cheating? Who knows - call me and let's try it!

No, no, no, what am I saying? Geez! You didn't even include a picture, or a hair sample, or blood slide for God's sake! Anyway - what if you got bitten in the groin by a snake and you had your choice of anyone in the world to suck the poison out and you picked a man say Fabio.

Would THAT be cheating?

I think it takes both people in the relationship to define cheating. I say both because each is somehow effected by the act. One actually does it, but both have to deal with the aftermath. In this case those two people are you and your wife.

So if you really want to know if a homosexual encounter is cheating - just ask your wife. She'll give you a definition for cheating real quick.

I'm sure she'll put Webster to shame. The fact that you have asked a red-headed, trailer living, brassy advice broad instead, tells me that your wife wouldn't go

along with any of your male mattress mauling. On the other hand, your wife may say, "Honey, if you want some male lovin' - dive in. Let me give you some pointers and don't forget to bring home the Polaroids." If she felt this way, I'd say it would not be cheating. But I have a feeling this isn't the case.

I understand your thought of a loveless romp as you seem to consider this a harmless, homosexual, hayroll. I'm guessing, however, that your wife would be plain upset at the fact that you were intimate with someone other than herself. I also think, deep inside, you know how this would affect your marriage. If you have to question if this is cheating, you probably feel that it is.

The next time you think about fooling around behind your wife's back (with a man or a woman), think about your wife's reaction. That alone may help you keep away from temptation. I don't know how intense your sexual feelings are for men. You may just need to take a cold shower to get your mind off of having sex with others, or you may need to talk to a counselor and learn more about your sexual feelings. Or, think about walking around town with a big old "A" stapled to your tit. That always seems to cure my yen for anyone with a built-in wife or family.

Dear Ruthie,
I am a 21 year old kid from England but the problem is I am in love with the USA. All day I dream about going to live there but I just can never seem to get the breaks I need. Have you any advice to a kid who is all the way in the UK?

(signed)

J.

Dear J.,
I love you crazy English kids! Come to America! Viva J., and his American dream! Get your little bum over here, my boy. I need a new English servant to clean-up around the trailer and give me pedicures. I'll hire you in a minute. Are you allergic to polyester?

You'll love America - particularly the fourth of July. This is the only holiday that combines two of America's favorite pastimes: Explosives and alcoholic consumption. What else will you like about America and Americans? Well, for starters, we have better teeth. Just kidding. Ahh.. America. Home of the free. Home of florida.

Forget the Queen, Prince Charles and that god-awful Camellia Parker. I knew

Charles liked to ride horses, but isn't this taking things a little too far? - My God! She walks through stables stealing the apples out of the horses mouths. I keep expecting her to leap out of the stands at the Kentucky Derby and chase after that damn little rabbit. Have you seen this woman? She buys her shoes from a blacksmith. I've seen her at royal functions wearing huge wreaths of flowers around her neck. She was Mr. Ed's stunt double. This woman looks so much like a horse they're putting her profile on Mustang convertibles. Someone throw a feedbag on Camellia and let's call it a day. Personally, I think Diana should get some sort of medal just for sleeping with skinny old Charlie! I know I asked for one!

Come to the land of purple mountains majesty, golden fields of grain, and glowing tan, muscular, men who come over to fix your refrigerator but end up making love to you right there in front of the hamburger helper and tuna casserole leftovers.

Focus on your goal! Save your money! Your dreams aren't that far away!

Make - "Must get to America's Rusty Nail Trailer Park" your mantra and we'll see you soon!

Editor's Note: Ruthie is delighted to hear from you and ultra-delighted to answer your questions. You can either email them at Wisconsin Light web site (Wlight.com) or send them to: Ruthie, c/o Wisconsin Light, 1843 N. Palmer, Milwaukee, WI 53212.

Chorus Elects Ken McMonagle as New Musical Director

Milwaukee—At a special rehearsal following its third Annual Gay Concert, the members of the Wisconsin Cream City Chorus (WCCC) auditioned and then voted to offer the position of Musical Director to Ken McMonagle, a veteran choral director and current director of the Suburban Singers.

McMonagle accepted the Chorus' offer at a July 23 board meeting where he and the board discussed terms and the organization's goals.

When asked what he would like the Chorus to announce about his background and goals, he replied, "Let them come and see for themselves!"

Entertainment Guide

APPLETON	MADISON	MILWAUKEE	MILWAUKEE
Rascals Bar & Grill 702 E. Wisconsin Appleton, WI 54991 954-9262	A Room of One's Own Book store 317 W. Johnson Madison, WI 53703 257-7888	Continued Club 219 219 S. 2nd St. Milwaukee, WI 53204 271-3732	Continued This Is It 418 E. Wells Milwaukee, WI 53202 278-9192
DOOR COUNTY	Geraldine's 3052 E. Washington Madison, WI 53704 241-9335	Designing Men 1120 S. First Milwaukee, WI 53204 389-1200	Triangle 134 E. National Milwaukee, WI 53204 383-9412
Chanticleer Guest House 4072 Cherry Rd Sturgeon Bay, WI 54235 746-0334	Manoeuvres 150 S. Blair Madison, WI 54703 258-9918	1100 Club 1100 S. 1st St. Milwaukee, WI 53204 647-9950	Walkers Point Cafe 1106 S. First St. Milwaukee, WI 53204 384-7999
EAU CLAIRE	Praire Garden Bed & Breakfast W13172 Hwy 188 Lodi, WI 53555 1-800-380-8427	Fannies 200 E. Washington Milwaukee, WI 53204 643-9633	Zippers 819 S 2nd St. Milwaukee, WI 53204 645-8330
The Trading Co. 304 Eau Claire St. Eau, Claire WI 838-9494	Scandals 121 W. Main St. Madison, WI 53703 251-1030	In Between 625 S. 2nd St Milwaukee, WI 53204 278-96114	NEENAH
The Wolfs Den 302 E Madison EauClaire, WI 54703 832-9237	The Shamrock 117 W Main St. Madison, WI 53703 255-5029	Just Us 807 S. 5th St. Milwaukee, WI 53204 383-2233	Diversions 1413 Green Valley Neenah, WI
GREEN BAY	We Are Family 524 E. Wilson Madison, WI 5303 258-9006	La Cage 801 S 2nd St. Milwaukee, WI 52304 383-8300	RACINE
Brandy's II 1126 Main St Green Bay, WI 54301 437-3917	MILWAUKEE	La Perla Restaurant 734 S. Fifth St. Milwaukee, WI 53204 645-9888	JoDees 2139 Racine St. Racine, WI 53403 634-9804
Napalese Lounge 515 S. Broadway Green Bay, WI 54303 432-9646	Afterwords Books 2710 N. Murray Milwaukee, WI 53211 963-9089	Mama Roux Bar & American Grill 1875 N. Humboldt Milwaukee, WI 53212 347-0344	What About Me? 600 6th St. Racine, WI 53403 632-0171
Sass 840 S. Broadway Green Bay, WI 54304 437-7277	B's 1579 S 2nd St Milwaukee, WI 53204 672-5580	M & M Club 124 N. Water Milwaukee, WI 53202 347-1962	SHEBOYGAN
Za'si/Java's 1106 Main St. Green Bay, WI 54301 435-5476	Ball Game 196 S. 2nd Milwaukee, WI 53204 273-7474	Rene's Cozy Corner 3600 W Park Hill Milwaukee, WI 53208 933-RENE	Blue Lite 1029 N. 8th St. Sheboygan, 53081 457-1636
KENOSHA	Boot Camp Saloon 209 E. National Milwaukee, WI 53204 643-6900	S. Water St. Docks 354 E. National Milwaukee, WI 53204 225-9676	STEVENS POINT
Club 94 9001 120th Ave Kenosha, WI 53140 857-9958	Cafe Melange 720 N. Old World St. Milwaukee, WI 53203 291-9889	Station 2 1534 W. Grant Milwaukee, WI 53204 383-5755	The Platwood Club 701 Highway 10W Stevens Point, 54481 341-8862
LA CROSSE	C'est La Vie 231 S. Second St. Milwaukee, WI 53204 276-8890	10% Club 4223 W. Fon Du Lac Milwaukee, WI 53216 447-0910	SUPERIOR
Cavaller Lounge 114 N 5th St. La Crosse, WI 54601 782-9061			JT's Bar 1506 N 3rd St. Superior, WI 54880 394-2580
LAKE MILLS			Trio Club 820 Tower Superior, WI 54880 392-5373
Cross Roads Bar W6642 Hwy B Lake Mills, WI 53551 648-8457			WAUSAU
			The Mad Hatter 320 Washington Wausau, WI 54401 842-3225

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Anniversary Party A large crowd turned out for the party as Milwaukee's Triangle Bar celebrated its 9th anniversary with a party on Wednesday July 30. Shown above are owner Rob (in the Center) with two of his bartenders.

