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

Wisconsin Light

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GOP ATTACKS CLINTON'S ANTI-BIAS ORDER



Colors of Pride—Marchers at the 1997 Madison Parade proudly carry the rainbow flag.

MADISON PRIDE

Madison—Mad Town will be the LBGT capitol of Wisconsin from July 16 to July 19, as it celebrates Pride in a big way with a slate of activities that combines parties, politics and just plain old fun.

The schedule of events is highlighted by the two major events, the MAGIC Picnic, which is celebrating its 25th anniversary on Saturday, July 18 and the GALVANize Pride Parade and Picnic on Sunday, July 19.

These two events anchor a schedule of activities that displays the diversity and commitment of the Madison LBGT community.

THE CONCERT

Perfect Harmony, Madison's Gay men's choral group has the honor of opening the celebration. The group will present its second annual Summer Concert at the First Baptist church, 518 N. Franklin, at 8pm on Thursday, July 16.

In its three-year existence, Perfect Harmony has succeeded in making a name for itself by offering polished performances of quality music. This concert promises to be no exception.

Entitled "From Baroque to Be-Bop" the performance will feature an eclectic mix of selections that will fully demonstrate the abilities of this talented group.

The concert is free but donations will be accepted at the door.

THE UNITED AWARDS DINNER

The United's Sixth Annual Awards Dinner highlights the contributions made by outstanding businesses, individuals and organizations

The dinner will be held at the Sheraton Hotel, which is located across from the Dane County Coliseum.

The keynote speaker will be Madison Mayor Susan Bauman. Wisconsin Light's newest columnist, Tina Fleschman, will provide entertainment and will emcee the event.

Tickets—\$35 per person—are available by advance purchase only. The menu features three dinner choices, Southwestern Chicken, North Atlantic Salmon or Stuffed Acorn Squash.

All proceeds benefit the United.

DANCING WITH PRIDE

There will be two dances to help celebrate Pride on Friday, July 17.

The 10% Society Dances are one of Madison's biggest monthly events. Normally they are held at the UW Memorial Union but for Pride Weekend, the 10% Society has decided to "do Monona Terrace."

The first ever 10% Society Dance at Madison's sparkling new convention and community center will take place on Friday, July 17 from 8pm to midnight. There will be a cash bar, a DJ and augmented sound. Admission is \$5 at the door.

If country western is your thing then you should join the Dairyland Cowgirls and Cowboys at their "Open Country Dance."

Members of this growing group of Country Western dance fans will be strutting their stuff at the Sapphire Ballroom, 1133 N. Sherman Avenue.

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Havlicek, Keegstra join the Wisconsin Light

Milwaukee—Annabelle Havlicek has been appointed Director of Sales of the Wisconsin Light. Currently Production Manager at The Paper, Havlicek is excited about returning her talents to the LGBT Community. Yuri Keegstra will be joining the staff as Production Manager and will function as editor of the new HIV/AIDS section "Positive Outlook."

Havlicek & Associates (H&A), the public relations and advertising agency started by Havlicek in 1988, first became known in the LGBT community when it acted as public relations counsel for the 1989 Milwaukee Lesbian/Gay Pride Committee.

For more than ten years she's remained an ally, continuing to do publication projects for a variety of organizations, including the annual Pride Guides since 1996.

In 1991, H&A began providing ad services to *In Step* magazine. Four years later, H&A took up permanent residence in their offices and Havlicek's role was expanded to include ad sales and soft editorial. In July of 1995, when Ron Geiman, publisher and founder of *In Step* became ill, he handed the reins of publishing over to her for safe keeping. Havlicek continued to publish *In Step* until February of 1996 when it went up for sale.

It was at that time that Jerry Johnson asked

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By Bill Meunier

Washington, DC—The latest of what some are calling "a barrage of attacks on America's Gays and Lesbians," from Republican Congressional leaders was launched on June 24 when four Republican Congressmen including the Majority Whip, Tom Delay, announced an effort to derail President Clinton's Executive Order banning federal job discrimination based on sexual orientation.

In a letter sent to other members of the House, the four, Delay, Joel Hefley, (CO), Robert Aderhold (AL) and John Hostettler (IN) asked their colleagues to support a resolution introduced by Hefley that would in effect overturn President Clinton's anti-discrimination directive. Wisconsin Light was able to obtain a copy of that letter.

In it, the four claim that Clinton's order would "greatly expand affirmative action" and may require private companies, as well as state and local governments to conform to Clinton's directive.

In a speech to the House, Delay said, "The American people do not want quotas, they do not want special preferences, and they certainly do not want affirmative action based on sexual orientation."

If passed, Hefley's resolution would be attached to the Postal-Treasury Appropriations bill. Technically it would not overturn Clinton's mandate, but would render it meaningless by prohibiting the use of any federal funds to enforce it.

The Republican attacks were quickly met with criticism from Democrats, national Gay and Lesbian organizations, and the White House itself.

Dick Gephardt, (D-MO) promised a fight against the Hefley amendment saying, "the Executive Order they seek to undo ensures equality and fairness throughout our federal civil service, it does not create special privileges as they allege."

"This is about discrimination," said Nanda Chitre, a White House spokeswoman. "If this is what the Republicans want to focus on, we're willing to engage on this issue because we are anti-discrimination."

Hefley's amendment would not make anti-Gay discrimination legal in the Federal government, according to David Smith, Senior Strategist for the Human Rights Campaign.

Smith told Wisconsin Light that, shortly after Clinton took office, his appointees at the White House office of Personnel and Management made a ruling that an anti-discrimination Executive Order issued by then President Jimmy Carter included Gays and Lesbians.

Smith said that the problem with that ruling was that Carter's Executive order did not specifically include the words "Gay, Lesbian or homosexual."

Because that ruling could be easily be overturned by any future President, and because many Federal Government agencies had their own policies, HRC, and others, urged Clinton to issue a sweeping across-the-board directive that specifically named Gays and Lesbians. That would provide a uniform policy for all federal agencies.

The Hefley amendment follows closely on the heels of other anti-Gay actions, some of which have been denounced even by other Republicans.

These include:

- A public statement by Senate Majorny Leader Trent Lott that homosexuality is a sin and that those "with this problem," should be treated.
- The refusal of the Republican leadership in the Senate to allow a vote on confirming James Hormel, an openly Gay man appointed to be the United States Ambassador to Luxembourg.
- The exclusion of the Gay and Lesbian Log Cabin Club from the Texas Republican Convention. Smith said the Hefley resolution and other recent Conservative

Please see GOP Attack, Page 7

World News Briefs



50,000 March in Paris

Paris (AP)—About 50,000 people marched through Paris Saturday in an annual Gay rights rally, dancing atop floats and displaying banners supporting a bill that would give Gays and Lesbians new legal recognition.

Revelers draped in rainbow-colored flags danced to techno music, showered passersby with confetti and released hundreds of multicolored balloons as they made their way from the city's Latin Quarter to the Place de la Nation in east Paris.

But a chief organizer of the march, the 17th in the French capital, lamented that the day's events had been undermined by the World Cup. "We had to scrap loads of things because of the World Cup: not just for security, but also because of a lack of sponsors," the left-wing daily Liberation quoted Charles Myara as saying.

Last year, an estimated 300,000 took part in the rally.

Several banners made reference to a bill, to be debated later this year in parliament, which would give new legal recognition to homosexual couples and unwed heterosexuals. "The bill is one of the final rights we have yet to acquire," said a 40-year-old marcher, identifying himself only as Mariel.

President Jacques Chirac has criticized the measure, known as the Civil Solidarity Pact. In response to the bill, some 12,000 mayors, mainly from the French right, signed a petition in May opposing marriage between homosexuals.

British Columbia Proposes Pension Benefits

Victoria, British Columbia (AP)—British Columbia introduced a bill Monday that will make it the first province in Canada to voluntarily grant pension benefits to same-sex couples who are public employees.

Some other provinces have moved that way but only under pressure from legal action. The new legislation affects British Columbia's 235,000 public employees, including government workers, municipal employees and public school teachers.

Wife of Former President Testifies in Zimbabwe Trial

Harare, Zimbabwe (AP)—Former Zimbabwean President Canaan Banana's wife, testifying in his trial on sexual assault charges, denied she knew of his alleged homosexuality and said their 37-year marriage was a happy one.

The state alleges Banana lured soldiers, aides and security men to his room for sex and had them punished if they rejected his advances. He is on trial for 11 charges of sodomy and homosexual assault. Homosexual acts are illegal in Zimbabwe, where President Robert Mugabe has waged a campaign against Gay rights.

Banana, a 62-year-old Methodist minister, theology professor and former diplomat, says he's innocent. Janet Banana, testifying in her husband's defense, denied allegations by state witnesses that she intervened after Banana scuffled with male staffers at their official presidential residence.

The couple married in 1961 and has four adult children. "Our marriage has been a happy one," she told Judge Godfrey Chidyausiku.

Allegations of Banana's predatory homosexuality emerged last year when a man was sentenced to 10 years imprisonment for shooting to death a colleague who had taunted him about his homosexual relationship with Banana. Banana served as titular president after independence in 1980 until 1987.

British Lower Age of Consent

London (AP)—The British Parliament has voted to lower the age of consent for homosexual acts by two years to 16, rejecting protests by the Church of England that the move violated the state's duty to offer "a vision of what is good."

The 333-129 vote to equalize the age of consent for Gay and heterosexual sex came at the end of a sometimes heated 3 1/2-hour debate in the House of Commons, and three decades after homosexual acts ceased to be a crime in Britain.

The move pitted Prime Minister Tony Blair, a practicing Christian, against the Anglican bishops. Opinion polls indicate that most Britons also oppose the change. But Blair and leaders of opposition parties all signaled support for the move which brought Britain in line with most other European Union nations.

A last minute attempt to toughen the law by making it an offense for a teacher or other adult supervising youths under 18 to have sex with a pupil or other charge was rejected by 234 votes to 194.

Gay rights groups expressed delight and the Commons rang with cheers when the vote passed to lower the age of consent. It reversed a 1994 vote when Parliament reduced the consent age for homosexuals from 21 to 18, but rejected 16.

The House of Lords still has to pass the Commons' vote and there was speculation that senior Anglican prelates who sit in the unelected upper chamber may try to hold up the change. The Lords can delay bill for up to a year.

"It cannot be the role of the state to work out people's sexuality for them... nor to coerce Gay men to be heterosexual," said Labor lawmaker Ann Keen, who initiated Monday's move.

South Africa Decriminalizes Gay Sex

Pretoria—In a decision hailed by both the ruling African National Congress and the National Coalition for Gay and Lesbian Equality, Judge Jonathon Heher of the Johannesburg High Court struck down the common law crimes of sodomy, unnatural sexual offenses and section 20A of the Sexual Offenses Act which made it a crime to stimulate sexual passion or to give sexual gratification between two men.

The Judge's action came on the second anniversary of the South African constitution which guarantees equal protection for that country's Gays and Lesbians. The decision was welcomed by the ruling ANC party. The ANC said, "it represents a significant milestone in the alignment of South Africa's laws with the basic human rights contained in the Constitution's Bill of Rights."

Penalties for violating the now voided law included death.

National News Briefs



Topeka Group Urging Citizens To Report Anti-Gay Minister's 'Child Endangerment'

Topeka, Kan.—A local group, formed to combat the street picketing of anti-Gay crusader Fred Phelps Sr., is enlisting citizens and has launched an ad-campaign to get residents to report what it calls child endangerment by Phelps and his followers.

Phelps who is pastor of the Westboro Baptist Church is well known for picketing Gay and commerce and even the funerals of those who have died from AIDS.

Concerned Citizens of Topeka, formed in 1995 to confront what organizers called Phelps' "campaign of hate," announced on Friday an advertising campaign to urge city residents to report their observations if they feel children who participate in Phelps family picketing are in danger.

Phelps, called CCT board members, who met at a church following the news conference, "a bunch of hypocrites." "Why is it that our children are the safest and most loved in Topeka?" Phelps said. "It leads me to believe they don't give a hoot about our children."

Dr. Roy Menninger, chairman of CCT, denied that the effort was an attempt to silence Phelps. "Passersby have frequently noted significant risks to these children: they are dangerously close to passing traffic; they often carry signs disproportionately large in relation to the child's size—even more hazardous in a high wind—and they are expected to picket in what may be dangerous surroundings," Menninger said.

"CCT has received unexpected and distressingly frequent expressions of concern about the

safety of the children who are engaged in 'hate picketing' with the Westboro Baptist Church."

The CCT ads will urge citizens to report to the Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services any instances of what they consider child endangerment on the Phelps picket lines. They name SRS Secretary Rochelle Chronister and two local SRS officials to contact.

"We'll investigate any and all allegations of abuse," said SRS spokesman John Garlinger. "We appreciate citizen interest in this important area because we cannot monitor every situation."

Jewish University Target of Housing Discrimination Suit Filed by ACLU

New York—Yeshiva University discriminates against Gay and Lesbian couples by barring them from living together on campus, according to a lawsuit filed against the school, America's oldest and largest Jewish institution of higher learning, by the American Civil Liberties Union.

The suit seeks to force the school to change its housing policy, seeking unspecified damages for emotional distress plus extra housing and commuting costs.

In a statement, the school said it had just received the complaint and its lawyers were reviewing it. The statement said it was the policy of the school to comply with all anti-discrimination laws applicable to student housing. "Our housing policy is applied equally to all applicants for student housing without regard to their sexual orientation."

A plaintiff in the suit, Sarah Levin, 26, a third-year medical student at Yeshiva University's Albert Einstein College of Medicine, said she was surprised when the school denied housing because she was not married to her partner of six years, Carla Richmond.

Ms. Levin said she never wanted to launch a political battle. "However, I feel that if I allow myself to be relegated to the closet, which has been one of the most powerful weapons of homophobia and is certainly one of the intentions of this policy, then I am compromising my integrity."

Ms. Levin said she sought the help of the ACLU because she was forced to live off-campus in more costly quarters that forced her to commute and sacrifice precious study time.

Massachusetts Group Lobbies For Benefits

Boston—Gay community members are calling for two new proposals that would extend health insurance coverage to partners of Gay and Lesbian workers.

"This is about equal pay for equal work," said Sean Cahill, chairman of the Lesbian and Gay Political Alliance of Massachusetts. The group rallied Wednesday at the Statehouse in favor of the new measures.

Cahill said supporters are looking for House Speaker Thomas Finneran, D-Boston, to allow a vote on a home rule petition that would enable the City of Boston to offer health benefits to all domestic partners. The alliance is also pushing a bill that would allow state and local governments to do the same. Cahill said the estimated cost for the statewide measure is \$3.3 million a year.

Arkansas School District Settles Suit

Fayetteville, Ark—The mother of a Gay teen-ager, who she says was harassed in the public schools here, hopes a settlement of her complaint means other youngsters don't have to go through the same ordeal.

The Lambda Legal Defense Fund has announced that the Fayetteville School District agreed to train its staff and set up procedures to deal with harassment of Gay students. The agreement is part of a settlement of a complaint by Carolyn Wagner, mother of 17-year-old William Wagner.

Ms. Wagner said her son was beaten in an attack by other students on Dec. 2, 1997, and had endured daily harassment and destruction of his belongings because of his sexual orientation. "My heart broke when my son was so terribly abused, just for being himself," she said. "This agreement... hopefully, will safeguard many parents' dreams and protect their kids."

The Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund said the district reached the agreement with the Office of Civil Rights of the Federal Department of Education. Written reports of progress will be provided to the civil rights office through June 1999, Lambda said.

But Arkansas Sodomy Suit Continues

Little Rock—A lawsuit challenging an Arkansas law against homosexual sex will go forward, despite the objections of the Arkansas Attorney General.

Chancellor Collins Kilgore has refused to dismiss the lawsuit by the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund of New York.

The law outlaws homosexual, anal and oral sex and carries maximum penalties of one year in jail and a \$1,000 fine. The state attorney general's office had asked that the lawsuit be dismissed because it isn't being enforced and so there is no standing for the suit.

"As we argued, the plaintiffs live under the constant threat of prosecution," said Lambda attorney Suzanne B. Goldberg. "There is nothing in Arkansas sodomy law that prevents a prosecutor from waking up tomorrow morning and arresting a Gay or Lesbian for engaging in consensual sexual intercourse with a loved one."

Arkansas is one of six states with sodomy laws limited specifically to homosexual conduct. The others are Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, Missouri and Maryland, Ms. Goldberg said. Fourteen states have broader sodomy laws that also cover heterosexual contact.

NY Mayor Guliani Praises Gays & Lesbians

New York—Mayor Rudolph Guliani credited Gay men and Lesbians Monday with playing an important role in the city's turnaround, saying New York had grown stronger by embracing diversity and rejecting intolerance.

Part of the reason for the city's improved quality of life and economy is "a much stronger and more diverse participation of people," the mayor said.

"Our society has to be better off as we go through sometimes the pain of opening society up, so that everyone gets a chance to make their maximum contribution," the Mayor said during a ceremony recognizing Gays working in city government.

"When you think back to 100 years ago, when lots of people were excluded from government, some based on race, some based on gender, some based on sexual orientation, we were working with half or less than half of the potential talent that was available," Guliani said. "Maybe that's one of the reasons why the city does so much better now than it did 20 and 30 and 40 years ago," the mayor added.

In a proclamation, the Republican mayor declared Monday June 29th, "Out in Government Day," part of the commemoration of Lesbian and Gay pride and history month.

Rhode Island Gays, Lesbians Celebrate Advances with Pride

Providence, RI—Gays and Lesbians gathered for the 23rd annual Gay and Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Pride Parade and celebrated a political victory, the repeal of the state's 102-year-old sodomy law.

"Brothers and sisters, we have repealed the sodomy law and we are a huge step closer to freedom," said Kate Monteiro, President of the Rhode Island Alliance for Lesbian and Gay Civil Rights. "But we have a long way to go... love, not hate will set us all free."

Mayor Vincent Cianci is planning to recruit openly Gay police officers to the force, said W. Fitzgerald Himmelsbach at the rally. Himmelsbach, the city's liaison to the Gay and Lesbian community, said it is part of Cianci's effort to make the police force sensitive to Gays and Lesbians.

Cianci did not attend the event because he was at a mayor's conference in Reno, Neveda but to commemorate Pride week, the rainbow flag of the Gay pride movement is flying over City Hall for the first time.

Please see National News Briefs on Page 3

Lesbian Highway Signs Stolen in NH

Lebanon, NH (AP)—The Upper Valley Lesbians are getting the message that someone doesn't like their highway signs but that is not going to stop them from being part of the state's Adopt-a-Highway program.

The original signs were stolen after they went up last fall. Then replacements were repeatedly defaced with spray paint. Now the signs have been stolen again.

The signs identified the Upper Valley Lesbians as the volunteers who keep a 3-mile section of Route 4 in Lebanon litter-free. The group is one of about 500 in the state that has adopted more than 1,200 miles of roads.

Department of Transportation spokesman Bill Boynton said one of the signs had the nameplate removed and the post bent. The second was removed completely, and a highway survey crew later found the post along the road, he said.

Boynton said the department paid for the first replacements, at about \$60 each, but the Adopta-Highway program rules forbid it from replacing them again.

Boynton said the Upper Valley Lesbians group has indicated it would pay for a third set which the department already has started making.

Denver Gay Palimony Lawsuit

Denver—A Denver man named in perhaps the state's first Gay palimony case has denied that he and his former partner's relationship was like a marriage.

Larry Williams, 41, of Loveland sued Mark Geffre, 32, a mortgage banker, earlier this month. Williams claims he supported Geffre for years while Geffre completed his education at Colorado State University.

In a response filed this week in Denver District Court, Geffre says the relationship was not like a marriage and he does not owe Williams any money. The two lived together for eight years.

Except during the 1990-91 academic year, when Williams paid the rent, Geffre says he worked and obtained grants and student loans to support himself. Geffre also claims Williams was a drug abuser who forged checks to steal money from his bank account.

Williams' attorneys denied Geffre's claims. "He has no drug use. He's clean as a whistle," attorney Barbara Lavender said Friday. "As for the bank account, funds were withdrawn for domestic-partnership expenses, and no objection was made by Mr. Geffre until now."

