

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

Wisconsin Light

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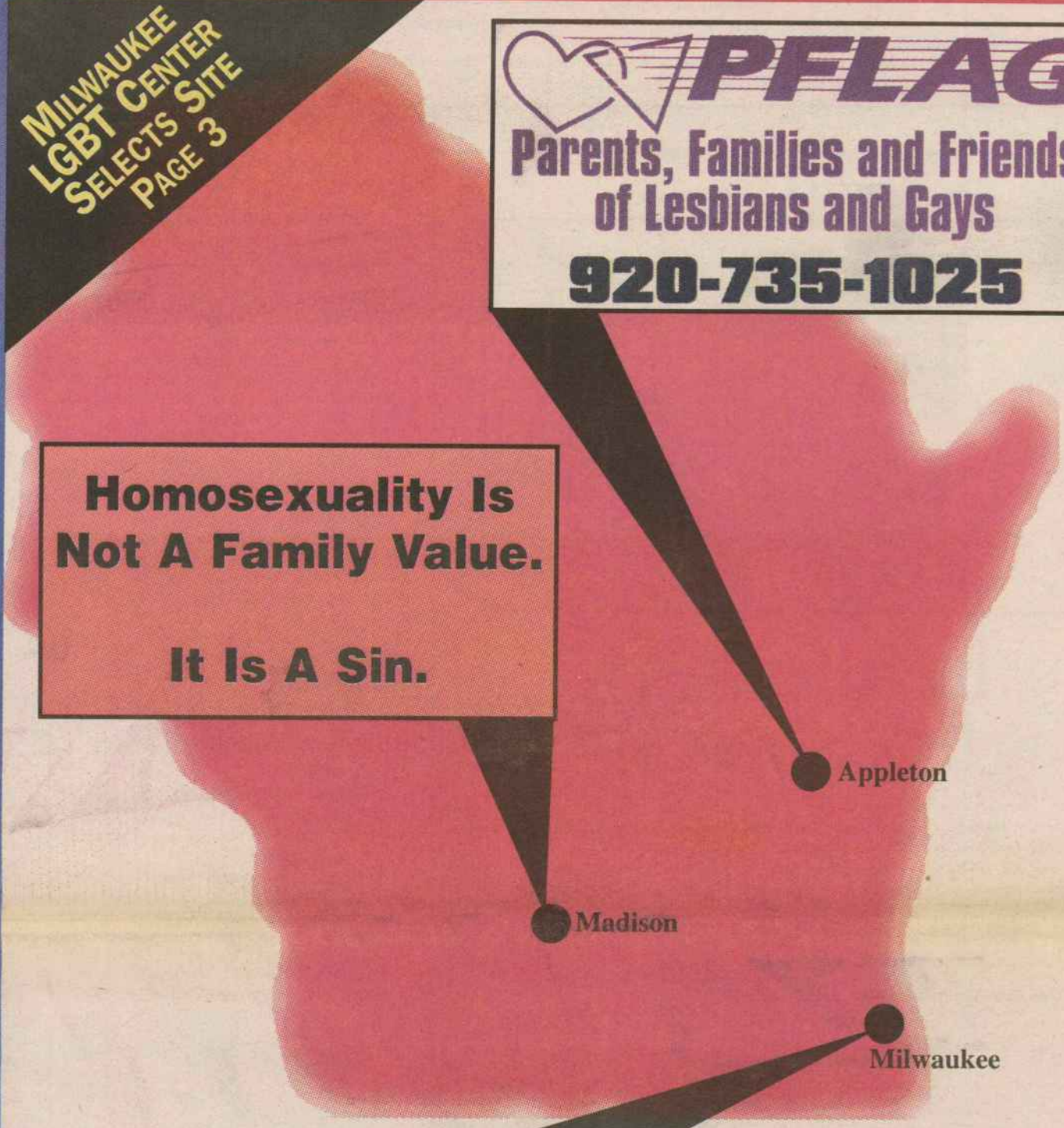


**MILWAUKEE
LGBT CENTER
SELECTS SITE
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of Lesbians and Gays
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An Exclusive Wisconsin Light Report

BATTLE OF THE BILLBOARDS

by Bill Meunier
Wisconsin Light has learned that PFLAG chapters in Milwaukee and the Fox Valley will be erecting 10 Gay positive billboards within the next month. Coming on the heels of the anti-Gay billboard controversy in the Madison area, the PFLAG signs seem almost certain to escalate the public debate over homosexuality.
PFLAG-Milwaukee's signs will go up in five locations on or about August 3. "We wanted to put them up for PrideFest," said

Elna Hickson, of PFLAG Milwaukee. Hickson said that PrideFest is a critical time for families with Gay and Lesbian children, because a number of them choose that time to tell their parents of their sexual orientation.
The Milwaukee billboards will convey a simple message, "Someone you know and love is Gay" plus the PFLAG-Milwaukee hotline number. The signs are intended to make those who have Gay or Lesbian family members aware of the group and its services.
Hickson credits Brigitte Vojsik with

doing all the work for the signs. Vojsik, whose 25-year-old son, Marc, is Gay, told Wisconsin Light that she wanted to make other parents of Gay and Lesbian children become aware of PFLAG.
Vojsik says, "It's high time for the City of Milwaukee to get a little wake up call." She says that she wants people, who are wrestling with issues surrounding a Gay or Lesbian family member, to realize that help is available. "When you reach out to people, usually doors open up and about 25 people are

Please see Billboards, Page 12

Packer President Apologizes For Use of Packer Uniform in Reggie White Ad

Washington DC — Packer President Bob Harlan sent a letter of apology to Elizabeth Birch, Executive Director of the Human Rights Campaign, HRC, after a picture of Packer player, Reggie White appeared in an anti-Gay newspaper ad.

The full page ad which was run in the July 21 edition of *The Washington Times*. White also appeared in full uniform in an earlier ad placed in the July 15 edition of USA Today. After that

March 25 of this year, White appeared before the Wisconsin State Legislature. During his speech, White compared Gays and Lesbians to "liars, cheaters and backstabbers." White's speech contained remarks that other minority groups also found to be offensive.

On April 2, White faxed a letter of apology to the Milwaukee Journal/Sentinel. His fax made it clear that he was apologizing to anyone he may have offended except for members of

State News Briefs



APPLETON GLEEDA To Consider Disbanding

The membership of the Gay & Lesbian Education and Economic Development Alliance, Inc., GLEEDA, will consider disbanding the eight-year-old organization during their annual meeting, August 12, at Liberty Hall in Kimberly.

According to GLEEDA President, Tim Persinger, repeated appeals for members to become active in the leadership of the organization have gone largely ignored. Persinger noted that the burden for project planning and execution has fallen almost completely on the group's three Executive Board members, and that numerous Board vacancies have gone unfilled for almost two years.

A proposal to meld GLEEDA into Green Bay's Positive Voice organization will be introduced during the meeting. Under the proposal, Positive Voice would provide prorated memberships for GLEEDA members. GLEEDA's bank balance would be transferred to Positive Voice following the dissolution of the organization.

Current GLEEDA members not wishing to join Positive Voice would receive prorated refunds on their membership dues. According to GLEEDA Treasurer, Marty Brown, Positive Voice would assume responsibility for a number of GLEEDA's successful annual events, such as the New Year's Eve Dinner/Dance.

Members unable to attend the annual meeting have been asked to submit their comments and ideas in writing to GLEEDA. The evening will begin with dinner at 6:30pm followed by the meeting at 7:30pm. — *Wisconsin Light Northeast Wisconsin Bureau*

billboards condemning homosexuality. GALAXY followed in step with previous week's events in Madison.

Support for the vigil came from across the state. Supporters included State Senator Brian Rude, Rep. Mark Meyer, UW-La Crosse's Chancellor Kuipers and La Crosse Mayor John Medinger. None of these leaders were able to attend the event personally, but all sent letters of support, which were read during the vigil.

Representative Meyer's letter said, "[I] would like to pledge my support in the fight against anti-Gay hostility and violence."

Mayor Medinger of La Crosse stated, "I am opposed to discrimination against anyone because of their sexual orientation...violence against any person must be rejected as a crime against humanity, and we must denounce it from the mountaintops. Certainly no one can defend a violent action against a person because of their sexual orientation!"

Senator Rude remarked, "I am hopeful we are able to send a message to all concerned citizens that La Crosse cares for and accepts all of our citizens."

The vigil was followed by an open microphone speak out, which lasted until the 11pm park closing. The event was illuminated only by candlelight, which those in attendance said created a remarkable ambiance for the evening. There were no protesters.

For the most part, the local media ignored the event. Although all local news organizations were contacted and asked to provide coverage five days in advance of the vigil, only one TV station chose to do so. Its report contained comments about the anti-Gay billboards in Wisconsin. *The La Crosse Tribune* failed to provide any coverage of the event despite several phone calls asking them to do so, which was especially disturbing to the event's organizers. — *Wisconsin Light La Crosse Bureau*

GREEN BAY Seventh Annual Gay Guernsey Pageant Set for August 8

One of five hard working contestants will be named the "Head of the Herd" in the Seventh Annual Gay Guernsey Fundraising Pageant at Za's on Saturday, August 8.

The Pageant, which raises money to provide financial assistance to Brown County clients of ARCW, is the culmination of a series of fund raising events which began with the Guernsey Gala kickoff show at Napalese Lounge on July 3. That show featured the introduction of the five candidates who are representing the city's Gay bars, as well as live musical and female impersonation acts.

Over the last few weeks candidates have been selling hats, candy, "cow eggs" and other trinkets, and holding events such as steak and egg breakfasts, spaghetti and taco dinners, and casino nights to raise "votes" for their candidates.

According to the Gay Guernsey founder and "Dowager Empress" Elsie Bovine — AKA Green Bay graphic artist and bartender Wayne Thiele — this year's Pageant is striving to top the nearly \$6500 raised in 1997. "This year's contestants are really 'moo-ving' their tails," she said. "I'm utterly impressed!"

Elsie noted that no single entrant appeared to be running away with the contest, which is something that has happened at times in the past. "I don't think anyone is able to predict a winner at this point, and that really helps the competition and ultimately the final beneficiaries of this contest — those living with HIV and AIDS in the Green Bay area."

The Gay Guernsey competition has raised more than \$23,000 to date for HIV/AIDS clients of ARCW and the former Center Project. Upcoming candidate fundraisers include a drag show at Za's on July 31, a beer bust and corn roast at Napalese Lounge, a Packers tailgate party at Sass August 1, and a show and raffle at Sass on August 7. — *Wisconsin Light Northeast Wisconsin Bureau*

LA CROSSE Over 200 Attend Candlelight Vigil

Over 200 people attended a candlelight vigil in La Crosse on Sunday, July 19. The vigil, sponsored by the Gay Alliance of La Crosse Area Youth, GALAXY, was held at Riverside Park. It was organized in response to the anti-Gay billboards, hate speech, and the violence targeted at the Gay and Lesbian community in Madison.

Organizers said that the event was a proactive action, since La Crosse at this point has no

Editor's note: Below is the letter sent by the Mayor of La Crosse to GALAXY, a Gay and Lesbian Youth organization in that City. It was read at GALAXY's Candlelight Vigil held in solidarity with Madison's LGBT community, which had been attacked by anti-Gay billboards and a spate of Gay bashings.

Dear GALAXY; Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender People and Allies of the Gay Community:

I regret that a family commitment will prevent me from attending the Candlelight Vigil that is taking place the evening of Sunday, July 19th in Riverside Park. I understand that this vigil is a response to the anti-Gay billboards that are appearing across Wisconsin and violence that exists against the Gay community.

I, as Mayor of La Crosse, want you to know that I am opposed to discrimination against anyone because of their sexual orientation. In addition, while violence against any person must be rejected as a crime against humanity and we must denounce it from the mountaintops, certainly no one can defend a violent action against a person because of their sexual orientation!

Such violence is abominable. However, our response to the violence must not be more violence. We must speak out with the truth. We must educate those who have an open mind. We should also follow the example of Martin Luther King, Jr. I urge you (if you don't already know) to find out more about how he handled his enemies and critics and the massive success that his civil rights movement experienced.

I need to make it very clear, however, that I am a staunch supporter of the First Amendment which protects speech, even hateful and disgusting speech. But we can deal with the ignorant and the hate peddlers with the facts, with science, by political organization and with love.

You are on the side of justice. You know that. I know that. And with YOUR free speech protections you will be able to spread your message with the assurance that not just science, but the law is on your side.

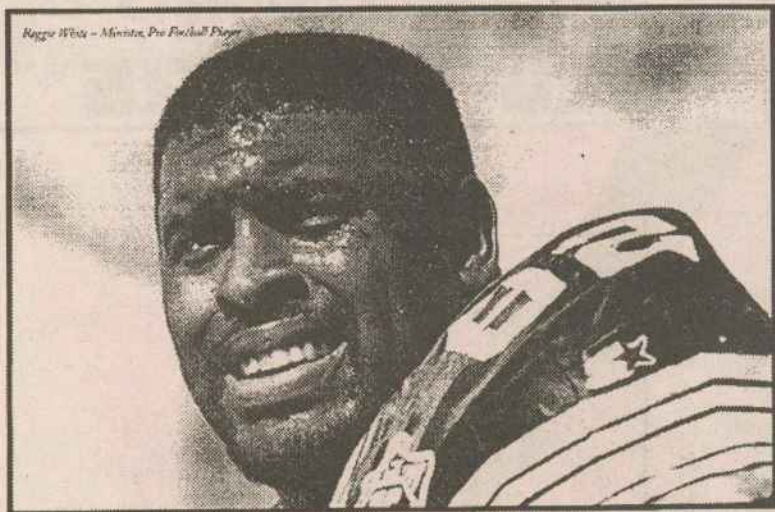
Once again, I am sorry that a trip to the airport to pick up my family prevents my attendance here tonight. I admire your courage.

Sincerely,
John D. Medinger
Mayor of La Crosse

The Washington Times

TUESDAY, JULY 21, 1998; PM 12

Toward an open debate on homosexual behavior.



In defense of free speech.

Recent comments by Reggie White, Trent Lott, and recording artists Angie and Debbie Wynans describing homosexual behavior as a "sin" have brought a tidal wave of harsh language from homosexual activists, media pundits, and even a White House spokesman. They have branded Christian minister and pro-football player Reggie White as "ignorant," "stupid," and "backward."

If tolerance is a virtue today, it's because of free speech.

Our Founding Fathers knew that speech was essential to the American experiment in ordered liberty. They knew it allowed every person or group, no matter how small or disfavored, a right in the marketplace of ideas that is Democracy. The abuse of free speech has led to our nation's darkest days, but it has also led to our nation's greatest triumphs. It is the only way to defend our liberties and to improve our lives. There is no other path to true tolerance; it is the only way.

Just because we disagree doesn't make us homophobic.

Speech is essential to our society. It is the lifeblood of our democracy. It is the only way to defend our liberties and to improve our lives. There is no other path to true tolerance; it is the only way.

Free speech is the best guardian of truth.

Without a free and open debate on homosexuality, we might never have learned the truth about this issue. Free speech is the best guardian of truth.



Free speech is worth nothing if we're not ready to pay the price. In a "tolerance" culture where greater value is placed on tolerance, sin is a huge red herring. It distracts a broad playing field of right vs. wrong, and that's worth discussing today.

Free speech is worth nothing if we're not ready to pay the price.

In a "tolerance" culture where greater value is placed on tolerance, sin is a huge red herring. It distracts a broad playing field of right vs. wrong, and that's worth discussing today.

If you really love someone, you'll tell them the truth.

Supporters of the Human Rights Campaign, HRC, and other anti-Gay groups are urged to contact their representatives and express their support for free speech.

Supporters of the Human Rights Campaign, HRC, and other anti-Gay groups are urged to contact their representatives and express their support for free speech.

ad was run, White was reprimanded by the NFL for what was called "an inappropriate use of his uniform." Despite the reprimand, White appeared in full uniform in the second ad as well.