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Horoscope

September

By Dean Poh
Virgo (Aug. 24-Sept. 23)

Happy Birthday, Virgo! You and a lover will share a meeting of the minds, which you didn't expect. All those deep discussions you've been having are now about to bring you closer together. However, are you soulmates? You've been thinking about that. New influences will be creating a liberating influence on you.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

This is going to be a creative month for you, even though you don't think you have the energy for it. Your personality will blossom under pressures and you will get the feeling that any problems you have will be over soon. Watch those credit cards, however.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

Your month's plans are going to need to be altered because of a financial development and a misunderstanding along the line. Your work place is being aggravated by a problem that you should have taken care of a long time ago.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

If you're looking for cooperation from those around you, forget it. You're not going to get it. Get away, if you can. Put some quiet in your life. If you don't, you're going to regret it.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan 19)

There you go, out on a limb again. Believe me, Capricorn, this is not the month to be taking risks. Okay, so you're going into a long-term debt. That's okay, but be careful. Do you really think you can rely on him?

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

Optimism abounds, but don't allow your high feeling to run away with you. You have a tendency to let that happen, you know. You've got a secret admirer. Watch roving eyes.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20)

Okay, so you're tempted to tell them off. So, do it, but nicely. Putting your feelings into words is something you're good at and it's healthy. In the end, be certain,

that you will make a friend.

Aries (March 21-April 19)

You want to keep a low profile in just about everything this month. That "hot number" you've been lusty after is going to come to you—if you take it easy. Don't push.

Taurus (April 20-May 20)

You and that "someone" are going to work it out. Be patient. The pace will quicken just when you're incredibly busy. Your home life will also pick up momentum.

Gemini (May 21-June 21)

There are strong negative influences now, so you need to be extra careful in everything you do. Someone is going to come into your life—briefly, a trick. Go with it and enjoy.

Cancer (June 22-July 22)

An insecure person in your inner circle needs your support. Give the advise you're asked to give, but remember, that advise will apply to you as well.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22)

Whether or not you're enjoying a change of scene this month, a romantic encounter will set your spirits soaring. Pleasant times will be spent at home with a little brandy. Don't over-indulge.

Editor's Note: Dean Poh is currently living in Manila. He is an astrologer of wide experience, but he is also a gifted seer who, as he says, uses many means to divine the future. He ascribes his sensitivity to his being Gay because "Gay people are on the seventh and highest rung of spiritual evolution."

His column will be offered exclusively in Wisconsin Light for your entertainment once a month.

10% Society Dance

8:00 p.m. Friday, Sept. 5th
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PACKERS -vs- BEARS, 8pm

Out In Print



If You're Looking for the Perfect Summer Read, Try "Duval's Gold"

Reviewed by Glenn Bishop

Glenn isn't sure, exactly, what about Duval's Gold by Chris Hunt which first caught Glenn's attention. For one thing, there is no alluring, drop-dead gorgeous, scantily-clad young man on the book's cover which invariably seems to catch Glenn's eye, regardless of the book's subject.

For another, Glenn's usual literary tastes have rarely included historical romances. Except for that pirate novel...

England in the 1700s is the setting for Duval's Gold. Hunt's protagonist is young David Gadd, a clever boy who has always been absolutely entranced with thrilling tales of daring of the great and glamorous highwaymen and determined to become one when he grows up. Leaving northern England for London at an early age, Davy's story initially is reminiscent of some of Dickens' youthful heroes.

Unlike Dickens' protagonists, Hunt's Davy is also unabashedly Gay -- centuries before the term was even coined.

Placed in a barbaric "school" when his father dies, young Davy is befriended there by two boys whose lives would forever be intertwined with his. There is Jack Sheppard, a small, slight lad who is determined to stay good, despite the "bad blood" in his family and Tubbs, a chubby, awkward boy forever claiming to be of noble birth.

Only Davy believes and defends Tubbs and receives his just rewards when he is whisked away with Tubbs when Tubbs'

seemingly absurd claim is ultimately proved.

Hunt's account continues with Davy, now a handsome young man, determined to seek his fame and fortune. Davy's adventures would prove to be many and varied. He joins up with a legendary highwayman, Captain Goodman, who teaches Davy the tricks of the trade. Misfortune finds Davy back in London and once there, Davy inadvertently becomes the recipient of the attentions of Under Marshall Charles Hitchen and the evil, infamous Jack Wild.

He is also introduced to Mother Clap's Molly House, the most famous Molly House in London, by the impossibly handsome Lord Staughton. It would also be Lord Staughton who will instill in Davy with the mystique of "Duval's gold", the hidden treasure of the most legendary of legendary highwaymen which will consume Davy for years to come.

The great joy of reading Duval's Gold is having such a likable young Gay hero who is caught up in an exciting time in history and having adventures the like of Glenn can only dream.

An added pleasure is Hunt's fascinating depiction of the surprisingly thriving Gay life of the time in London and the delightful portrayal of Mother Clap and her legendary Molly House.

If you are looking for the perfect "beach read" in these dog days of summer in Milwaukee, look no further than Chris Hunt's captivating Duval's Gold.

Lesbian Novelist Judith Katz to Appear at Afterwords

Milwaukee--Sex, deception, magic and love are the main ingredients of *The Escape Artist* (Firebrand Pb. \$12.95), the second novel from Lambda Literary Award winning novelist Judith Katz, scheduled to appear at Afterwords Bookstore & Espresso Bar on Wednesday, September 24th at 7:30pm.

Katz's first novel, *Running Fiercely Toward a High Thin Sound* was published by Firebrand in 1992.

Set in the brothels and gangster dens of Jewish Buenos Aires at the beginning of the twentieth century, *The Escape Artist* catapults readers into the lives of Sofia Teitelbaum (tricked into prostitution and away from the gentility of her Eastern

European family) and a handsome, mysterious magician Hankus (formerly Hannah) Lubarsky. Our two Lesbian heroes rub elbows with - and up against Sofia's captors as well as a bevy of unblushing racketeers, hypocrites and whores as they somersault, tumble and spin their way into an imagined future together.

Judith Katz, widely published in literary journals and anthologies, lives in Minneapolis, where she teaches creative writing and women's studies at Hamline University and the University of Minnesota.

Katz will read from and sign copies of *The Escape Artist* during her appearance at Afterwords on Wednesday, September 24th at 7:30pm, which is free and open to the public.

For further information concerning Ms. Katz's appearance or any Afterwords events, please call (414) 963-9089 or check our web site at www.afterwords.com

Afterwords Bookstore 2710 N. Murray Ave. Milwaukee, WI 53211 (414) 963-9089

FICTION Statues of the Sacred Band



A SERIALIZED NOVEL

Chapter 11

By Terry Boughner

A line of trees marked the edge of Rock Creek Park. Johnny, Rudy and I had just about reached it, when a sound, as of someone stepping on a twig. I grabbed Rudy by the arm to stop him. Johnny stopped too. Suddenly, what seemed like a whole army of people dressed in dark clothing, came out of the trees.

Whoever they were, I don't think that they were expecting to see us there because they stopped. For a split second, we all stared at each other. That may not seem long, but it was enough time for Johnny to make a break for it.

"Stop him!" one of the goons shouted. But it was too late. Johnny had plunged into some nearby bushes and was lost in the dark. That left Rudy and me.

We stood together, guns trained on us, surrounded by four or five--men? women? I couldn't tell, nor did it matter. They all had guns that were pointed directly at us. Rudy's hand gripped mine tightly.

Someone stepped from behind the pack, a someone in a long, dark coat. "Well, well, Mr. Martinelli," a feminine sounding voice said in a tone as cold as mountain frost.

"Yeah, whadda yu want?" I tried to sound defiant, but I don't think it worked too well. I was scared and Rudy was pressing hard against me. I could feel him shake.

"The disk," the woman answered. "I want the disk."

"We don't have it," I told her, wondering how she knew about the disk. It'd been made only minutes before.