Julie Tolleson of the Colorado Legal Initiatives Project has said she knows of no other Gay palimony lawsuits in Colorado and that this case could be precedent setting. The lawsuit alleges violation of implied contract, which has been used successfully in heterosexual palimony lawsuits.

SD Officer Fired Following Fuss At Gay Bar

Sioux Falls, S.D. (AP)—An officer has been fired and at least four other officers are under investigation following an incident at a downtown Gay bar, while all were off-duty.

City Attorney Janet Brekke said officer Mike Green was dismissed Friday as part of a disciplinary action for the June 11 incident. She would not say what happened.

Attorney General Mark Barnett, who was called to investigate, said that judging from preliminary reports, there is no indication of felony behavior. The state's investigation will center on allegations of an officer carrying an open container of alcohol and someone breaking a pool cue over his knee or an object, Barnett said.

Leo Flynn, a lawyer who represents bar owner Doug Kooiker, said he was told that six men came into the bar in the early morning hours of June 12. They apparently had followed a man from another bar, Flynn said. 'The men brought beer in with them and were rowdy, Flynn said. "I think there may have been some slurs about a fag bar," he said.

Kooiker reported the incident to police and was informed days later that the suspects were offduty officers, Flynn said. "My client was looking for some restitution for some damage to a door and pool cue and maybe a letter of apology," Flynn said. "Doug really wasn't looking to prosecute anyone."

In addition to the state charges, the officers could face disciplinary actions ranging from reprimands to suspension or termination, Brekke said.

SF Funds Shelter for Battered Gay Partners

San Francisco (AP)—Gay men, battered by their partners, would have a shelter to go to under a proposal by city Supervisor Mark Leno.

Leno said Thursday that he wants the city to budget \$37,000 to permit Community United

Against Violence to expand counseling, legal and shelter programs for same-sex abuse victims.

"Today San Francisco will make history by committing itself to having the only domestic vio-

lence shelter for Gay men," Leno said. He said other supervisors support his proposal.

The plan doesn't call for a new shelter. Instead, it would pay for four beds in an existing shelter for homeless men. The name and location of the shelter were kept secret to protect clients.

The money would also allow CUAV to hire a half-time advocate to help both Gay men and Lesbians to get legal protection and make the transition to a more stable life, Greg Merrill of CUAV said at Leno's news conference.

It would also fund one-time grants so domestic violence victims could set up a new household, said Merrill, who heads CUAV's domestic violence programs. He envisions about 12 grants a year averaging \$1,100, which would cover first and last month's rent and some new-apartment basics.

Board May Ban Gay Foster Parents

Paragould, Ark.—Some members of a state oversight board have proposed prohibiting homo-

sexuals from serving as foster parents.

The suggestion came from Child Welfare Agency Review Board member Robin Woodruff during a meeting of the Board in Paragould. The nine-member board sets minimum standards for licensed child-placement agencies, foster homes and therapeutic foster homes.

"I would like to require foster parents to be heterosexual, married couples," Ms. Woodruff said.
"Allowing single foster care... takes away enforcement" because it opens the process to "homosexuals who say they're single with a roommate or border."

Other board members agreed with the goal of preventing homosexuals from being foster parents. "I know there's a problem getting foster parents, but in my opinion it would be devastating for a child to go into a homosexual home," said David Whatley.

But some members expressed concern about the proposal.

"I don't think we need to promote the homosexual lifestyle, but we do need to recognize the necessity for alternative settings," said Steve Dunaway. "As much as I support the board on that, I can see situations where it would be suitable" for a child to have homosexual foster parents.

Assistant Attorney General Karen Wallace said state law requires marriage to be between a man and woman. But she said a rule against homosexual foster parents might be difficult to enforce.

The board asked Ms. Wallace to research the issue and try to come up with a way to resolve it.

Ms. Wallace said one option would be to require foster parents to be "related by blood or marriage." This would allow singles to remain in the picture.



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ACLU Challenges Puerto Rican Law

SAN JUAN PR—The American Civil Liberties Union has filed a lawsuit challenging the constitutionality of a Puerto Rico law that criminalizes Gay and Lesbian intimate relationships and "the crime against nature," which apparently targets heterosexual sodomy.

The suit-filed in San Juan Superior Court by the ACLU's National Lesbian and Gay Rights Project, on behalf of six residents, targets Puerto Rico's "crime against nature" statute.

Under the law, anyone who "has sexual intercourse with people of the same sex or commits the crime against nature with a human being" is guilty of a felony and liable for penalties of up to \$1,000 or 10 years in prison.

"Although sodomy laws are not always enforced, such laws are often used to deny Lesbians and Gay men a range of other rights," said Michael Adams, a staff attorney with the ACLU's National Lesbian and Gay Rights Project.

"This case is about securing basic civil liberties," Adams said. "Laws criminalizing sexual intimacy have been used in workplaces to deny Lesbians and Gay men jobs. They have been used to take children away from parents who are Gay. In Puerto Rico, they have even been used by politicians to threaten Gay citizens who speak out for their rights."

Adams said Margarita Sanchez De Leon was asked whether she was a Lesbian when she attempted to testify before members of Puerto Rico's legislature. When Sanchez De Leon, a Christian minister and activist, answered "yes," she was told she could be arrested.

"The Commonwealth of Puerto Rico has no business in my bedroom," said Sanchez De Leon, one of the plaintiffs in the case. "Our Constitution gives me the right to decide whether I love a woman or a man, and how I will love my partner." She added that she considered the ACLU's lawsuit a "big step forward" for the Lesbian and Gay community in Puerto Rico.

The ACLU's complaint charges that the law violates the equal protection and privacy rights of

The ACLU's complaint charges that the law violates the equal protection and privacy rights of Lesbians and Gay men guaranteed by both the Puerto Rican and United States Constitutions. The ACLU also said the law is unconstitutionally vague because it does not make clear what acts the statute prohibits and to whom the prohibitions apply.

While the other plaintiffs have never been accused of violating the law, as Gay men in intimate relationships, they live under the dark cloud of a legal threat.

Plaintiff Jose Joaquin Mulinelli of Bayamon and his life partner John Doe both said they had suffered psychological harm as a result of being singled out under the law. Mulinelli is an HIV health educator and John Doe is a nurse.

Similarly, Edgar Danielsen Morales and his life partner William Moran Berberena, both of San Juan, cited fear of arrest and other severe consequences under the Puerto Rico statute. Morales is a chemistry professor and the associate dean for graduate studies and research at the University of Puerto Rico; Moran Berberena is a federal employee.

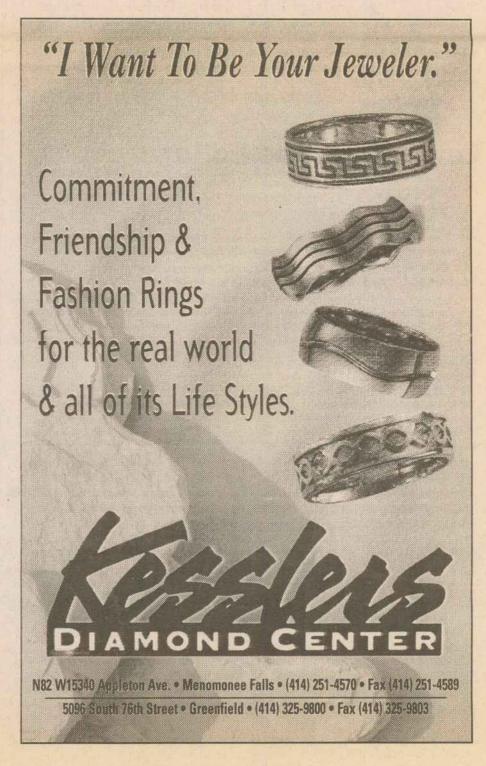
The ACLU also brought the case on behalf of its members who live in and travel to Puerto Rico and could be prosecuted under Article 103. Concerned about social ostracism and retaliation if their identities are revealed, two of the plaintiffs, "John Doe" and "Jane Doe," asked to remain anonymous in the lawsuit.

The ACLU contends that taken together, these six people and ACLU members represent a broad spectrum of individuals who are negatively impacted by the Puerto Rico's law.

Laws criminalizing sexual intimacy, including sodomy, were once on the books in all 50 states, but many have been repealed or struck down by the courts as unconstitutional. Most recently Rhode Island and Montana voided their same-sex sodomy laws.

Sodomy and oral sex laws remain today in twenty-one states, 15 of which target intimate activities for both Gay and heterosexual couples. The remaining six states have laws that only target Lesbians and Gay men.

The ACLU, through the courts, is also challenging anti-same sex laws in Kansas and Maryland.



Editorials

Messages of Hate

The Madison area billboards put up by Wisconsin Christians United to denounce homosexuality richly deserve the scorn being heaped upon them by members of that City's community. Gays and non-Gays alike have rallied against the messages of hatred promulgated by the fundamentalist

Far from forcing anyone back into the closet, the WCU signs may actually have the opposite effect. The nearly universal derision they have been greeted with should show us all how isolated WCU and its strict anti-Christian interpretation of the Bible really are.

WCU's leader Ralph Overdahl says the billboards have been erected to promote the group's Christian beliefs. His claim would be much more believable if WCU also erected billboards condemning drug use, theft, dishonesty, and adultery.

It seems obvious that Overdahl and his followers have targeted Gays and Lesbians to gain attention, garner more support from like-minded people around the state and of course take in more money.

The reaction of some in the LBGT community who have called for a boycott of the company that owns the billboards is also disturbing. No matter how reprehensible these signs may be, they are protected free speech. Attack those who have allowed Overdahl to speak his mind now and tomorrow those who allow Gays and Lesbians to speak out will come under attack as well.

The best answer to these billboards is to continue to show that the overwhelming majority of the community views them with revulsion. That type of response not only negates these signs of hate; it promotes a positive message of love and understanding that ultimately will strengthen and unite the community.

Approve Hormel Now

It should have been routine. A qualified individual is nominated to be the United States Ambassador to a small European country. The nomination is approved by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and sent to the floor of the Senate for a voice vote confirming the choice.

It sounds simple but in the case of James Hormel, the Ambassador Designate to Luxembourg, nothing is routine. For seven months a handful of conservative Republicans have held up his confirmation vote. The reason for this foot dragging is nothing more or less than the fact that Hormel is openly Gay.

Faced with the prospect of an overwhelming vote in favor of confirming Hormel, these Senators placed a "hold" on his confirmation vote. One of them, Assistant Majority leader, Dan Nickels (R-OK) typified their attitude saying that he opposes the nomination because Hormel promotes the belief that "homosexuality is an acceptable life style."

Nickels and his cohorts could probably care less about who the Ambassador to Luxembourg is. What they do care about it spreading a chilling message: "Be openly Gay and support Gay causes at your own risk."

Democrats and even other Republicans, notably, Senators D'Amato, Smith, and Hatch have come out in support of Hormel and demanded a vote on his confirmation. Thus far their appeals have fallen on the deaf ears of Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott (R- MS) who does have the power to override the holds and schedule a vote.

For its part, Luxembourg has said it would welcome Hormel with open arms. That small but enlightened nation has banned any form of discrimination based on sexual orientation.

Hormel should be confirmed without further delay. He served with distinction as an American representative to both the UN General Assembly and the UN Human Rights Commission. This honorable man, who has given much of his wealth to Gay AND non-Gay charities, deserves better treatment than he has gotten.

The same is true of Luxembourg. That country has been a staunch ally of the United States. It should not have been caught up in an ideological battle launched by the forces of intolerance.

Letter From the Editor

Dear Readers,

With this issue, we begin our coverage of Wisconsin's major Pride events. In all our State has four Pride Celebrations. They are (in chronological order) the Rainbow Over Wisconsin (ROW) Pride Picnic, the Madison Pride Weekend, Milwaukee's PrideFest and the Twin Ports (Superior/Duluth) Pride Weekend.

through Sunday July 19, are covered within Wisconsin's largest Pride Parade on Sunday these pages.

Some might say that we no longer need 'Pride celebrations," but I disagree. when we celebrate our pride we do more than just making a lot of noise. We reaffirm our sense of special people. self worth and give renewed notice to those

You only need to look at some of the other imagine, that was very difficult to do. articles in this issue concerning attacks on our Madison to see the continued importance of doing that.

In fact I can't think of a better answer to those billboards than thousands of us marching down State Street in the Madison Pride Parade on Sunday, July 19.

The importance of reminding ourselves and the community at large that we matter too, is why Wisconsin Light always has and will con- thank them all. tinue to support all of LBGT Wisconsin's expressions of pride.

ROW's Pride Picnic is a wonderful event that has grown considerably during its short Bill existence. This year for the first time, underage

Gays and Lesbians will be allowed to participate. I hope they turn out in force!

The outstanding work done by ROW deserves everyone's support. All proceeds from the Picnic will be used by ROW to increase its support of Gay and Lesbian charities throughout Northern Wisconsin.

Madison's Pride Celebration includes a wide variety of events. Foremost of course are ROW's Pride Picnic, Saturday, July 11, and the MAGIC picnic which will celebrate its Madison's Pride Weekend, Thursday, July 16 silver anniversary on Saturday July 18 and

> All of the details you need to celebrate your pride at these events are contained in this issue

I would be remiss if before closing this cheer the entertainers or march down a street letter, I didn't say some thanks to some very

Because our new office will not open until who would continue to oppress us that we are after this issue hits the streets, we had to produce it out of three different homes. As you can

Fortunately I have been blessed in having the civil rights and the hate filled billboards in help of some remarkably talented individuals. Chief among them are Annabelle Havlicek and Yuri Keegstra who did the production work; our former editor, Terry Boughner, who has been unbelievably patient and helpful; and Greg Quindel, who has been hard at work getting our company and new offices ready so the rest of us could concentrate on the paper.

Together, this team has been wonderful. I

Enjoy the Light!

Letters to the Editor

I am worried that the anti-homosexual billboard advertisements will cause some of our residents to feel isolated, frightened or under attack. I write as one more voice of concern and support for Gay citizens in our community.

Gay men and women are at home in Dane County. I want our Gay citizens to know, feel and believe that you are appreciated as neighbors, co-workers, bosses, employees, mothers, fathers, sons, daughters and friends.

Please don't allow the billboards' animosity to override your rights to enjoy and feel secure in our community.

Sincerely, Kathleen M. Falk Dane County Executive

I have just learned about The Wisconsin Christians United (WCU), the vehicle for longtime anti-gay activist Ralph Ovadal placing billboards that anti-gay in nature in 4 Wisconsin towns. This, and the prejudice spouted off by the Green Bay's football star sickens me. Never having been to Wisconsin, these incidents certainly do present a bigoted, backward and a hostile unchristian like impression in my mind. And I am writing from the deep south.

Robert E. Kalaf Sr. Norcross, Ga

Upcoming Deadlines

July 16th Issue

Articles Friday, July 10th

Ads

Non-Camera Ready: Friday, July 10th Camera Ready: Monday, July 13th 5:00 pm

July 30th Issue

Articles Friday, July 24th

Non-Camera Ready: Friday, July 24th Camera Ready: Monday, July 27th 5:00pm

Caution

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

July 2-15, 1998 Vol. 11 No. 14 - Issue 260

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

Wisconsin Light

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Community Voices



Standing With Pride

By Tammy Baldwin

On that warm June night in 1969, the patrons of a nondescript, two-story building in New York's Greenwich Village were unaware that before the night was over, they would participate in the birth of a civil rights movement. They knew only that the intolerance and prejudicial harassment that had victimized them had to be confronted.

In a spontaneous display of unity, the patrons of the Stonewall Inn challenged a social system that had unjustly singled them out. Together they spoke out for the first time.

The actions taken on that June night continue to impact our nation today. The two-edged message of pride and unity continues to resonate in the LGBT community. It is the message that brings us together, healing our wounds and enabling us to withstand the bigotry that still exists almost thirty years after Stonewall.

According to the dictionary, pride is a feeling of gratification arising from association with something good; a state of self-respect; self-esteem. I believe one of the most positive outcomes of the 1969 protest is the ground swell of self-respect and self esteem which has permeated every aspect of the LGBT community.

It is visible in pride celebrations held around the country each year. It is apparent in the proliferation of non-profit organizations that volunteer their time in counseling and health care assistance to our community.

It is evident in LGBT support networks and resource centers on college campuses, which were nonexistent a generation ago. It is illustrated by the increased numbers of young people who are living openly and honestly in their high schools and colleges across America.

Before Stonewall, society systematically trampled such demonstrations of pride underfoot. Today, our community stands united, proudly challenging the ignorance and discrimination of some.

The LGBT community-has discovered that by acting in unison and combining our voices, we can speak with one voice and impact the political process. Democracy has come home to



Rep. Tammy Baldwin

the LGBT com-

We have the power to decide our future, and we can dream about what is possible. There is one thing that I have discovered and which continues to motivate me in everything I do—the power of people.

We have made tremendous strides in combating discrimination. We have joined forces in battling mean-spirited legislation and emerged victorious. We have collectively taken action and stood shoulder to shoulder with dignity.

Without these steps forward, I could not even imagine running for Congress. When I was first elected to the Dane County Board of Supervisors in 1986, there were only 14 openly Gay elected officials in the United States. Today, there are over 150. Together, we are changing the face of politics.

New challenges, which seek to limit our rights, confront us on a daily basis. But we recognize that we have the ability to initiate positive change in our society.

We know that by standing together, our destiny will be decided not by others, but by us. We can stand proud, knowing we are associated with, and actively participating in, a movement that is changing our society for the better.

This is the heritage of Stonewall. This is the two-edged message of pride and unity that has propelled our community forward since 1969.

I am delighted to join you in celebrating the pride and unity that has made our community strong. I have been proud to represent you in our state's legislature and will be equally proud to represent your voice in our nation's Capitol.

Standing together, we will make the difference that guarantees greater opportunity for future LGBT generations to come.



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Rainbow Over Wisconsin Pride Picnic Set For July 11

By Mark Mariucci

Publisher of Quest Magazine Rainbow Over Wisconsin, a not-for-profit fundraising organization serving Northeastern

Wisconsin, will again present its yearly Pride Picnic at the Al Kampke farm. This annual treat will be held on Saturday, July 11, 1998 from noon until 7pm.

The date has been moved up from its traditional Labor Day weekend because Milwaukee's PrideFest 98 conflicted with HarleyFest 98 and had to move its date to August 29, just one week before the Pride Picnic. After a careful review of all possible dates, July 11 was chosen to avoid conflict with other events in Wisconsin and the Chicago area.

One exciting change this year is that for the first time, persons under 21 will be able to attend the event "We are taking special precautions to prevent any underage drinking," said a ROW spokesperson. "Finally the entire Les-Bi-Gay community may attend our event."

Live entertainment will be featured including local female impersonators and live singers and musicians. David Shore, who is arranging the sound and lighting, will add an area for dancing, which should be a hit especially with the younger set. Live entertainment and dancing begins at 2pm.

The Argonauts of Wisconsin have once again generously agreed to assist with the concessions. Food and beverages will include chicken breast sandwiches, hamburgers, chips, soda, beer and bottled water. (You must have a Wisconsin ID to consume alcohol, and it will be strictly enforced.)

No carry-ins will be allowed as a precaution to avoid underage drinking and because the sale of food and beverages is the only way money is raised at this event. There is no cover charge.

Vendors, including Milwaukee's Designing Men and Afterwords Bookstore, will be on hand. Booths sponsored by organizations such as P-Flag-Fox Valley, GLEEDA, Positive Voice and Angels of Hope MCC Church will join them.

An awards ceremony will present awards to various groups or individuals who have made a significant contribution to the Northeastern Wisconsin Les-Bi-Gay community. A drawing,

for prizes, of tickets inserted in the Rainbow Over Wisconsin Program is also planned.

Improvements are being made to the farm site by The Argonauts. Rainbow Over Wisconsin has agreed to underwrite costs of up to \$500 to construct an outdoor stage. The farm will continue to be improved and may be available in the future for other organizations looking for a site for an event.

This farm has been the site for a statewide camping party and is also used by the Argonauts for their yearly run.