After the first White ad appeared, Birch sent Harlan a strongly worded letter. In it she said "The Human Rights Campaign vehemently defends White's constitutional right to express his opinion. Where HRC and its 250,000 members have a problem is when the Green Bay Packers remain silent as your spokesman expresses his hurtful, divisive views about Gay people."

In his reply, Harlan said "As an organization, we regret the misuse of our uniform in the advertisement. Please accept our apology." HRC hailed the Packer President's letter as a sign that Packers and the NFL will "not allow White to use the prestige of the team or the NFL to legitimize discrimination against Gay Americans."

Harlan, himself, was criticized because he refused to answer a question about White's anti-Gay behavior during the Packer's annual stockholder's meeting. A man who said he was Gay asked Harlan if the Packer's would distance themselves from White's anti-Gay remarks. Amid a chorus of boos, Harlan stood in silence, before calling for another question.

The White ads are the latest episodes in his campaign against Gays and Lesbians. On

the LGBT community.

In May, White appeared at a Family Research Council (FRC) dinner. FRC is considered to be one of the leading anti-Gay organizations in the country. At the dinner White was congratulated for his anti-Gay stance by leaders of the religious right and by Wisconsin, Republican Senatorial candidate, Congressman Mark Neuman.

Also in May, White spoke at an anti-Gay rally in Ypsilanti, Michigan. The rally was part of a campaign to overturn a local human rights ordinance through a referendum. Ypsilanti voters upheld the ordinance by a wide margin.

White's actions have not come without a price. Companies that use White to endorse their products have been flooded with complaints by outraged Gays, Lesbians and others. Within a week of his speech to the Legislature, CBS announced that it was no longer considering White for a broadcasting job.

During an interview on ABC's 20/20 news program, White's wife, Sara, publicly claimed that "the sodomites" prevented her husband from being hired by CBS. CBS denied that it made its decision on the basis of any political pressure from any group.

After the CBS announcement, White, who had indicated he would not play another season in the NFL, announced that God told him to remain in a Packer uniform for the upcoming season.

Reggie's anti-Gay ad appeared in *The Washington Times*

An Exclusive Wisconsin Light Report

Milwaukee LGBT Community Center Finds a Home

By Bill Meunier

Milwaukee — The Board of Directors of the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center has made the long awaited announcement of its choice of a new site for the Center. At its meeting on Thursday, July 23, the Board voted to sign a lease for a site at 170 S. Second Street. The lease was signed immediately after the vote, which was unanimous.

The Center will occupy 4,122 feet on the first floor of the building known as the

Committee liaison, is already putting out the call for volunteers to help make the new Community Center a reality. "Now more than ever, volunteers will be needed to make the Center a viable resource for our community," she said. "Before we open, we need people to help clean, build, paint and decorate the Center. Shortly after, volunteers will be needed to staff the Center, maintain our space, and answer phones. This is exciting, and the need is great."

Bremmer adds that those wishing to volunteer their time and talents can call the LGBT Community Center Hotline at (414) 483-4710.

The Board's decision culminates a nine month search for a new site. The first site for the new Community Center was on the northwest corner of North Third Street and Vine in the Sanders Bowl building. In November of last year, a fire made that location unusable.



The Milwaukee LGBT Community Center will occupy 170 S. Second St. no later than September 30, 1998.

Downtown Mini Warehouse. It will be located in Historic Walker's Point, just a block north of four popular Gay and Lesbian bars and the offices of Wisconsin Light.

Joshua Feyen, a spokesperson for the LGBT Community Center, told Wisconsin Light that the Center is expecting to begin cleaning, painting and decorating its new location no later than September 30 of this year.

"The landlord has to put in ADA (Americans with Disability Act) improvements, bathrooms and a few other things," said Feyen. "After that's done we can get in there and start working on it. Our lease says these improvements will be made by the end of September."

Center Co-President Sheila Zelenski is excited about the new lease. "This signing brings us wonderfully close to our dream of having a place for our community to call home, she said. "The actions of this Board, the Interim Board, the initial Steering Committee and the countless volunteers made this a reality."

The Center's other Co-President, Neil Albrecht, adds, "We are grateful to the Center's members, some of whom have now been with us for over a year. Their faith and vision have given us the confidence to sign this lease. With their support, the dream is coming true."

The Second Street site came to the Board's attention in late June almost immediately after it came onto the commercial real estate market. It was considered to be far superior to two options that the Board had been considering. "The availability, size, location, price, parking, first floor space, ADA accessibility and extremely genial landlord made this site the obvious choice," said John Wirth, Chairman of the Center's Facilities Committee. "Once we took a look at the space, we fell in love with it."

Wirth said the new site "needs some TLC," and is being leased as is. "The rent is really reasonable because the landlord isn't painting the walls or decorating it," said Wirth. "But we are confident that people will want to help us make this the kind of space we'll be proud to call our home."

Before calling for the vote to sign the lease, Zelenski said to the Board, "I want to point out to everyone what a huge commitment this is for us to make on behalf of our community. I want to make sure that all of us are shoulder to shoulder on this. All of us must be willing to do this ourselves and bring in volunteers to make it happen."

Barbara Bremmer, Director and Volunteer

The blaze was accidentally set off by a worker using a torch to cut pipe in the building's basement.

Since the fire, the organization has devoted hundreds of volunteer hours to find a new location. Dozens of potential sites were looked at, and ten of those were given serious consideration.

"We faced a number of problems in finding a new location," said Feyen. "Some sites were not suitable for our needs. Others were too expensive and in two cases the building was



The Milwaukee LGBT Community Center board of directors at the lease signing. Signing the lease are Sheila Zelenski, co-president and Naomi Guzman, secretary. Behind them (l to r) are Margot Manassa, Joshua Feyen, Denise Cawley, Debbie Weill, Barbara Bremmer, Stephanie Hume, Adrian Wade, and John Wirth. Missing are board members Neil Albrecht, Julie Ellsworth, and Steve Markowitz.

sold before we could lease it. We also encountered some people who didn't want to rent to a Gay group."

The LGBT Community Center has been in the works for over two years. The impetus for the Center started with Irv Uecker and Ross Walker who offered to help provide financial assistance to the new Center.

Uecker and Walker selected two facilitators to hold a "Town Hall Meeting." At that meeting, it was determined that Milwaukee needed a LGBT Center, and ideas on how to get one started were discussed.

Other community meetings to formalize a structure and select an Interim Board of Directors soon followed, as did a Feasibility Study.

A community survey was also conducted to help determine the types of programs the Center should offer. Over 1,600 individuals filled out the survey at PrideFest '96.

In January of this year, eight members of a permanent Board of Directors were elected during a community meeting. Those eight members selected five others to round out the Board.

The Center currently has over 200 members and over 100 volunteers.

Those wishing more information on the Center can call its hotline or visit its web site at www.Mkelgbt.com

Editor's note — For our views on the selection of this new site, please see our editorial in this issue.

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Editorials

A Reminder from La Crosse

On Sunday, July 19, Lesbians, Gays and Bisexuals of La Crosse sent us a gentle reminder about the meaning of community. That evening, GALAXY, a Gay and Lesbian teen group held a candlelight vigil to show solidarity with Madison Gays and Lesbians who are under attack from homophobic billboards and a recent spate of Gay bashings.

The vigil attracted over 200 people to La Crosse's Riverside Park. Letters of support from local politicians were read and an open mike provided a forum for anyone who had something to say about hate speech and anti-Gay violence. Lesbians and Gays in La Crosse recognized while any part of our statewide community is under attack, they are under attack as well.

It is easy for those of us who live in larger cities to forget that tens of thousands of Gays, Lesbians and Bisexuals reside in other parts of Wisconsin. It is easy for those of us who are older to think that our Lesbian and Gay youth have little to teach us. But on a hot, muggy July night, in a park alongside the Mississippi River, the people of La Crosse reminded us that our movement is alive and well outside of Wisconsin's big cities and showed us the true meaning of community. And it was Gay and Lesbian teens who led the way.

A Dream Moves Closer to Reality

With the selection of a new site, the Board of Milwaukee's LGBT Community Center has taken a big step forward towards the fulfillment of a long held dream. The new site seems to be an excellent choice.

It is located on a street that many see as a vital part of Milwaukee's Gay community, South Second Street — a factor that many thought would be critical to the new Center's success. Indeed, the new Center will be only one block North of the offices occupied by Wisconsin Light and several popular Gay and Lesbian bars. By choosing a site on South Second Street, the Center's Board has sent an unmistakable signal that Milwaukee's LGBT Center will be fully engaged in the community it seeks to serve.

Furthermore, the new site will be easily accessible to everyone. It is on two bus routes, and three other bus lines are just a block away.

The site offers other advantages as well. It is large enough to accommodate the Center's initial set of programs, ample parking is available, and it is handicapped accessible.

We recognize that some individuals have concerns about the Center's organizational structure. We hope that they — and everyone else — will realize that this is not the time for arguing; it is the time for working. Making the raw new site into the showpiece we would all like it to be requires everyone's help and continued support.

Let's not waste this historic opportunity. All of us are needed to pitch in and help if at long last the goal of "a home of our own" is going to turn from a dream into a reality.

Harlan's Apology Is Not Enough

Packer President Bob Harlan's apology for his star Reggie White's use of a Packer uniform in an anti-Gay ad reminds us of last year's season when the Pack got to the Superbowl and lost. It was nice, but it didn't go far enough.

Harlan also owes a personal apology to the legions of Gay and Lesbian Packer fans for his refusal to distance himself from White's homophobia when he was asked about it during the Green Bay Packer's annual meeting last month.

Furthermore, the apology he did make would be much more meaningful if he had also announced that the team and the NFL were filing a trademark infringement suit against those who sponsored the ad, and that White had been given a substantial fine — to be donated to an AIDS related charity — for his flagrant and repeated violations of the team's and the league's rules.

America's Gay and Lesbian NFL fans are owed more than the letter that Harlan sent to the Human Rights Campaign. They are owed concrete action that makes it clear to the Packer's that the NFL will not tolerate players using their status as sports heroes to promote bigotry.

Letter from the Editor

Dear Readers,

This issue should bring smiles to Gays, Lesbians and Bisexuals around the State. It contains good news from a variety of locations.

In Appleton and Milwaukee, local PFLAG chapters are erecting Gay positive billboards. Also in Milwaukee, the Board of Directors for the new LGBT Community Center has made an excellent choice for its new site. In Madison they held a wildly successful Pride Weekend, and Marc Pocan's campaign to maintain an openly Gay voice in the State Assembly appears to be on track. In La Crosse over 200 people attended a candlelight vigil against homophobia, organized by GALAXY, a local Gay and Lesbian youth organization. In Green Bay, the Gay Guernsey Campaign features a hotly contested race for the crown.

These things didn't happen by themselves. They happened because untold numbers of unsung heroes cared enough to make them happen. It is to those unsung heroes, whether they promoted a Gay Guernsey fundraiser in Titledown or cooked the burgers at the MAGIC picnic, that we dedicate this issue.

Speaking of unsung heroes, we have a few of those at Wisconsin Light, too. Those of us who get bylines always get the credit, but without a whole lot of other people, you wouldn't be reading those bylines or the articles below them.

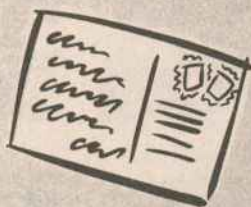
There is one in particular that I think deserves special mention. His name is Rick Haag. The masthead says that he is our Copy Editor, but Rick does much more than that — not that being a Copy Editor wouldn't be enough. Rick has been of invaluable help in distributing the paper, assisting us at the MAGIC picnic and other events, and just in general being there to help in anyway he can.

You can never do enough to show your appreciation for an unsung hero. You can only thank them for their efforts and God for making them so caring and wonderful. So, thank you to Rick and all the other unsung heroes of our community. This one's for you.

Enjoy the Light!

Bill

We want to hear from you!



Address your letters to:
Attn: Editor
Wisconsin Light
225 South 2nd Street
Milwaukee, WI 53204

Letters must be signed and include the sender's name and address. We will withhold your name upon request.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

Make no mistake about it — the passing of the torch from Terry Boughner and Jerry Johnson to Bill Meunier at the Wisconsin Light was not just local news.

When I read a number of weeks back that Terry and Jerry were moving on from the Light, I felt the same pang of loss that many felt. I was concerned that the paper that kept Milwaukee and Wisconsin close to me in my New York City life would somehow be forever affected. To many of us, Terry and Jerry were the Wisconsin Light.

The good news, of course, is that Bill Meunier has taken over as editor. I know Bill, having chatted him up on Gay issues both local and national, and there could not have been a better choice to continue the work of the Wisconsin Light.

In my work for *In The Life*, I spend a good deal of my day perusing Gay newspapers from numerous cities and states across the country. The Wisconsin Light is one of the best Gay and Lesbian publications anywhere. It should be treasured by the community.

A large bundle of new Wisconsin Light issues are delivered every other week in New York to A Different Light, the largest Gay bookstore here. Those papers always disappear very fast. With Bill Meunier as Editor, I am sure that trend will continue.

John Catanla

John is the Director of Communications and a Producer for In the Life on public television. He is a Wisconsin native and lived in Milwaukee before moving to New York.

Dear Editor,

Republican James McFarland's column in the current issue of Wisconsin Light is a welcome change from the stab-our-friends-in-the-back Clinton bashing seen in previous Wisconsin Light offerings from the Log Cabin Club.

McFarland's analysis of current internal Republican politics is interesting information rather than campaign propaganda, and is the sort of commentary not merely deserving of a place in a Gay newspaper but actually welcome in one.

One hopes that if the commentary from the HOP (Homophobic Old Party) is going to be seen in the future in Wisconsin Light, it will be in a similar vein, and will not revert to the anti-Democratic spite seen in some previous offerings from the right.

(Now if the Wisconsin Light staff can finally learn the spelling of homophobe Ralph O-v-a-d-a-l-'s name . . .)

Al Geiersbach

AN OPEN LETTER TO GREEN BAY PACKER PRESIDENT BOB HARLAN FROM STATE REP. TIM CARPENTER

Dear Mr. Harlan:

I am writing in regard to the ad that pictured Reggie White in his Green Bay Packer uniform in USA Today, on Wednesday, July 15, 1998, entitled: *In defense of free speech*. Let me preface my remarks by first stating that I am a lifelong Packer fan, and secondly, that I am an avid advocate of free speech. In fact, it is my sincere belief that the right to free speech in our country is absolutely fundamental to the exposure of ignorance and intolerance so that society as a whole can ultimately progress. Accordingly, I wholeheartedly support Mr. White's right to continue to speak out on issues as he sees fit and would encourage him to continue to do so. The specific problem I have with USA Today ad, however, concerns the fact that Mr. White appears in the ad in his Green Bay Packer uniform.

I am sure you have heard the phrase, *a picture is worth a thousand words*. Indeed, pictures are powerful tools of speech that are regularly used to share ideas, deliver messages, invoke our passions and to arouse explicit emotions. Often times, the messages that are conveyed by pictures are also unintended. And that's what concerns me about the ad featuring Mr. White in his Green Bay Packer uniform. How many people reading this ad are going to equate the message of the ad and the messenger with the Green Bay Packers?

Are there not copyright laws regulating the use of NFL team uniforms in advertisements, and if so, did the sponsors of the ad follow those regulations? Were you aware that Mr. White was going to appear in this ad in uniform, and if so, did the Packer Organization approve the ad? If not, is the Packer organization willing to publicly disavow any association with the ad?

Again, the intent of this letter is not to place blame or discourage Mr. White in his crusade. Rather, my point is to help ensure that the Green Bay Packers — with its many fans who come from all walks of life — is not unintentionally drawn into a contentious political debate.