"Oh, yes you do," she replied. "Don't play with me, Queer boy. There are ways to find out you were on that site." She took a step to where Rudy was and grabbed him, pulling him away from me. "Tony!" he yelled as she put the gun barrel to his head. "You give me the disk," she said, "and you and your little fag friend will go free. You remain stubborn, and..." She stopped. I heard the click of a gun being cocked and heard Rudy whimper.

"Goddamn you, let him go. I don't have any goddamn disk! No disk! I don't know what disk you're talking about." Suddenly, I heard the sound of a chopper coming in

low and fast.

At first I thought it was one of theirs, but I was wrong. At the sound, the woman turned and with the others, looked skyward as the light flooding out the darkness came sweeping in.

Suddenly, there was gunfire, but it wasn't coming from overhead. It was coming from the side. I heard a yell. One of the goons went down. The others swung to fire, but as they did, the woman's head exploded like a melon. I grabbed Rudy as the chopper rushed by. There was an explosion, a pandemonium of light. The Speaker's house went up in a tower of flame.

There was more gunfire. Whether the chopper was coming back, I didn't know, nor care. I grabbed Rudy and we ran, heading to where Johnny had gone. Debris was cascading down, while all around us was light as of a State fair midway gone mad.

We'd almost passed Johnny before I realized who it was. He was standing, legs spread, holding a automatic weapon in both hands, firing off round after round. In the meantime, I could hear the copter making another run. The ground blew up about ten feet from where we were. I shoved Rudy down and fell on top of him just as clod of earth slammed into my back.

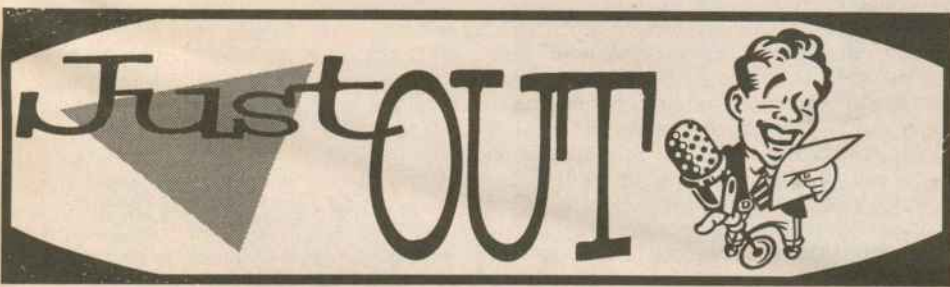
At last things calmed down. The crackling sound of the burning house broke the stillness. I could hear someone moan--and I could hear voices coming from every side, shouting, trying to find out what was wrong.

The three of us didn't wait around. We ran, scrambled over a low brick wall, and into another yard. To our left was the park, to our right, a house all lit up.

Through two more yards we ran. Finally, at the third house, we turned and headed for it, coming to a stop on the patio. There was a portly man standing at an open sliding door. He was clad in a long gown and had a face that looked like a bishop slightly taken in wine.

"Get out of the way, Senator," Johnny commanded, pointing his gun at him.

See Statues Page 31



Afterwords Bookshelf

Diesel Fuel by Pat Califia

Richard Kasak Books Pb \$12.95

An extraordinary volume from this renowned sexual pioneer. The author of such best-selling --and infamous-- volumes as *Sensuous Magic* and *Macho Sluts*, reveals herself to be a poet of unusual power and frankness in the first collection of verse. Not for the timid, *Diesel Fuel* is nonetheless one of this year's must-read explorations of underground culture.

Unnatural Exposure by Patricia Cornwell Putnam HC \$25.95

Virginia's chief medical examiner, Kay Scarpetta is back in another nail-biting mystery. This time Dr. Scarpetta is trapped in a nightmare of unsolved murders and a pernicious virus in this breathless thriller, where clues are elusive and the killer's threats are hurled through cyberspace. Joining Dr. Scarpetta on the case is her Lesbian niece, Lucy, a computer expert for the F.B.I.

Sex Changes: The Politics of Transgenderism edited Pat Califia Cleis Press Pb \$16.95

Focusing both on male-to-female and female-to-male transsexuals, Pat Califia's meticulously researched history examines the lives of such early Transgender pioneers as Christine Jorgenson, Jan Morris and Renee Richards as well as contemporary activists as Leslie Feinberg and Kate Bornstein. *Sex Changes* also includes an extensive bibliography and resource listings.

The Queerest Places by Paula Martinac Owl Books Pb \$14.95

The Queerest Places is a marvelously spirited and revealing travel guide that adds a whole new flair to the Gay and Lesbian past in America. Spanning the entire American panoramic landscape, *The Queerest Places* discovers interesting and unusually noteworthy Queer meeting places as well as major sites associated with the Lesbian and Gay liberation movement.

Afterwords Events

Thursday, August 28th

7:00pm Gay & Lesbian Writers' Group

Monday, September 1st

Labor Day: Open 10am to 6:00pm

Monday, September 8th

Afterwords Book Club - 7:30pm; *Naked* by David Sedaris

Friday, Sept. 12th

7:30 - 10:30 BESTD Clinic Outreach Free HIV Testing

Wednesday, Sept. 17th

7:00pm Lesbian Reading Group: *Running Fiercely Toward a High, Thin Sound* by Judith Katz

Coming Out Day

October 11 is National Coming Out Day, an event especially popular on college campuses. The First National Coming Out Day was in 1988.

Statues of the Sacred Band

Continued From Page 30

"Goodness, how brutal. Do you intend to assault me?"

"You wish," Johnny replied. "Just get the fuck outta the way."

It was only then that I recognized Senator Allan Bow, one of the most homophobic members of the Senate. Pushing him before us, we plunged on in.

The room was done up family-room style. On a leather-covered sofa sat a beautiful young woman with long, blonde hair. She was wearing a pink, frothy negligee and sitting, legs curled up underneath her. She seemed no more concerned about us than the Senator, but regarded us with a slightly annoyed look, as if our sudden appearance was a slight inconvenience, nothing more.

"I don't suppose you'd care to tell me what this is all about?" the Senator asked in a mildly curious tone. As if he didn't really care if his question was answered or not, he crossed the room to a small bar and began to pour a couple of drinks. Behind the bar, standing on pedestals, were two statues, both of young men, both naked save for string bikinis, and posed in Classic style. I noticed that there was another one standing by a door.

There was the sound of the chopper going by, followed by another explosion, from the sound of it, some distance away. The woman said something about Kalorama Circle being a war zone tonight. Both she and the Senator chuckled as he returned to hand her a drink.

"Whatda you two on?" Rudy demanded and turned his head to me, then, Johnny. "These two are high."

"So's half the senate," Johnny retorted. "C'mon, let's tie 'em up and get outta here. There's probably Secret Service and God knows who swarming all over."

From a ginger jar on an end table, the woman took some white powder between her thumb and forefinger. In much the way one would take snuff, she sucked it up her nose.

"Forget me not," the Senator cooed. As he leaned toward her, his robe opened and I saw he was wearing a black and red corset with rhinestone roses picked out on the breasts.

"You've been such a naughty boy," the woman chided. "And there's not much left."

"Oh, Mistress, please." The Senator sank to his knees in front of her. "We have more, Mistress. Open a statue. I'm never without."

As Johnny, Rudy and I watched, she told him she would grant his request "this one time," but that he would have to be punished later for not keeping the jar "nice and full." As I looked in wonder, from a drawer in the end table, she took a pair of handcuffs and put them on him, securing his arms behind his back. Only then did she give him the drug, which I assumed was cocaine.

"What's with the statue?" I demanded. "See for yourself," the woman answered in an unconcerned tone and inclined her head toward the one that stood by the door. She took the ginger jar and, with a forefinger, whipped out the remaining drug and sucked it off.

While Johnny kept watch over the pair of them, Rudy and I went to look. At first, I couldn't see anything remarkable about it. It looked the same as all the others I'd seen, like the ones in Bardi's store. It was Rudy who discovered what the woman was talking about. For some reason, he twisted the head. I heard a scraping sound and gave him a hand. The head unscrewed like a bottle cap. What we found was that the head, along with the rest of the statue, was hollow and lined with little shelves. On each was fastened a small, clear plastic envelope, each one full of the white powder.

After warning the woman that if she moved, he would shoot her, Johnny came over to take a look. "Oh, good Christ!" he swore softly. "They're probably all like this."