Rainbow Over Wisconsin chose this private site, located conveniently between Green Bay and Appleton, because of its easy access from Hwy 57 to both cities. Restrictions, imposed by the Green Bay and Appleton Park systems, including the regulation of dunk tanks, also factored into the decision.

Rainbow Over Wisconsin was originally conceived by Mark Mariucci and organized by progressive minded Gay business owners as a way to turn a customer appreciation picnic into a community fundraiser for cities including Appleton, Green Bay, and Sheboygan. Wausau, represented by the Madhatter, was also involved until the nightspot closed.

ROW members meet and sponsor many fundraisers throughout the year. The fundraisers support grants that are made to area organizations in a process designed to allocate the money where it will do the most good.

A ROW grant helped a Gay student group at St. Norbert College sponsor an appearance by Wilson Cruise, the Gay actor from MTV's "My So Called Life." Other grant recipients include GLEEDA and P-Flag - Fox Valley's billboard campaign; Positive Voice & Angel Of Hope MCC to obtain a photocopier and other equipment; The Argonauts Charities of Wisconsin for emergency funds for needy persons, many afflicted with AIDS; and to ARCW Green Bay and Fox Valley.

ROW continues to provide funds that are used to distribute FREE condoms in all the area Gay bars to help prevent the spread of HIV.

Persons or businesses wishing to become a part of Rainbow Over Wisconsin are encouraged to write for more information to Rainbow Over Wisconsin, 702 E. Wisconsin Ave. Appleton, WI 54911.

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Warning Issued On Using Viagra and Poppers, Other Drugs

By Jane E Allen AP Science Writer
Los Angeles (AP)—The Gay community
has a new concern: Viagra.

The potency drug, when combined with inhaled stimulants known as "poppers" that long have been a fixture on the Gay party scene, are a potentially deadly mix, doctors and the Mayor of West Hollywood warn.

Unconfirmed reports that three Gay men died after using Viagra, poppers and crystal methamphetamine worry health authorities.

"As Viagra becomes more available through the party circuit, the combination is just going to turn deadly," cautioned Steve Martin, Mayor of West Hollywood, where about a third of the city is Gay or Lesbian. "You're just going to see people dropping like flies."

"Viagra is like manna from heaven to a lot of people on the party circuit." Some nightclubers take crystal methamphetamine for the high. They swallow Viagra pills to restore the sexual potency that the meth takes away. They snort poppers to enhance their sexual experience.

Poppers—amyl nitrite, a prescription drug, and butyl nitrite, which is illegal— heighten sensation by dilating blood vessels. Combining either drug with Viagra, which also dilates blood vessels, can result in a dangerous drop in blood pressure.

Methamphetamine use heightens sexual desire but makes it difficult to have an erection, said Dr. Gary Cohan, an internist with Pacific Oaks Medical Group in Beverly Hills.

Many users ask their doctors for Viagra but "don't cop to the fact they've got a crystal meth problem," said Cohan.

A large bathhouse and spa located east of Hollywood that operates 24 hours a day posted warning signs two weeks ago that read: "If you mix Viagra with poppers or crystal meth, the result will be fatal."

The manager, who would only identify himself as Steve, said he put them up after the Los Angeles City AIDS coordinator brought the information to his attention.

"It's really smart to warn people if there's a possibility of harm," he said in an interview Friday.

Pfizer Inc., the maker of Viagra, initially advised doctors that Viagra should not be com-

bined with nitrate-containing medications such as nitroglycerin because blood-pressure could drop precipitously.

More recently, Pfizer issued a letter warning doctors that combining Viagra with inhaled recreational nitrates will have the same effect.

Some doctors think the warning about recreational drugs came too late. "When Pfizer came out with Viagra, they were very clear about warnings regarding nitrates. Unfortunately, they chose to emphasize medicine nitrates and did not make a great effort in talking about euphoric nitrates or recreational nitrates," said Dr. Mark S. Litwin, an assistant urology professor at the University of California, Los Angeles.

However, Gay groups acted quickly to spread the word. Litwin said the Gay and Lesbian Medical Association, a San Franciscobased group that represents 2,000 Gay and Lesbian physicians nationwide, "was instrumental early on in putting out a policy statement reminding physicians that...patients who might be using poppers recreationally need to be warned."

The group met April 23 with Pfizer representatives and on May 4 issued the caution, association spokeswoman Sue Rochman said. "After we put this out, one of the drugstores here in the Bay area received the release and was handing it out to patients coming in to get Viagra," Ms. Rochman said.

Two Hollywood men, ages 24 and 36, and a 32-year-old West Hollywood resident reportedly died while taking drugs and having sex in an abandoned Hollywood house during the first weekend of June, said Kathy Watt, executive director of the Van Ness Recovery House.

The men were former residents of the 20-bed Gay and Lesbian drug and alcohol recovery facility she runs but had lived elsewhere for more than two years.

"They were with other guys who have come and talked to me and told me what they were doing," Ms. Watt said.

Ms. Watt declined to identify the men, citing confidentiality rules. The Los Angeles County coroner's office was unable to link the descriptions she provided to any deaths around that time in the Hollywood area, spokesman Scott

States Need Not Recognize Same Sex Marriages Say Some

Omaha—Neither the U.S. Constitution nor federal law require states to recognize same-sex marriages formed in other states, said three legal scholars visiting Omaha.

Creighton University, Brigham Young University and Catholic University in Washington co-sponsored a conference Friday on state-by-state recognition of Gay marriages.

Lawsuits dealing with the issue have reached State Supreme courts in Hawaii and Vermont and similar cases are at the trial court level in Alaska and New York.

Voters in Hawaii and Alaska are to decide the fate of proposed constitutional amendments that would ban same-sex marriages.

But a Gay couple from Nebraska who got married in a state where same-sex unions are approved could not expect the marriage to be honored back in Nebraska, said Law Professor Lynn D. Wardle of Brigham Young University.

"It would violate the strong public policy of Nebraska and other states," Wardle said. "Marriage is not simply tolerated, it has special, preferred status,"

Law Professors Patrick J. Borchers of Union University in Albany, N.Y., and Michael E. Solimine, of the University of Cincinnati College of Law, agreed.

The 1996 Defense of Marriage Act passed by Congress left states the authority to deny or sanction same-sex unions.

"Under existing laws, same-sex marriages performed in one state would violate public policy in other states," Borchers said. "States have always set up criteria for who's allowed to marry and who isn't."

Warning Continued from previous column

Carrier said.

Detective David Lambkin of the Police

Department's Hollywood division also was unable to confirm the deaths.

Meanwhile, Ms. Watt said she is worried about heavy drug use by partygoers during this week's Gay Pride weekend and the July 4 holiday weekend. "I'm afraid about the number of deaths we could be reading about come the sixth of July," she said.

An attempt by Nebraska lawmakers to ban same-sex marriages died at the end of this year's legislative session. The bill's sponsor, Omaha Sen. Jim Jensen, said he has not decided whether to reintroduce the measure next year.

The conference Friday at Creighton Law School was intended to take a balanced approach to discussing the controversial subject, said Creighton law professor Ralph Whitten.

The papers presented at the conference will be published in a special symposium issue of the Creighton Law Review.





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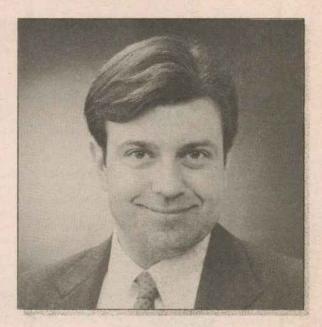
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GOP Attack Continued from Page 1

Republican attacks on Gays and Lesbians were evidence that "The Republican leadership is engaging in election year pandering to one of is core constituencies, the religious right."

Several leaders of the Religious right such as James Dobson of the Family Research Council have threatened to tell their followers to sit out the next election unless they see progress on their agenda. The Religious Right is to the Republican Party what organized Labor is to the Democrats. They provide the foot soldiers, and millions of dollars, to help Republican candidates get elected.

Smith's assessment is similar to one made by Wisconsin Light "From the Right" columnist, Jim McFarland. McFarland, a founder of Wisconsin's Log Cabin Republican Club said "This type of issue may play well in the South where they (the Republican leadership) are from but it won't help Republicans on the coasts or even in the Midwest."

Mc Farland added that Republicans could lose their majority in Congress if they are seen to be intolerant by the American people. "The suburban moms are the swing vote and they are going to be turned off," he said.

Although a change in who controls the Senate is probably out of reach for them, early polls show the Democrats have at least an even chance to overtake the Republicans in the House of Representatives, where the GOP holds only a 19 seat edge.

To counter the influence of the Religious Right, within the Republican Party, Mc Farland said that the Log Cabin Club was trying to recruit more Gay and Lesbian Republicans into its ranks.

Lott's statement made during an appearance on Conservative Armstrong Williams' cable talk show was especially infuriating to Gay civil rights activists.

Asked if he considered homosexuality to be a sin, Lott replied "Yeah it is." He then added, "You should show them a way to deal with that problem, just like alcohol or sex. There are all kinds of problems, addictions, difficulties, experiences of things that are wrong, but you should try to work with that person to learn how to control that problem."

Lott's comments brought a sharp response from the White House and the Human Rights campaign. HRC pointedly asked for a meeting with Lott to educate him on Gay issues. The group also issued a statement pointing out that Lott's comments about homosexuality, being a problem that should be treated, fly in the face of all scientific evidence and opinion.

The Hormel nomination is being seen by some as a test of whether or not Gays and Lesbians will receive fair treatment from the Republican majority in Congress.

Hormel is an openly Gay philanthropist. He has served as the Alternate Delegate to the UN General Assembly and was the United States Representative to the UN Human Rights Commission. In November, President Clinton nominated him to be the United States Ambassador to Luxembourg.

Luxembourg is a small Duchy wedged between France, Germany and Belgium. It is a member of NATO and the European Union. Like all EU countries, Luxembourg bans discrimination based on sexual orientation.

During an interview on Fox News Sunday, Assistant Senate Majority Leader, Don Nickels (R-OK) blasted Hormel saying "One might have that lifestyle, but if one promotes it as acceptable behavior...I don't think they should be a representative of this country."

On the other hand, Democrats and some Republican Senators have demanded a vote on the Hormel nomination.

One of the Republicans, Senator Alfonse D'Amato (R-NY) sent a strongly worded letter to Lott urging a vote for Hormel. In his letter, D'Amato said, "I fear that Mr. Hormel's nomination is being obstructed for one reason and one reason only: the fact that he is Gay...to deny an appointment on that basis is simply wrong. I am embarrassed that our Republican Party, the Party of Lincoln, is seen to be the force behind this injustice."

Other Republican Senators who have spoken out on Hormel's behalf include two Republican Conservatives, Orrin Hatch (UT), and Gordon Smith (OR). Hormel's other Republican supporters include George Schulz who served as Secretary of State during the Ronald Reagan administration.

Sources in Washington told Wisconsin Light that Senator Dianne Feinstein (D-CA) is leading the effort to get Hormel confirmed. They say that Feinstein has maintained that there are at least 62 votes to confirm Hormel. That means that at least 16 Republicans have lined up in support of Hormel.

Lott has said that the will schedule a vote on Hormel but not until after Congress passes this year's appropriations bills. Skepticism of Lott's promises abounds in Washington. HRC's Smith says "He is trying to run out the clock so the whole process will have to start over again."

Twenty Arrested Blocking Giuliani at NYC Gay Pride Parade

1974

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PROTESTERS CRITICIZE MAYOR'S RECORD ON LESBIAN ,GAY AND AIDS ISSUES

NEW YORK— The festive tone of New York City's annual gay pride parade was disrupted Sunday after lesbian and gay activists chained themselves together and blocked the path of Mayor Rudy Giuliani. Twenty people were arrested.

The activists, all members of an ad-hoc group called Take Back The March!, were protesting the Mayor's poor record on lesbian and gay issues. In particular, they blamed him for turning a blind eye to the increased incidence of anti-gay violence, inadequate AIDS education in the city's public schools, and the shutdown of adult businesses.

"The Mayor thinks he's brave for giving us domestic partnership benefits that previous mayors had already put in place," said John Riley, a member of the group who was not arrested. "After treating our lives with such contempt, he can't throw us crumbs from the table and expect to feel welcome at our parade."

Earlier this year, the Gay and Lesbian Anti-Violence Project reported an increase in the number of hate crimes against gays and lesbians in New York City. Meanwhile, the New York City Police Department has refused to treat a number of high-profile anti-gay attacks as hate crimes.

In May, 12 members of the AIDS activist group YELL (Youth Education Life Line) were arrested for protesting the Board of Education's unwillingness to enforce its own mandates on AIDS education. Demonstrations of proper condom use are still banned in public school classrooms.

The Mayor's zoning plans for adult businesses—part of a wider crackdown against sexual freedom in the city—has also drawn fire from activists who believe that closing down sex shops will make it difficult for HIV prevention efforts to reach the patrons of such businesses.

These activists also fear that the broad definitions in the zoning law could be interpreted to

apply to all lesbian and gay establishments—including bookstores, bars and clubs—regardless of whether or not such establishments are actually adult in nature.

Today's arrests come after the Mayor recently vetoed funding for the Anti-Violence Project and lesbian and gay health and youth programs. Meanwhile, criticisms continue to mount over his efforts to force disabled women onto workfare, and his heavy-handed "quality of life" campaign against taxi drivers, street vendors, pedestrians, bicyclists, bar owners and

Wearing t-shirts that read, "Rudy get out of our parade," and chanting, "Rudy marching—a charade. You can't join in our parade," the activists were chained at the hip and formed a human barricade as the parade moved down Fifth Avenue.



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Dykes To Watch Out For by Alison Bechdel



Case Could Set Child Custody Precedent

NEWARK, NJ (AP)—Both rocked the babies to sleep. Both fed the twins. Both had an affectionate name the children called the women they considered their parents.

Now two Lesbian women are fighting for custody of the children one conceived, and the other helped to raise for a year, when they were still a couple.

The biological mother of the children, identified in court papers only as M.B., is being sued by her ex-partner, V.C., for joint custody. Superior Court Judge Philip Cummis gave V.C. visitation rights last fall, a year after the couple broke up.

V.C., called "Meema" by the boy and girl, said she did everything a parent would for a child and planned to adopt the twins when they got older. M.B., called "Mommy," likened V.C.'s connection to the children as that of a

Cummis is likely to issue a decision in the case next month. A ruling for V.C. would be one of the first in the country to give custodial rights to a former partner of a Lesbian mother, said Kate Kendell, Executive Director of the National Center for Lesbian Rights in San Francisco.

"It will be a decision of some historic proportion," she said Tuesday.

In the past decade, she said, courts have faced an increasing number of custody claims from people "who are parents in every respect, but they do not have either a legal or biological connection."

Courts in Pennsylvania, Wisconsin and Utah have held that non-biological partners have the right to sue for custody or visitation after a relationship ends. And in New Mexico, earlier this year, a trial judge awarded a non-biological partner full custody of the children of her ex.

Three other similar cases are pending in New Jersey, said American Civil Liberties Union staff attorney David Rocah.

Lawyers for V.C. and M.B. bitterly dispute V.C.'s connection to the twins, who were born in 1995, two years after V.C. and M.B. bought a house in Maplewood and began living together.

M.B. was artificially inseminated to have the twins. V.C.'s attorney. Robin Wernik, said the couple looked at donor packets together hoping to find one that combined the women's Italian and Scottish backgrounds.

"There's no dispute the children are bonded to my client," she said. Each woman took turns changing the twin's diapers, picking them up from day care, feeding them and rocking them to sleep.

M.B.'s attorney, Anne Elwell, said M.B. had planned to have children before meeting V.C. "This other woman was around while the biological mother was raising her kids," Elwell said. "It doesn't mean that they raised them together."

Gay and Lesbian couples in New Jersey cannot marry and are not protected by domestic partnership agreements, so a custody award would be significant recognition of Gay families, advocates said.

"The courts are now looking at a non-biological mother as a family member," said Gina Reiss, Executive Director of the New Jersey Lesbian and Gay Coalition. "If the woman was there as a mother, we need to treat her as a part of the family."

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Congressman Barney Frank Attacks the Religious Right

Dallas (AP)-Religion should not be used to attack people for their sexual orientation, U.S. Rep. Barney Frank said Sunday at a Gay and Lesbian church service at the start of Gay Pride Week. Frank, who is Gay, gave his first public response to recent comments by Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott that homosexuals should be helped "to learn to control that problem."

"You do have people who are trying to use religion as a stick to beat other people with, particularly for some reason, Gay men and Lesbians," Frank, D-Mass., told a service at the Cathedral of Hope Metropolitan Community Church.

Lott (R-MS) made his remarks while taping an interview for The Armstrong Williams Show on the America's Voice television network.

During their interview Monday, Williams asked Lott if he considers homosexuality a sin and Lott replied, "yeah, it is."

Lott added: "You should still love that person. You should not try to mistreat them or treat them as outcasts. You should try to show them a way to deal with that problem, just like alcohol...or sex addiction...or kleptomania.'

Asked about the comments Tuesday, House Majority Leader Dick Armey, R-Texas, said the Bible considers homosexuality a sin and "I abide by the Bible." Armey said he and his wife had read relevant sections in the Bible that morning and "I do not quarrel with the Bible on this sub-

On Sunday, Frank said some people interpret the Bible selectively. "It also says that you're violating the 10 Commandments if you work on the Sabbath or if you take the name of the Lord in vain," Frank said. "It says that if you're divorced and remarried, you're doing something terrible."

Frank also said Armey and Lott were responding to frustrated religious conservatives, who have threatened to desert the Republicans in the November congressional elections and beyond.

They have said, "We'll sit out the next election; we'll make you lose," Frank told The Dallas Morning News. "But the problem is their agenda is one that the general public doesn't like."

S.F. Pride Parade Controversy

San Francisco (AP)—With a professional organizer in charge and a \$500,000 budget, the city's annual Gay pride parade is likely to be more commercial than in any of its previous 28 years.

And that is raising worries among some participants, who say the nation's biggest expression of Gay liberation may be straying from its community roots.

The raising of registration fees and exclusion of some groups from the planning process has prompted a "crash the parade" campaign, with flyers plastered all over San Francisco's Castro

Also drawing controversy is a glossy 300-page "Pride 98" magazine, full of ads for cars, liquor and pricey cigars. Fifty thousand copies are being sold nationwide, for \$5.99 apiece; another 100,000 will be given away at the parade.

"The magazine is the epitome of what this parade has become: a corporate-sponsored party that really is no different than any other parade. "What makes it different from Carnaval?" asked Tommi Avicolli Mecca, who works at a bookstore in the Castro.

"It's another example of how part of the movement is flaunting its influence and money and the gains made but not using it to help the most vulnerable among us," he added.

Organizer Teddy Witherington, however, told the San Francisco Examiner that the magazine has drawn in advertisers who might otherwise not be a part of the celebration. In addition, its expected \$120,000 profit will help pay off debts from last year's parade.

As for the mechanics of the parade itself, scheduled for June 28, Witherington vows that it will move along faster than ever. Traditionally, there have been long lags between groups of marchers.

Among the expected participants are hundreds of Chinese Gays and Lesbians, who will be in town for the first-ever international conference of "tongzhi," or comrades, a word adopted to describe the Chinese Gay community wherever they may live.

Post-parade festivities will reach out to African Americans and Latinos for the first time. Also for the first time, there will be Budweiser's Clydesdales and the dancing pill bottles from

Walgreen's. Witherington, who was brought in from London to organize the festivities, said increasing cor-

porate involvement—along with the additional money it brings—will only ensure a special day.

"I think it's our responsibility—I see it almost as a civic duty. If this is Queer San Francisco, we

should put on an event that is worthy of Queer San Francisco," he said.

Of possible parade crashers, he added, "I think that's great. Part of what makes the parade what it is that it's in San Francisco, and the San Francisco community has a reputation to keep up when it comes to these things.

Tinality Introducing Me - TA DA!