Sincerely,

TIMOTHY W. CARPENTER
State Representative, 9th Assembly District

UPCOMING DEADLINES

August 13th Issue

Articles
Friday, August 7

Ads

Ad Reservations & Non-Camera Ready:
Friday, August 7
Camera Ready: Monday, August 10
5pm

August 27th Issue

Articles
Friday, August 21

Ads

Ad Reservations & Non-Camera Ready:
Friday, August 21
Camera Ready: Monday, August 24
5pm

Caution

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

July 30-August 12, 1998

Vol. 11 No. 15 - Issue 262

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

Wisconsin Light

225 South 2nd Street
Milwaukee, WI 53204

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Community Voices



HRC PAC: A Powerful Tool Which Helps Gay Americans Control Their Own Political Destiny

By Winnie Stachelberg, Human Rights Campaign, HRC, Political Director

Although HRC PAC is less than 10% of our budget, it is one of the Human Rights Campaign's most powerful and effective political investment tools.

With each investment decision, the value of your PAC can wildly fluctuate between skyrocketing success and a precipitous crash. We take very seriously the choices we make on which candidates to endorse. We realize that any missteps can result in grave public policy implications for our Community.

As the stewards of the nation's largest Gay PAC, the Human Rights Campaign has developed a multi-layered, rigorous candidate endorsement process, to help ensure that our issues are well represented on Capitol Hill.

This deliberative, and often painstaking process, has allowed HRC's PAC to develop a solid track record and grow into one of the most respected PACs in America.

The then Human Rights Campaign Fund was founded as a PAC in 1980, by Gay activist Steve Endean and others after watching the overwhelming success of the National Conservative Political Action Committee in the 1980 U.S. Senate races.

In HRC PAC's first funding cycle in 1982, \$136,973 was given away to candidates, many who were hesitant at the time to even take money from a Gay organization. Of those who received money from HRC PAC in its inaugural year, 27 are still in office today. They include Senate Minority Leader Tom Daschle (D-SD), Sen. Ted Kennedy (D-MA) and Sen. Jim Jeffords (R-VT).

Today, HRC PAC has blossomed into one of the largest PAC's in America, delivering more than \$1 million to worthy and fair-minded candidates from both parties. Far from the days when it was difficult to give money away, candidates now come to HRC to solicit an endorsement, because they recognize the organization's support as a crucial component for winning an election.

As our political stock has mushroomed, the doors of power have gradually opened, and our movement continues to gain access to our nation's key leaders. As the 1998 election cycle kicks into full gear, HRC realizes the great responsibility of strategically utilizing HRC PAC as a political tool for expanding our Community's influence in Washington. It is incumbent that our supporters thoroughly understand HRC's endorsement process.

While not everyone can agree with all of our endorsements, all of the time, it's helpful to know how HRC determines which candidates it will support.

There is a basic principle which guides HRC's PAC endorsement decision making process. We view our PAC as a political instrument to establish mutually beneficial relationships with current members of Congress, to help replace unfavorable elected officials, and to fill open seats with supportive candidates. HRC PAC serves as a mechanism in which we can reward our legislative friends and it acts as leverage when dealing with fence-sitting lawmakers.

When deciding on whether or not to endorse a candidate, there are two questions we ask:

- Does the candidate support issues of concern to the Gay and Lesbian community?
- Is the candidate who wants our support viable?

While there is no litmus test for an endorsement, support for the Employment Non-

Discrimination Act (ENDA), which is federal legislation designed to make workplace discrimination based on sexual orientation illegal, is critical. Other critical issues HRC weighs in the endorsement process are a candidate's support for hate crimes legislation, AIDS/HIV, military issues, Lesbian health, same sex marriage, domestic partner benefits, adoption and other family issues, as well as the right to choose.

HRC recognizes that some candidates will not support all of our issues. We realistically look for candidates who come as close as possible to agreeing with our legislative priorities.

If a candidate meets the basic ideological criteria, HRC then determines if the candidate is viable. HRC does this by gathering information about prospective endorsees and analyzing it. HRC PAC looks at a candidate's polling, fundraising abilities, other endorsements the candidate has received, previous political experience, the campaign plan, and the campaign's staffing and consultants.

Unlike many PAC's which settle for simply sending questionnaires to candidates, HRC demands that each candidate meet in person with us. This is the only way to ensure a candidate is comfortable in dealing with Gay issues and sincere about advancing legislation that promotes equality.

The next steps are to consult with the political parties, competing candidates, local and national PACs, and local HRC members. Then HRC makes the final decision on whether or not to make the endorsement. If a candidate is endorsed, HRC can give a maximum of \$5,000 in the primary and up to \$5,000 for the general election.

Naturally, like any other respected PAC, the Human Rights Campaign favors assisting incumbents who have backed pro-Gay legislation. Loyalty in Washington works both ways, and HRC makes sure friends of equality receive support.

Any PAC that hopes to remain credible gravitates toward incumbents who have a much better winning percentage. A perfect example of HRC's bias towards incumbents is the seemingly perpetual race between Massachusetts Congressmen Peter Torkildson (R) and John Tierney (D). The Human Rights Campaign supported incumbent Torkildson in his successful reelection in 1994 over Tierney. However, after Tierney was elected in 1996, HRC endorsed him over Torkildson.

In both cases we chose the supportive incumbent over the challenger, given our bias for the candidate already in office.

One sensitive issue is whether or not HRC should endorse all openly Gay candidates. A candidate's sexual orientation is only one factor, albeit an important one, of many factors that HRC looks at in making endorsement decisions.

The Human Rights Campaign believes that openly Gay candidates should only receive our support if they meet all of the organization's criteria including viability.

The Human Rights Campaign's endorsement guidelines have proven to be a formula for success. In the 1995-96 election cycle, out of the 184 HRC backed candidates, 154 won their races, an 83 percent winning percentage. As this election cycle heats up, the Human Rights Campaign will continue to carefully scrutinize new candidates, build bridges with the movement's allies and have a major impact through the strength of HRC PAC.

I must have a wickedly lascivious creature in my tum-tums; why else would I not be able to suppress the hunger? I want to climb to the top of my favorite parking ramp and get naked, real naked. Oh, that's right, I did that last week.

Well, perhaps I want to be the star of an all-naked, synchronized swimming team. Maybe I want to change into a wolf like Michele Pfeiffer did and have sexy green eyes and wear black outfits.

I love the unexpected in spite of its often unpleasant aspect. I ache for things drenched in the most seductive of perfumes: that unmistakable fragrance of the unfamiliar.

On some days, I even prefer the unpleasant to the ordinary. It keeps me on my toes. It makes me think and feel and wonder.

Please see Tineality, Page 27



Tineality

By Tina Lee

I pass through every day with a general disdain for the usual and the banal. I pity myself endlessly for having to do the smallest chore. Dishes, laundry, cat litter, water the plants, fill the ice trays when will it end?

I whine, bitch and moan to anyone who'll listen about how cruel a day has been if that day hasn't provided me with a stimulus far from the norm and outside of my expectations. I refer to this condition as my hunger.

Oh! And what a hunger I have. It's as though I have a voracious little monster living in my stomach. I visualize it as a lean, large mouthed, villainous little miscreant covered completely with fuzzy, pink fur and wearing nothing but red stilettos and a diamond bracelet. Live with that in your stomach for a day.

Tidbits from Titledown

By Mike Fitzpatrick

Northeast Wisconsin Bureau Chief

Welcome to this new, semi-regular column in Wisconsin Light giving statewide readers the once over about what's happening in the Green Bay/Fox Cities area. Most people don't realize that about three-quarters of a million people live in these parts, and that means a lot more Gay folk (and Gay community news) than you might think.

New in Town: Two new bars serving the Gay community are opening this weekend. The new owners of Brandy's II open the doors at 11am, Friday, July 31. Bar Manager Marty Peterson tells me that there's a new, brighter look courtesy of new wall coverings, lighting and a new color scheme. Familiar faces Penny and Kenny will still be behind the bar. First drinks are on the house on opening day. Look for a grand opening weekend of shows and feuds August 14 and 15.

Yuma's on South Broadway opens Saturday, August 1. It has also been redone with new carpeting, but they are keeping the classic carved back bar which was inherited from the former, straight owner.

Also, still young enough to be new, is the recently opened Cafe Bourbon restaurant at Za's. Those who can find their eyes Sunday mornings should check out the brunch menu,

which features caramel nut, baked French toast. I've tried it, and yes, it is better than sex.

Prom Date: The newly formed Manitowoc/Sheboygan area LGBT group Perfect Pride held its first-ever Gay Prom July 27 at Za's. It featured fancy decorations, non-alcoholic punch, and dancing for the teen and mostly twenty-something attendees. Several other Northeast Wisconsin groups such as ARCW's Outreach Program, Positive Voice, GLEEDA, the LGBT & Q Youth Partnership, and Action Wisconsin helped with both advice and donations.

Calling All Ants: Milwaukee may be the City of Festivals, but Northeast Wisconsin remains the region of Gay picnics! You may already have missed the Positive Voice picnic (June 27), the ROW picnic (July 11) and the Angels of Hope MCC picnic (July 25), but there's still time to attend the Fox Cities PFLAG picnic, August 18 at 6pm in Appleton's Alicia Park. It's open to all LGBT people and their supporters. Bring a dish to pass!

Silence of the Lambeau: Among the 18,000 shareholders who attended the Green Bay Packer organization's annual meeting a few weeks back, was one self-identified Gay shareholder — who does not wish his name to be used here — who got up in that mob of people and asked Packer President, Bob Harlan, to

Please see Tidbits, Page 23

What's the Hype on Hepatitis?

By Ted Berg

Viral Hepatitis is the inflammation of the liver caused by a virus. There are many different strains of Hepatitis. We will be talking about A and B. The good news is both have vaccines. There is no one vaccine because of the differences of the strains. Hepatitis A vaccine does not protect you against B and vice versa.

IF WE HAVE A VACCINE, WHAT IS THE PROBLEM?

The US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported 143,000 cases of Hepatitis A. 11% of the cases required hospitalization and 6 out of 1,000 die from HAV (Hepatitis A Virus). Hepatitis B infects 300,000 people per year and 6,000 people die from it. There are approximately 1.2 million carriers of the virus. Hepatitis B is more contagious than AIDS.

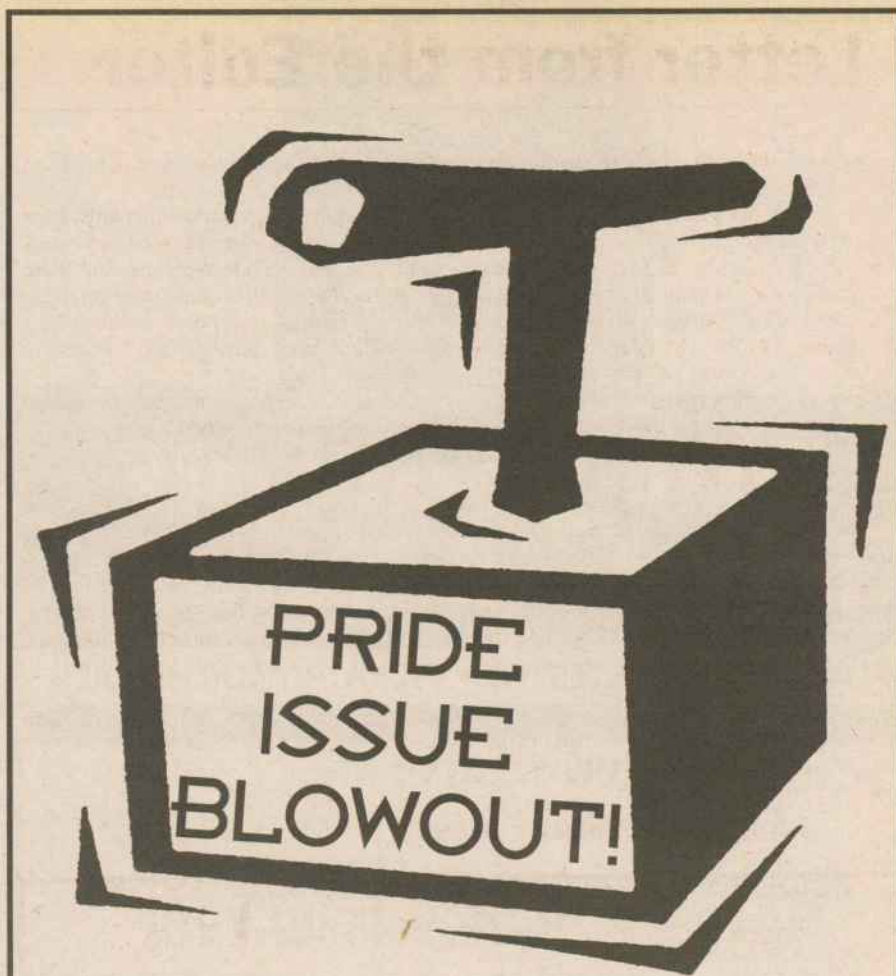
WHY DOES THE DISEASE DO SUCH DAMAGE?

Partly due to its symptoms. They are similar to the flu: fever, headache, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea and a yellowing of the skin in late stages. The symptoms maybe mild to severe and prolonged. With Hepatitis B, some people don't experience any symptoms at all and look quite healthy, but are capable of spreading the virus.

HOW'S THE DISEASE TRANSMITTED?

The transmission is concern of our community. Hepatitis A used to be called Infectious Hep and can be transmitted in unprotected oral-anal sexual contact. The virus is found in the fecal matter and is too small to be seen. It can be ingested in contaminated water or food of a

Please see Hepatitis, Page 23



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AIDS Activists Seize Office of Presidential AIDS Advisor, Demanding End to Needle Exchange Funding Ban

Ten Arrested By Secret Service After Chaining Selves and Dropping Banner

Washington, DC — A group of ten activists demanding that President Clinton fund needle exchange programs to prevent the spread of HIV seized control of the office of Presidential AIDS Policy Coordinator Sandra Thurman on Tuesday, July 21. The activists chained themselves inside her office immediately after Thurman refused to publicly condemn Clinton's April 20 decision to uphold the ban on federal funding for needle exchange. "I understand and support the President's policy," Thurman told the activists. All ten were arrested by the Secret Service and released shortly thereafter.

"President Clinton's April 20 act of cowardice spells death for tens of thousands of men, women and children in this country," said Chris Lanier, Coordinator of the National Coalition to Save Lives Now! and one of those arrested. "We've taken drastic action today to insist that human lives not be sacrificed to political expediency."

The protesters had demanded that Thurman call on President Clinton to reverse his decision, as well as to oppose and promise to veto any bill or amendment to make the current funding ban permanent. Participating in the occupation were members of the National Coalition to Save Lives Now!, ACT UP New York, and needle exchange leaders from three cities.

During the takeover, activists chained and barricaded themselves inside Thurman's office; hung a banner proclaiming "Clinton: Clean Needles Save Lives" out Thurman's window; covered walls, windows and photos of Bill and Hillary Clinton with posters denouncing administration policy; and shouted their demands through a bullhorn to outside passersby. The ten protesters held the building

for 20 minutes, until Secret Service agents swept into the building and dragged them out in handcuffs. All were charged with disorderly conduct and released after two hours with fines of \$50 each.

The activists had also insisted that Thurman join the call by 18 members of the

Experts estimate that 33 Americans are infected with HIV every day due to sharing dirty needles, with 10,000 infected directly or indirectly by that route in the five years since Clinton took office. Local funding allows 134 needle exchange programs nationwide to operate, but activists claim they reach only a

fraction of the injection drug users at risk. On April 20, Health and Human Services Secretary Donna Shalala announced Clinton's decision — made at the last minute in the face of McCaffrey's threat of resignation and denunciation — to continue the funding ban, even while finally acknowledging the numerous studies affirming that needle exchange lowers HIV transmission while not increasing drug use. The Chair of the Presidential AIDS Advisory Council, Dr. Scott Hitt, called the decision "immoral"; the Chair of the Congressional Black Caucus,

Rep. Maxine Waters, labeled it "shameful."

"Thurman is the official White House spokesperson on AIDS, and she can't have it both ways," said Mel Stevens of ACT UP, one of those arrested. "Either she is the community advocate that she claims to be — in which case she must publicly insist that the Administration put its money where its mouth is — or she is an apologist for Clinton's cowardice. We won't be hoodwinked any longer by false friends at the top."