Ignoring Johnny's warning, the woman left the couch and came over to where we were standing. "Not all of them," she said. She reached inside the statue and pulled out one of the envelopes, opened in and inhaled deeply of the contents. "Christ, that is good. You three should try some. It might turn you straight." She paused, looking from one to another of us. "You are Queer, aren't you? Certainly, you two are," she said to Rudy and me. "I can tell. I can see it in your eyes. Two faggots and a third, I'll bet. A breed soon to be extinct." Again, she paused. "Pity."

She went back to where the Senator was, pulled back his head by the hair, and gave him the drug. He snorted it, gave a

pleasurable sigh and fell over on his side. "I think he just died," the woman said. "Pity. I wonder if we should let his wife and kids find him like this?"

"What's this 'not all of them?'" Johnny asked impatiently.

"Extinct?" Rudy demanded.

Without waiting for the woman's reply, I went quickly over to the sliding doors and looked out. To my relief, I didn't see anyone, but that, I figured, was only temporary, a thing of the moment, nothing more. After all, the house of the President presumptive had been blown up. There were bodies lying all over the place, including one in this room. Maybe the woman knew something and maybe not. Regardless, Johnny, Rudy and I needed to get out of there and get out fast. I said something to that effect. Johnny paid me no mind but Rudy came over to where I was and took my hand.

"Johnny, he's right. We gotta get outta here."

Johnny ignored him.

The woman went on. "Hitler tried to exterminate the Jews. Ellen Calder and her lover will do the same with you, all of you. Not that I approve—or disapprove, actually, but that's what this is all about—the statues."

"The League of the Sacred Band?" Johnny asked. "Whatda you know about it?"

"Who's her lover?" I asked. Again I was ignored.

"The Sacred Band?" Johnny demanded. "You really are so masterful," the woman said. "Wanta do a scene? You really are a hunk."

"Forget it," Johnny retorted, giving her an eagle's glare. "Got on with it. Who's in the Band?"

"The members? I don't know. What I do is that that poor idiot wasn't a member," the woman said, looking down at the Senator. "I know he wanted to be, but they wouldn't let him in. I don't know why. Neither did he. As to the League itself, I know it's a world-wide operation—Colombian drug lords, Swiss bankers (of course, they'll make money out of anything they can, their mothers, sisters or bothers, if they could pimp them on the streets), the Russians, the Iranians, the Chinese, even the Vatican—and, on top of it all, is the League of the Sacred Band."

"The Speaker?" I asked.

She looked over at me and shrugged. "Oh, who knows? If someone told me there were aliens from outer space in it, I wouldn't be surprised." She went over to the headless statue, took out another envelope and snorted some of the drug. "It's addictive, you know. But then, everything is, isn't it?"

I heard the sound of a chopper coming in, and looking, saw the lights descending on the lawn.

"We gotta get outta here," I said. This time, Johnny and Rudy agreed.

"Check the embassy," the woman called after us.

We left just as I heard the helicopter settle onto the lawn.

Up the stairs we went to the first floor. "The embassy," Johnny said. "That's where we gotta go."

TO BE CONTINUED

Teen Suicide

Lesbian and Gay youth may account for 30% of completed teen suicides.

- Ann Thompson Cook, PFLAG

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OUT on Film

'Box of Moonlight' Lacks Laughs, Emotional Depth, Original Plot

By John Jahn

John Turturro, whose past performances of nervous, nerdy guys in *Barton Fink* and *Quiz Show*, plays another one of these uptight characters, Al Fountain, in *Box of Moonlight*, written and directed by Tom DiCillo.

Fountain is a compulsively reliable and organized electrical engineer overseeing the out-of-town construction of a rural manufacturing plant (windshield wipers) for Zeus Power Systems. His group of workers treat him as something of an oddity, and Al's attempts to win them over are stymied by his own awkwardness and overriding anxieties. He's a humorless, but hard working individual. When he tells his wife, Deb, (Annie Corely) he'll phone her at 9:00, he calls on the dot. His conversations with his son Bobby amount to assessing the latter's progress on multiplication.

When the construction job is suddenly cancelled, he decides to go off on a short car ride through the countryside in an effort to rediscover his youth and love of life. Enroute, he encounters an unkempt, but cute and likeable free spirit who calls himself The Kid (Sam Rockwell). The Kid's home is like anyone's: no walls or roof; covered in stolen lawn decorations and Christmas lights. These two men, impossibly different from each other in every conceivable way, manage to hit it off. The uptight Fountain rediscovers his youth and allows himself to let his hair down a bit; The Kid benefits from Al's counseling

about getting organized...well, a little, maybe.

Box of Moonlight is clearly a message film, as writer/director DiCillo explains: "I wanted to explore the notion that people are often terrified to live as freely as they want in the very country that was founded on freedom. It takes someone like Kid, with no order whatsoever, to knock a guy as regimented as Al completely out of his orbit. It's not that one approach to life is better or worse, just entirely different."

That's fine, but does it work on film? The answer is, not really. The problem is that Al is just not that sympathetic a character—you watch what he does and says, but nothing in this film really brings you into his life in an emotional way. Frankly, he's boring as hell.

The Kid is a funnier, more interesting character, and I'd like to know how this film might have been improved if the story had focused on him instead of Al. The other characters, such as Deb and two trailer trash women, Floatie and Purlene (Catherine Keener, Lisa Blount) just aren't given enough screen time to engage you, either. Fatally, though, the laughs in this film amount to little more than the occasional chuckle.

A few years ago, a much more touching and funny film was made with pretty much the same plot: *Trains, Planes, and Automobiles* starring Steve Martin and the late John Candy. By comparison, *Box of Moonlight* is dimly lit, indeed.

★1/2

'Cop Land' Boasts a Powerful Cast, Script and Plot, and Shouldn't be Missed

By John Jahn

Sylvester Stallone's list of movie characters has, up till now, been a one note samba of working class, perfectly buffed mumbler. Sometimes (very rarely), it's worked (*Rocky*, *First Blood*); very often it hasn't (*Cobra*, *Judge Dredd*). Writer and Director James Mangold's *Cop Land*, however, allows Stallone to have center stage with an unlikely hero far removed from central casting, as well as from Rocky or Rambo.

Stallone plays sheriff Fred Heflin, who's been sheriff of the small town of Garrison, New Jersey (just across the river from New York City) for a decade. He looks dragged out, bored, paunchy, every one of his years, if not more. He wanted to be a NYC policeman, but lost the hearing in one ear as a youth in the act of saving a young woman (Annabella Sciorra) from drowning. He spends his days breaking up fighting kids and calming domestic disputes. His nights are spent largely at the local watering hole, the Four Aces, whose clientele is almost exclusively cops from the big city. "Freddie," as they call him, is treated with pretty open contempt, unless he's being ignored.

Garrison is truly a "Cop Land," possessing citizens who are cops in New York as well as their families almost to the exclusion of anyone else. Sheriff Heflin doesn't run this town, Ray (Harvey Keitel) does.

Ray is as tough as they come, and about

as corrupt a cop as you can imagine. He's at the center of several conspiracies and cover-ups both in Garrison and New York. He and his fellow cop henchmen run the town as well as the 37th Precinct. Powerless and frustrated by his fate, Heflin looks the other way.

But the bug is put into Heflin's ear by a hard working, hard nosed Internal Affairs officer (Robert DeNiro), who's been on Ray's trail for a long time, without success. Heflin begins to uncover plots and conspiracies galore, especially surrounding the supposed suicide of a young, heroic NYC cop (Michael Rapaport), who's also Ray's nephew. Ray's in the business of making cops heroes, even the hard way.

Cop Land boasts a terrific central cast and genuinely charismatic performances by the above mentioned, as well as Ray Liotta, Peter Berg, Janeane Garofalo and Cathy Moriarty. The script is intelligent and realistic, the plot is full of twists and turns that keep your attention riveted as we follow our unlikely hero, Heflin, through the evil that surrounds him to get to the truth.

The final, bloody scenes are magnificently realized as we hear and experience them through the now almost totally deafened Heflin. Stallone really makes this film click. His understated performance is full of unspoken anxiety, disillusion, frustration, building to a violent climax. *Cop Land* is not to be missed.

★★★1/2

'Money Talks' is a Brainless, Witless Film That Has no Reason to Exist

By John Jahn

Whoever told Chris Tucker he could act? He appeared most recently in the last 20 minutes or so of *The Fifth Element*, an otherwise outstanding sci fi thriller which he almost ruined by his inane screen presence and obnoxious voice (akin only to fingernails across a blackboard). Now, *Money Talks*, we get to behold Tucker for a full hour and a half. Oh, what joy!