By Tina Fleschman

I have always relied heavily upon my friends for their interpretations of me with the hope that they perceive the world less skewed than myself. Among my many deficiencies is clarity of thought, am I really one way or another: good or bad, cautious or reckless, common or extraordinary. I've never located that simple thread, the proverbial "fibers" which are essen-

Recently, the best friend of my husband took to calling me "sweetie." On first hearing that gentle expression I felt obliged to cast a modest glance to the floor and blush. The word made me feel demure.

I believed myself, at that instant, to be the sweetest, fuzziest peach. Somehow I collected my senses and instinctively declared that I thought "caustic" would be a more fitting description of me. Of course, if "he must call me sweetie, he must". I have been called worse and usually for good reason. I can't trust myself as far as I can see and as for my demeanor, I'm in your face when feeling shy and hawk-like when the least bit engaged.

Decadence is my middle name and I should have hyphenated frivolity into my last. I don't think I've ever had an uncomplicated thought, not even about people who pass before me when I'm dining on State Street behind some finger-smudged window. Why? I can't say exactly.

I adore people. I feed on their energy. I'm also bisexual. But, my voice can't possibly be the voice of the bisexual masses. I'm no role model. Not only that, but I believe that I actually live the life of the mythical and elusive

bisexual siren, you know the one people are always moaning about, the one that coos and sings and enchants poor unsuspecting sailors to their salty grave.

The difference of course between the sea vamp and me is that I'm married and an upstanding, community-oriented citizen living in Madison, Wisconsin. Alas, I try to love everyone and I try to preserve, above all other things, everyone's dignity and respect. It is the code I live by!

That is pretty much my life's only code outside of maintaining a well-balanced diet and remembering to take my Mega-B supplement everyday. In case you're wondering, I have no god and I seem to be doing all right.

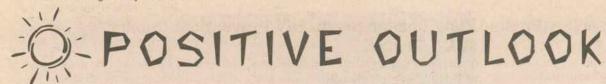
Madison suits me. On those evenings when all I desire is to hear a Kir Noir's ice tingling against a frosty, martini shaker, I generally find myself later than usual, sauntering lazily home from either Cafe Monmartre, Genna's or the Cardinal Bar, reflecting on the characters I've met either that night or perhaps before.

Their images swirl around in my mind and stomach and I ache to find escape, break out from my chest and explode onto the Capitol lawn. I often watch couples passing, arm in arm, or hand in back-pockets and groups of talkative college students staggering home content and oblivious, clad in their sleek, black

Its not uncommon to see pairs of handsomely dressed men, chatting in hushed tones, walking in matched strides to some common destination. I love that. On Saturday mornings, I love to see so many of the Lesbians that Madison has to offer, present themselves at the farmer's

Please see Tinality on Page 26





AIDS News Briefs

AIDS Groups Stunned by New York's Passage of Partner Notification Measure

New York, N.Y.—News that the New York State Assembly had approved an HIV tracking bill surprised AIDS activists, who had not expected the legislation to be passed in this session. The state assembly passed the measure by a 112 to 34 vote after two hours of sometimes heated debate. The measure mandates the name reporting of HIV-positive individuals to the state and requires that government workers contact the sexual partners of those infected. Public health officials argue that the measure will help stop the spread of HIV. Critics say the legislation will make some people even more reluctant to be tested. According to Jeffrey L. Reynolds, of the Long Island Association for AIDS Care, "We have enacted a law that will drive people from testing because of the fear of being identified in their community and the fear of having the Health Department at your front door." Under the bill, individuals who refuse to name their sexual partners will not be penalized and some anonymous testing sites will be maintained. The New York State Senate had previously approved the measure, and Governor George Pataki is expected to sign it into law.

Protease Paunches

New York, N.Y.—Some AIDS patients taking protease inhibitor drug cocktails have been experiencing a slew of symptoms associated with fat redistribution-limb wasting, truncal obesity, breast enlargement or depletion, thinning of the skin, accumulations of fat across the shoulders, and lipomas. Many AIDS patients believe the protease inhibitors are to blame. The drugs have been causing other side effects as well, including a rise in blood levels of triglycerides, glucose, and cholesterol. While researchers are studying the side effects, it is not known how widespread the problems are, and evidence is primarily anecdotal. Michael Giordano, director of the AIDS clinical trials unit at Cornell University Medical College, says he first became aware of the fat redistribution problems when he and a colleague watched two women wearing hospital gowns walking; from the back the women, with square waists and muscular legs, looked like men. Giordano is involved in studies on the side effects of the combination therapies. News of the symptoms started surfacing last summer when a patient using Merck's Crixivan called his rapid weight gain "Crix belly." Randi Leavitt, Merck's director of clinical research, says the firm is involved in several studies on the syndrome, and notes the company's scientists do not yet know what could be triggering the fat accumulation. The symptoms did not arise in clinical studies and some drug company representatives and doctors say the symptoms may be an HIV-related syndrome that is now surfacing because of extended patient life. In the meantime, some patients have switched drug regimes, while others have halted the drugs altogether, risking drug resistance.

"Baggy" Condoms Launched

Oakland, CA—Mayer Laboratories, in Oakland, California, has unveiled a new, "baggy" condom, designed for easier use and comfortability. The condom, called the "EZON," fits loosely—except at the base where it is held in place—and is made of polyurethane, instead of latex-based rubber. The polyurethane allows the condom to be half as thick as conventional condoms and up to five times as durable. Furthermore, it should appeal to the five percent of the population that is allergic to latex. The condom is still pending U.S. Food and Drug Administration approval.

Scientists Take First Pictures of AIDS Virus Attacking Cell

New York, N.Y.—Scientists have created the first pictures of HIV infecting a host cell using computer-generated imaging based on X-ray data. Researchers at Columbia University in New York city and the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute in Boston published the results in the journals Nature and Science. The research used stripped down versions of the virus and two sites that it attacks for the X-ray pictures. The pictures show HIV attacking the two target sites, providing information on how the virus infects cells. HIV attaches to one site and then chances shape, exposing another snare which attaches to the second site. The hidden snare is thus invisible to the immune system. The pictures illustrate the exact shape of the virus's probes—the CD4 receptor and the chemokine receptor. The CD4 receptor appears to thurst into the base of a cavity in the probe. Disrupting this connection may be one way to prevent host cell infection. Due to HIV's two-target method of infection, vaccination against the virus may be difficult. The virus's primary target for entrance is the chemokine receptor, however, the virus latches onto the CD4 receptor first, thereby avoiding immune detection. While the chemokine receptor is susceptible to immune attack, there is a very short time period in which the immune system can identify and attack since the virus is already attached to the cell. Current vaccine trials are facing renewed skepticism following the release of the pictures.

First Oral Herpes Drug for HIV Patients Approved

Boston, MA—The Food and Drug Administration has approved the use of Famvir for the treatment of recurrent herpes in HIV-positive individuals. Many people infected with HIV are also infected with some form of the herpes simplex virus; research indicates that genital herpes may be a significant factor in HIV transmission. Famvir, manufactured by SmithKline Beecham, is the first oral drug approved for herpes treatment in HIV-positive patients. Famvir was already available in the United States and in more than 40 markets in Asia, Europe, the Middle East, and South American for the treatment of herpes in HIV-negative people.

First Volunteer Inoculated in AIDS Vaccine Trial

Philadelphia, PA—Philadelphia FIGHT has announced that the first inoculation of a volunteer in the North American trial of AIDSVAX, the first-ever Phase III trial of a vaccine against HIV occurred at 10:15am on Tuesday, June 23,1998. The trial, which eventually will include 5,000 volunteers at high risk for HIV infection, is being sponsored by VaxGen, Inc., the developer of AIDSVAX.

According to Jane Shull, Executive Director of Philadelphia FIGHT, "We were honored to be chosen as the first site to enroll patients in this trial... While our commitment to researching effective treatments and a cure for HIV remains unchanged, vaccines offer the best hope of ending the AIDS epidemic..."

Volunteers are eligible for the study if they are HIV-negative men who have sex with men, or women determined to be at high risk through heterosexual sex. Injection drug users are not eligible in the U.S.; there is a separate study being conducted in Thailand for injection drug users.

The trial will last up to four years. Volunteers will receive three primary inoculations, followed by booster shots every six months. This is a placebo controlled trials, in which neither the volunteers nor study personnel know who is receiving the vaccine and who is receiving placebo. AIDSVAX is a gp120 bivalent vaccine, engineered to be effective against the predominate strains of HIV in the United States.

HIV Blocks Hepatitis Test

Detroit, MI—Standard hepatitis C screening may fail in twenty to fifty percent of people who are co-infected with HIV. People with HIV need to be tested for hepatitis C with a more expensive blood test, the polymerase chain reaction assay.

U.S. Supreme Court Issues Landmark Ruling On The Rights of Those Infected With HIV

By Bill Meunier

Washington DC—In a landmark ruling hailed by AIDS activists, the United States Supreme Court ruled that persons infected by HIV are afforded protection from discrimination by the Americans With Disabilities Act, the ADA, even if they have shown no symptoms of HIV related diseases. It was the Court's first ruling on an HIV related matter.

The 5 to 4 decision came in a case filed by Sydney Abbot against Dr. Rangdon Brandon, a Bangor, Maine dentist. Brandon had refused to fill a cavity for Ms. Abbot, contending that he would risk infection from HIV if he did so.

Abott and her attorneys cited research conducted by the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the American Dental Association, which determined that people with HIV may be treated safely with the use of standard infection control procedures known as "universal precautions."

The ADA bans public accommodations (including medical offices) from discriminating against individuals based on their disability.

President Clinton joined AIDS activists in praising the court ruling saying it "reinforces the protections offered by the landmark Americans With Disabilities Act for Americans living with HIV and AIDS."

Daniel Zingale of AIDS Action, a network of organizations that provide health care and services to AIDS patients, called the decision "HIV patients greatest legal victory since the beginning of the epidemic."

Technically the ruling offered hope to both parties in the case. While it stated that Abbot and other HIV infected individuals were covered by the ADA, it also reversed a Federal Appeals court ruling that Bragdon had violated the law. The Court ordered the lower courts to reconsider the case.

Under the ADA, persons who have a physical or mental impairment that, "substantially limits one or more major life activities," are considered disabled. Writing for the majority, Justice Anthony Kennedy wrote that the risk of infecting a sexual partner, or a child, limited Abbott's reproductive ability and therefore qualified her and other persons infected with HIV for protection under the ADA.

Kennedy also wrote that under the Act, Health Care professionals may refute a medical consensus by offering credible scientific evidence that treating a disabled individual would endanger them. It was on that basis that the Court ordered the lower courts to review the case.

That review will allow Bragdon an opportunity to offer evidence that treating Abbott would have put him at risk for HIV infection.

Kennedy's opinion was joined by Justices John Paul Stevens, David H. Souter, Ruth Bader Ginsburg and Stephen G. Breyer.

In a separate opinion, Stevens and Breyer said they would have gone further and ruled that Bragdon did violate the law by refusing to fill Abbott's cavity in his office.

The four dissenting Justices were Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist and Justices Antonin Scalia, Clarence Thomas and Sandra Day O'Connor.

Reacting to the ruling, Abbott said "The old fears are still around. I decided to take legal action because what happened to me was wrong. I am grateful for the U.S. Supreme Court decision."

For his part Bragdon said he was pleased that the Court had allowed him a chance to present what he called "scientific evidence" that treating Abbott would have endangered him.

There are no known cases of a dentist being infected by an HIV positive patient.

12th World AIDS Conference Opens in Geneva

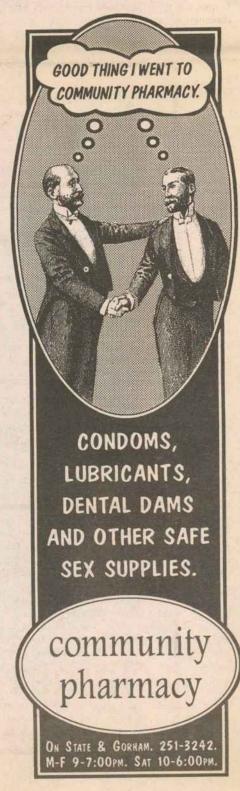
Geneva, Switzerland-On June 28th, 1998, the 12th World AIDS Conference opened at the PALEXPO in Geneva, Switzerland. More than 11,000 people from 136 countries are expected to attend the six day conference, which Dr. Bernard Hirschel, Chair of the Conference and head of the HIV/AIDS section of the Cantonal University, has described as the pivotal meeting ground for all those concerned about scientific, political, and community issues regarding HIV/AIDS. "As the pace of research accelerates, the 12th World AIDS Conference will be a key opportunity for the world's leading scientists from many disciplines to report their progress, share scientific knowledge, and develop strategies for the continuing fight against AIDS," Hirschel states.

This year's Conference theme focuses on "Bridging The Gap" between North and South, between scientists and community, between people themselves. The North and South are representative of the developed countries and developing countries, where more than ninety percent of people with HIV/AIDS live.

The plenary program for the Conference will feature twenty leading HIV experts from throughout the world, highlighting the latest developments in AIDS research and focusing international attention on the urgent need to "Bridge The Gap."

The program is structured in four distinct tracks, addressing HIV-related issues including basic and clinical science, patient treatment, care, epidemiology, prevention, public health, human rights, and social and behavioral science. Policy implications and community perspectives will thread throughout all four tracks, building bridges between people living with

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Conference Continued from Page 10

HIV/AIDS and their communities from different regions around the globe.

The World AIDS Conference occurs biennally and is the most important gathering of AIDS scientists and activitists from around the world. The Conference is a unique world health conference in that it brings together social scientists, medical scientists, and the activist community; an occurrence that is rare in the world of research.

LOCALS TO ATTEND CONFERENCE

Among the Wisconsin residents attending the Conference are a group of seven representing the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin (ARCW): Doug Nelson, executive director; Paul Milakovich, deputy director of administration; Neil Albrecht, regional director (Southeast); Jamie Sorenson, regional director (Northern); Sylvia Lee-Thompson, director of social services in Green Bay and Appleton; and Dr. Brian Buggy, ARCW medical director.

"I hope to represent the northeast parts of Wisconsin at the conference to report on what's happening in our area and to get good information and ideas for providing services here," Lee-Thompson said.

"At the end of each day there will be a summary session which will put scientific terms into jargon-free language. They really want to make the information accessible, and I want to be able to translate that to the people I work with." Lee-Thompson continued.

Wisconsin attendees also expect to receive the latest scientific data on the efficacy and effectiviness of current drug therapies. There is concern that scientific reports will back-up anecdotal reports that as many as 50% of all patients are failing on combination therapy.

They're also hoping that information will be presented on how to bring this failure rate down; that different approaches to drug therapy will be discussed; and data on the next generation of drug therapies—easier to adhere to, more effective in slowing down HIV replication and disease progression, and less toxic—released.

"All of us who are going to the Conference will come back to Wisconsin and share the information we receive through meetings, forums, and gatherings for the Wisconsin AIDS community," promised Nelson.

Treatment Advances Present New Challenges for HIV Prevention: Combating Complacency May Be Greatest Challenge

Geneva-As the U.S. nears completion of the second decade in the AIDS epidemic, one of the greatest challenges will be combating complacency in HIV prevention, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

In a media briefing on the eve of the 12th World AIDS Conference, Helene Gayle, M.D., M.P.H., Director of CDC's National Center for HIV, STD, and TB Prevention, spoke of the tremendous progress made to date in both prevention and treatment, but cautioned that despite a tendency to declare victory, the epidemic is far from over, and the U.S. may face unexpected challenges as a result of recent advances in treatment.

"While the tendency may be to relax in the assurance that we've made remarkable progress in a very short time, the danger of complacency is perhaps greater than ever before," said Gayle. "This epidemic is far from over."

Gayle concludes that the U.S. may become a victim of its own success, if the country does not acknowledge the need to increase prevention efforts in emerging populations at risk, and to face a number of dangers that have emerged. Gayle believes if we relax prevention efforts either on a national or on an individual level, progress to date could be reversed.

The body of prevention research presented by CDC at the 12th World AIDS Conference in Geneva, June 28-July 3, examines many of these dangers, including increased HIV prevalence, the possibility of relaxed preventive behaviors among groups at risk, continued evidence of risk among both HIV-infected and atrisk populations, and the danger of emerging drug resistance.

CDC researchers will also present the most effective prevention programs to meet these challenges, as well as new evidence that prevention not only saves lives but also saves money, especially with the rising costs of treatment.

COMMUNITIES OF COLOR DRAMATICALLY AFFECTED

Gayle presents the latest trends in the epidemic, demonstrating that the illusion of a receding epidemic is far from the reality for many populations, especially communities of color. Over the last decade, AIDS incidence has increased most dramatically among African-American and Hispanic women infected through heterosexual sex and injection drug use. The toll among men of color has also increased, with gay and bisexual risk and drug-related risk contributing relatively evenly to AIDS cases in African-American and Hispanic men.

"Combating complacency in the United States is made more difficult by the fact that the epidemic has settled among populations too often forgotten," stressed Gayle, "Yet the nation's success or failure in the next era of HIV prevention will be judged by our ability to mobilize and address this challenge."

As the nation strives to extend effective HIV prevention programs to all populations at risk, Gayle points to a number of new challenges that must be faced.

INCREASING NUMBER OF PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV

The great success that many people have had with new combination therapies, and the resulting decline in the number of new AIDS cases and deaths, are indeed good news. Many infected individuals are leading longer and healthier lives. Yet, it is critical that this success not lull people into a sense of complacency about the need to protect themselves from infection.

Gayle presents the latest data indicating continued declines in AIDS cases and deaths, and the resulting increase in the number of people living with HIV (HIV prevalence). "The underlying reality is that with increased prevalence of HIV comes an increased need for prevention." said Gayle. "For individuals at risk, increased HIV prevalence means each risk behavior carries an increased risk of infection."

POTENTIAL IMPACT OF LESSENING CONCERN

According to Gayle, the CDC has already seen some indications of relaxed attitudes and increased risk among gay men—particularly young gay men. Recent CDC qualitative research findings suggest that there is a less-

ening sense of urgency about the epidemic among gay and bisexual men overall, and some individuals report practicing safer sex less consistently.

While not widespread, a minority of gay and bisexual men in group discussions report that either they or their peers are taking increased risks because of the more hopeful environment around AIDS. The CDC believes it is critical to communicate that treatment advances do not negate the need for prevention. "Individuals at risk must understand that despite treatment advances, HIV remains a serious and preventable disease," said Gayle. "If we focus on preventing infection, people will not have to undergo difficult and costly treatment."

CONTINUED EVIDENCE OF RISK

In addition to reaching populations at high risk of infection, we must design prevention services to reach HIV-infected populations. Research to be presented this week finds evidence of continued risk among both uninfected and infected populations.

On a population basis, national survey data indicate that as many as 5 million adults (or 3.5%) are at high behavioral risk for infection. A 1996 household survey finds that 1.2 percent of the population reports drug-related risk and nearly 3 percent report sexual risk behaviors. And because this is a household survey, it likely underestimates the true level of risk.

Another recent CDC study indicates that some HIV-infected gay men in San Francisco and New York are continuing to engage in risky behaviors.

Although the majority of HIV-infected men in this study perceived themselves as having a responsibility to protect others from HIV, just over 20 percent reported engaging in unprotected sex with an HIV-negative partner or partner of unknown serostatus in the past year.

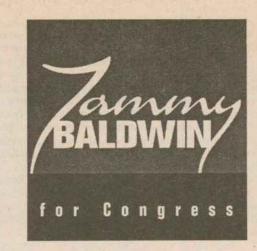
Findings indicate that those who perceive a personal responsibility for preventing the spread of HIV are much more likely to practice safer sex.

It is clear that HIV-infected individuals need quality prevention counseling and on-going support to adapt and maintain safer sex behaviors.

Please see Challenges on Page 13

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State News Briefs



MADISON

Anti-Gay Billboards Stir Controversy

Madison—Six billboards put up by Wisconsin Christians United, a fundamentalist Christian group have stirred controversy and heated up the debate on homosexuality in the Madison area.

The billboards, which denounce homosexuality, have been placed in Madison and several surrounding communities. They contain various anti-Gay messages such as "Homosexuality Is a Not A Family Value."