During the takeover, the activists demanded that Thurman immediately issue a public statement in which she:

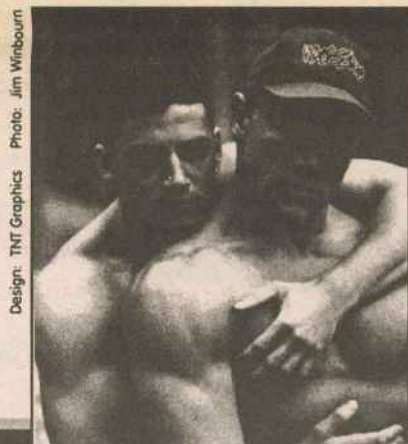
- Joins the leadership of public health, AIDS, African-American and Latino organizations in condemning President Clinton's murderous decision to maintain the needle-exchange funding ban, and demanding that he immediately reverse it.
- Insists that President Clinton publicly oppose and pledge to veto any Congressional bill or amendment revoking Secretary Shalala's authority to lift the ban or extending the ban to include unrelated "indirect" funding of other vital AIDS services.
- Echoes the call of the Congressional Black Caucus to remove General Barry McCaffrey as National Drug Policy Coordinator for lying about the data on needle exchange programs and campaigning against these life-saving measures.



ACT UP member Bob Lederer shouting from the window of AIDS Policy Coordinator Sandra Thurman's office.

Congressional Black Caucus for Clinton to dismiss Drug Czar Barry McCaffrey. The General has bitterly fought against funding needle exchange and was widely criticized for misrepresenting the relevant scientific evidence.

Shortly after police released the Thurman protesters, one of them, ACT UP member Bob Lederer, confronted McCaffrey during a press conference at the National Press Club. McCaffrey tried to stop Lederer's question, offered to debate him at a future date, and then called Clinton's move "absolutely inspired" for affirming the science on needle exchange while shifting funding responsibility to state and local officials. When Lederer again challenged the nation's drug czar, he was ejected by McCaffrey's security guards. "We will vigorously pursue McCaffrey's promise to debate this issue," said Lanier of the National Coalition.



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Transcript of Confrontation Between ACT UP Member and General Barry McCaffrey

Q: My name is Bob Lederer and I'm from WBAI Radio in New York City. And General McCaffrey, I'd like to ask you about the issue of needle exchange. You have been a strong opponent of this program despite the fact that every public health authority in the country, and now even the Secretary of Health and Human Services, has certified that, after many, many studies, it's overwhelmingly clear that needle exchange prevents HIV infections and does not encourage illegal drug use, and have begged, pleaded and implored President Clinton to lift the ban. You successfully lobbied him not to do so. And the question —

GEN. MCCAFFREY: Wait. Are you asking a question —

Q: Yes. The question —

GEN. MCCAFFREY: — or are you giving a political speech?

Q: The question is, how do you respond to the call by 18 members of the Congressional Black Caucus for your resignation —

GEN. MCCAFFREY: Well, let me — I've got your question. Let me —

Q: — based on the fact that you have undermined public health —

GEN. MCCAFFREY: — if I may, respond to your question. Will you please —

Q: — and the effort to end the AIDS crisis?

GEN. MCCAFFREY: — please hold your speeches. This is actually a news conference. If you'd like to debate me, I would welcome it.

Q: (Off mike) — be more than happy to.

GEN. MCCAFFREY: But what I actually support is the policy of our government. Secretary Shalala's decision is absolutely inspired, in my view, and I am completely behind it. And her decision was that we would embody the science of the needle exchange program, which is now behind more than 100 local efforts, and that if communities wish to bring together their health director, law enforcement, community leadership, and use this as a component of an outreach to bring into treatment otherwise unreachable elements of the addicted population, then we were behind it. And so I fully support Secretary Shalala's judgment in that line.

Now, at the same time, I think that Secretary Shalala and I and AIDS Czar Sandy Thurman, all of us who are in complete agreement that the impact of outreach and intervention treatment programs as documented pretty strongly in the two studies — the DATOS and N-TISE studies — we believe that we can reduce almost every element of malignancy and drug abuse with drug treatment. And so we're all behind that. The question was, on a subcomponent, does needle exchange as an activity, is it needed, is it helpful, for some sub-populations; and there was a difference of view on that.

But I think the — you know, our view is let's watch these more than 100 needle exchange programs around the United States and see how they work, and let's for sure, though, get the dollars — which we've done in the '99 budget, over \$3 billion — to pay for and develop the infrastructure needed for drug treatment. That's really our view.

Q: (Off mike) — resolve the contradiction between —

GEN. MCCAFFREY: Yes, sir?

MR. SILVER: Are there any other questions, please?

(Cross talk.)

GEN. MCCAFFREY: Go ahead with your question.

Q: — how you can support needle exchange in theory and oppose funding it?

Q: General McCaffrey, I was wondering if you can give us —

GEN. MCCAFFREY: I'd be glad, by the way, to follow up on that afterwards. Anybody that wants to hear the, you know, the playout of who said what to whom and our viewpoints. We are comfortable, though, with what Secretary Shalala did.

Gay Lawmaker Refuses to Support Nominee

Chicago (AP) — Democrat Glenn Poshard's race for Governor of Illinois won't have the backing of Illinois' only openly Gay state lawmaker. Larry McKeon, who is also a Democrat, said he cannot support Poshard because of the Southern Illinois congressman's stand against Gay civil rights legislation, gun control bills and other measures.

"His record is extremely poor," said McKeon, who plans to "concentrate my efforts on electing the rest of the statewide Democratic ticket and supporting progressive Democrats for the Illinois House of Representatives."

McKeon said he would sit out the governor's race and "absolutely will not endorse" Republican George Ryan. "His record on progressive issues is no better than Mr. Poshard's," said McKeon.

Poshard has drawn heavy criticism in recent days for his opposition to legislation that would ban discrimination against Gay people in housing, hospitals, restaurants and banking as well as Capitol Hill votes on Gay issues.

Ryan aides say he would wait until such a measure passes before deciding whether to sign it.

Poshard issued a statement saying he was "sorry Representative McKeon feels he cannot support my candidacy. I wanted the opportunity to explain my entire record on issues of concern to him," Poshard said.

Poshard said he has been supportive of banning hate crimes as well as including AIDS as a disability under federal legislation to guarantee the rights of the disabled. He also said he had supported more money for AIDS research and a ban on job discrimination against Gay people.

David Smith, a spokesman for the Washington-based Human Rights Campaign, said Poshard has a zero rating for stands on issues ranging from Gays in the military to same-sex marriage.

He was the only Illinois Democrat with a zero rating. Next lowest was Rep. Bill Lipinski of Chicago, with an 11 rating, then Rep. Jerry Costello of Belleville with 22.

By comparison, outspoken liberal Sidney Yates of Chicago had an 89 and Rep. Bobby Rush of Chicago an 86. Five Illinois Republicans also were rated zero.

Gays Migrate to the Suburbs

West Hartford, CT (AP) — Richard Goldberg and Ian Grande are pioneers. Eight years ago, the openly Gay couple bought a house in a quiet corner of the Farmington Valley and settled down among the subdivisions and soccer moms.

"At a different time in history, I might have stayed in the city," says Goldberg, a psychiatrist, who studied in Manhattan. But he's more comfortable in the suburbs. "I think of myself as someone who's basically a suburban guy living where I want to live. It seems very natural."

Goldberg and Grande live on their own terms in a place that has traditionally cultivated conformity. Indeed, generations of Gays once viewed the neatly trimmed hedges that define the suburban landscape as hurdles on the way to the freedom, camaraderie and anonymity of big city life.

That's beginning to change. Although official statistics aren't available, real estate agents and activists report that more Gay men and Lesbians are putting down roots in suburbia.

The migration is occurring across the nation and has accelerated in the past five years, says Jeffrey Vitale, CEO of Overlooked Opinions, a Chicago-based market research firm that tracks the Gay population.

In Connecticut, some observers say the hub of Gay life is starting to gravitate away from Hartford and New Haven. They point to the swelling number of businesses catering to homosexuals that have recently sprouted in suburbia. The list includes a popular coffee shop in the Collinsville section of Canton named for writer Gertrude Stein and her Lesbian lover, a new Gay pride store on Manchester's Main Street, and a bar called the Purple Monkey in Willimantic. One of the state's hippest Gay nightclubs is in East Windsor. One of the region's largest Gay professional groups holds its monthly meetings in Farmington.

Says Leslie Brett, who has lived in West Hartford with her partner, Carolyn Gabel, for several years, "We're everywhere."

The migration has ignited tensions in some communities, where heterosexuals have been unfriendly, even hostile, to the newcomers. In other places, Gay men and Lesbians have been welcome, assimilating easily in their new neighborhoods.

Claire Connelly says her sexual orientation "doesn't seem to be a problem" for her Coventry neighbors. Connelly, who is 62, lives in a complex for the elderly and disabled. Some of her neighbors make a point of clipping out articles about Gay issues and handing them to her. "Ultimately," she says, "people will judge you on whether or not you're a good neighbor."

To be sure, Gays and Lesbians have always been at home in the suburbs. In the past, most kept quiet about their sexual orientation, leaving the activism to their more politicized urban counterparts. But as their ranks grow, Gay suburbanites are becoming increasingly visible, demanding the same rights as their heterosexual neighbors.

That new assertiveness was evident in West Hartford recently, when dozens of Gay men and Lesbians - and many heterosexuals as well - asked the Town Council to restructure its recreational fees. Many in the crowd saw a policy prohibiting non-married couples from qualifying for a family discount at the municipal pool as discriminatory. After a boisterous debate, the council voted to deny Gay couples the family rate.

To many suburban Gays, there was more at stake than a discounted swimming pass. The message was clear: "You're welcome here as long as you don't stir up trouble."

Brett compares the battle to the bus boycotts that launched the civil rights movement in the 1950s. "The pool issue really galvanized some of us in the suburbs," says Brett, a veteran Gay activist and Executive Director of the Connecticut's Permanent Commission on the Status of Women. "This incident put a little fire under everyone."

There are perils to going public. Iris Carde heard some grumbling when she opened The Closet, a Gay-themed gift shop, on Manchester's Main Street in January. "Some people think I'm bringing the wrong element into town," she says. "But this isn't a sex store. I don't sell pornography and I don't try and recruit the young."

Alan Wolfe, a Boston University sociologist who polled scores of middle-class suburbanites between 1994 and 1997, found Americans to be essentially tolerant on most social issues - except homosexuality. "Many middle-class people have an image that Gays and Lesbians have no limits on their sexuality. It comes from the early days of Gay liberation," said Wolfe,

whose new book, "One Nation, After All," documents his findings. "They don't identify with Gays who embrace the same values as middle-class Americans, such as a family and a house in the suburbs."

Most Gay suburbanites say their lives aren't all that different from those of their heterosexual neighbors. "We work, we have friends over, we take care of our house and pay our mortgage and hold down jobs," says Goldberg, who has been with Grande, a Project Manager at CIGNA in Bloomfield, for about a decade. "Our lives are pretty unremarkable."

Gay men and Lesbians are drawn to the suburbs by the same things that attract heterosexuals. Some are tired of the bustle of city life, others are worried about urban crime. "They get a partner and a dog and they have some money, so they buy a house in the suburbs," says Vitale, the Chicago-based marketing expert. "That's a fact of demographics that has nothing to do with sexual orientation."

Vitale also attributes the influx to the increasing racial and ethnic diversity of the suburbs. "The stereotype of suburbia as an oasis of white middle class families - a mother, a father and 2.5 children - just doesn't fit anymore," he says. "The Gay migration to the suburbs is a sign of growing confidence among Gays."

"Historically, Gays and Lesbians had to hide or stay in central cities, where there was safety in numbers," Vitale says. "But now we're seeing people who grew up in an era of openness. They're not accustomed to hiding, they have no intention of hiding. Their philosophy is, 'Hey, we're here, we're living our lives and we're not apologizing for it.'"

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Madison's Other Big Race

As Tammy Baldwin Runs for Congress, Openly Gay Marc Pocan Seeks to Fill Her Shoes in Wisconsin's State Assembly

By Mike Leon

Some 130 years ago Victor Hugo wrote, "There is one thing stronger than all the armies of the world, and that is an idea whose time has come."

Listening to Marc Pocan's address to thunderous cheers at Madison's annual LGBT

election '98

Pride rally on July 19, it appeared that the vibrant, openly Gay businessman and candidate for Madison's 78th Assembly District has an idea whose time has come.

"The LGBT movement is about love, tolerance, and respect. The religious right's message is about hate. As a community we'll win, I guarantee you that," said Pocan.

Pocan, in his characteristically animated, sardonic style, wowed his audience of over two thousand. The political momentum definitely seems to be going his way as he campaigns to capture the Democratic nomination in the September 8 primary. That nomination would virtually assure Pocan of election in what is widely regarded as the most progressive district in the State.

Pocan is having quite a year. In addition to being the only openly Gay candidate for the State Legislature, in October he will be celebrating his 10-year anniversary as the sole proprietor of Budget Signs and Specialties. He touts his success as a local small businessman. "I've succeeded there because I have kept up with technological change that's imperative to compete in this market," said Pocan. "Small business is still the backbone of this society, and government can do a lot to assist the development of this enterprise."

Concern over the future of small business is just one of Pocan's issues. He also calls for "investing more in the UW system."

He has a strong pro-environment stance. Pocan says, "We need to keep fighting the Crandon Mine, institute better statewide land use policies and more sensible transportation policies. I will, if elected, reintroduce the mercury contamination bill introduced by Tammy Baldwin last session."

On the issue of taxes, Pocan takes a populist approach stating, "We need to close corporate loopholes and tax breaks and restore the progressive Wisconsin tradition of fair taxation."

On the issue of health care Pocan says, "If the federal government cannot get their act together, then we should. We need to be a policy innovator in this area. I propose a single payer, universal health care system for Wisconsin. We need to address health care in a comprehensive fashion. Good health care is a right, not a commodity."

The former three-term Dane County Board Representative of downtown Madison's 4th district is not guaranteed an electoral victory. He faces a strong opponent in John Hendrick, a three-term County Board Representative elected by Madison's very liberal 6th district. Hendrick is a former colleague of Pocan.

Hendrick ran a strong fourth in Madison's Mayoral primary last year. In that race, he collected 2,600 votes in the 78th district. Observers agree that it will take around 4,000 votes to win this year's primary.

"Mark and I have been friends and political allies for five years," says Hendrick. "He worked hard on my mayoral campaign. We are cooperating even now. I just bought a new batch of yard signs from him."

Hendrick brings more than kind words to the contest. He has been unanimously endorsed by Progressive Dane, PD, which is the local chapter of the New Party. PD has shown considerable political muscle in Dane County over the last four years.

"That endorsement converts to a lot of volunteers. The Progressive Dane people have been the best source of contributions, since I am limiting mine to \$100.00," said PD member Hendrick.

Hendrick has long been an active supporter of the LGBT community. He brings an ambitious agenda of his own to the campaign. "I am calling for a new Progressive movement. I see parallels between the beginning of the century, when railroads rewarded political bosses, and now, when Tommy Thompson is rewarded with contributions from realtors and developers," said Hendrick.

On major issues Pocan and Hendrick take nearly identical positions. There is a third candidate, Mike McCabe in the race. McCabe is best known for his role as a spokesperson for the unpopular, former Madison Metropolitan School District Superintendent, Cheryl Wilhoyte, who resigned under fire from Madison progressives last month. Local observers do not see him as a serious contender.

Pocan's campaign strategy in the primary, reduced to its bear essentials is, he says, "doors, doors, and more doors."

Pocan says he believes that having good positions on public policies is not enough to win. "I have reached out on the issues that matter to this district — fair taxation, education, the environment and health care. But the time-tested method of reaching out on these issues is doing the doors. I've been through the district once already and I'm going through again," said Pocan.

Pocan points to the experience he had as member of the Dane County Board of Supervisors. While a Supervisor he served on committees affecting children and families, human services, public protection, recycling, and lakes and watersheds. "I was able to make a difference on a wide array of issues. It shows that the County Board does matter, despite the lower voter turnout we get as opposed to statewide offices. It is a great proving ground for a State Assembly run," said Pocan.