Tucker plays Franklin Hatchett, a smooth talking ticket scalper with lots of ghetto connections in L.A. He's caught mostly because of the attention drawn to him by a Geraldo-like TV newsman in search of tabloid fare named James Russell (Charlie Sheen). When Hatchett is accused of planning a deadly prison bus escape and leaving two dead cops in his wake, he becomes the most wanted man in America.

Truth is, he's being confused with the real evil menace to society, Villard (Gerard Ismael), a vicious French diamond smuggler. The setting is now in place for yet another tiresome, loathsome Hollywood

buddy movie, and *Money Talks* trots out before us every gimmick and cliché of the genre.

Director Brett Ratner has, before this effort, been the director of over 50 music videos and nothing more (now there's a resume). Writers Alec Sokolow and Joel Cohen's past credits include the unfunny *Toy Story* and a host of direct-to-video dreck.

You can see every turn of this film coming a mile away because you've seen it all before, only better. Do Tucker and Sheen trade profanity-laden insults? Yep! Do they have a big physical fight after trading one to many "yo' mamma's"? You betcha! Do they end up buddies at the end, happily ever after? Is it necessary to ask?

The only possible fun you'll derive out of seeing *Money Talks* is to count every use of the words "fuck" and "ass," and then wish you had a dollar for each of 'em. The mere existence of a film like *Money Talks* is predicated on the notion that people are far, far too easily entertained.

(No stars...that's right, NONE)

'Star Maps' is a Bewildering Film; One That is More Perplexing than Bad

Reviewed by Glenn Bishop

Curious to Glenn is the recent trend by rising indie filmmakers to turn to the seedy streets of L.A. and their similarly seedy denizens as the subject of big screen ventures. How, for example, could Glenn (or anyone unfortunate enough to have haplessly wandered into the wrong cinema) forget the horrendous *Hustler White* by the continuing darling of "queercore cinema", Bruce LaBruce and featuring the questionable "talents" of Tony Ward.

Not much better was *Johns*, featuring Lucus Haas and David Arquette as low-rent hustlers, perhaps a curious subject for heterosexual film director Scott Silver.

The latest is *Star Maps*, written and directed by newcomer Michael Arteta and featuring cute little Douglas Spain as a Bisexual youth forced into prostitution by his entrepreneurial pimp Pops, Pepe (Efrain Figueroa)..



Douglas Spain in "Star Maps"

Glenn imagines that Miguel Arteta imagined a potentially terrific film, the sort Gus van Sant used to make except with a Latin Beat. Fresh-faced, innocent Carlos (Douglas Spain) from an unimaginably dysfunctional family, just off the bus from Mexico, is rudely introduced to the mean streets of Hollywood. As if tearing a page out of Hollywood's golden era, Arteta has Carlos dreaming incessantly of becoming the next Antonio Banderas.

Then Mr. Arteta began to dabble with his original, basic story. Let's make dad a tad bit sympathetic by making him similarly the

victim of a father who made him turn tricks as a teen. Oh, let's also give him a wife suffering from a nervous breakdown, a prototypical long-suffering "good girl" daughter (Lysa Flowers) and grossly overweight, dim-witted son Juancito (Vincent Chandler) who imagines himself a masked, menacing goon.

Then Arteta began to dabble a little bit more. How about a girlfriend eagerly awaiting the marriage that Pepe promises will come with the death of his current wife, say feisty prostitute Letti (Annette Murphy) who can help show young Carlos the ropes.

More plot dabbling comes with the introduction of a romance for Carlos' sister Maria.

All of this dabbling takes focus away from the critical relationship which develops between Jennifer (Kandeyce Jordan), the impetuous star of a popular soap opera with an eye for young Mexican boys and Carlos.

So dazzled is Jennifer with young Carlos that she promises the lad a bit part on her show, a promise she does follow through on and which will directly lead to Arteta's decidedly puzzling climax.

Clearly writer/director Arteta deeply loves his stereotypically quirky characters but his approach is so forced and heavy-handed that it becomes impossible to accept this melodramatic mish-mash.

Gay audiences are likely to be disappointed (as Glenn certainly was) with the surprising lack of male nudity in a film purporting to be about a Bisexual male prostitute. Yummy Douglas Spain is seen often in close-up but seldom below the waist and then never out of a pair of black bikini briefs.

Nor is Douglas Spain's Carlos ever a particularly intriguing character. Handicapped by Spain's generally uninspired performance, for most of the film Carlos seems such a goody-two-shoes that it is almost impossible to believe him when he tells Pepe of his many and varied sexual partners.

Better performances come from Martha Velez who is terrific as Pepe's fiery girlfriend and from Efrain Figueroa, consummately slimy as Pepe.

Star Maps is not so much a bad film as it is bewildering and perplexing.

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

'Career Girls' is Poignant, Haunting, a Movie You Should See

Reviewed by Glenn Bishop

Following the international acclaim garnered (not to mention many Oscar nominations) by Mike Leigh's poignant, complex *Secrets and Lies*, audiences are likely to be in for a surprise with *Career Girls*.

A remarkably slight, simple, straightforward film, *Career Girls* opens as Annie (Lynda Steadman) sets off for London by train for a reunion with Hannah (Katrin Cartlidge), her old roommate at University. It has been six years since they've seen each other and as Annie watches the English countryside goes by, she is filled with apprehension as well as being flooded with memories.



Lynda Steadman in "Career Girls"

Career Girls proves to contain a surprisingly clever story-within-a-story narrative structure. Director Mike Leigh unfolds simultaneously the story of Annie and Hannah's reunion with that of their emerging, occasionally tenuous friendship at University seen via flashback.

As was the case with his *Secrets and Lies*, Leigh clearly has deep and genuine affection and respect for these characters.

Lynda Steadman's Annie is a painfully shy, deeply introverted young woman plagued by various skin rashes. Annie seems to wear her fragility on her sleeve as she faces each new crisis with perpetually downcast eyes, desperate for love that will not come even after her psycho-

somatic rashes have faded.

In sharp contrast is Katrin Cartlidge's charismatic if sharp-tongued Hannah who six years later continues to reveal her disappointments in bitterly caustic remarks.

Deliberately refusing to rely on either character descriptions or any background information, Leigh instead allows each character to reveal themselves through the small, telling situations with the surprising result that we begin to feel these screen characters becoming friends as they themselves are becoming friends.

Present and past collide throughout Annie and Hannah's often comic, occasionally bittersweet reunion weekend. Some moments are quite small, others take on startling importance, as for example when Hannah takes Annie along to view a flat and they are reunited with Adrian (Joe Tucker) who doesn't recognize the two women who once loved him.

An even more disturbing encounter happens when the two women choose, at the spur of the moment, to return to their old flat and there find their old mate Ricky (Mark Benton). Ricky, all twitches and similarly unable to look directly at anyone is as scarred internally as Annie. More hopelessly trapped than any other character in *Career Girls*, Ricky's anguish is frighteningly passionate, first when rejected by Annie and later, when spied sitting all alone on the doorstep of their old apartment.

Katrin Cartlidge, most recently seen in *Breaking the Waves* is simply marvelous in the showy role of Hannah, all blazing intensity in flashbacks grown somewhat more coolly detached in the subsequent six years.

Equally impressive is Lynda Steadman's transformation from a neurotic bundle of tics to emerging maturity and Mark Benton's haunted and haunting Ricky.

While lacking the emotional fireworks of *Secrets and Lies*, *Career Girls* proves to be a surprisingly thought-provoking drama and certainly one of the few dramatic bright spots of an otherwise dismal summer.

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



Lisa Blount and Catherine Keener star in "Box of Moonlight." It opens at Milwaukee's Oriental Theater on Friday, August 29.

'In The Company of Men' Gives New Meaning to the "Love Triangle"

By John Jahn

Chad (Aaron Eckhart) and Howard (Matt Malloy) are two young, up-and-coming executives from a home office in a nameless city. They're first seen en route to a 6-week business trip to help shape up a branch office in their nameless company. Both have a lot of stress and frustration in their lives, in particular the venomous Chad who seems on the verge of committing some federal crime to vent his anger at the world.

They complain to each other about their respective failed love lives—both their girlfriends have apparently kicked them both to the curb. Chad then enlists Howard into an evil scheme which will bond them in their pain so they can feel better about themselves as men.