The group, headed by Rev. Ralph Overdahl, said in a press release that it had paid for the billboards to counter publicity surrounding Gay Pride month.

If the intent of the signs was bring together supporters of Lesbian and Gay civil rights in a show of support for that community, the signs were a success. While some Gays, Lesbians and their supporters are outraged, others see the signs as a boon.

"The reaction he (Overdahl) is getting is that Gay people are our brothers, sisters, and friends. The message he is getting is 'leave them alone.' A lot of people are seeing these billboards as bullying behavior and people don't like that," said Tops Wells, a spokesperson for Dane County Executive Kathleen Falk.

Falk, Madison Mayor Susan Baumann and other elected officials have issued statements condemning the signs. Typical of their reactions was a statement issued by State Representative Spencer Black (D-Madison) who said that the signs are "harmful to our community and seek to cause hostility towards many of my valued constituents. Their message, while protected by the First Amendment, is one of hate."

Black's statement was echoed by Bauman who said she finds it "unfortunate when a group chooses to use its freedom to express blatant hostility towards valued members of our community." Resolutions condemning the billboards are being prepared for the Dane County Board and the Madison City council. Several demonstrations have denounced WCU and the signs.

One of those demonstrations, which received widespread attention in the local media, took place along the belt-line when UW Students, Gay and Straight alike, staged a spontaneous protest. Sources say that a single student stood next to the busy highway with a sign enlisting passing students to join him in his protest. It is not known whether or not the original protestor was Gay.

Two LBGT UW Student groups, UW-Madison Queer Student Alliance, and the UW-Madison Ten Percent Society along with GALVAnize have called for a boycott of Vivid, the Janesville based company which put up the WCU signs. The groups said they are especially worried about the effect the signs could have Gay teens.

After one of the billboards was vandalized, WCU issued two press releases accusing Madison's Gay community of being responsible. One release called on Mayor Bauman to denounce the "attacks on our billboards." The statement called on Bauman to "launch an investigation into the hate crime committed against WCU, a Christian heterosexual group."

The other release issued was titled "Yes Virginia, the homosexual movement has a fascist heart." It claimed that the billboard was attacked because "A biblical world view is not compatible with the sexual libertines' amoral humanist world view and in true fascist fashion they strike out against any opinion and belief not consistent with their own."

Some in the Madison community believe that the WCU, or its supporters were responsible for the vandalism. While there is no evidence to support either view, one aspect of the controversy seems to be obvious. With the upcoming Madison Pride celebrations and scheduled votes on the Dane County Board and the Madison City Council resolutions condemning the signs, the controversy will continue.

Ron Greer Running For Congress

A controversial local firefighter who was suspended for handing out anti-Gay pamphlets at a Madison fire station and then fired for allegedly sending out a fax criticizing Madison's Fire Chief, all while he was on duty, is running for Congress.

Ron Greer announced his candidacy for the Republican Congressional nomination in Wisconsin's Second Congressional district on Tuesday June 23.

Rep. Scott Klug, a Republican who is not seeking re-election, is vacating the Second District seat. Openly Lesbian State Representative Tammy Baldwin is running for the Democratic nomination. Baldwin has two opponents, while Greer will face five other Republicans in the September 9 primaries of their parties.

In his announcement, Greer said, "In Madison, and around America, citizens who express publicly a viewpoint that is not in lock-step with the politically correct are declared open targets."

Greer's legal battle with the Madison Fire Department started in June, 1997 when Fire Chief Debra Amesqua gave him a two month unpaid suspension from his job for handing out an Anti-Gay pamphlet while on duty. The pamphlet called homosexuality a "filthy scourge" and recommended employment discrimination against Gays and Lesbians, blaming them for diseases and child molestation.

According to openly Gay Madison alderman, Mike Verveer, Greer handed out the pamphlets while in uniform at Department facilities. Verveer said, "Greer has never been disciplined for anything he has said or done off of the job. However, his on the job actions violate Department rules by creating a hostile workplace environment for other employees, specifically for Gay and Lesbian employees."

Greer was later fired from his job for allegedly being insubordinate. The firing resulted from Greer allegedly faxing a press release attacking both Fire Chief Amesqa and Assistant Fire Chief Marsha Holtz, again while he was on duty. The press release charged that Holtz received favorable



treatment from Amesqua because they are both Lesbians. Neither Holtz nor Amesqua have ever publicly discussed or acknowledged their sexual orientation.

Verveer said he was particularly offended when Greer, a firefighter brought his children to the Hotel Washington fire in February of 1996. As the Hotel, which contained several well-known Gay establishments, burned to the ground, Greer told the local press that he was pleased that the building was ablaze.

Greer's fight with the MFD has attracted widespread attention among Christian conservatives. The Virginia-based Rutherford Institute helped pay his legal bills. *World*, a Christian magazine featured him on the cover, wearing a Fire Department shirt and a gag in his mouth.

Greer said his campaign would focus on a pro-life agenda, cutting taxes and government spending, improving education and reducing violent crime.

MILWAUKEE

Community Center Trust Fund Holds Annual Meeting At M & M's

By Ted Berg

The annual meeting of the Community Center Trust Fund was held at M&M's on Father's Day, Sunday June 21st. The fund was founded in July, 1997. It received its tax-exempt status last October.

Although the event had a small turnout, board members of the Fund, which is separate from the LBGT Community Center, were upbeat about the group and its mission.

Lew Broyles summed up the group's mission, saying, "Our organization's function is to help support a Community Center once it is opened. We will help supply the long term dollars."

Board President, Si Smits took the opportunity to outline some of the fundraising activities, including auctions, a direct mailing and support of the Leather and Levi Community.

The Board of Directors was re-elected during the meeting. The Officers are: Si Smits, President; Donald Schwamb, Vice President; Philip Amador, Secretary; Darrel Specht, Treasurer. The other Board members are: Robert Brennan and the Reverend Lew Broyles.

The Board reported that it had set aside \$6,378 for its Endowment Fund, \$300 for its Building Fund, and \$484 for the AIDS Fund.

Smits expressed the need to hold strategy meeting for the coming year. The need for volunteers vas expressed.

In closing the meeting, the Board thanked their corporate supporters: American United Taxicab Co., B.T.B. Corporation, Boot Camp Saloon, Brew City Beers, Designing Men, MCC Milwaukee, Miller Brands - Wauwautosa, Outpost Natural Foods, Walker's Point Cafe, WI Leather Men's Association, and Wisconsin Light.

Smits said that anyone wishing to volunteer for, donate to, or get more information on the Community Center Trust fund should call 414-643-1652.

Lambda Legal Defense Fund 25th Anniversary Celebration & Fund Raiser Set For July 14

The Lambda Legal Defense and Education fund will celebrate it \$25th Anniversary with a cocktail reception from 6 to 8pm at home of Robert Starshak and Ross Draegert in Fox Point, a Milwaukee suburb.

Milwaukee Celebrates Lambda 25 is one of sixteen events being held nation wide to celebrate Lambda's Silver Anniversary. The group is also celebrating the Fifth Anniversary of its midwestern office.

The event will feature a special guest, Lambda client, Jamie Nabozny. In 1996, Lambda won a landmark victory for Nabozny who had sued the Ashland, Wisconsin School District for failing to respond to his complaints of the beatings and harassment he faced for being Gay.

Currently Lambda is defending the First Amendment rights of Gay and Lesbian students at the University of Wisconsin who are facing what Lambda calls "the most recent in a long string of efforts to silence and disband Gay and Lesbian campus groups."

The water the bitter of Lambda has adversated for Covered Lesbian civil rights. It has filed and

Throughout its history, Lambda has advocated for Gay and Lesbian civil rights. It has filed and assisted with lawsuits on issues as diverse as Gay and Lesbian service in the military, striking down state wide sodomy laws and advocating for the rights of those who are HIV+

Tickets for the event start at \$50. For more information contact Marty Grochala at (312) 663-4413.

PrideFest Honors Ben Johnson

PrideFest has announced that it will honor community leader and activist Ben Johnson by renaming its "Harvey Milk Stage," the "Ben Johnson Stage." Johnson died of cancer on May 30. Hundreds of people from all walks of life crowded St. Benedict The Moor Catholic Church for a memorial service on June, 9.

"Ben was my mentor," said PrideFest Vice President Michael Lisowski. "The contributions he made to the community go well beyond that of most people, and it is only fitting that we remember him at our community's celebration."

Johnson was heavily involved as a volunteer at the BEST Clinic and the Milwaukee AIDS Project before he became a full-time employee at MAP. His many awards included the Black Health Care Professional Award in 1990, the Professional Service Recognition Award from the Wisconsin Chapter - National Black Alcoholism Council, and the President's Award from the Human Rights League in 1996.

The Ben Johnson Stage will be located in the Harley-Davidson Area of the Henry W. Maier Festival Park.

LBGT Center Town Hall Meeting

More than 40 community members were present for the LBGT Community Center Town Hall meeting held at the M&M club.

The meeting included a presentation describing the process used to complete the Center's Board of Directors, an introduction of the current Board Members and a report on the progress being made towards finding a site for the Center.

Treasurer Steve Markowitz reported that the group has more than \$30,000 in the bank. He also called for two more financially minded volunteers to join the Center's Finance Committee.

Facility Co-chairs, John Wirth and Marianne Burisch gave an update on their search for a suitable site. Wirth explained that "sites are limited because we are a start-up not-for-profit with no credit history." He went on to identify various sites his Committee considered. Wirth said that while some possibilities remain, many of the sites that were considered were not available because they had either been sold, were unusable or because the owner did not like the group's proposed use.

Julie Ellsworth reported the Fund Development committee received its first grant from American Express. The Center has also just received a gift in kind of a computer from Wisconsin Electric. Ellsworth said the Center had also applied to receive funds from AIDS Walk Wisconsin to support HIV/AIDS prevention programs that will take place in the Center. That funding, if granted, would be contingent upon the Center offering an HIV/AIDS program for youth.

Jim Schleif reported that the Membership Committee's goal is to "have fun." To that end, they have planned a "Gay Day" at Noah's Ark Water Park in the Wisconsin Dells on Sunday, August 16, 1998. Community Center members will pay just \$25 for the air-conditioned bus and admission to the park, nonmembers \$35.

Nonmembers can become a member and enjoy Gay Day at Noah's Ark for just \$55. To sign up for the trip call the Center at (414) 483-4710 or Laurie Marks at (414) 225-1597.

Volunteer Committee Co-chair, Barbara Bremmer is organizing people who are interested in short and long-term commitments to help the Center. She assured the audience, "There is plenty to do, even though we don't have a building yet." Those interested in a short or long-term volunteer opportunity please call Barb on the Center's hotline (414) 483-4710.

Stephanie Hume is building the Community Advisory Committee. It will reach out into other areas of the LGBT community for input on the Center's direction.

At the next Town Hall Meeting, during PrideFest, Saturday, August 29, the board's permanent Challenges Continued from Page 11 officers will be introduced.

TWIN PORTS

Gay Men's Center Announces Programs
The Northland Gay Men's Center located at 8 N. 2nd Ave East, Suite 309, in Duluth, has announced the following weekly activities.

Tuesdays-Open discussion for all Gay men from 7 to 9pm. Topics include coming out issues, support and resources

Fridays—HIV/AIDS Social Group from 5 to 8pm. Presented as an opportunity for men infected with HIV/AIDS to socialize and find support.

Saturdays-Social Night from 6 to 9pm. Activities include games, and videos.

More information about these ongoing activities can be obtained by calling the Northland Gay Men's Center at (218) 722-8585.

Wisconsin Light Continued from Page 1

Havlicek to provide ad and graphic services to the Wisconsin Light. She also provided free lance ad and graphic services at the Shepherd Express, and was hired on staff in September of 1996. "I met Greg Quindel at the Shepherd...finally," she said. "I had heard his name several times in connection with the In Step sale, but had never met him.'

This association with Quindel led her to the



Annabelle Havlicek

position at The Paper, and ultimately to her new position as Director of Sales with the Wisconsin Light. "The sale of the Wisconsin Light has brought me full circle. My association with Milwaukee's LGBT newspapers, combined with my contacts and networking abilities makes this position a perfect fit. This is a historic opportunity and I'm looking forward to providing Milwaukee's LGBT business, organizational and non-profit communities with an effective and respected vehicle in which to

It's only natural that Yuri Keegstra join the Wisconsin Light staff in two positions on different ends of the spectrum. Keegstra was an obvious choice to edit the new HIV/AIDS section. He's been working in the AIDS field since age 19 in a variety of positions. In 1990, he became a member of the Chicago chapter of the AIDS Coalition To Unleash Power (ACT UP). By 1992 he was one of the national organizers and media spokespersons for ACT UP's demonstration at the Republican National Convention in Houston.

In 1993 he relocated to Milwaukee to live with his lover, Christopher Fons. He continued his AIDS activism in the Milwaukee chapter of ACT UP for three more years. After Fons' death in 1995, Keegstra felt the need to redirect his energies in the fight against AIDS. In January of 1996, he took a staff position at the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin as a Gay Community Outreach Specialist, helping to design and implement targeted HIV prevention programs for gay men.

Now, at the age of 27, he views his editing of

another step in his life work. "Clearly information is one of the most important tools in fighting AIDS," Keegstra states. "The ability to use my knowledge and contacts to provide Wisconsin's LGBT community with the latest HIV/AIDS facts and news is an incredible opportunity.

Keegstra's other position at the Wisconsin Light, as the Production Manager, is a natural extension of another passion in his life, computers. Introduced to computer technology at an early age, Keegstra quickly realized his knack for using them and has since utilized his computer skills in all aspects of his life.

His computer work within the LGBT community has included graphic layout and design for ACT UP Milwaukee for three years, including design, production, and editing of their newsletter; freelance ad design for various LGBT organizations and businesses; and a stint

working at the In Step magazine.

It was at the In Step that Keegstra and Havlicek worked together for the first time. Havlicek hired Keegstra to help with ad production in 1995. "I had known Annabelle for a couple of years, having met her through Christopher, who had done some ad design for



her over the years. But it was the months we worked together at In Step that really cemented our friendship. When she told me about the position at the Wisconsin Light, I jumped at the chance to work with her again.'

Keegstra looks forward to providing Wisconsin's LGBT community with an attractive, easy-to-read paper. "In discussions with Greg [Quindel], I have been impressed with his ideas and the direction he wants to take the paper. I look forward to the challenge of implementing these designs.'

Wisconsin Light editor Bill Meunier said he was very excited about working with Havlicek and Keegstra.

"Annabelle and I have worked together before, and I have seen her steadfast committment to our community. In Yuri we add a fresh new perspective to our publication. He is the Wisconsin Light's HIV/AIDS section as knowledgeable and very talented.'

BestD Outreach **Testing Schedule**

La Cage

801 South Second Thursday, July 2, 10pm to 1am

Dish

235 South Second Thursday, July 9, 9pm to Midnight

Mama Roux 1875 N Humboldt Wednesday, July 15, 9pm to Midnight

NEED FOR INTEGRATED TREATMENT AND PREVENTION STRATEGIES

HIV-infected individuals require a wide range of services to stay healthy and to maintain safe behaviors to prevent the spread of disease

Strategies to help individuals adhere to complex treatment regimens are urgently needed. For HIV-positive individuals to have the best chance of staying healthy, they must begin treatment early and take multiple medications as prescribed.

The potential dangers of non-adherence are serious, both for the health of infected individuals and for the future spread of the epidemic.

"If people miss doses of their medication, they may be at increased risk for developing drug-resistant strains of HIV," said Gayle. "If these strains are transmitted to others and spread widely, treatment progress to date could

Gayle stresses the need to integrate behavioral strategies with biomedical solutions. "We live in a society that tends to think more readily about finding medical cures than maintaining healthy behaviors.

But the truth is, medical solutions cannot work by themselves. Medical and behavioral strategies have to work together to make a difference," stressed Gayle.

PAY ATTENTION TO PREVENTION

The good news, according to Gayle; is that we face these challenges with more knowledge than ever before about what biomedical and behavioral approaches work best in HIV prevention. CDC research to be presented in Geneva will clearly document that behavioral interventions, if well designed, can significantly reduce risks.

The challenge is applying this knowledge to design even more effective tools for prevention and to extend successes to all populations.

While we can't count how many thousands of infections have been prevented, we do know that HIV prevention has helped move us from a period of rapid growth to an overall stabilization in the U.S. We also know that 40,000 new infections each year is far too many. If we continue to pay attention to prevention, we can and













Chicago Pride







Happy 4th of July



Hors d'oeuvres

ICE CREAM
SOCIAL &
SHOW

Wednesday, July 8
SOCIAL 5PM
SHOW 7PM

THE
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196 South Second Street Milwaukee - 273-7474 - Mondays 9pm to Close
Domestic Beer \$1.25 • \$1.75 Rail

Tuesdays 9pm to Close \$2.50 Top Shelf • \$1.75 Rail

Wednesdays 9pm to 1am
Beer Bust \$4 or 80¢ Glasses of Beer

\$1.75 Rail (9pm 'til close)

Thursdays 9pm to Close \$1.75 Rail

Saturdays Tap Beer 80¢ ('til 6pm)
Bloodys, Screws, Greyhounds - \$2.25 (until 6pm)

PROUD SPONSOR

CATCH IT . . .

Jack Forest

as

Rip Taylor

Sundays Bloodys, Screws, Greyhounds - \$2.25 (until 6pm)
Tap Beer 80¢ ('till 6pm)

als: Food, Shots & Fun

Saturday & Sunday Specials: Food, Shots & Fun Pizza Served Anytime! Party Room Available!

THE SPOTLIGHT

"Let Yourself Go" to the Madison Rep!

Madison—One of Wisconsin's premier professional theater companies, the Madison Repertory, has announced the schedule for its 30th Anniversary season. With new show times, a variety of subscription packages and additional performances, the company is making it easier than ever for theater fans to live up to its subscription campaign theme "Let yourself go!"

The upcoming season includes an interesting mix of comedies, dramas and musicals ensuring that subscribers will be anything but bored.

The season opens with Little Shop of Horrors. This musical comedy tells the story of Seymour Mushnik's flower shop. Mushnik works his horticultural magic to produce Audrey II, an exotic new plant named for the co-worker he is madly in love with. Seymour soon realizes, however, that Audrey is more vampire than vegetable. This Broadway hit will run from July 24 to August 29.

With Three Viewings, the Rep takes a look at how we say good bye, and the lengths we go to, as we try to hold onto memories, money, life and love. Set in a small town funeral parlor, the play ties together three monologues, a mortician who cherishes his secret love for local realtor, a granddaughter who comes home to steal a piece of jewelry from granny's coffin and a sheltered wife who discovers just how her husband was doing business. This Jeffrey Hatcher play will run from September 4 to the 27th

How I Learned to Drive by Paul Vogel swept every award for Best Off-Broadway Play of 1997. It depicts a damaging seven-year relationship between Lil'l Bit, an 11-year-old girl and her Uncle Peck, who is 38.

Told in flashbacks by a mature Lil'l Bit, the play uses humor and sensitivity to explore the complex nature of a troubled family. This production which is for mature audiences will run from October 30 to November 22.

The Man Who Came to Dinner written by George S. Kaufman and Moss Hart is a comedy with a cast of American eccentrics. When Sheridan Whiteside, a gadabout critic, radio raconteur and egomaniac, slips on the ice after a visit to the home of a prominent small town Ohio family, he is marooned for weeks. Whiteside turns out to be the kind of guest you love to hate. He runs up astronomical phone bills, imports a collection of flamboyant friends and flings barbs at everyone in sight.

This family comedy plays from December 11 to the 13 at the Wisconsin Union Theater.

Lady Day at Emerson's Bar & Grill by Lauri Robertson takes you back to a Philadelphia

Have a

MAGIC

Pride

Weekend

in Madison

Night club in 1959 where legendary singer Billie Holiday is giving her final performance. This well written play draws upon Holiday's triumphs and setbacks. The production features more than a dozen of the songs that made Lady Day an American icon. It will be performed from January 8 to the 30th.

The Cripple of Inishmaan is a combination offbeat comedy and drama written by Martin McDagh. It takes place in Ireland's Aran Islands in 1934 and features a bevy of odd characters including Cripple and Billy, a young misfit who hopes to impress a local girl.