Pocan was successful in obtaining first time

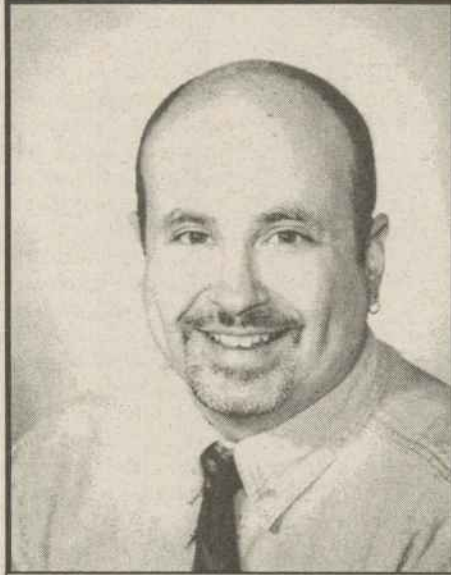
Dane County funding for The United (now Outreach) and the Madison AIDS Support Network (now AIDS Network). "I was really proud of that. I worked with a lot of people to get that funding. We know profoundly how the work of these groups makes a difference," said Pocan.

In more of a policy wonk role, Pocan served as Co-Chair of Excellence Dane and The City/County Consolidation Committee. These groups worked on ways to eliminate redundancy in governmental services delivered by both the City and the County. His prominent role won him and his colleagues plaudits across ideological and political lines.

"We received unanimous support from both the City and County to examine eight different areas for the delivery of services, to achieve better coordination and consolidation. No one expected unanimity, but we got the job done," said Pocan.

The LGBT community is by no means the only political support Pocan enjoys. He

says his past work of coalition and consensus building is benefiting him politically now.



Openly Gay Assembly Candidate Marc Pocan

"Two things drive me as a public servant: principle and results. I have wide support because people, I'm proud to say, realize they can work with me. Being principled and reasonable I think defines my work."

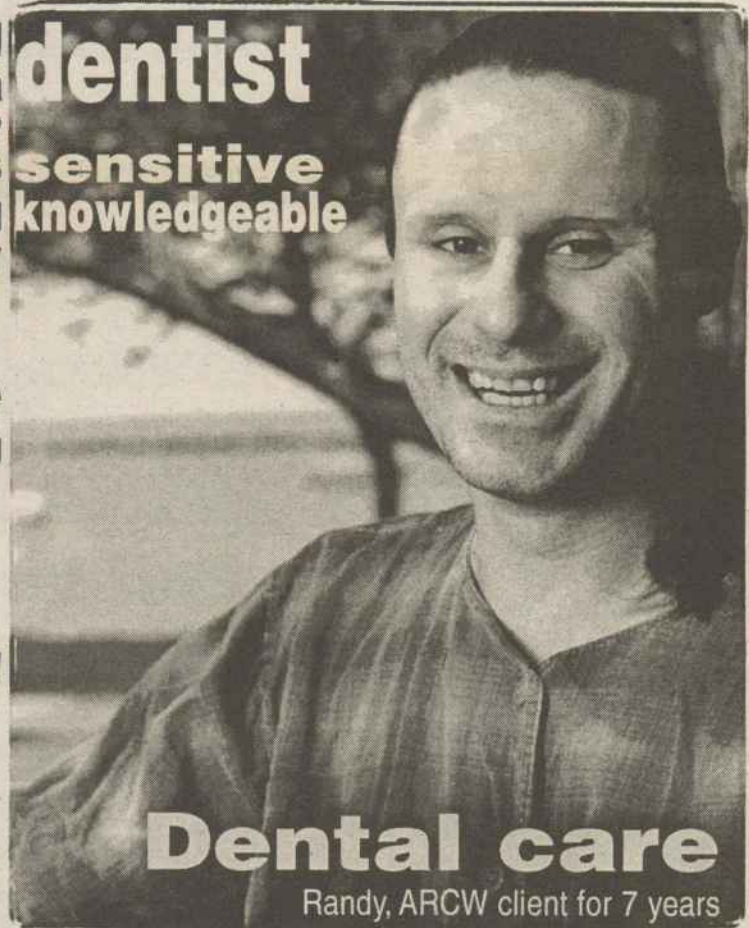
Pocan's statement of his principles made him the hit of the Pride Rally on that hot, July 19, Sunday afternoon. By the end of the Pride weekend, people could be heard chatting about his speech in Madison's LGBT bars.

In his address, he passionately spoke of being viciously bludgeoned eight years ago because he was Gay. "Eight years ago, here in Madison, I was beaten in the head with a baseball bat, beaten unconscious and sent to the hospital. The problem is the free speech that's offered on those billboards (The "Homosexuality Is A Sin" signs erected by Wisconsin Christians United, WCU) actually condones and encourages crackpots to take action. Ralph Ovadal (WCU's leader) may claim that he doesn't support the bashings that have occurred. But, then again, Phillip Morris does not support the cancer that their products cause. We know better," Pocan told the rally.

The combative Pocan received the loudest applause line near the end of his speech when he said, "If you really want to piss Ralph Ovadal off, there are two things you can do, and you can do them on the same day. On September 8th in the Democratic primary, first and foremost, you send Tammy Baldwin to the US Congress. While you're there, you might as well send me to the Wisconsin State Assembly, too."

It appears that Marc Pocan, as the only openly Gay candidate for the seat being vacated by the only openly Lesbian State Representative, offers the LGBT community an excellent opportunity to continue to have one of its own in the State Legislature.

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GOP Congressman Attacks Domestic Partners Law

Washington (AP) — If Rep. Frank Riggs, (R-CA) has his way, San Francisco would lose \$260 million in federal housing money unless it abandons its groundbreaking Equal Benefits Ordinance.

Riggs wants to deny federal housing money to any locality that requires public or private businesses to extend health care benefits to its workers' unmarried partners. He will propose an amendment to the Veterans Administration and Housing Appropriations bill that — if passed — would do exactly that.

San Francisco's Equal Benefits Ordinance requires city contractors to provide straight and Gay domestic partners with the same benefits they offer to married couples.

The controversial ordinance passed 1 1/2 years ago. It has put the City at odds with United Airlines and Federal Express. Both of those companies challenged the measure in a suit filed by the Air Transport Association. The ordinance was upheld but narrowed by the U.S. District Court last April.

Riggs said recent battles between the City and two religious groups, the Salvation Army and Catholic Charities, prompted his proposal.

After a legal battle, Catholic Charities finally agreed to extend health insurance to any member of an employee's household, including parents, siblings or Gay partners. The Salvation Army pulled out of \$3.5 million in city contracts to provide meals and senior citizens and

shelter for the homeless.

"I just thought, 'My goodness, has political correctness gotten to the point where we're going to deny services to the homeless and to AIDS patients?'" said Riggs. "Somebody ought to stand up and say they think this is wrong, and you're not going to use federal funding to accomplish this purpose."

The city could lose up to \$260 million a year in Housing and Urban Development funds if the amendment becomes law. Affected programs would include \$67 million for Section 8 housing, which lets the poor rent apartments from private-sector landlords.

"...What is so frightening about it is it jeopardizes the welfare of tens of thousands of men, women and children in San Francisco in order to punish a locality that's clearly within its jurisdiction," said Winnie Stachelberg of the Human Rights Campaign. "This is an example of gross federal micromanagement of local issues." She called the amendment an "anti-Gay attack, pure and simple."

Riggs' proposal is viewed by some as the latest Republican attack on Gays. "San Francisco has done something so monumental that extremists are going to extremes to dismantle it," said Supervisor Leslie Katz, an author of the domestic partners law.

"We're outraged at this type of activity," Mayor Willie Brown said. "Local autonomy is of utmost importance."

Anonymous Flyer Targets Lesbian Candidate

Salt Lake City (AP) — Candidates in a Salt Lake City legislative race are distancing themselves from an anonymous political flier apparently intended to sully the campaign's openly Gay front-runner.

The three candidates in District 30 insist they had nothing to do with the leaflets and say the anonymous mailing has hurt them all. The letter, a violation of state campaign laws, seems intended to intimidate prospective supporters of or contributors to the campaign of Democrat Jackie Biskupski.

Biskupski, who unsuccessfully ran for city council in 1997, has made no secret of the fact that she is a Lesbian. She finds the sender's motives unclear. The leaflet points out that she would be the Utah Legislature's first openly Gay lawmaker if elected this November and vows to publicize the names of her supporters.

"All the people who have supported me know who I am," she says. "So, this is no big surprise to them." Her Republican opponent, Bryan Irving, is dismayed by the tactic.

"It makes me look bad," he said. "It makes me look like I'm part of it, and I don't want to fire people up on this."

American Independent Party candidate Marc Meals has already fielded an angry call about the flier from a voter. He is considering the caller's suggestion: disavowing the anti-Biskupski leaflet in a letter to the editor.

The flier highlights a portion of a newspaper article where Biskupski was described as "openly Gay." It vows to publicize the names of her past and future supporters.

Recipients believe it is an attempt to put them on notice that future mailings could include their names and, by inference, suggest they support or condone homosexuality.

The anonymous sender also included names and addresses of people and organizations listed as contributors to Biskupski's city council campaign.

Biskupski is running in one of the most solidly Democratic Utah House districts in the state. Its longtime representative, Gene Davis, is running for the Utah Senate.

Davis called the flier "appalling" and likened it to "hate mail." Davis, who contributed to Biskupski's city council race, received a flier with his name highlighted. "It's almost like whoever did it was the Ku Klux Klan with a sheet over their head," he says.

Salt Lake County Democratic Party Chairman Joe Hatch calls the mailer "cowardly."

"It's a clear threat," says Hatch, a \$75 donor to Biskupski's City Council campaign and a flier recipient. He believes Utah Republicans intend to use Gay rights, a political briar patch in conservative Utah, as a wedge issue this year.

Republican Party Director Spencer Stokes insists that's not true. "It's not something we even planned to bring up," he said. Still, he believes Biskupski's homosexuality to be a political liability. "There may be some districts in Utah that are ready for that kind of representation," he says. "But I think not."

Make Way for the Queen of Beers

San Francisco (AP) — Since there's already a King of beers, Philip Feemster wants his beer to become the Queen.

The pale ale, called Q, is produced by Feemster's Queer Brewing Co. and it comes in six-color, muted rainbow packaging. So, its orientation, if beers can have one, is clear.

But is there really such a thing as a Gay beer?

Feemster acknowledges there's nothing about the product — beyond its marketing — that is Gay. He wants Q not only to be a beer by and for the Gay community but also to be recognized for its own merits and accepted by heterosexuals as well.

"There's such a glut of microbrews on the market," explained the 39-year-old Feemster, who works out of his home in the city's Castro District. "So for anyone to get into the beer category at this moment, it would be foolish unless you had a certain category."

Though not the first, Q is possibly the only Gay-oriented beer on the market right now. It comes on the heels of other ethnic — or minority-targeted microbrews. These include: HE'BREW, obviously aimed at Jewish consumers, and BBC made by the Oakland-based Brothers Brewing Co., the only African American-owned microbrewery in the country.

Bottled just before Gay Pride Week, Q started appearing in six markets, two liquor stores, two restaurants, and four predominantly Gay bars in San Francisco as well as one in Monterey.

Shop owners say the beer is selling, and customers seem to buy it as much for the taste as for the novelty or a show of community support.

Market owner Sami Bsisso said he went through about 15 cases of Q beer in the first two weeks, making it his second-best seller behind Sierra Nevada. The longtime store owner said he's never had a new beer make such an impression, and customers keep coming back for more. "If you don't like something, you won't buy it, even if it's coming from heaven," Bsisso said.

Reactions like that make Feemster slightly less nervous about quitting his \$165,000-a-year job as a marketing executive and putting \$30,000 of his own money into the one-man business. In a remarkably quick turnaround, Feemster left his job in January with little more than the idea and had the beer on the shelves in six months.

As the former creative director for Highway One, a San Francisco marketing company, Feemster said he had been contemplating his own business well before he came up with an idea for a product. After years of working to persuade people how to spend their money, he also knew he wanted to create a company that gave back, particularly to the Gay community.

"I reached a point where I had become very successful in what I was doing ... but there was something missing in it for me," he said. "I just decided this is something I had a lot of conviction about, and I'm going to take the plunge and devote 110 percent of my time."

At his former job, Feemster had the opportunity to learn a bit about the beer business while working on the account of Pete's Wicked Ale.

Anti-Gay Group Votes To Stay In Business

Brooks, OR (AP) — Lon Mabon, the head of the Oregon Citizens Alliance, is planning another anti-Gay rights initiative in the year 2000.

Leaders of the conservative group voted unanimously to remain in operation despite failing to qualify two measures for the November ballot. "The OCA is still here," Mabon said at a news conference outside the group's headquarters. "And like Winston Churchill said, 'We're never, never, never, never going to give up. We're fighting for what we believe in.'"

According to Mabon, the OCA still has a membership of 2,300 households. Its top priority will be to qualify a measure for the 2000 ballot dealing with Gay issues.

Although the group has been involved in other causes, Mabon said, it seems to draw the most support when it focuses on Gay rights. He noted the group's last initiative on a statewide ballot, a 1994 measure prohibiting Gay-rights statutes, got almost 49 percent of the vote. "That's pretty close to having a majority of the people with you," he said.

Gay-rights advocates, who have fought a series of OCA initiatives since the group was founded in 1987, said they were disappointed but not surprised. "I think most Oregonians are tired of talking about this," said Katherine Tennyson, Co-Chairwoman of Right to Pride Inc. "I guess we continue on, seeing who will ultimately win in this fight."

The OCA was at its peak in November, 1988, when Oregonians approved an OCA-backed measure that revoked then-Gov. Neil Goldschmidt's executive order giving Gays and Lesbians protected civil rights status within state government.

It also won a series of local anti-Gay rights referendums across the state in 1993, but the Legislature blocked any of them from going into effect.

However, the conservative group has not had a statewide ballot measure since 1994, when voters rejected its anti-Gay rights initiative. Two years earlier, Oregonians rejected a similar measure.

This time around, the OCA failed to gather enough signatures by the July 3 deadline to qualify a ballot measure that would have prohibited second- and third-trimester abortions except to save the mother's life. It also came up short on a measure that would ban same-sex marriages.

Mabon said the OCA is interested in joining any effort by the Christian Coalition to place an anti-abortion measure on the ballot. The Oregon chapter of the Christian Coalition helped the OCA gather signatures for its anti-abortion measure.

Lou Beres, Executive Director of the Christian Coalition in Oregon, said his group doesn't plan to lead an anti-abortion ballot effort. But he said it might support the OCA in its anti-Gay rights efforts. "Any group that wants to promote family values, I think the more the merrier," Beres said.

Mabon said conservative organizations like the OCA, are needed now more than ever. "Morality is going down," Mabon said. "Kids are killing teachers. Kids are killing each other at record numbers. They don't respect life. They don't respect authority. You find newborn babies in dumpsites all over the place. They learn the immorality that we as adults are teaching them."



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National News



Lott Says No to Hormel

Washington — To no one's surprise, Senate Majority Leader, Trent Lott (R-Miss) announced that the Senate will not vote on the nomination of James Hormel to be America's first openly Gay ambassador.

Lott, (R-Miss), who opposes Hormel's nomination to be Ambassador to Luxembourg, told "Fox News Sunday" that with time running out in this session of Congress, the Senate must concentrate on passing fiscal 1999 spending bills. "Until we get way down the line on the appropriations bills, there will be no more nominations just because of time," Lott said.

He added that he didn't have the time to discuss the issue with GOP opponents of Hormel who have initiated a legislative procedure to block a final vote. "It's not practical," he said.

Supporters of Hormel, a California philanthropist and major Democratic Party contributor, say Republicans are against Hormel because of his sexual preference. They say that if Lott allowed a vote, Hormel would easily get the majority needed for confirmation.

Lott said it was "not just a question of his orientation," but his advocacy of the Gay lifestyle that had created problems for the nominee.