It's clear Chad is without a moral compass or a conscience...the same character flaws possessed by the likes of Gacy, Dahmer and McVeigh. Howard is just a timid, hurt little boy easily dominated by the overbearing Chad. "Let's hurt somebody," Chad says. Now all they need is a female victim.

The victim of their heartless, soulless "prank" turns out to be a sweet, shy, deaf girl working at the branch office named Christine (Stacy Edwards). In essence, both men will court her, get her to fall in love with them, then spit her out like used up gum just before leaving town. With luck, Chad exultantly claims, "She'll be reaching for the sleeping pills within a week and you and me, we'll laugh about

this until we're very old men."

Without giving away the ending (just in case you really want to see this perfectly dreadful, depressing stuff), there are some surprises near the end which, if possible, makes you hate Chad all the more. Howard, at times, seems a decent guy, but too much of a weakling to stand up to Chad. Chad, Howard and Christine comprise a "love triangle," alright, but a perverted and sick one, set in the soulless corporate culture of the '90s.

In The Company of Men is billed as black comedy, but truly it defies traditional movie genres. What do you call a movie that is unrelentingly disturbing, distasteful, and depraved? One thing it's not is entertaining, uplifting, enjoyable to watch, or aimed at any audience except perhaps macho sickos or feminazis.

Men does boast fairly strong, convincing performances by all its cast (most of whom have done nothing but TV shows before this), but the fact that writer/director Neil LaBute has done nothing but plays before now is clearly evident. *Men* is very stagey, shot in scene after scene of static interiors. No cinematography awards here!

In the final analysis, *In The Company of Men* is good fare for students of abnormal psychology, and the cinematic equivalent of an inkblot test, but to recommend this film to a general audience seeking an evening's entertainment and diversion? I think not.

★1/2

"In the Company of Men" opens Friday, August 29 at Milwaukee's Oriental Theater

'Mimic' is a Rare Specimen: Intelligent and Horrific at the Same Time

By John Jahn

All too often what passes for horror films is nothing more than sappy, gory B-movies populated with unknown actors fresh out of college drama class, pathetic writing, worse directing, and abysmal "special effects." Often, the only point of this type of movie is to rack up the biggest body count possible in as many gruesome ways as can be imagined. If the first movie of a given story line is reasonably successful, we've come to expect sequels galore. How many Friday the 13th films are there now? How's about *Halloween* and *Hellraiser*? Somewhere along the line, horror films went from being aimed at a purely adult audience to a purely teenaged audience, and mostly immature trash has resulted.

Not so, I'm glad to say, with *Mimic*. To start with, *Mimic* has a large budget, moving it well beyond B-status. It also boasts an excellent central and supporting cast, superb writing, very cool special effects and genuinely scary creatures.

New York City has been plagued by disease-carrying cockroaches which have been killing the city's children. Into this dilemma steps genetic scientist Susan Tyler (Mira Sorvino), who splices the DNA of termites and praying mantis' to create a new breed by itself, and dies within a cou-

ple of days.

The city's children are saved. Years go by and nothing adverse is happening, until a mutated Judas Bug is discovered. Not only have a few of them managed to survive, but they're breeding and mutating into a new species! The Judas' must be stopped, and quickly, because their new prey is us! It also must be done quietly to prevent widespread panic amongst the 10 million residents.

Tyler sets about this mission accompanied by her husband (Jeremy Northam) and an MTA officer named Leonard (Charles Dutton), prowling the dank and dark subterranean world below the city. Director Guillermo Del Toro does a superb job creating the spooky, scary atmosphere in *Mimic*. The photography, props and music generate tension and suspense that Hitchcock would've been proud of. The giant mutated insects are terrifically and horrifically rendered and, thank goodness, not exclusively computer-generated.

From beginning to end, *Mimic* is a gripping, scary film, more than fulfilling its role as an intelligently written horror film. With a soda, popcorn and extra large can of Raid, *Mimic* is well worth your time.

★★★1/2

Cream City Squares September Events

Milwaukee—The Cream City Squares, Wisconsin's only Gay and Lesbian Dance group, invites everyone to join the club for its annual Square Dance Social. Try Gay Square Dancing at absolutely no cost or obligation. Make new friends, enjoy snacks (including beverages), and learn some calls that will have you dancing right away! No previous experience is required. Participants do not have to bring their partners with them.

The Social will take place on Sunday, September 14th at 3:00 p.m. at Just Us Bar, 807 S. 5th Street.

Square Dance Lessons

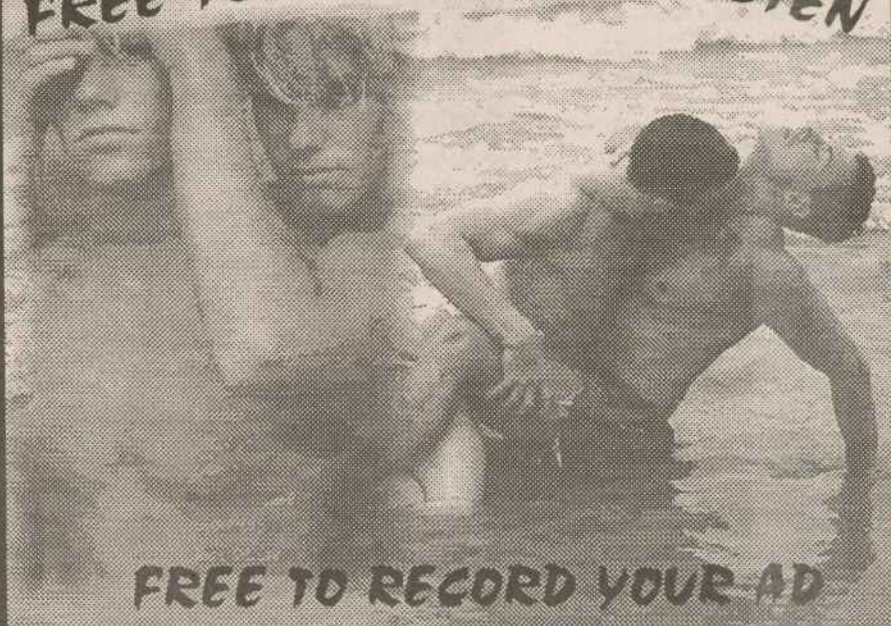
The Cream City Squares will offer Square Dance lessons beginning Sunday, September 28th, 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. at Just Us Bar. The Basic Class runs for 18 weeks and costs \$0 with additional dance time available, free during club dances. New registrants may enroll until October 5th. Open enrollment will close after two introductory classes. Students may continue to the Mainstream level for \$40.

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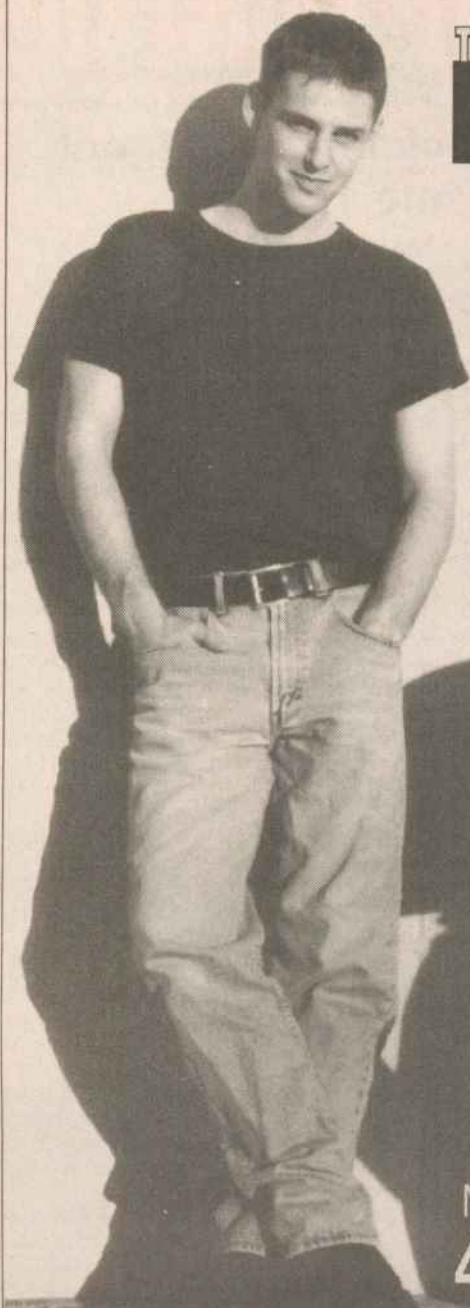
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Illinois