This piece which has been described by London's *Sunday Times* as being "a wonderful play in the finest tradition of Irish writing," is a portrait of a small town the revels in gossip and trickery. It can be seen from March 12 to April 4.

Sherlock's Last Case by Charles Marowitz concludes the Rep's Anniversary season. Marowitz's modern take on the famous Sherlock Holmes is full of twists and unexpected turns. It's a comic thriller that reveals much about the relationships between Holmes, Dr. Watson and others. This grand finale runs from April 16 to May 9.

In addition to its lineup, the Rep has announced new ways for subscribers to build their own season subscription plans. The longer runs and additional show times for each production will allow for additional premium seating.

Furthermore, in addition to a full seven-play subscription package; theater fans can also purchase five and six-play season packages choosing the shows they most want to attend.

If that isn't enough flexibility, the Rep also offers two formats of its popular Playbooks. All Playbooks contain eight vouchers that can be used for any of the seven plays.

Gold Playbooks can be used for any night of the week. Silver Playbooks (which offer greater savings) can be used for Wednesday, Thursday or Sunday performances only.

For more information or a free season brochure, call Madison Rep at (608) 256-0029, e-mail them at madisonrep@aol.com, or send a

Tickets are also available at the Madison Civic Center Ticket Office, 211 State Street in Madison (608) 266-9055 or TDD (608) 267-

Performances take place at the Isthmus Playhouse at the Madison Civic Center, except *The Man Who Came to Dinner*, which will be performed at the Wisconsin Union Theater, 800 Langdon Street in Madison.

1997 MAGIC Picnic Grants to Groups

All proceeds from the annual MAGIC picnic are donated to the organizations that provide volunteers to help with everything from cooking and serving food to set up and clean

Money is allocated based on the number of volunteers provided by each group and the amount of hours they work.

Despite the heavy rains at last year's picnic, the event raised over \$6,000 for Madison area organizations.

Below is a listing of the disbursements of the proceeds from the 1997 MAGIC Picnic:

Frontiers	\$803
Shake It Up	\$706
MGLRC	\$671
The United	\$671
Galvanize	\$357
Briar Patch	\$357
BiShyWhy?	\$311
Sage	\$215
PFLAG	\$203
Community Thrift Store	\$173
Impact Whitewater	\$191
National GLBT	\$143
Madison Softball group	\$143
Gay Fathers	\$119
Action Wisconsin	\$95
10% Society	\$71
Perfect Harmony	\$47
Nothing to Hide	\$24
Unicorns	\$288
Scheel Family for PWA's	\$727
Total Disbursement	\$6,375



Madison's Cowgirls and Cowboys will host a country dance from 8:00pm to midnight at the Sapphire Ballroom, 1133 Sherman Avenue, during Madison's Pride weekend.

Madison Pride Weekend Schedule

Thursday July 16

Perfect Harmony Concert 8:00pm at the First Baptist Church 518 N. Franklin Donations accepted at the door

Friday July 17

The United's Awards Dinner

Grand Ballroom of the Sheraton Hotel
John Nolan Drive at the Beltine
\$35 per person. Call (608) 255-8582 for tickets
Advance ticket purchase required

10% Society Dance

8:00pm to Midnight Monona Terrace 1 John Nolan Drive \$5 cover

Dairyland Cowgirls and Cowboys Dance

8:00pm to Midnight Sapphire Ballroom 1133 Sherman Ave

Saturday July 18

The 25th Annual MAGIC Picnic

1:00 to 7:00 Brittingham Park
W. Washington and Regent
Admission is free
Picnic lunch and unlimited beverages—\$10

Sunday July 19

UW Alumni Brunch

10:00am to Noon

Monona Terrace Convention and Community Center
1 John Nolan Drive
\$10 per person

Call Russell Betts (608) 262-5895 for tickets

Pride Parade Rally

1:30pm, at the State Street entrance of the Capitol

GALVANize Pride Parade

2:00pm begins at State Street Entrance of the Capitol, proceeds down State Street to Lake Street

Post Parade GAYla

Brittingham Park, Free.
Picnic lunch and unlimited beverages—\$10

Miss Capitol City US of A Pageant

10:30pm, Manoeuvres Bar 150 Blair Street \$4 cover

July 16th thru July 19th

Madison Continued from Page 1

THE MAGIC PICNIC

Wisconsin's longest running Les/Bi/Gay/ Trans annual party celebrates its 25th Birthday at Brittingham Park in style.

The annual summer treat includes some of Wisconsin's wackiest picnic games like the purse toss and drag races.

It also includes great food and drink, entertainment, dancing, and booths featuring important information and merchandise.

This unique event benefits the many community organizations who provide the volunteers to cook the food, sell the tickets, run the games and do the necessary set-up and clean-up

The picnic begins at 1pm and runs until 7pm. Tickets for food and unlimited beverages are \$10.

Despite last year's heavy rains the picnic was able to contribute over \$6,300 to worthy organizations. (See page 15 for a breakdown.)

ALUMNI BRUNCH

The UW Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Alumni Council will hold its 7th Annual GLB Brunch at the Monona Terrace on Sunday, July 19 from

Tickets are \$10 per person and can be obtained by calling Russell Betts at (608) 262-5895.

PRIDE MARCH AND GAYLA

Wisconsin's largest Pride March and Rally gets underway Sunday at 1:30pm with a rally on the State street steps of the State Capitol.

The rally will be followed by the Pride March, which will proceed down State Street to Lake Street. The parade is scheduled to begin at

After the March, the GAYla celebration begins at Brittingham Park.

MISS CAPITOL CITY PAGEANT

The excitement of the weekend shifts to the popular Manoeuvres Bar, 150 Blair Street, which will host the Miss Capitol City US of A

Izonna Troi hosts the event which begins at 10:30pm with special quests Ida Ho and Neely O'Hara. There is a \$4 cover. Following the show, popular D, Tony Richards will be spinning all your favorites.

Everything Is MAGIC at This Picnic

Madison-What has great games, great food, lots of things to do, thousands of people and is 25-years-young? If you said Madison's MAGIC picnic, then you are right.

It was a whole 25 years ago when some genius came up with the idea of having a customer appreciation picnic for Rodney Scheel's old Back Door bar.

Before long, Scheel converted his picnic into a community event that over the years has brought thousands of dollars to Madison area organizations. It was just like MAGIC! Presto, chango; a tradition is born.

When Scheel died, his brother Greg took over and has kept the picnic going as a living memorial to Rodney's memory.

The MAGIC tradition continues at Madison's Brittingham Park on Saturday, July 19th when MAGIC '98 rolls out a green carpet

It is hard to explain the popularity of Wisconsin's longest running Gay event, so I won't even try. The MAGIC picnic has to be experienced in order to be fully understood. In fact, if you are like me-and most other people I know-you will want to experience it over and over and over again.

The MAGIC picnic experience has grown and added new features over the years, but throughout it all, the event has kept its central focus of building community while having fun. The 1998 Silver Anniversary edition will be no exception to that rule.

This year's version of Rodney's MAGIC formula will include all of the traditional elements, which is to say a mix of wild picnic games, lots to eat and drink, a packed dance pavilion, a great show and loads of people out to have a good time.

Nowhere else in Wisconsin will you see the infamous Drag race where contestants race back and forth as they dress themselves in some fairly "stunning outfits." Winners are judged on time and their ensemble. I have never engaged in this one, I mean I am much too butch to pull it off, (okay stop your snickering.)

I don't think you will see a Purse Toss contest or a High Heel race at any other event either. I guarantee you, no one watching will be able to keep a straight face (pun intended).

I actually tried the purse toss one year. But the less said about that the better. I did my patented "Dusty Sass hammer throw" and the dam thing landed a whole six feet away.

These are, in addition to the more traditional picnic games like the water balloon toss which can have up to 100 eager players tossing water balloons to each other from ever increasing dis-

And there is more. Last year, the picnic added the "Wreck the Wreck" game. It proved so popular that it is being brought back for a return appearance this year.

For \$1 you can take a few whacks at a very used car scrawled with the names of your favorite homophobes. You don't win any prizes but you do get the satisfaction of being able to swing something big and hard in a public park without getting arrested for it!

The MAGIC picnic is not all fun and games. It's food and drink too! After all, what would a picnic be without something to eat and plenty of beverages to wash it down?

For a measly \$10, you get a great meal plus unlimited beer and soda for the duration of the

Those who prefer are welcome to bring their own food and drink into the park.

Then there are the entertainers. Some of Madison's finest impersonators will be performing in the Pavilion. The Pavilion will be used for dancing too.

Add all of the above to a few dozen booths offering valuable information and plenty of bargains and you got a real winner.

All proceeds from the pienic are given to the Madison area organizations who provide the volunteers needed to make it happen. The profits are divided up according to how many volunteers each group provided. In other words a group that provides 10% of the volunteers receives 10% of the profits.

Greg Scheel says that the picnic has averaged about \$10,000 in gross revenues over the years. That means it has provided tens of thousands in badly needed dollars to Madison orga-

Scheel also gave me his annual reminder to volunteers that they must check in. "We have had some problems when volunteers don't check in with us," he said. "When that happens, their group doesn't get full credit for the hours it worked and the money that would have gone to them goes to another group instead.

For the Madison impaired, Brittingham Park is located at West Washington Street and Regent Street. If you are coming via the freeway, leave the highway at the State Capitol exit, and head towards the Capitol (You can't miss the Capitol. It's the big white building with the dome on the top.) Drive around the Capitol loop until you see the sign that says W. Washington. Turn onto W. Washington, go to the end of the street and you are there.

So there ya have it folks. Great times, great fun and a great cause all rolled up into one bright package. No wonder they call it MAGIC!

Tell them you read all about it in Wisconsin Light!

Now You're Really Cruising!

Gay.Net will raise your sail. You can find just what you're looking for right now on Gay.Net the hottest guys, powerful matchmaking tools, live videos, entertainment, and more.

Limited Time Offer - enter the Gay.Net Sweepstakes and register to win an RSVP® Cruise. Don't miss the boat - new friends are waiting right now at www.gay.net/cruise



MAGIC Pride, 365 Days A Year!

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Featuring The Best Happy Hour, The Hottest DJ's, Dance Floor, Music & The Friendliest Barstaff In Madison!

Make MANDEUVRES Your MAGIC Picnic Weekend Party Headquarters!

Possum Droppings

This column will be a new feature of Wisconsin Light dedicated to reporting on the Possum Queen Campaign, which raises funds for HIV/AIDS related organizations. This columnist will try to attend as many functions as possible to report some of the fun of the festivities. Please call the paper with schedules of

Summer Carnival on August 1st. Any Possum Candidate can have an hour in the dunk tank. All proceeds will go to their Possum Campaign. Girls get your water wings and wash and wear dresses. The Carnival itself will be a fundraiser for AIDS Walk Wisconsin and

their softball team. The night will be capped



events, 414 299-0075/299-0096(fax) so I can

Upcoming events: On Wednesday, July 1st, there is a cruise sponsored by Renez Cozy Corner II. A \$20 donation is suggested.

On July 8th, the Ballgame will have an Ice Cream Social and Drag Show. What would the Church Lady say? On Saturday, July 11th, there will be a Steak Dinner at Kathy's Nut Hut.

South Water Street Docks will have a

off with a Drag Show.

August 8th there will be a bus trip to Halsted Street Days in Chicago for the Ballgame's Possum Candidate, Amanda Hunt.

One of the newest contestants is Vicki Liberty of Fluid. He replaces Fondu Daily. Good luck and remember the Possum Queen Mottoes: "Fun for all. All for Fun. Let the fur fly" and "Beg borrow ... or heels."

In July, M&M's will unveil their new

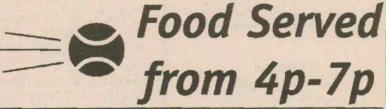
Please see Possum Droppings on Page 27

Join us for South Water Street Docks Softball Team Fundraiser Saturday, July 11, 1998 ...starting at 3p.m.

\$50/50 Auction

Pie Toss

\$4 Pitchers of Miller Products



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"SUPER BUST"



11pm

DJ & Dancing NO COVER

Watch us grow this summer

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FICTION

Passing Remarks by Helen Hodgman Ballantine; \$11.00

This is an extremely funny novel about the culture shock experienced by a 51-year-old Australian Lesbian who takes on a motorcycleriding lover nearly half her age. When she wins \$30,000 in the lottery, Rosemary leaves her boring academic job and looks forward to lazying in her garden.

Her unexpected affair with Billie, a 27-yearold biker with spiked hair and an equally spiky personality, leads Rosemary to helping solve a string of car thefts and landing a role in a homemade S/M film. A terrific read.

Are You Nuts? by Mark Richard Zubro St. Martin's HC; \$21.95

In this seventh of Mark Zubro's popular "Tom & Scott" mystery series, Are You Nuts? finds high school teacher Tom Mason hounded by the media following the public coming out of his partner, Scott, a professional baseball player. The controversy touched Tom with the return to classes.

When a prominent member of a group of conservative parents is found murdered and one of Tom's friends is suspected, Tom decides it is time to become involved!

NON-FICTION

The Lesbian and Gay Book of Love and Marriage: Creating the Stories of Our Lives by Paula Martinac, Roberta Achtenberg Broadway Books; \$18.00

Paula Martinac's The Lesbian and Gay Book of Love and Marriage offers knowing, humorous insights on love in the Gay lane. Crossing romantic advice à la "Dear Abby" ("Meeting Ms. Right") with practical tips on Gay weddings that would make Martha Stewart proud ("Right in Your Own Backyard").

Martinac has assembled a collage of expert

interviews, statistics, personal opinions, historical anecdotes, intimate photos, and chats that, while covering an enormously wide range of interests and positions, is quite centered and focused. The Lesbian and Gay Book of Love and Marriage manages to be frank, practical, political and funny.

Girljock: The Book edited by Roxxie St. Martin's Press; \$16.95

Women's sports are taking off and Girljock magazine has been at the forefront! Roxxie's compilation is for and about women who find peak experiences in sport. Fact is, in aspects of jock life ranging from wrestling, rugby and boxing to ice skating, cycling and tennis--and more—women participate.

Roxxie begins the book by examining the "girljock" state of mind ("There's nothing quite so intimate as sweating and breathing hard together and in a public place") and describing how she started the magazine *Girljock* while working in a large public library's magazine section. A must!

July at Afterwords!

Friday, July 3rd 7:00pm-CL Celebrate Afterwords' 5th Anniversary! Join us for refreshments, some terrific savings and a few surprises

Saturday, July 4th Open 10am until 11pm Celebrate The Fourth at Afterwords!

Monday, July 13th 7:00pm The Good Life by Gordon Merrick

Wednesday, July 15th 7:00pm Lesbian & Gay Writers' Group New members welcome!

Wednesday, July 29th 7:00pm Lesbian Reading Group Read My Lips by Rikki Anne Wilchins

Book Review

DEATH WORE A FABULOUS NEW FRAGRANCE

BY ORLAND OUTLAND

By Glenn Bishop

Okay, Death Wore a Fabulous New Fragrance does not have an eye-catching cover featuring a breathtakingly beautiful man wearing next to nothing. But hey, you can't always tell a book by its cover!

Introduced in the equally delightful *Death* Wore a Smart Little Outfit, Binky and Doan are quite simply the funniest, campiest, best-dressed pair of unlikely snoops to be found in the entire mystery genre.

Binky Van de Kamp is an heiress with an allowance too small for her simple but ever-so essential "daily needs", a list which includes but is not limited to Jamaica Blue Mountain Coffee, Perrier-Jouet, silk lingerie, weekly hair-dressing and chocolate truffles.

Doan McCandler is Binky's bestest of friends. An occasional Club DJ, kept boy and generally keen on foregoing male attire, Doan is the mystery genre's first and naturally most fabulous drag queen detective.

Since last seen in *Death Wore a Smart Little Outfit*, both Binky and Doan have disentangled themselves from various romantic entanglements and find themselves both deathly bored and broke—not necessarily in that order.

Hence Doan's newest idea is the creation of San Francisco's newest detective agency, McCandler Van de Kamp, Inc.

Faster than you can say, "There's murder afoot," Binky and Doan have their first case when an old friend of Doan's is wrongfully accused of murdering everyone's favorite hunk o'movie star, Jeff Breeze.

So, it's off to Hollywood for our delightful detective duo and without knowing it, they'll stumble into the murky and oh-so shocking underbelly of Tinsel Town, where no one and nothing is quite what they appear to be. Especially Jeff Breeze!

Did Glenn fail to mention that Jeff was a closeted Gay man? Or that Jeff's supposed boyfriend, Tyler, insists that Jeff was just about to come out publicly?

Among the colorful cast of murder suspects are wet-dream hunk Sam Braverman, Jeff Breeze's bodyguard—a man with many interests (including Binky)—not all of them on the up and up. Then there is Jeff's not-so bereaved widow, an actress owing her entire movie career to a marriage of convenience. Or what about that bitch-on-wheels Mary Duveen, agent to the stars who made sure her clients' closet doors stayed shut tight and locked?

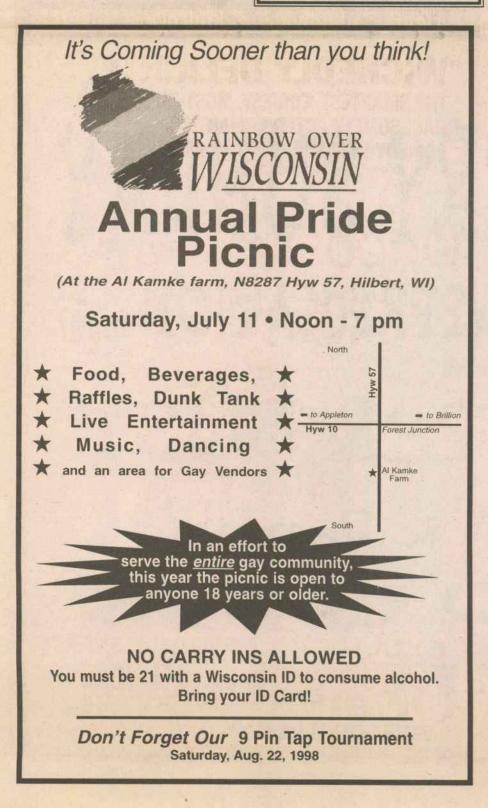
So many suspects! Will Binky and Doan find their man? Will Binky and Doan each find themselves a man?

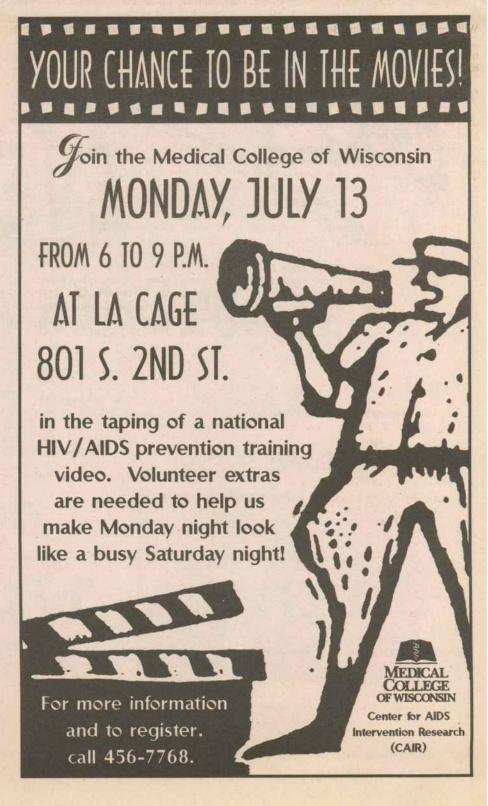
Glenn will never tell.

Orland Outland is an imaginative writer who clearly loves his characters and has an ear for witty and clever dialogue. In Death Wore a Fabulous New Fragrance, Outland has created a tantalizing puzzle and provided readers with a glimpse into the "real," scandal-ridden Hollywood lurking beneath the glamour.