Robertson School Got NEA Funds

Virginia Beach, VA (AP) — Although TV preacher Pat Robertson continues to demand that the National Endowment for the Arts receive no federal money, new evidence shows that Robertson has asked for and received NEA grant money.

According to Americans United for Separation of Church and State, Robertson's Regent University applied for a grant from the Virginia Council for the Arts during the Fall 1997 Project Grant round.

Robertson's school was awarded \$1,000 for *Pavel's Chariot*. The film was recently completed, and it was shown in the annual Regent University Film Festival in Virginia Beach. The Virginia arts agency distributes \$3.4 million in arts, of which \$523,000 comes from the NEA. *Chariot's* credits note funding from both the Virginia Council for the Arts and the NEA.

"Robertson's hypocrisy has been legendary for some time, but this is ridiculous," said Barry W. Lynn, Executive Director of Americans United. "If a multi-millionaire like Robertson is so opposed to public arts funding, one has to wonder why he would go to the government for a handout."

The new information comes just one day after Robertson's political group, the Christian Coalition, issued a press release calling for the end of the NEA. The release, was distributed in connection with an anticipated House vote on shutting down the NEA. It quotes the Coalition's Executive Director, Randy Tate, as saying, "Let's fully privatize the arts and end welfare for the artistic left." The House voted to keep funding the NEA.

"I don't know about Randy, but I'd hardly call Regent University the 'artistic left,'" Lynn said. "Clearly, Robertson and Company have a double standard. Government subsidies for them are fine, but they don't want anyone else to benefit."

A spokesman at Regent University said, "(Robertson) is not in favor of any money coming from the NEA and is requesting the university administration return the grant they received from the Virginia Commission for the Arts and the NEA."

Robertson's war against the NEA has had a long history. In 1990, for example, he took out a full-page ad in USA Today in which he fancied 'himself playing Clint Eastwood's Dirty Harry. The ad's text said: "Vote for the NEA appropriation just like...the Gay and Lesbian task force want. And make my day."

Indiana Gay Teachers Target of Hate Campaign

Lafayette, IN (AP) — The Lafayette School Corp. Board of Trustees has approved a resolution that labels the recent harassment of teachers a "hate campaign" and asks the community for support. Teachers suspected of being Gay have received anonymous letters and phone calls threatening to expose them and force them out of the classroom.

Before passing the resolution, Board members had expressed opinions only on an individual basis regarding the harassment of some

school employees. "I think what the Board wants to do is to take a stand and be supportive of those who have been targeted," said Superintendent Ed Eiler. "The School Board has been supportive from the very onset."

In a letter that accompanies the resolution, Eiler explained he didn't pursue the resolution until five months after he drafted it for fear it would "generate questions about the identity of the persons being targeted."

One employee, Jefferson High School principal Lynn Lupold, has said she was one of

those who were harassed. She quit her Lafayette job to become Principal at Lawrence North High School in Indianapolis. Lupold could not be located for comment.

The new resolution clearly states that a hate group is behind the harassment and details the harassment that has occurred: "The tactics used to date include anonymous hate letters to the employees, their families, friends, colleagues and supervisors; repeated anonymous hate telephone calls; and the alleged employment of private investigators to follow employees."

Please see National News, Page 12

World News



Cyprus Law Protested

Nicosia, Cyprus — Bowing to pressure from the European Union, Cyprus legalized Gay sex last May, but Amnesty International is calling the new laws "unacceptable."

While the government legalized Gay sex, it also outlawed advertising for a Gay or Lesbian partner, stiffened penalties for sex offenses that involve two members of the same sex, banned "indecent" proposals and set the age of consent higher for Gay sex than it is for heterosexual sex.

Under the new law Gays can be imprisoned for up to five years if they are convicted of having sex in public place or in the presence of more than one other person.

Britain Rejects Gay Civil Rights Law

London — By a vote of 234 to 18, Britain's House of Commons rejected a Gay civil rights bill. The bill, sponsored by the Liberal Democrats, failed to win even the support of the six openly Gay members of parliament, all of whom either voted against it or abstained.

The bill was written by OutRage!, a Gay civil rights organization. It would have banned discrimination based on sexual orientation and HIV status. Following the vote, a spokesperson for OutRage! accused the six Gay and Lesbian MP's of being more interested in their careers than they were in advancing Gay and Lesbian civil rights.

Age of Consent Measure Shelved in Britain

London — British Prime Minister Tony Blair's government has reportedly decided to give up its attempts to lower the age of consent for Gay sex. The decision came after the House of Lords rejected an age of consent clause in the Crime and Disorder bill. That portion of the bill would have lowered the age of Gay consent from 18 to 16, the age of consent for heterosexual relations.

"We will do nothing to endanger Queen Elizabeth's formal Royal Assent for the Crime and Disorder Bill by next Friday," said Blair's chief press spokesman. He said that it was vital the bill pass the time parliament breaks for summer recess.

The House of Lords rejected the age change by a solid majority of 290 to 122. In the more powerful lower House of Commons, the measure passed by a more than 200 vote majority. The House of Lord's failure to agree to the change does not defeat the Crime and Disorder bill, but it can delay its implementation for up to a year.

It is expected that the Blair government will reintroduce the change in the next session of parliament by proposing a bill that focuses only on the age of consent for Gay and Lesbian sexual relations.

WAKE UP

Drugs, alcohol and depression are the first problem The next problem is finding a treatment center where you can safely be yourself and talk about the things you need to.

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POSITIVE OUTLOOK

Isis Pharmaceutical's Drug for CMV Retinitis Receives Advisory Committee Recommendation for Approval

Carlsbad, CA and Atlanta, GA Isis Pharmaceuticals, Inc. and CIBA Vision Corporation, the eye care unit of world life sciences leader, Novartis AG, announced that the Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) Ophthalmic Drugs Subcommittee of the Dermatologic and Ophthalmic Drugs Advisory Committee has voted to recommend approval of Vitravene (fomivirsen) for the treatment of cytomegalovirus (CMV) retinitis in AIDS patients.

Vitravene is an antisense inhibitor of CMV replication, the virus that causes retinitis. CMV retinitis is a degenerative opportunistic infection that affects people with AIDS and results in blindness. Vitravene is the first antisense drug to be filed for commercial marketing review. The New Drug Application (NDA) for Vitravene was filed by Isis on April 9, 1998, and is being reviewed under the agency's priority review process.

"We are very gratified by the Advisory Committee's recommendation for approval of Vitravene," said Stanley Crooke, M.D., Ph.D., Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Isis Pharmaceuticals. "This is an exciting milestone in the development of antisense technology and in Isis' history. Vitravene is the first antisense drug to have been recommended for approval by an FDA Advisory Committee. We are optimistic that many other antisense drugs will follow in its footsteps. We believe that Vitravene has the potential to become the cornerstone therapy for CMV retinitis, and that patients and physicians will welcome this important new therapeutic alternative. We look forward to working with our partner, CIBA Vision, to bring Vitravene to patients with CMV retinitis as expeditiously as possible."

"The rising failure rate of protease inhibitor-

based combination AIDS therapy due to resistance, toxicity and non-compliance signals a potential resurgence in CMV retinitis and other opportunistic infections," said Daniel L. Kisner, M.D., President and Chief Operating Officer, Isis. "We are optimistic that Vitravene will meet the growing need for a safe, effective and well-tolerated treatment for people living with AIDS and CMV retinitis."

"I believe that Vitravene will offer several important benefits to patients with CMV retinitis, including convenient local delivery and lack of systemic side effects," said Debra A. Goldstein, M.D., Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology of the University of Illinois at Chicago. "Because Vitravene is designed to work through a novel antisense mechanism of action, the potential for resistance is considerably reduced, making it an ideal therapy in patients resistant to other agents."

The committee, composed of seven voting members, reviewed safety and efficacy data from the Phase III trials of Vitravene. Results from trials in both newly-diagnosed patients and patients with advanced disease showed that Vitravene produced prolonged delay in progression of CMV retinitis, with similar median times to progression.

Vitravene, administered locally into the eye by intravitreal injection, was shown to be well-tolerated. The most frequently observed ocular side effects were transient increased intraocular pressure and generally mild to moderate, reversible intraocular inflammation. The retinal detachment rate overall in the Phase III program was considerably lower than the incidence of retinal detachment commonly observed in patients with CMV retinitis. There was no evidence of any systemic toxicity from Vitravene.

AIDS Action Launches The Virtual Vaccine

Washington, D.C. — At the 1998 State of AIDS Forum on July 20, AIDS Action launched The Virtual Vaccine, AIDS Action's most ambitious prevention policy initiative of the post-protease era. Convening more than thirty CEOs of America's leading AIDS service providers, AIDS Action unveiled a ten-point plan to end flat prevention funding at a time of increased HIV infection rates.

AIDS Action's plan also includes increased testing, implementation of rapid testing, improved social marketing of prevention, creation of an interactive prevention Web site, ambitious national efforts to reach minority communities and treatment on request to help stem the twin epidemics of AIDS and substance abuse.

AIDS LEADERS LEAD THE WAY

Harlem Directors Group executive director Ravinia Hayes Cozier led the debate on substance abuse and AIDS by calling for improved substance abuse treatment programs. Answering a question about the federal needle exchange funding ban, Cozier emphasized the need to improve treatment programs rather than focus solely on exchange programs.

CLOSING THE TESTING GAP

"AIDS Coalition urges voluntary HIV testing" read the headline in *The Washington Times* front-page story on The Virtual Vaccine

(7/21/98). Ron Johnson of GMHC at the Forum released a startling new study demonstrating that as many as 50,000 people in New York are HIV-positive but untested. "The HIV testing gap is the engine that drives this epidemic," Johnson said in *The Times* and called for a vigorous national effort to increase testing.

MAKING PARTNER NOTIFICATION WORK

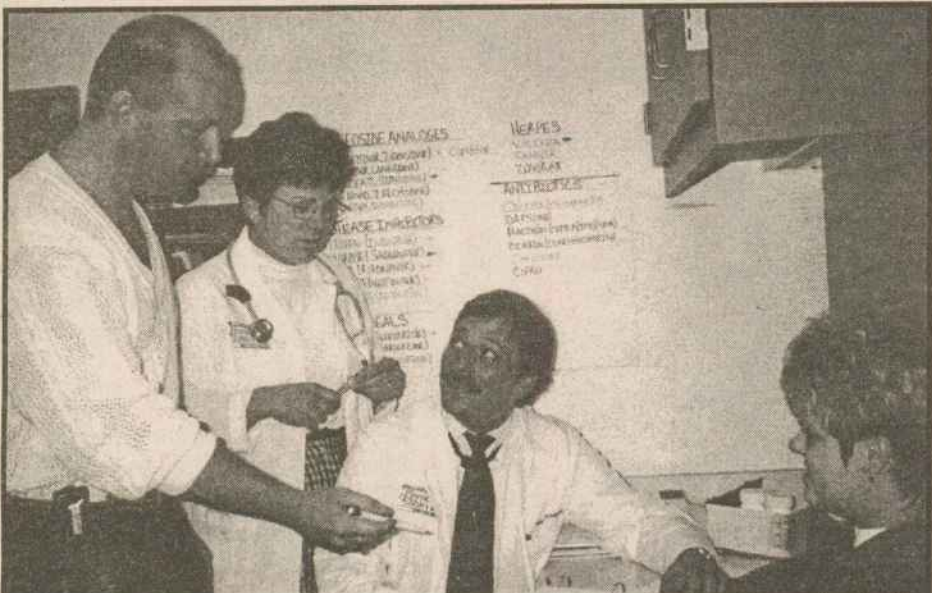
AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin is leading the fight against mandatory partner notification by working to privatize notification efforts and ensure that they are voluntary and confidential. ARCW's Mike Gifford delivered an important speech at the Forum outlining their plan and calling for its implementation.

A NEW GENERATION AT RISK

Zingale introduced the plan by calling for a new emphasis on effective HIV prevention for young people. "Just say no' doesn't work. People need to know what they can do, not only what they can't," said Zingale. "AIDS drugs cost forty dollars a day (and do not cure the disease). This condom costs 40 cents. Our plan today will not only save lives, it would save dollars."

The full text of The Virtual Vaccine plan is available on-line at www.aidsaction.org/virtual.html.

HIV/AIDS Doctor To Leave Medical College in August



Dr. Barry Bernstein (third from left) has announced that he is leaving his position as head of the Division of Infectious Diseases at Froedert Memorial Hospital in August to take a research position with Abbott Laboratories in Gurnee Mills, Illinois. Bernstein has a caseload of over 400 people with HIV/AIDS and is considered a leading HIV/AIDS physician in the state of Wisconsin.

AIDS News

From the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention's Daily AIDS Summaries.



AIDS Group Demands Faster Approval of Drugs

Vancouver — The Canadian AIDS Society demanded that the Canadian Health Protection Branch approve five anti-HIV drugs, including some protease inhibitors. The advocacy group also called for a new approach to street drugs, focusing on the prevention of infectious disease transmission through the sharing of needles.

Additionally, the group urged full drug coverage for people infected with HIV. At the recent World AIDS Conference in Geneva, Switzerland, Health Minister Allan Rock acknowledged concerns about the relatively slow drug approval process. The issue will be discussed by activists, federal drug regulators, and pharmaceutical companies next month. There are an estimated 20,000 HIV-positive people in Canada.

Vitamin Supplements May Reduce Drug-Related Myopathy in HIV Patients

Madrid — A team of Spanish researchers report in the July issue of the *Journal of Clinical Investigation* that high doses of vitamins C and E may provide protection from the myopathic effects of zidovudine treatment in HIV-positive patients. The researchers analyzed 23 male subjects, finding that HIV-positive patients who are taking zidovudine had higher levels of 8-oxo-dG compound — a marker for in vivo oxidative DNA damage. The excess compound was prevented with antioxidant vitamins. The researchers also found that zidovudine-treated mice had higher levels of the compound in their skeletal muscle mitochondrial DNA.

Infected Addicts Avoid AIDS Drugs, Fearing They Dilute Methadone

New York — The perception on the street that protease inhibitors may interfere with the calming effects of methadone is creating an obstacle in the treatment of HIV-infected drug addicts. Although there is no solid scientific evidence, doctors, researchers, patient advocates, and even drug users are in a dispute over how much protease inhibitors affect methadone. One HIV-infected addict claims that protease inhibitors "eat up the methadone," which he uses to ease heroin cravings, while another asserts that the combination of AIDS drugs and methadone made him extremely ill.

Addicts are a closeted and invisible group among people with HIV and AIDS, but nationwide intravenous drug use has accounted for 36 percent of AIDS cases since the epidemic began two decades ago. When protease inhibitors were first being tested, the trials were dominated by white Gay men who vocalized the need for new treatment therapies, while addicts were often ignored. A federally sponsored study that will use HIV positive patients

already on methadone is expected to begin late this summer and should be completed within a year.

France to Try Ex-Officials in AIDS Deaths

Paris — A French court has ordered former Prime Minister Laurent Fabius, former Social Affairs Minister Georgina Dufoix and former Health Minister Edmond Herve to stand trial on charges of involuntary homicide for allowing HIV-tainted blood to be used in transfusions. All three former ministers served in Francois Mitterand's Socialist government from 1984 to 1986; it was discovered in 1992 that contaminated blood was knowingly used in transfusions between 1984 and 1985. Four former health officials have already been charged in the scandal in which 1,250 people, primarily hemophiliacs, were infected with HIV because health officials refused to use a U.S. HIV-detection test while a French one was being developed. The charges carry a maximum penalty of five years in prison and \$130,000 in fines.

Scientists Disturbed by Slow Pace

New York — Some scientists are worried about the slow pace of AIDS vaccine development. Sixteen years after the beginning of the epidemic, there are now 30 million HIV-positive people and 11.7 million have died from AIDS. Twenty experimental vaccines have been shown safe in small clinical trials, yet none of the vaccines have finished efficiency testing in large scale human trials.