GET INTO MY TRUNKS You'll definitely be won over by this hot, 22 year old, college student, and former swimmer. I'm awesomely built, with equipment to match. (Chicago) #3912

SHINE THE BATPOLE This hot, healthy, dominant, Gay, White male, top, 34, 6ft, 170lbs, needs a totally submissive, White male, bottom to act out my fantasy with. I'm Batman and you're Robin. I want you to polish the batpole in the batcave, then assist me in interrogating the Riddler. (Cicero) #10435

WILLING TO EXPLORE Novice, White male, 44, 5'10, 186lbs, seeks top men and daddies. I'm willing to explore with the right guy. (DeKalb) #4008

TWO ON ONE BALL Two sexy, Latino, tops seeks a young, hairy, bottom stud, for hot and horny anal fun. I'm Puerto Rican, 35, 5'10, 190lbs. He's Mexican, 28, 5'8, 175lbs. We've got the goods to fill you up for hours. (Evanston) #4502

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

MARRIED ON A MISSION Horny, Bi, White, Married male, 35, 5'10, 175lbs, with Brown hair and eyes seeks other Married men for discreet fun. (Pontiac) #3837

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

NICE GUYS FINISH FIRST I wonder if leaving this ad will be a good way for me to meet a nice guy to hang out, and do stuff with. I'm a nice looking, 27 year old, White male, with sandy Blond hair, Blue Green eyes, and a stocky build. I like to go to sporting events, out to dinner, to movies, and various other things. Wanna tag along? (Des Moines) #3795

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

SERVE ME I love to be serviced and wanna feed you a mouthful. This handsome, 27 year old, White male, 5'10, 140lbs, is in the mood. (Austin) #4678

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. (Chanhassan) #3580

YA GOTTA CALL FIRST Wanna make friends with a good looking, 20 year old, White male, 6'3, 220lbs? Give me a call. Let's hang out and take it from there. (Lindstrom) #4102

DOUBLE YOUR PLEASURE Two hot Black males, both 6ft, 165lbs, one light skinned, one Brown skinned, are looking for some fun to get into. Can you take us both on? (Minneapolis) #4662

SHE MALE FUN Interested in she males? I'm a good looking, White male, 5'10, 175lbs, thoroughly interested in she male fun. (Minneapolis) #4250

SMOOTH AND MUSCLED? I want to meet a tall, muscled, top, with a pretty smooth body. I'm a very good looking, slender, 27 year old, White male who can make you feel great. (Minneapolis) #4109

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PRIVATE CLUB Nice looking, White male, 6'1, 190lbs, with Blond hair, seeks Married, and Bi, men for discreet encounters. Maybe we can even start our own private, discreet, club. I prefer well hung guys. I'm very talented and versatile. (Minneapolis) #4186

ROUGH AND RUGGED? I just moved here and want to meet a rough and rugged, very tall, White male, to give myself up to. I'm a virgin, Gay, Black male, 5'11, 190lbs, with good looks and a healthy attitude. I know the meaning of the word monogamy. (Minneapolis) #3988

WHAT MAKES YOU FEEL GOOD? Attractive, submissive, Bi, White male, in my late 30's, seeks a mature gentleman to serve. How can I please you? (Minneapolis) #3963

ALL YOURS I want to meet one or two hot guys into hard-core kink, watersports, a little bit of partying, and more. I'm a good looking, well endowed, White male, 6ft, with Blond hair, a nice body, and it's all yours. I wanna serve. (Minneapolis) #4007

SWEET AND NICE I'm a little lonely and want to meet a sweet, and nice, young man, 18 to 24, for good times hanging out and messing around. (Minneapolis) #4032

YOUR PLEASURE IS MY AIM Attractive, masculine, Bi, White male, in my late 30's, is very submissive. I'm looking for mature gentlemen to serve. I hope you'll call and let me know how I can please you. (Minneapolis) #3839

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

MAKE A FIST I'm into red hanky play, both as a top and a bottom. I'm a good looking, Gay, White male, in my 40's, 6'2, 215lbs, with Brown hair and eyes, and a mustache. If you're a hot man looking for hot, red hanky, play, let's not waste another moment. (Winona) #4329

Wisconsin

FUN ON THE PHONE I'm looking for guys to talk to on the phone and have some fun with. This good looking, White male, 33, 6'2, 175lbs, with Brown hair, Blue eyes, and a mustache, can't wait to talk to you. (Milwaukee) #4845

PLANT YOUR APPEASED I'm a very well built, smooth, Single, White male, 28, 5'7, and I'm ready to serve guys who need special attention. If you have a big, hard, problem, my mouth and throat can make it all better. I like guys 18 to 28. (Appleton) #4096

FREE IN THE FOOTHILLS Boy, am I glad to be back in the foothills. 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 city. (Baraboo) #3027

BE MY FRIEND Nothing complicated here. I'm a young, White male just looking for someone to talk to who'll be my friend. (Beaver Dam) #4006

CHISELED MUSCLE STUD I'm a 5'6, 135lb, natural bodybuilder and swimmer, and I love to show off my defined, muscular body. Let me flex it. Go ahead, feel me, I like it. Ooh, I know what you're feeling, the huge bulge in my jock strap. It's as well built as the rest of me and loves to be licked. If you're another well built dude with a barbelled body, it's all yours. (Madison) #2120

READY FOR ACTION Gay, White male seeks hot, young, Gay friend for good times. (Madison) #4166

THE WEE HOURS I want to hook up with hot guys in the mornings or late evenings. Let's party. (Madison) #3606

BODY SAFARI Young, White male, 19, wants to meet men in the area for hanging out, and physical exploration. (Menasha) #3777

ALL WORKED UP Married, middle aged, Bi, White male, 6'4, 300lbs, a former athlete, is into just about anything, as long as it's not too kinky. I like men of all ages and races. (Milwaukee) #4494

FOOT LONG AND FANCY FREE It's a foot long and I love men. That's right. A foot long. Get to know me. (Milwaukee) #4345

VIDEO VOYEUR I want to meet other guys who like to watch porno videos and get off together. (Milwaukee) #3759

LET IT BE OUR SECRET I want to have some discreet fun with another hot guy in the area. I'm a 20 year old, White male, 6ft, 160lbs, in good shape, with a worked out body. (Milwaukee) #3776

FOOT IN MOUTH Do you have a foot fetish? I sure do. Let's talk about it. (Milwaukee) #31763

END MY WAIT Good looking, 20 year old, Gay, Asian male, 5'2, is waiting for you in Oshkosh. (Oshkosh) #3913

EXPLORE YOUR WORLD This professional Single, White male, 6ft, 185lbs, with sandy Brown hair seeks a clean, discreet, healthy, well built, Bi, or Bi curious, man for friendship, exploration, and maybe a relationship. You should be a non drinker and non smoker, and enjoy the outdoors, fishing, camping, traveling, and the arts. (Steven's Point) #4395

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

GET ON WITH THE SHOW Good looking, 30 year old, White male seeks hot, well built, Gay males, 18 to 20, only. I have lots of interests including X-rated videos. Let's get together and play. #4267



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THE NIGHT LIGHT

NEWS... Well we have more than a few news items to impart to you all. First off, we hear that B's has been sold. The buyer, a former Triangle bartender and a partner both whom wish to remain nameless for the time being. We also hear that they plan to change the name to Woody's. (Kinda gets ya excited just thinking about it huh?).

Last I knew all the t's hadn't yet been crossed, but for all practical purposes it was a done deal.

I also understand that another Milwaukee Les/Bi/Gay bar may be up for sale, but the ownership denied that was the case, so I will keep that to myself for the time being.

We've also heard the recurring rumors that another leather bar, the Eagle will open in Milwaukee in the site of current Unicorn Bar, which is an alternative rock club. We will believe this one when we see it.

Meanwhile back at La Cage George and Corey are proceeding ahead with the remodeling. The outside renovation has already begun and after the big block party on Labor Day, the inside remodeling will begin earnest. Plans call for a restaurant to be put in on the second floor.

Theirs is more big news concerning the Wisconsin Light Party of the Decade and I wish I could tell you what it is, but I am told that everything will be revealed in its own time.

Recaps... I had a great time at Curt's Birthday Party over at In Between. Jerry Johnson, our publisher, who stopped in for a quick drink stayed for several hours.