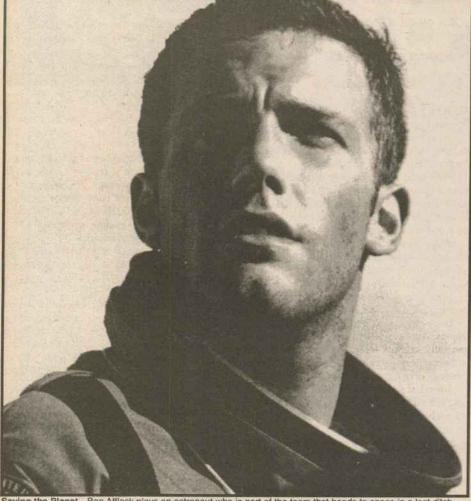
Those looking for a light and fun summer read need look no further than this hilarious murder mystery, the second featuring Binky and Doan. And at a mere \$5.99, Death Wore a Fabulous New Fragrance is a bargain to boot.

Tell them you read all about it in Wisconsin Light!





0UTon Film



Saving the Planet—Ben Affleck plays an astronaut who is part of the team that heads to space in a last ditch effort to save the earth from an asteroid strike in the movie Armageddon.

Armageddon Is Mindless, Exciting Entertainment

Reviewed by Glenn Bishop

Armageddon, starring Bruce "Die Hard" Willis and the oh-so yummy Ben Affleck is this summer's blockbuster to end all summer blockbusters. At least it is until next summer's blockbuster to end all blockbusters.

Armed with "Biggie" popcorn and "Biggie" Diet Pepsi, Glenn ventured forth to once again face mankind (people-kind?) on the brink of total annihilation. Gee, sort of like facing earthbound I-94 during rush hour.

Following the deep disappointments resulting from big-budget busts Lost in Space and Godzilla, Glenn must admit to some skepticism of the hype surrounding Armageddon. Nor is Bruce Willis a particular favorite of Glenn's.

Then again, who is going to totally dismiss any feature film featuring Ben Affleck? Certainly not Glenn.

As if taking a page or two from Deep Impact, Armageddon finds a huge asteroid out in space, one pretty much the size of Texas, hurling towards Earth. During the special effects overloaded opening, New York City is treated to something of a free preview, as bits and pieces of space rock the size of Volkswagens pummel the city. Folks, let's just say it ain't pretty.

hands of NASA Executive Director Dan Truman (Sling Blade's Billy Bob Thornton). Options are few. So few in fact that Truman turns to one Harry Stamper (Bruce Willis). No one knows more about drilling holes than Harry. This all sounds sane to Glenn.

Suddenly Harry and his rag-tag group of roughnecks are America's and the whole-wide world's last best chance for salvation. Their mission, should they decide to accept (well, of course they will accept-don't be ridiculous)

will be to become astronauts, land on the asteroid, dig a hole 800 feet deep and nuke that baby right out of existence.

Couldn't be any easier... or more preposterous, for that matter.

No one is more dubious of the prospects facing this lovable bunch of losers than the group of properly trained NASA astronauts, headed by the very hunky Colonel Willie Sharp (played by the very hunky William Fichter). Their job is a snap. All they have to do is to get Harry and Co. out to the asteroid, safely land and head back to earth once the bomb's in place. Piece o' cake!

Oh, by the way, let Glenn not forget to mention the film's all important although decidedly limp central romantic interlude involving Harry's pretty little girl Grace (Liv Tyler) and hotshot roughneck, A.J. (Ben Affleck).

Although Glenn found the destruction of New York City-again-somewhat tedious, there is simply no getting away from the fact that Armageddon is one mighty entertaining piece of summer blockbuster. The ingredients for success, in sufficient quantities, are all here: one bankable superstar (Willis), one hot young sex symbol (Affleck), a script filled with pithy one-liners and at least twice as many special effects than are absolutely necessary (or tolerable). To all that add a wild, wacky, uniquely American conceit that the security of the plane rests within these glorious 50 states.

Does Glenn hear strains from "The Star Spangled Banner?"

Those expecting Armageddon to be a deeply thoughtful, morally profound film should look elsewhere. The rest of us looking for mindless, exciting cinematic entertainment will find nothing better this summer!

Rating \$6.45 (Scale: No cents to \$7.00)

Clooney's Latest Effort, Out of Sight, is Better Left Out of Mind

Reviewed by John Jahn

George Clooney, famed ER hunk, is still trying to find his niche in the realm of the major motion picture. Thus far, he seems to have broken into the Harrison Ford school of action heroic romantic leading man; kind of a rough hewn rogue with a heart of gold.

There were glimpses of that persona in the

dreadfully overwrought Batman and Robin and a more fully fleshed-out version in the mediocre The Peacemaker. He certainly doesn't break the mould in his latest film, Out of Sight (directed by Steven Soderbergh) with the single exception that he's on the wrong side of the law in this case.

Clooney plays America's all-time most pro-

Please see Latest Effort on Page 22



Reissue of Gone With the Wind **Looks Great**

Reviewed by John Jahn

Ever since its opening night in Atlanta, December 15, 1939, Gone With the Wind has never left the consciousness of this country. It is the penultimate American motion picture. As such, it has been seen across the globe in countless venues, re-released to great enthusiasm and

When finally shown in Europe after WW II, Gone With the Wind had tremendous impact (especially in France, where it represented a story of surviving defeat). Japan has been particularly addicted to the picture over the years.

Extraordinarily successful, full-scale theatrical reissues in America followed in 1947, 1954, 1961 and 1967. For the '67 re-release it was blown up to 70mm, however it is at its best when presented in its original 1.33:1 aspect ratio, which was retained for its network television premier on NBC in November, 1976, where it promptly drew a record viewing audience. What more appropriate film to bring to TV in our bicentennial year?

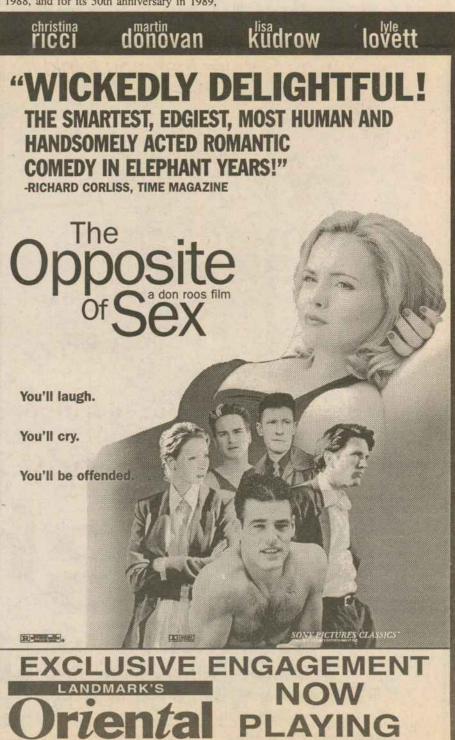
When Turner Broadcasting System acquired MGM in 1986, it also acquired Gone With the Wind. It was broadcast on the cable TNT station in 1988, and for its 50th anniversary in 1989,

Turner authorized a full, meticulous restoration of the picture and sound with startling results. Indeed, that was the last time it was shown locally, at Milwaukee's Oriental Theater.

Finally, after nine years we are being treated to another reissue, and this one is by far the best yet. Gone With the Wind had its color enhanced by Turner in '89 which, while an improvement certainly over a faded negative, also was overly lush and seemed "painted."

The 1998 reissue is closer to 1939-quality as has ever been the case in the 59 years since. The original Technicolor glory is back, as is a fully restored soundtrack, which spans the gamut effectively between exploding cannon balls to complete, hiss-free silences. The Max Steiner score never sounded better, either.

Gone With the Wind represents the highwater-mark and quintessence of the big, superattraction of Hollywood's Golden Age. It's composed of an epic (nearly 4-hour long) narrative, varied and rounded characters, family crises, unrequited and idealized love, civil warfare, turmoil, nostalgia, and at its base the most primal of our instincts-the will to survive!



"dazzling!" "extraordinary!" nancy rosenblum, the lesbian news

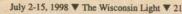
a story of ambition, sacrifice, seduction and other career moves.

ally sheedy radha mitchell

art

LANDMARK'S

EXCLUSIVE ENGAGEMENT STARTS FRIDAY, JULY 3



Told from Mom's sad and pathetic perspective, Change of Heart provides nary a glimmer of understanding as to how Dad went from the role of happily married husband and father to that of an evil, family-wrecking homosexual. Instead, the film's stereotypical characters are



Gillian Anderson and David Duchovny struggle across ice and snow in The X-Files: Fight The Future

The X-Files: Fight the Future Entertaining if Baffling

Reviewed by Glenn Bishop

Big screen, Dolby-sound enhanced, special effects laden, summer cinematic adaptations of popular television programs are a dubious proposition. Faster than you can say, "Danger, Will Robinson" eagerly anticipated summer blockbusters belly up and are next seen at the local budget theater.

Why? Well, lots of reasons.

Moving from the small screen to the big requires bringing along those who are already fans as well as creating a whole new audience, not only here in America but throughout this big ol' planet of ours.

The next task the film's creative team faces is to come up with a film with enough new elements to satisfy those already in the know yet will entice the uninitiated without leaving them entirely baffled?

Honest to a fault, Glenn must admit, right from the onset, to being one of the uninitiated. That's right, Glenn has never ever seen even a single X-Files episode. How, one might ask, can Glenn possibly review this big-screen, big-budget X-Files installment? Fear not faithful readers of Wisconsin Light, Glenn dragged along dearest friend Lois de Mile as well as newest dearest friend Robert, both devoted X-Filers.

When all is said and done, Glenn found The X-Files: Fight the Future entertaining if baf-

The serious X-File fans will need no synopsis of the film. However, those poor souls equally as clueless as Glenn will need more help than Glenn has to offer. Suffice to say that series regulars Scully (Gillian Anderson) and "Spooky" Mauder (David Duchovny) remain central to the action. Yet even as clueless as Glenn is about X-Files, Glenn immediately grasped Scully's tremendous appeal to Glenn's Lesbian sisters.

The film's opening is really quite exciting. Somewhere in dusty North Texas, a group of little boys are doing some exploring. When one poor lad falls through a hole into some dark and forbidding cavernous space, a pool of creepy black ooze seeps under his skin in what will prove to be the film's best special effect.

Sadly it was all downhill from this point on as Glenn was left pretty much in the dark. Poor Lois tried to fill Glenn in during the film with vital pieces of X-Files lore until the incessant shushing began to take on a rather sinister tone.

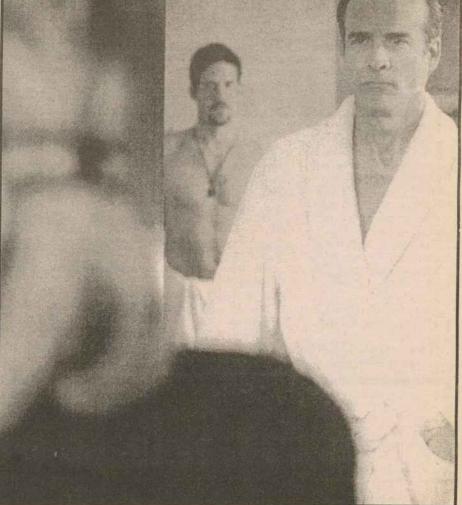
Maulder is obsessed with the possibility that aliens are amongst us. Hot Lesbian icon Scully is his dose of reality check. Nevertheless the film involves a super secret syndicate who seems to be in cahoots with aliens. The government may or may not be somehow involved. There is a "Cigarette-Smoking" Man, a creepy-old Martin Landau hanging around a bar feeding Maulder alien tidbits, as well as a swarm of sinister bees and various mysterious luminous dome-like structures.

Got that?

Most of all, there are more implausible scenes and plot developments in X-Files: Fight the Future than Glenn has seen in any one film since Independence Day. Previews promised that the truth will be revealed or that questions will be answered or some such claims. Were they? Glenn sure can't tell you.

As The X-Files: Fight the Future descends upon cinemas across this panoramic American landscape, Glenn wonders just how many of the aliens amongst us will be coughing up \$7 for a ticket and then expect Glenn to share his "Biggie" popcom?

Rating \$4.68 (scale No cents to \$7.00)



In "Change of Heart," Jim (John Terry), has an affair with another man.

have somehow been salvaged but frankly Jean Smart is simply not the actress to carry this sort of emotional devastation with any grace or believability. Nor does Aaron Mendelsohn's sophomoric script offer much help.

previous homosexual experiences, no previous

inklings or urges. Not even a shocking and

shameful adolescent wet dream. Nothing.

Right out of the blue! He's Gay. That's right:

Poor Mom is hysterical. This still might

simply put through their stereotypical paces before the final commercial break ushers in the mandatory "happy end".

Yawn.



Reviewed by Glenn Bishop

Glenn remembers it as if it were just yesterday. That it happened—good heavens—over 25 years ago makes it all the more frightening.

Glenn was... well, lets just say dazzlingly young and innocent, yet still mature beyond his years.

The year is 1972. The network is ABC. The name of the TV Movie-of-the-Week is *That Certain Summer*. Starring Hal Holbrook, Martin Sheen and Hope Lange, this serious and compelling family drama about a father who leaves his wife for a man would be the first in a very long line of "Gay" movies which would help fashion Glenn Bishop into the film critic he is today.

Compared to Change of Heart, a perfectly horrid new film due to premiere on July 20th on Lifetime, a cable television network that targets female audiences, That Certain Summer is astonishingly fresh and relevant.

Starring Jean Smart, best known as the sweet if a bit ditzy Charlene Frazier Stillfield on the popular sitcom *Designing Women* (which continues to rerun endlessly on Lifetime), *Change of Heart* opens with warm and fuzzy shots of a picture-perfect "American Dream" family, the sort of family Glenn hasn't

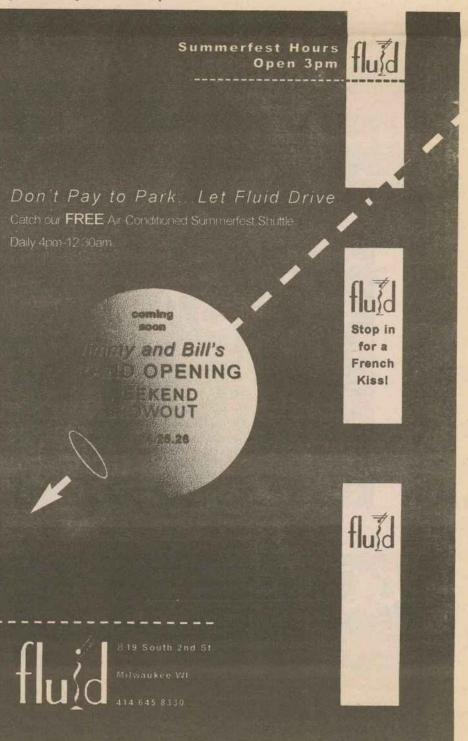
seen since The Brady Bunch was cancelled!

Busy schedules notwithstanding, they've taken a frolicking weekend at their cabin—Glenn feels obligated to say "up north" but it is somewhere out of the depraved big city and features obligatory breath-taking scenic views of mountains.

Returning home, our happy, perfect family is disturbed to find a favorite tree has been uprooted. Alarm bells went off in Glenn's brain—could this horticultural tragedy be foreshadowing some imminent family doom? Well, of course it is!

A bit of background: Dad, Jim (John Terry) is a doctor while Mom, Elaine (Jean Smart) is an administrative wiz who has spent her entire married life devoting herself to the clinic begun by her hubby. Son Jesse (Phillip Geoffrey Hough) is a perfect student (Glenn wouldn't have guessed) who has been accepted at Boston University and to boot, is a handsome, square-jarred hunk. Glenn has faint recollection of a daughter too but when the son's around, Glenn wasn't likely to take much notice.

After a rather touching scene where Dad tells Jesse that Mom was only the second woman he'd been with, the bomb drops: Dad is having an affair—with another man! No



THE NIGHT LIGHT

By Dusty Sass

News...Walker's Point Café has been sold to the owners of the 1100 Club. This is good news to those of us who were worried that we wouldn't have late night stop to grab something to eat on our way home from the bars. Thanks are owed to the former owner, George, for doing such a great job

in keeping the place going for as long as he was able and of course to Mike from the 1100 Club for making sure that it remains open in the future.

Recaps... I haven't been out and about as much as I would have liked since (like others) I have been busy helping with the transition to Wisconsin Light's new ownership/management team. Hey somebody had to show 'em which barstools are the most comfortable.

But in between this and that, I have managed to make a stop or two here and there.

Speaking of In Between, I did manage to make it there for their softball fundraiser. The place was packed. They gave away some great prizes and they had some of the best burgers I have ever eaten in a bar—and the fact that a perfectly gorgeous hunk was slaving over that hot Weber outside has nothing to do with my saying that.

I also made it to the Ball Game's fundraiser for its team. Now those guys know how to throw a party! All I can say is that I was having such a good time that, as far as I am concerned, it could have gone on for hours longer than it did.

I took in the special screening of *The Opposite of Sex* sponsored by Touchstone pictures and this paper. I don't normally comment on movies in this column but I will make an exception in this case. This is one funny movie. See it as soon and as often as you can.

And then there was the Friday night I went clubbing down South Second Street.

First I stopped at the **Ball Game** which had a nice crowd. Miss Weezy was there holding court (as usual). Girl they should pay you for keeping us all so entertained.

Then it was over to Club 219, where I witnessed something that I thought was exceptional. It seems that dancers scheduled to be on that evening didn't show. But in a wonderful gesture, everyone in the house (and that was quite a few people) was given a free drink. Way to go Chuck!

Next it was over to C'est La Vie. There were some interesting and friendly people on hand

Dish also had a nice crowd. DJ Amy kept everyone hopping with her excellent mixes and folks seemed to be having a great time.

A short walk later I found myself at In Between which also had a good-sized crowd. There were a couple of particularly hunky guys playing pool.

Fluid was packed. Billy and Jimmy told me that they are very pleased with how their new venture is doing. You know this bar isn't so new anymore, so the fact that it remains crowded shows that people really like it. It has a great atmosphere, the right volume on the music and great bartenders.

Speaking of crowds, there was a good one on hand at La Cage. Curt (from In Between), George and I got in a dice game. We each lost one round so of course we had to have a tiebreaker, which was lost by Curt. Guess George had the last laugh.

I also managed to stop by (and have a great time at) This Is It after the Big Bang Fireworks (no I didn't get a big bang). The place was packed. Joe was there and so was Tony along with many, many friendly people. There is really nothing like this place. A good mix of people, a great juke box and top-notch service make it a must stop on my list.

Coming Up... On Friday, July 3 after seeing the fireworks (I probably still won't get a big bang) I am heading down to La Cage to see the Showcase. What better place to see a star-spangled salute!

After the show, it will be off to the **Boot**Camp to see what the Leathermen are up to.

The patio should be packed.

The patio should be packed.

Saturday, July 11, I will be pounding the base paths with the rest of hot players in the

SSBL. Please note that due to the South Shore Water Frolics parade, the games are going to start at 9am.

Wednesday, July 15, is our delivery night, so get those Miller Lite tappers ready for me.

Thursday, July 16, through Sunday, July 19, I will be going mad in Mad Town for the big Madison MAGIC Picnic/Pride weekend festivities

I can't wait to see all my friends at Kirby's, the Shamrock, Rays and Manoeuvres. Of course I will also be taking in all the other festivities like the Pride Parade, the MAGIC picnic, the dances and everything else.

I certainly hope to see you there. Meanwhile stay safe and be proud.

Latest Effort Continued from Page 19

lific bank robber. He winds up spending his life either on the run or behind bars with his partner Ving Rhames.

But of course Clooney & Rhames have never killed or harmed anyone (except other bad guys that run afoul of them), and bank robbery is pretty much a "victimless crime," especially with the FDIC around, isn't it?

Thus, we're supposed to bond with them and feel that they're really good guys. Therefore it's no surprise that love blossoms at first sight between gorgeous George and unlikely FBI agent Jennifer Lopez (of Selena fame).