While there are many vaccine candidates, only one, made by VaxGen, has entered large scale human trials. People in developing countries account for the vast majority of the HIV population; however, many of these individuals cannot afford the expensive anti-HIV drugs. Jonathan Mann, Dean of Public Health at Allegheny University of the Health Sciences in Philadelphia, notes: "Last year, 5 million people worldwide became infected with HIV. Each year, in this country, 40,000 people get newly infected with HIV. We've got to do something to prevent that. An AIDS vaccine has to be our No. 1 scientific priority."

However, some researchers, such as Nobel laureate David Baltimore, contend that more research into the basic mechanisms used by HIV needs to be done before an effective vaccine can be created. Peter Piot, director of the joint United Nations program on HIV/AIDS, recommends that researchers test vaccines that may not be "perfect," investigating the best vaccine candidates currently available. President Clinton has called for the creation of an AIDS vaccine by the year 2007, and the International AIDS Vaccine Initiative (IAVI) recently released a proposal to meet that deadline. The strategy, which would cost \$350 million to \$500 million, would establish and fund six research teams worldwide; IAVI has raised \$15 million so far.

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Billboards, Continued from Page 1

waiting on the other side reaching out to you. That's our message."

The Appleton/Fox Cities PFLAG chapter conveyed that message with five billboards displayed between November, 1997 and January of this year. The Appleton signs, which were similar to the new Milwaukee billboards, were so successful that the chapter is putting up five new ones in mid-August.

Appleton's new billboards will have the group's name and phone number on them. "We want people to become even more aware of our existence than they already are," said Harriet Bruyn of PFLAG-Appleton/Fox Cities.

Bruyn said her organization was very pleased with the results it received from last year's signs. She told the Light that her PFLAG chapter has been engaged in other activities including a speaker's bureau and teaching a Sensitivity Training class to law enforcement officers at the Fox Valley Technical College, but she says, "The billboards really energized us. We were getting 20 to 25 people for our meetings. Suddenly attendance jumped up to 35 to 45 people."

Bruyn adds that the billboards provoked discussion on the issue of homosexuality. For example, Appleton's Post Crescent newspaper printed letters and comments sparked by the signs for six weeks after they appeared. "At first people wrote or called in comments about whether or not they liked the signs, then later they wrote in response to the things they had seen in the paper."

Bruyn says that her group got the idea for its original signs from PFLAG-Houston. "We looked over several things the Houston chapter had used. We decided on this one because it was the least expensive to produce and because we liked the message."

Some people, however, didn't like that message. Two of the Appleton area signs were vandalized: "One was egged shortly after it went up," said Bruyn. "The other one was in a field in a rural area and someone vandalized it with blue paint."

Bruyn and Vojcsik both hope that their billboards will reach out to those who need help dealing with the homosexuality of someone they care about. Vojcsik says she knows from her own personal experience that PFLAG can

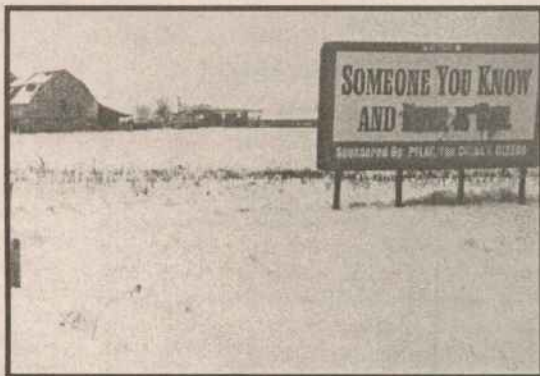
play an important role in helping parents with Gay children deal with the reality of homophobia.

Vojcsik turned to PFLAG for help after getting a phone call from a longtime friend who asked if she knew her son is Gay. "I said that I did," she said. "This lady ripped me to shreds. She said my son was never allowed to come to her family's house again. After talking to her, I was down and out. I never knew people could talk that way. Actually, she did me a favor. God works in very strange ways."

At the time though, Vojcsik didn't think of it as a favor. "It was the lowest point in my life. Our families were close friends. Our children grew up together. I never spoke with her again after that. Never."

Two days after that conversation Vojcsik saw an article about PFLAG in New Woman magazine. "I called the Washington, D.C. headquarters and got information on the Milwaukee chapter. I have met so many wonderful supportive people in PFLAG. I want others to be able to do the same thing I did."

The PFLAG-Milwaukee signs will be put on billboards owned by the Eller Company. Don Pomeroy, an Eller spokesman, told Wisconsin Light that the company is erecting the signs at cost. "We donated over \$375,000 in advertising last year," said Pomeroy. "It's part of our effort



PFLAG-Appleton billboard vandalized with blue paint.

to be a good corporate citizen. I know there is a controversy in Madison. This is a public service in the truest sense. It's a help line. We think it's a good cause."

Other groups who have taken advantage of Eller's program for non-profits include the March of Dimes, the Muscular Dystrophy

Association and the State's Sesquicentennial celebration. Pomeroy believes the PFLAG billboards like those used by other non-profits will get "a good response."

When asked why organizations and businesses should turn to billboards to get out their message, Pomeroy says, "Billboards are very cost effective. They are out there. You can't turn them off. You get tremendous coverage with them. You can target a particular neighborhood, a suburb or the entire metro area, and you get more exposures per dollar than you do with any other media."

The Appleton signs will be put up on billboards owned by the Orde Company. "They are great to work with," says Bruyn, who adds that like PFLAG-Milwaukee, her group was given a non-profit rate.

The PFLAG billboards in both cities had been planned for months, but for some their appearance could not have come at a better time.

Last month, Wisconsin Christians United (WCU) rented five billboards in the Madison area. These signs said, "Homosexuality is Not a Family Value. It is a Sin." The WCU signs are gone now, but the residual effect of their existence will be felt for some time.

Many Madison area residents, Gay and straight, viewed the signs as offensive. They worried about their effect on Gay and Lesbian teens, who often struggle to come to grips with their sexuality. Many saw the billboards as hateful and worried that they might provoke violence. Indeed, a few days after the signs went up, Madison experienced two brutal Gay bashings.

The WCU signs seemed to galvanize Madison's LGBT community and its supporters. Some leaders of that community say that Wisconsin Christians United did them a favor by providing an opportunity for them to demonstrate that that religious right is out of step with mainstream America.

Madison's Gays and their supporters took full advantage of that opportunity. The Madison City Council responded to the billboards by passing a resolution that said the City values its Gay and Lesbian citizens just as much as it values freedom of religion. The Dane County Board adopted a similar resolution. Hundreds of Madisonians bought and displayed lawn signs that read: "Madison Supports its Gay and Lesbian Community."

The outpouring of support for Madison's community was almost overwhelming. During his speech at the 1998 Madison Pride March Rally, openly Gay candidate for the State Assembly, Mark Pocan, said that WCU leader Ralph Ovadal should be given the "Unintended Ally of the Year" award for his help in bringing Madison's LGBT community closer together. The crowd of over 2,000 roared its agreement.

Whether or not the Wisconsin Christians United signs turned anyone away from being openly Gay is debatable. What is certain, however, is that they showed that a handful of billboards focusing on an issue under hot debate could carry a message that reaches many people who have never seen them.

Its signs gave WCU and Ovadal a chance to step into a statewide spotlight. Newspapers, as well as radio and television stations throughout Wisconsin, covered the story of the signs and the reaction to them. That coverage invariably included Ovadal's views on homosexuality and his claims that those denouncing the billboards were "anti-Christian."

Although no one knows for sure, some speculate that the media attention was what Ovadal and WCU wanted all along. They believe that attention has probably brought donations and new membership to WCU.

The media coverage gained by WCU came with a price. Most of the news reports included reactions from local Gay and Lesbian leaders. A Madison man attending the annual MAGIC picnic probably spoke for many when he said, "He (Ovadal) might have gotten what he wanted, but so did we. When people compare his views with ours, they will reject him and his hate. People won't change their opinions or think about Gays, unless they are talking about us. I think he helped us."

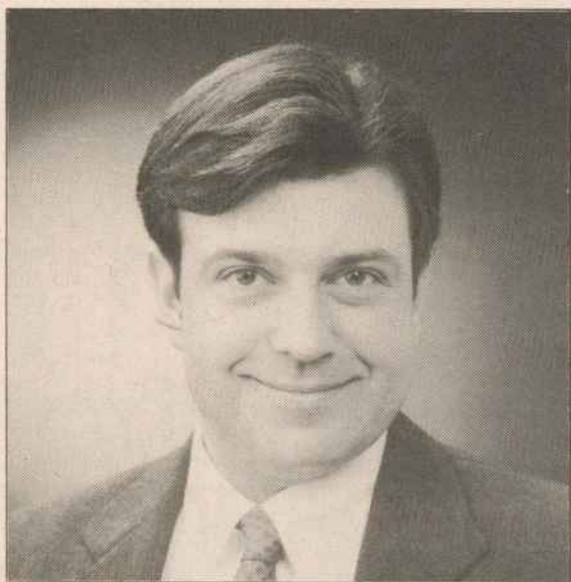
Few people really think that whether they are in Appleton, Madison, or Milwaukee, a handful of billboards, in and of themselves, will change people's minds on the subject of homosexuality. But, as has been seen in Madison and Appleton, these signs can create a public debate on homosexuality. That debate can change opinions.

If these latest salvos in the battle of the billboards do that, it would be just fine with Brigitte Vojcsik. She says, "We need to educate society. These are our children we are talking about. We must make a stand and this is our start."

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National News, Continued from Page 10

Eiler said he has received letters that, among other things, demand that he fire all Gay employees. One of the letters says: "(It) is time to rid our schools of immoral people."

Despite the resolution, which pledges full support to all school employees, there's little the Board can do about the problem. Eiler said that any investigation by law enforcement agencies would have to be based on a formal complaint. No such complaint has been filed to the knowledge of administrators and board members.

Eiler said he has talked to some of the individuals who have been harassed, but understood that they didn't want to make a complaint.

The action of the board was welcomed by at least one community organization. "It's good," said Mary Finnegan, President of a group calling itself Citizens for Civil Rights. "It's a sign of good support for the teachers. I hope it will encourage those who have been victims of this harassment to come forward and go to the police."

Religious Leader Who Resigned Amid Scandal Dies

Minneapolis (AP) — A former pastor and past president of a conservative Lutheran denomination, who resigned amid scandal about his homosexuality, has died at the age of 70.

Richard Snipstead was head of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations in 1992 when he announced that he had been secretly having anonymous homosexual sex for two decades and had given the AIDS virus to his wife. He then resigned.

The cause of Snipstead's death Thursday was not immediately available. He was buried Monday in Minneapolis, where his wife, Leone, and a son are buried. Mrs. Snipstead died of an AIDS-related illness within a month of her husband's announcement.

Snipstead helped establish the denomination 36 years ago and was its President from 1978 through 1992. The Association of Free Lutherans believes that homosexuality is a sin. The denomination was formed in response to what its leaders saw as liberal trends within

mainstream Lutheran groups. It is based in the Minneapolis suburb of Plymouth.

In his 1992 letter to church leaders, and in another letter written and published a few weeks ago in the association's magazine, Snipstead asked for forgiveness. The Rev. Bob Lee, who replaced Snipstead as president, and other church leaders joined family members at the burial service Monday.

Court Says Ordinance Doesn't Apply To Home Services

Portland — Maine's Supreme Court has ruled that Portland's Gay civil rights law does not apply in a case in which a health care company failed to provide services to a Gay woman's son in their home. The Court unanimously upheld a lower court's ruling that the ordinance does not apply because the services were provided in a private home, not a place of public accommodation.

Robin Clarke sued after Olsten Certified Healthcare Corp. cut off services after notifying her 1 1/2 years ago that its health aides did not want to go to her home because she is a Lesbian. Clarke argued that "public accommodation" defined in the Portland Human Rights Act applies to any service offered to the public, not just services provided in a building that is open to the public.

The Court, however, said the definition of public accommodation is clear. Both parties agreed that the law likely would have applied if Olsten refused to provide services at its offices.

Insurance Company Provides Partners Benefits

Seattle — Safeco, one of the nation's largest insurance companies, has announced that it will extend employee spousal benefits to partners of its Gay and Lesbian employees.

The Seattle-based insurance company said its definition of "family" will be broadened in January to include employees, their spouses, dependent children and same-sex partners. The policy will apply to all of Safeco's 12,000 employees nationwide, said Ron Vivion, Director of Human Resources.

"I think we've gotten quite comfortable

Thousands Attend Madison Pride Events

Madison — Despite five Madison area billboards denouncing homosexuality, despite two vicious Gay bashings that some feel were inspired by the billboards, Madison's LGBT community came out in force to celebrate its pride. Literally, thousands of Gays, Lesbians, Bisexuals and their supporters attended Madison's four day long Pride celebration from July 16 to July 19 held against a backdrop of political activity surrounding the hotly contested Democratic primary in the Second Congressional District.

THE CONCERT

The weekend began with a Thursday, July 16 concert performed by Perfect Harmony, Madison's Gay men's chorus. The chorus performed a variety of music, and its efforts were well received by those in attendance at the nearly full First Baptist Church.

THE UNITED'S AWARDS DINNER

On Friday, July 17, The United held its Annual Awards Dinner. During the dinner, The United's Executive Director, De'Ette Tomlinson, made the formal announcement that the group has merged with the Madison Gay Lesbian Resource Center to become Outreach.

Emcee, *Wisconsin Light* columnist, Tina Lee was her usual hilarious self, but the evening also had a serious purpose: recognizing the work being done by The United's volunteers and others in the community and giving political leaders an opportunity to show their support for Madison's LGBT community.

Madison Mayor, Susan Bauman, gave a fiery keynote speech denouncing homophobia. Speaking of her public condemnation of the Wisconsin Christians United billboards, which condemned homosexuality, Bauman said, "That was the easiest thing for me to do. This is a city of tolerance. It is a city where we value diversity. We want to make sure that everyone, no matter what their sexual orientation, no matter what their race, no matter what their gender, knows they are valued and protected."

Surprise guest and speaker, U.S. Senator Russ Feingold, joined Bauman on the dais. The Senator took aim at the Religious Right, telling the audience, "I firmly believe that this assault on Gays and Lesbians in this country is an example of the darkest hour being just before the dawn. I feel it is the last gasp."



Feingold also made an appeal for help with his campaign for reelection. Feingold literature placed on a table just outside the banquet room pointed out that his Republican opponent, Mark Neuman, told the *New York Times* that if he were God for a day he would "outlaw homosexuality." The latest campaign finance reports show that Neuman has raised more money for the campaign than Feingold has been able to gather.

The event concluded with the presentation of awards to Man of the Year, Chad La Flash, Woman of the Year, Colleen Kellog, Ally of the Year, Thelma Johnson, Volunteer of the Year, Todd Hensley, and Organization of the Year, the Madison Chapter of the Gay Lesbian Straight Teacher's Network.

THE DANCE

Later that evening, UW-Madison's 10% Society "did" the Monona Terrace Convention and Community Center with its first ever dance at Madison's sparkling Frank Lloyd Wright building. Jason Rasmussen, President of 10%, told the *Light* that paid attendance at the event was 1,863.

Booths from various organizations lined the walls as hundreds of revelers enjoyed the atmosphere and the music. Although a LGBT student group sponsored the event, people of all ages and sexual preferences were in evidence.

THE MAGIC PICNIC

The big event on Saturday was the MAGIC picnic. An estimated 3,000 people enjoyed perfect weather in Brittingham Park for the Silver Anniversary edition of Wisconsin's longest running LGBT event.

While shoppers browsed booths selling a variety of merchandise, activists did their best to sign up people for various political campaigns. The Congressional campaigns of openly Lesbian State Representative Tammy Baldwin and former Dane County Executive Rick Phelps - who are running against each



other - both sponsored booths. So did the State Assembly Campaigns of openly Gay Marc Pocan and Helen Dicks, who are running in different districts.

The Phelps volunteers urged his supporters to "come out." It seemed, however, that his supporters - at least for the Democratic nomination - were not in attendance. Outside of the Phelps volunteers, few people were seen wearing a button or sticker showing their support for Phelps.