I will say though that someone was being very naughty. Knowing that Curt is such a big Packer fan, and that his bar is Gay Milwaukee Packer Headquarters, a certain individual who shall remain nameless, but who sometimes goes by the moniker, "The Tallest Drag Queen In Captivity," decided to have a Dallas Cowboys theme for the party.

I was shocked to see those red and white balloons and the cowboy tackling dummy. Of course Curt took it all in stride, but I say "They are evil and they must be destroyed."

The Miss Gay Wisconsin America Pageant at Diversions was a great show. Congrats to Z & L Productions for another fine production!

I had a great time at the Tammy Baldwin Fund Raiser held at Café Melange. There were lots of folks. It was nice to see Ron Geiman, Doug Nelson, Joe Brehm, owner of This Is It, and so many others pitching in to help Tammy go to Washington. It was also nice to see that the chant has changed from "Run Tammy Run," to "Win Tammy Win."

Speaking of This Is It, as most of you know "Angels in America" opens at the Rep., on September 17. Now, the Rep is only about 3 blocks from the bar. I certainly advise everyone to attend the play. But stop in at This Is It for a before or after theater drink and talk with good friends.

Coming Up... On Thursday August 28, I will head on down to Station 2. I don't know what it is about this place, but I always have a great time there. I even met the woman who invented Lesbian Sex there. That's right forget about Sapho, the real inventor of Hot Lesbian Sex occupies a bar stool at the Station 2 bar right in Milwaukee.

Friday August 29, I am going to Mama Roux for lunch. In case you didn't know it, Mama is now serving lunches and she wants all her children to stop by so she can make sure they are eating right.

The evil schedule gods have done it again. There are so many events going on that even if I was Sybil I wouldn't have enough personalities to make them all.

Saturday August 30 I will be on the diamonds at Wick Field for the M.I.S.T. tournament. After that I'll be over at the Walker's Point Block Fest in front of La Cage and Zippers. Don't miss this historic first as Gay and straight bars get together for a fabulous end of the summer bash.

If I was in Superior I would go the annual Twin Ports Pride Parade (which is actually in Duluth, but that's close enough). If I was in Green Bay I would go the ROW Pride Nine Pin Tap tournament at Riviera Lanes.

Sunday August 31 will find me back at the M.I.S.T. toumey and then after getting my first place award (just kidding) I will head over to the LINKS Block Party in front of Fannies. Give Sharon, owner of Fannies lots of credit for keeping this party going on her own. But don't just applaud come over and spend some money.

If you are in Superior (or Duluth) check out the Pride Weekend festivities. If you are in the Fox Valley stop by the ROW Pride Picnic.

Monday September 1 is Labor Day and I will labor to root the Pack on to Victory at In Between. This year, Curt has a new twist. It's his own version of those "Run Pass and Kick" competitions. Except you don't have to run or kick. He will be giving away some cool cash to those who can throw a football through a target to be set up in the bar at Half time.

If I was in Madison I would check out the Packer Party at Manoeuvres. Anyone who has ever been to Manoeuvres Party knows how much fun they are.

Thursday September 4, I will hit the road to Mad Town to scout out the new talent at Scandals No Name, No Cover Show. It should be a blast.

Friday September 5 I hope to be in Wausau for the beginning of the grand opening celebration of Oz. The Portfolio Men will be there, but they promised to stop pestering me to join their troupe.

Sunday September 7 I will be checking out the Packer Parties at In Between and The Ball Game.

Later I will check out Customer Appreciation Night at La Cage. I mean how can you go wrong. A superbust, the La Cage Showcase and no cover!

Monday September 8 you can find me at In Between again for its weekly dart toss. You can win cool cash.

Wednesday September 10 I'll be at the Boot Camp for it's weekly club night. Wanna make a deal Si? I'll take the one in the leather vest and the hairy chest over any envelope on the board.

Saturday, September 13 I will be there for Mama Roux's Customer Appreciation Party. There will be food, prizes and even a Mama Roux dress up contest. (That should be good) And NO I am not entering even if some people do think I am some kind of mother.

Well that's it for now folks. Hope to see you out and about soon. Meanwhile, stay safe and be proud!

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History Month Essay Contest

NEW YORK.—The Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD) has announced a national essay contest celebrating October's "Lesbian & Gay History Month: A Celebration of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender History."

In the essay, participants will be asked to write on the topic, "What does Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender history mean to you, and how do you envision that history influencing the future of the movement?" This question incorporates the theme of this fourth annual event, "Reclaiming the Past, Charting the Future."

"This essay contest is a wonderful opportunity for members of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender community to explore their history, both personal and collective," said Joan M. Garry, Executive Director of GLAAD. "It's an especially exciting opportunity for young people to learn about the struggle that preceded them, and connect it to our ongoing growth as a people."

The essay will appear in numerous Lesbian and Gay publications across the country throughout the month of October, helping to highlight this community-wide celebration of who we are. The winner will receive a round trip ticket anywhere American Airlines flies in the continental US, Mexico, Canada, the Caribbean, Bermuda and the Bahamas (some restrictions apply).

The judges will include, among others, GLAAD staff Sean Sasser, Chastity Bono and Liz Tracey, History Month founder Rodney Wilson, GLSEN's Kevin Jennings and HRC's Donna Red Wing.

Submissions should be no longer than 750 words. They must be received no later than Monday, September 22, and must be typed. This contest is open to all. A winner will be announced on Monday, September 29. Submissions should be addressed to Bill Horn, LGHM Essay Contest, GLAAD, 150 W. 26th Street, #503, New York, NY 10001, or sent via e-mail to horn@glaad.org.

Puzzle Solution

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initial names: Ernest Hemingway, San Francisco, Milton Berle, Emily Dickinson

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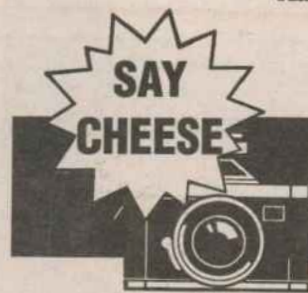
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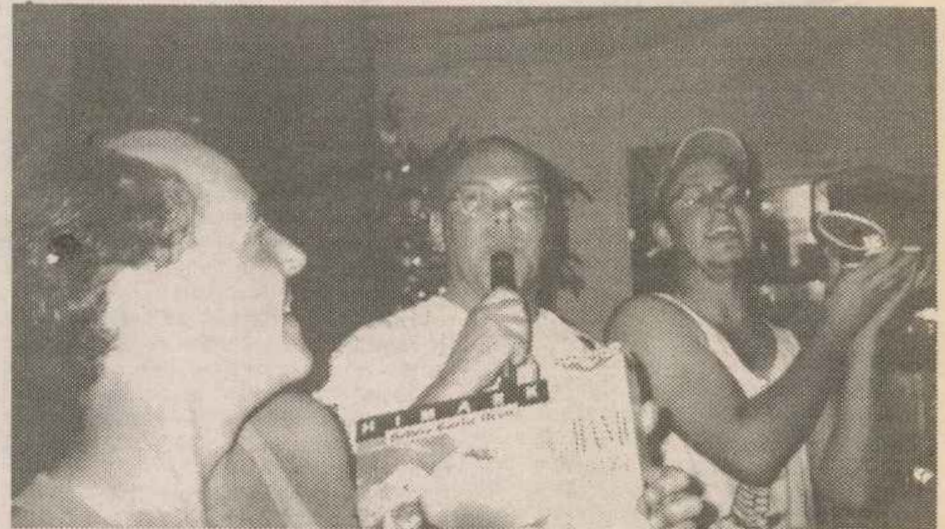
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OUT & About



Happy B-Day The popular owner of In Between, Curt Peck celebrated his 30th Birthday (again) with a nice party on Thursday August 14th. The well attended event included many of his friends and bar patrons and despite his requests quite a few gifts as well.



Up For Sale! The Ball Game Rangers held a fund raiser at the Ball Game on Saturday, August 2nd. The event included games, raffles, an auction and a silent auction (where our own Bill Meunier bid on and won two Badger - Michigan Game tickets). The fund raiser helped the team get to the Gay World Series.



Queens for a Day! Scott, Ross, Tony, and Juan (L-R) celebrated their Birthdays with a wonderful party at Birch Lodge, the home of Ross and his partner Robert in Fox Point. In deference to the Fox Point fire codes the cake had far fewer candles than it should have.