Out of Sight presents us with a cops & robbers take on the old boy-meets-girl formula, and does so with a combination of graphic violence, mundane dialog and pretty lame comedy. Its lackluster screenplay is by Scott Frank, based upon a novel by Elmore Leonard.

Apart from two uncredited, big name star cameos, *Out of Sight* has nothing to recommend it. Lopez, while trying to act serious and professional in her FBI agent's role, comes off as tired and dull. I don't think she cracks a smile more than twice in this nearly 2-hour long mess.

Even a supporting performance by Albert Brooks as a white-collar criminal failed to breathe much needed excitement into this lengthy, predictable bore. *

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Saturday, July 11th from 1:00–4:00pm Lake Park Area #6

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Main course and beverage provided. Bring any outdoor equipment and a dish to share

Sponsored by the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center Youth Group

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Madison, as you celebrate
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WIN, LOSE OR DRAW



THURSDAY, JULY 2
Then, Every Other
Thursday
starting at 10:30pm

STOP BY BEFORE OR AFTER THE FIREWORKS

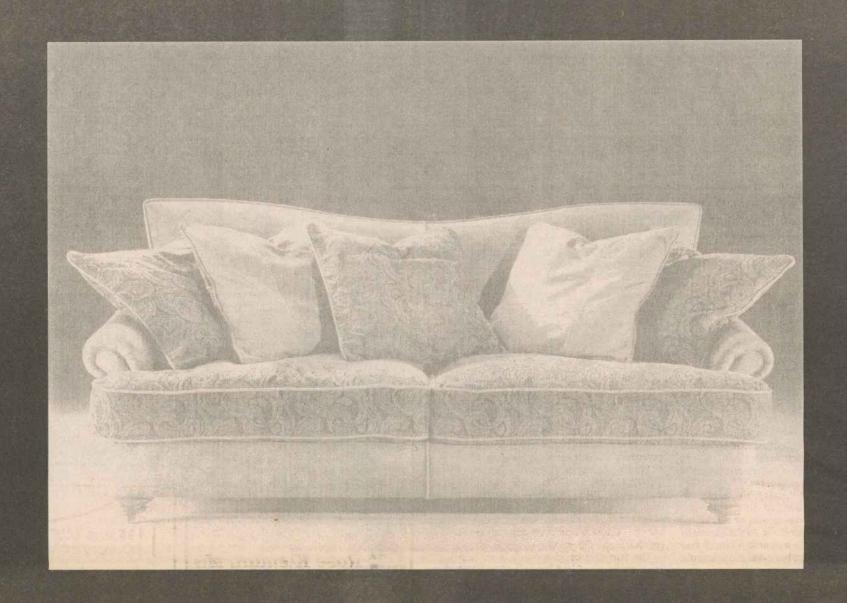
FRIDAY, JULY 3
Red, White &
Blue Drink Specials

LET'S MAKE A
DEAL

6



THURSDAY, JULY 23 10:30pm IT HAS A CERTAIN "JE NE SAIS QUOI." WHICH TRANSLATED MEANS "DOESN'T GO WITH DRIFTWOOD CLOCKS."



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GRETA GARBO—PART 2

by Steve Stavron

Speculation about the sexuality of the "Divine Garbo" has never been very fruitful. She lacked the light insouciant mellifluousness sometimes regarded as "femininity," but neither did she suggest the brittle geometric angularity of movement we associate with "masculine."

Rather she implied her own definition of gender. The charm of her movements suggested the natural uninhibited grace of a primal creature recently released from captivity. Apart from obviously close relationships with director Maurice Stiller, her mentor, and John Gilbert, who wanted to marry her early in her career, it became apparent by the 1930's that Garbo would indeed be "alone" as far as great loves were concerned.

a fatalistic irony that gave it greater dimension. She softens the approach of impending doom in Anna Kerenina [1935] bringing a gentle sense of tentative exhaustion to the role.

Once again she is graceful and very beautiful, receiving little help from Frederic March's uninspired Vronsky sporting a very bad haircut, and surrounded by over upholstered gingerbread sets. One doesn't picture Greta Garbo as a mother, but the fatalistic poignancy of her parting scenes with her little son are amazingly warm and sponta-

"I knew you loved me too much to die," the boy tells her. Earlier, the great face of tragedy is amazingly soft and lustrous as she recites a long monologue on the anticipation of a first great love.



Despite a supposed affair with writer Mercedes de Accost and Gilbert in the 1930's, Garbo seemed to be asexual. Initially actress Louise Brooks and photographer Cecil Beaton made open claims of sexual encounters with Garbo, but if these claims are more than wishful thinking, they were certainly short-lived from a sexual standpoint.

Actor Gilbert Roland's account of a brief but passionate affair with her in the 40's is especially interesting. He carried a treasured token of their affair while in the service but it was she who broke

There are no sensational stories about her private life. Garbo was discreet. Examining her close relationships with conductor Leopold Stokowski, nutritionist Gaylord Hauser and George Schleel, husband of fashion designer Valentina, one discovers only small anecdotes about her personal activities. Her interests were typical of the mun-

We know she's reciting more than acting, but who cares? This is Greta Garbo eulogizing an experience she will never have, giving it her special luster-one of her finest roles overall.

With Camille (1937) Garbo's artistry hits the stratosphere. She gives one of the greatest performances in film history, matched only by the best of Bette Davis or Charlie Chaplin in City Lights. For once Garbo is neither condescending nor def-

The famous face glows with a transcendent inner eagerness of joyful anticipation, which she lavishes on her handsome, overwhelmed young lover, Robert Taylor. The irony of her initial boredom with the life of a courtesan is barely concealed from her first moment on screen.

She caresses her opening lines with a butterfly's delicacy barely hinting at cynicism until she meets her "great love" The tragic mask becomes transwhich must seem much too "uncool" and uncomfortably sensitive within the brusque vernacular frame-work of our decadent times.

Garbo's acting does not belong in an age attuned to guy flicks and chick flicks, but here she precludes cynicism by later day ridicule .It would be her last great role.

Conquest (1937) kept Garbo in costume but without the magic of Camille. As Maria Walewska, Napoleon's mistress, she defers too much to Charles Boyer and shows little interest in the role or her co-star's attempts to out act her. She looks lovely but there is no chemistry with Boyer and she gives him center stage-no big loss. The script was dull.

Ninotchka (1939) was Garbo's first comedy success. It's a good film and well directed, but not for Garbo. As a Russian Bolshevik commissar who weakens under the spell of Paris and romance, Garbo lightens her lines but not her style. She is too serious for comedy although she appreciates humor. Her performance is actually quite good but the camera conceals her beauty making her look drab and plain beyond the role's requirements.

A classic star must have her setting but I'm in the minority opinion here. The film was widely admired and would be funny even without Garbo

The same cannot be said about her last screen appearance; Two-Faced Woman (1941). It may have been time to "modernize" Garbo and overcome failing box office receipts, but why have her dance the chica-choca in a nightclub, looking down at her feet?

Goddesses needn't touch down to earth with such a thud. The film was bad to begin with. Garbo looked silly. She was only 37.

Perhaps the cruelest blow of all was rendered by posterity which made her into an icon her beyond all recognition. Perhaps this simple, likeable woman would have been happier if nature had not bestowed upon her a remarkable face

But Greta Garbo rewarded posterity with greater benevolence for her unwonted bequest. She may have been private and inhibited but she never privatized or introverted her instinctual artistic sense. Whatever her inner world may have been, she used its resources with the most economical and discriminatory measure to give to relentless posterity some of the greatest performances ever seen on film.

Perhaps her stark, sullen beauty reminded audiences of the deprivation of quiet inner beauty in their own private worlds. But in the final analysis, the "Face of the Century" was a sad one.



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dane bourgeois-unusual in a woman of such

To a person of her supersensitive nature, bisexuality would have been a self-condemning prophecy, canceling all possibility of a great love, the absence of which would have instinctively required a repudiation of anything less.

The tragedy of Greta Garbo was that, she, the most famous woman in the world, was doomed to emotional isolation as an inescapable result of her own finely attenuated instinctual nature-the same that gave such delicacy to her performances. There were no desires left to "repress.

It was the pinnacle of love or nothing. It would be nothing. Fiercely loyal to her family and friends, she claimed to have loved no one.

But as the famous face metamorphisized into a mask of tragedy that fascinated and alienated audiences at the same time, her acting developed posed into a spontaneous paean of fragile happiness. Garbo is sharing with us an experience that for her-and possibly for most of us-will take place only onscreen.

She is her own miracle but captures for us the miracle of film. For all her spontaneity, she is too lovely to be completely real and so is the experience of her performance. She is transcendent.

In the famous death scene which defies analysis and must be seen to be believed-she does the entire sequence in a barely audible whisper-her final lines wrenchingly coincide with the essence of the Garbo mystique: "Maybe its better that I die so I can live in your heart where the world can't

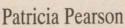
To speak of Camille, a 60 year old film, in glowing terms is almost embarrassing because it hints at a disarming emotional vulnerability both in her performance and in the audience's reaction,





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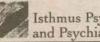
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Tinality Continued from Page 9

market, with cropped hair and produce in arm. I love how they glance at each other, so fearless, so sly, and so familiar.

They know that I watch them since I stare unabashedly. They know that I see the unshaven hair on their legs. I also have unshaven legs and pits too, but not because it's uniform, more because I can't think of one single really good reason to shave.

The hairy similarity noted; I'm otherwise quite different from the Lesbians. I'm married. To a man. When I got married. I was the first openly Bisexual person I knew who got married. I thought my friends would faint from shock, so I got them very drunk before the actual ceremony took place.

You see, they feared for both my husband's and my peace of mind, that my new life would conflict with my chiseled character and unique "ways." Am I faithful? That's always the first question which pops into inquiring minds I know.

By my estimation of things, I'm shockingly, mind-numbingly, devoted. My betrothed indulges me my whims and my madness, and trusts me more than he fears loosing me; a courtesy that a creature like me prizes above all things.

My husband is an honorable man. He also doesn't complain about my hairy pits.

I've theories on things.

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My friends say I don't live the least in reality and instead am rooted in a frame of mind, or consciousness, they refer to as Tineality. I like the idea of this Tineality. I like that it coexist with reality and that it is protected so lovingly by me.

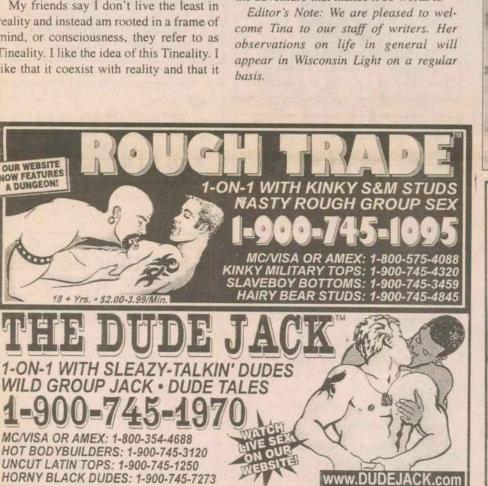
I also love it because it has my name in it. I'd explore it a bit with you but in the interest of time and space I'll note only it's fundamental principle—that all things happen for the benefit of experience and the passing on of that experience.

There are no qualifications. It doesn't matter if the experience is pleasant or unpleasant. I guess this implies that I don't know fear, though that is definitely not the case. I have fears, practical ones.

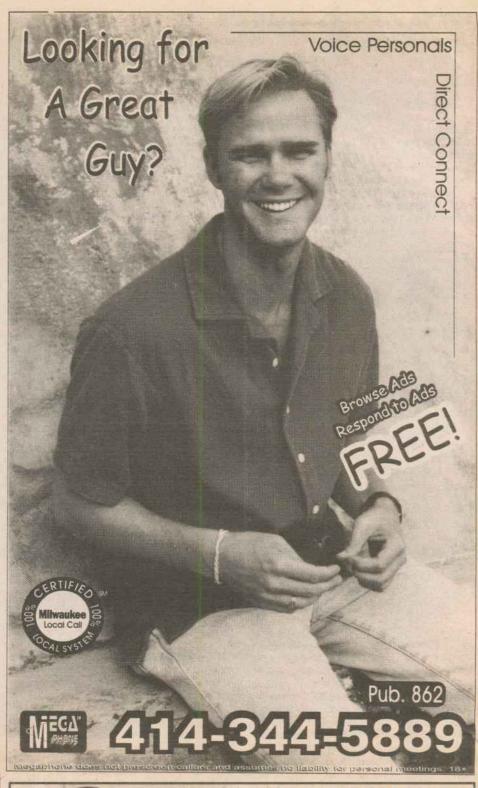
I won't go bungee jumping for instance. You'll never find me swimming unsupervised, late at night, in murky, swamp water. I play safe. I've often wondered if my conception of reality, this Tineality, isn't in some way inextricably bound to my bisexuality. Isn't this the way that I've evolved and adjusted to life; to neither being this way or that way.

I dance that fine line, leaving most everyone worrying or wondering, what's to become of them. If I've heard it once, I've heard it a thousand times, "Tina you're so lucky, you get the best of both

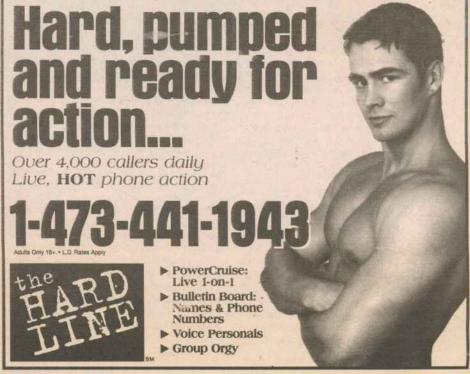
My answer to that comment hasn't really changed much over the years, "Yes I am and yes I do!" But don't be too seduced or too impressed, I don't stand completely in either world. All things considered though, my life is good. It's the adventure that makes it so worth it.











Dear Ruthie

Hey, there folks! I've been getting a lot questions lately about my morning routine. Why the hell do you people want to know what I do in the morning? Maybe it's just one weirdo who keeps writing me asking for my morning duties, but okay, I give in.

Here's a quick run down of my morning ordeal. I roll out of bed around 10am, make that 11-if the martinis went down particularly well the night before. I usually put on a Frankie Sinatra record-God rest his souland feed the cat leftovers from dinner the other night. "Damnit-this food is from 'Hong's Topless Geisha.' If it's good enough for a Geisha with a chest cold, it's good enough for you-ya stupid cat." I take a quick shower and curse myself for getting that damn tattoo and if the martinis were REALLY flowing the previous night, I check myself for any new ones. After measuring how far my breasts have fallen (I keep a daily journal), I check under the bed to make sure there's not a man passed out under there-it's happened.

It takes about 45 minutes to pick out my clothes-"Is it a feather day or a sequin day? Leopard skin or chiffon? Little white gloves or evening length?" Then I grab my purse, give my Fabio poster a kiss, and lock-up the trailer.

There's nothing like the Rusty Nail Trailer Park in the morning. I'm telling ya... there's the scent of last night's tire bon fire, the sight of abandoned big wheels along the dirt road, and of course the ever present hint of a lingering tornado. Rust covered trailers and tacky lawn ornaments are the finishing touches in my own private "Disgrace Land." usually see Earl-in his Speedo-out there emptying his septic tank. What the hell does that guy do that he has to empty his septic tank every morning? Never mind-you see a 385 lbs. guy in an orange Speedo emptying his septic tank, you don't stop to talk.

Next, I go to the office and pick-up my mail-my lovely, lovely mail -and immediately open any letters from the prison. I almost always need a cigarette after reading these letters, and then quickly dash off to grab a bit of lunch - usually margaritas and Rolaids. "Hey-Senior-keep those margaritas coming and bring me a pack of Tums. And while you're at it, wrap-up some of those nachos for my

Afterward I enjoy a little shoppinglooking for dresses, hats, gloves, muscle studs, repair men, and pool boys. Oh-and corn pads for Pearl-although I think knee pads would suit her better - don't tell her I said that.

By now I'm well into my day and ready to take on the world - or sleep with a city official, which ever comes first. Let's read some letters!

I'm recently single. Do men still have casual sex or has this died in the mid 80's? It's been so long. I don't know where to begin- where to meet men, where to go on dates, etc. Help Me! (signed)

New to the Scene-Again!

Dear New Person,

Do people still have casual sex? Why don't you stop by the trailer and we'll find out? Do you like cold nachos in the morning?

I can tell you that I see casual sex ongoings night All I have to do is stand my trailer, climb on top of a pile of old news- just his leafy lifestyle.



papers, grab my binoculars, and look into Lou's trailer. Lou is in his bedroom having casual sex nearly every night-sometimes with a partner.

Honey, some things will never go away. There will always be the threat of war, narrowminded people, too many shoes in my closet, and the never-ending nipples belonging to Fabio. In the same respect, I don't think casual sex will ever totally die. I hope that people are more leery of it today, and take the time to be careful if they go that route, so if that's what you're looking for, you'll find it. If that's not for you then, I'm sure you'll find people who are interested in meeting the real you and not those who just want to date your genitals. "Hi-I'm Bob, I'd like to take your penis out

Hey, I don't know why you're recently single, but if you're looking to meet people-I'll say it again-volunteer for your local AIDS organization or other community outreach group. Even if you don't meet any interesting men, you'll make some new friends, feel good about yourself, and give something back to the community.

I think you'll be just fine. Don't go nuts looking for Mr. Right, just set out to have fun and make some friends. If not, come on over-I'll heat up the nachos and lock the cat in the medicine cabinet.

Dear Ruthie,

Do I want to date a vegetarian? I just met one, but think his eating habits will eventually bug me. They have already at Summerfest one night. Have you ever married a vegetarian? Dated one? (signed)

Meat Lover

Dear Meaty,

None of my husbands have been vegetarians. By the time I get men to marry me, the only food they can eat comes out of a hospital tube. Please! Most of my ex-husbands are so old, they're lucky if they can keep down a cocktail weenie.

I'm sure you boyfriend isn't crazy about your hog heavin', barbecue bingin' habits, but he deals with it. Doesn't he? Let him shovel sushi, and pack parsley till your cows come home. The guy doesn't eat meat-who gives a crap? Obviously you're not that crazy about this guy if his healthy eating habits are giving you second thoughts. Maybe all you're after is HIS meat (I can't believe I just said that). If you don't want to date him, let him move on, ause I think there's more going on here than

Possum Droppings Continued from Page 17

Possum Candidate at a drag show. Who will it of Just Us. be? Watch for details in this column.

Recaps... On Saturday, June 20th, Mama Roux's had a Sour Mash Party. Ms. Sour Mash, AKA James Provo, hosted the gala. There was an outrageous boot contest, hopscotch, a Gay version of Twister, and raffles galore. Jeff Schroetter, the manager of Roux's, and Sour Mash dedicated their campaign to three friends taken from them by AIDS.

Like all Possum Queens, Sour Mash comes from a questionable background. Her father was Jack Daniels and her mother was Old #7. She got her name from the back label of the Jack Daniels bottle.

Sour Mash's bubbly personality, spiced with a bit of sarcasm, made the night fun. Her campaign has corporate sponsors: C.C. Conrad and the Boston Store Fine Jewelry Department

Notable Possum VIPs in attendance were Max Barnett of the Possum Queen Steering Team and the ever shy and retiring Iona Trailer

Ilease A. Trailer completed the dynamic Duo of South Side Trailer Trash. Iona had just left the adoration of all her fans at Polish Fest. She even had a floral lay on her head noting her acclaim. The benefiting agency of Mama Roux's Campaign is ARCW.

Saturday, June 20th, was a busy night for Queen Mary of Kathy's Nut Hut. She hosted a Poker Run at 7 bars. Between 25 to 30 people got cards from each bar to create the best hand and win a \$60 prize. I was told that everyone had a great time. They are also raising money

The Possum Queen Campaign gives us miles of smiles from one end of the city to the other. It crosses all nationalities with commitment. It enables our community to say yes, count me in on the battle against AIDS. It shows the world that a man in a dress and high heels can be a symbol of love and concern for those who have AIDS or are HIV-positive.

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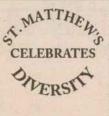
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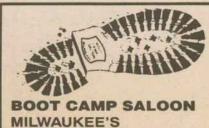
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