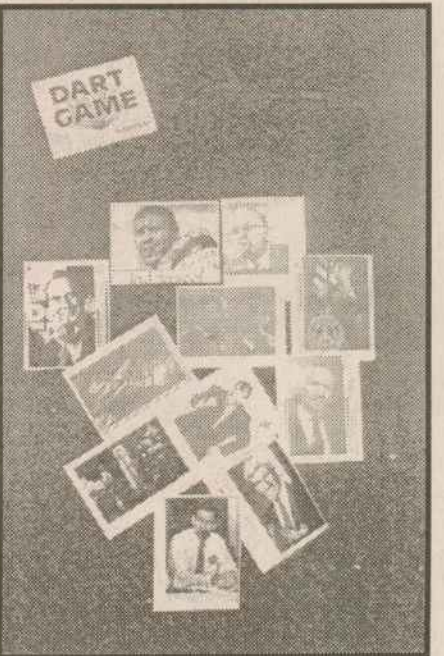


On the other hand, the Baldwin for Congress booth did land office business. The booth sold dozens of T-shirts, signed up scores of new volunteers and gave out hundreds of "Baldwin For Congress" stickers, which were pasted on the shirts, hats and in some cases, the bare skin of her supporters.

Both Phelps and Baldwin made appearances at the picnic. Even some ardent Baldwin supporters gave Phelps credit for coming and showing his support for the event. Others said that Phelps was only there to campaign and hadn't attended previous picnics.

Baldwin raised \$450 for the MAGIC picnic fund. Throughout the day, the "Jailhouse Sheriffs" collected \$225 to have Tammy arrested. At the appointed time, they dutifully put Baldwin in the MAGIC Picnic jail. After she was imprisoned, the call went out to raise another \$225 for bail money. Dozens of people came up and placed money into Baldwin's outstretched hands. In just under four minutes, she had raised her \$225 bail and exited the jail to the cheers of the crowd.

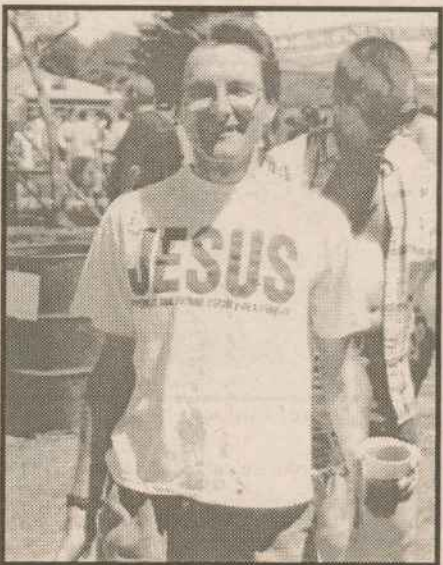
One of the more popular game booths at the picnic was the Dart Game. For a buck, contestants could throw a dart at their favorite - or



least favorite - homophobe. If their dart landed in a small red circle painted on the picture of their target, they won a prize. The Reggie White picture was clearly the most popular target.

Those who needed something bigger to hit moved over to the "Wreck the Wreck" booth. They got the satisfaction of using a sledgehammer to smash into the names of those known to engage in homophobic activities. The Shamrock Bar donated the car.

The ever-popular MAGIC picnic games drew a large crowd of spectators. The Drag race attracted a colorful assortment of characters, who raced back and forth as they assembled a colorful assortment of outfits. The winners were judged on their speed and their sense of fashion.



In the Purse Toss contest, the crowd saw a variety of styles ranging from the hammer throw to the underhanded limp wristed toss.

The Water Balloon Toss was thoroughly enjoyed by the contestants and the crowd. Since it was a hot day, no one seemed to mind when their balloon broke and doused them with water. There were plans to hold a second balloon toss, but several of the contestants decided it would be more fun to have a water balloon fight and used up all of the remaining balloons.

Speaking of balloons, *Wisconsin Light* staffers sold many at the picnic. Those purchasing a helium filled balloon could put a message inside and release it, if they wished. By late afternoon, the *Light's* booth was giving balloons away to every child in sight. Towards the end of the picnic, special guest Tammy Baldwin stopped by and helped fill balloons for the kids. All of the money taken in at the booth was donated to the MAGIC picnic.



MAGIC Picnic Coordinator, Greg Scheel, told *Wisconsin Light* that around 1,500 people purchased the \$10.00 food and drink tickets. While that was a few less than last year, he felt that the total amount of money raised could very well beat last year's record total, due to increased activity at the Jail and the games.

That's good news for Madison's LGBT organizations, nearly all of which provided volunteers to make the picnic happen. Proceeds from the MAGIC picnic are given to the groups who help put it on.

SATURDAY NIGHT AT THE BARS

Even after all the partying at the MAGIC picnic, Madison's LGBT bars were packed on Saturday evening.

Kirby's Klub had a wild show that mixed male dancers with female impersonators. Manoeuvres was so crowded, that at one point, the line to get in stretched well down the sidewalk on Blair Street. At the Shamrock - where some of the *Wisconsin Light* staff held court - there was a large, festive crowd. The same was

true of Ray's, where a nice crowd of friendly people gathered to celebrate their pride.

THE PRIDE MARCH AND RALLY

No Pride celebration would be complete without a parade/march of some kind, and Madison's march and rally didn't disappoint anyone.

The rally, which was held on the steps of the State Street entrance to the State Capitol, fired up a crowd of around 2,000 people. Tina Lee was again called upon to emcee, a duty she performed well. Mayor Bauman told the crowd that Madison loved them. Dane County Executive Kathleen Falk joined her in speaking out against hate.

Former Dane County Supervisor and openly Gay candidate for the State Assembly, Mark Pocan, nearly stole the show with a powerful speech. Pocan showed no mercy in his attack on Wisconsin Christians United (WCU) and



other anti-Gay groups.

Challenging WCU to open up its books, Pocan called the group, "merchants of hate." By the time he held up a toilet plunger, which he said was an "Unintended Ally of the Year" award to be given to WCU leader Ralph Ovadal for his role in bringing out support for Madison's LGBT community, the crowd was going wild.

The woman whom he hopes to succeed in the State Assembly, openly Lesbian Congressional candidate, Tammy Baldwin, followed Pocan. Baldwin took the mike to thunderous cheers. She spoke movingly of her realization that her dream of being an out Lesbian and her dream of holding public office did not conflict with each



other. The enthused crowd took to the streets after the rally and joined an additional two thousand people, who were waiting for the parade to make its way down State Street.

The spectators enthusiastically cheered the



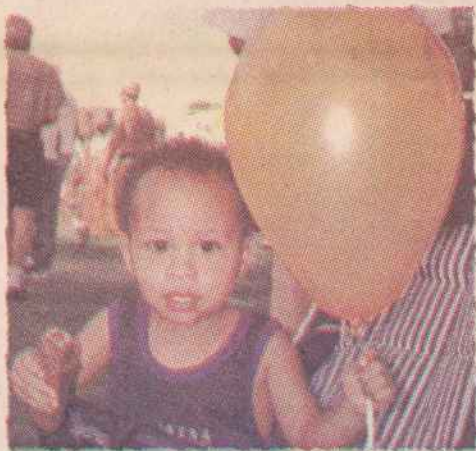
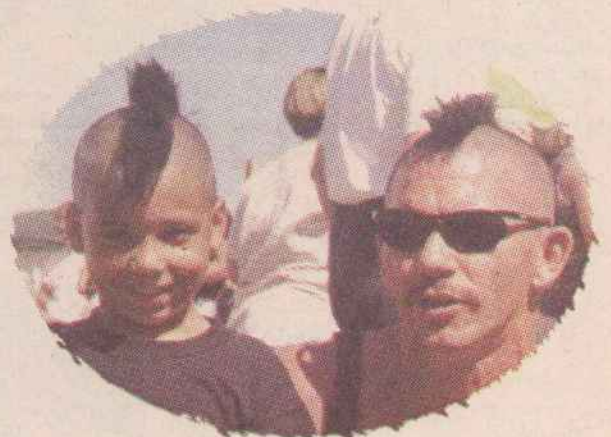
marchers, floats and cars. Tammy Baldwin and the Gay Lesbian Straight Teachers Network (GLTSN) School Bus seemed to be very popular. So were the PFLAG contingent, the bar floats from Madison's LGBT nightclubs, and the *Wisconsin Light* car, which carried its very own Dear Ruthie and Editor In Chief, Bill



Meunier. The parade was followed by a GAYLA at Brittingham Park, which featured entertainment, booths, food and drink. The GAYLA was a benefit for GALVANize, which organizes the Pride March and Rally.

Madison's '98 Pride Weekend...

MAGIC Picnic

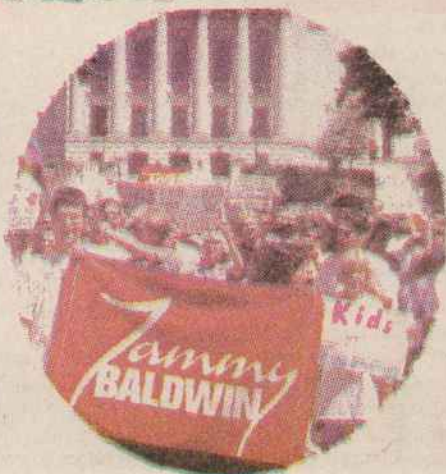


Madison's '98 Pride Weekend...

Rally



Parade



THE SPOTLIGHT

Divas of the Soundboard — Your Favorite DJs Tell All

Soundboards, CD players, turn tables, lasers and strobes are all pieces of equipment at just about any dance club. But the most important piece of equipment is a human one, the DJ.

The DJ is a performer. Just as a great soprano can evoke cheers from the audience at an opera, a great DJ can send the spirits of a dance crowd soaring. Conversely, a bad mix or a bad choice of music can ruin the party mood of the crowd.

What makes the difference between a good and a great DJ? Is it the play list, the ability to get the most out of the sound equipment, knowing what obscure, new record is going to be a crowd favorite, or all of the above?

To find out the answer to that question *Wisconsin Light* talked to some of Gay Wisconsin's top DJ's. We based our selection on what heard and observed going on in Gay Wisconsin clubs that employ DJs at least five nights a week. We made one exception to that rule. Since no full time Dance bar — that we know of — employs a female DJ, we selected one outstanding Lesbian DJ from Milwaukee's Dish bar.

Since we did not hear everyone, in all of the bars, we cannot say that these are Gay Wisconsin's best DJ's with any degree of certainty. What we can say is that they are undoubtedly among the finest DJ's in the Badger State. They are at the top of their game. Their talents and abilities should be a source of pride not only for the clubs they play in, but for the rest of us as well.

Kim Zweibohmer — Club 219, Milwaukee. Kim has been a DJ for 21 years. He started out at a La Crosse Gay bar, called Mothers. From there he moved to the legendary Factory in Milwaukee. He also played at what so many in Milwaukee call "the Factory's sequels." Starting in 1988, Kim began keeping things lively at Milwaukee's Club 219.

Ask him what he likes most about being a DJ and Kim will tell you that it's seeing people having a good time and keeping them entertained. What he likes least is when people "give me drama and become bitches."

One of Kim's major strengths is his ability to blend classic disco from the 70's and 80's into his



Kim at Club 219

play list. He says the reason he does this so well is that he knows that music so well.

Another unique strength that he exhibits is talking over the mike, something that most DJ's don't do. "That's something I've developed over the years," he says. "If you can be open with people, that makes them more relaxed and have more fun."

He describes his style as "a mixture of oldies, house, free style and everything in between with sugar on top and some drama — of course. (He is a Jerry Springer fan.)"

His favorite song right now is *Hands to Heaven* by Pure Sugar. His least favorite is *Gloria* by Laura Branigan — "I play it anyway cuz the crowd likes it."

Kim has some very definite opinions on today's music scene. He feels there are too many one hit wonders.

"People come and go too fast," he says. It's not like the days of Sylvester. Back then, when a song was number one it would stay there for three months. Now, with so many different types of machines making music and so many fads, people get bored too easily. They always want the next best thing."

Kim also feels that today's music is different than what was years ago when he first started spinning records. "Songs don't have the lyrical content like they did in the days of disco, he says, "Back then the music was happy." Like some

other Milwaukee area DJ's, he believes that Milwaukee is too "radio oriented."

Be that as it may, Kim Zweibohmer continues to provide seamless mixes that keep his dance floor hopping and his customers gyrating.

Mark Za — Za's, Green Bay. Mark Za decided to become a DJ when he was just five years old. "My mom and dad got me one of those old fashioned phonographs. It was like a Victrola. "I drove everyone in my family nuts. I am not kidding." He even had a brief stint with a radio station, his own. "When I was in Junior High. I had my own pirate station for about a year. Everyone in the neighborhood got to listen to it."

The first time Mark got paid to play music was while he was working at Roxy's in Green Bay in 1975. The owner asked him to replace the second floor jukebox, and a star was born. Mark talked a friend into building him a homemade soundboard. "It had no cueing, no headphone capability, no speed control, no nothing," he says, "But



Mark Za, owner and DJ of Za's.

it did play records."

One of Mark's strengths is his ability to constantly keep the dance floor filled. He says that the trick is to pick records for his market. "In our market, the music has to reach as many mainstream people as possible. I use a Top 40 format. If there are 100 records on *Billboard's* charts, 20 of them will work for us."

Like many other DJ's, Mark says that what he likes most about being a DJ is the rush he gets when the floor is crowded with people, who are dancing and enjoying his music.

What does he like least? "People in smaller markets tend to focus on hearing a certain song," he says. "Instead of coming out to party, they badger the DJ and treat him like a human jukebox."

A secret to Mark's style is that he almost never plays a song for more than three or four minutes. "People have short attention spans. I tend to stay primarily with very, very new music. I will throw in 20 to 30% of recent stuff — songs from the last six to eight months and 10% old classics."

Mark also has some real strong opinions on the state of the music business today. "The record companies for the last 20 years have completely and utterly botched the ability to sell dance music in anything but large urban centers," he says. "Now you have people putting out a ballad for radio and then they speed it up and turn it into a dance remix. Meanwhile in circuit parties around the country they are dancing to music where you don't have vocals. You can't hear that stuff on the radio anywhere and you can't buy it outside of the really large cities either."

Mark's use of video is another one of his strengths. He says that the advent of video fundamentally changed the direction of music, at least for smaller cities. "Video makes it easier to sell music to audiences that are in non-urban areas. Prior to videos you couldn't see the artist. It gives our audience the ability to see the artist behind the music."

Despite his fondness for video's, Mark believes that video bars have a problem. DJ's try to match songs that have similar beats. This helps to keep the party going on the dance floor. Sometimes that means using the pitch control on the turntable and holding back or speeding up a record by hand. With video, there is no speed control. That means any video bar DJ who is aiming for a smooth transition between songs has to choose a new song that matches the beat of the last song.

"Until the new DVD format makes changing the video speed possible, the video bars have a problem doing good music," said Za. "Video bars are content driven. We pick one stop to go with another stop based on content and mood. A dance bar picks songs that sound good together."

Be that as it may, a visit to Za's detects no hints of any problems. As any regular there can tell you, Mark's play list, combined with the technical skill he began to develop at age five keeps his dance floor full and his crowd very happy.

Amber Mavroff — Dish, Milwaukee. Amber is the new kid on the block, having been a DJ for only two and half years. What she may lack in experience, Amber more than makes up for with her own unique style. She is definitely not a Top 40 DJ, and her play list heavily emphasizes longer mixes.

Amber started at Fannies. "I hung out there a lot," she says. I was one of the people who always bothered the DJ. Then one night they asked me to fill in." Once she got the hang of it, Amber was hooked. "I just loved looking out on a dance floor and seeing people jumping up and down, smiling and dancing, and knowing that they were doing that because of the music I was playing," she says. Amber has been at Dish since it opened last Fall.

How does she determine her play list? "At Dish we have the attitude that we are trying to bring something different, not only to women, but also for the men who come in," she said. "We want to be different, fresh too."

At first, though, not everyone liked that "difference." Amber says that when Dish opened, many of its Lesbian patrons complained about the songs she was playing. But Julia, the bar's owner, stood firm. "Julia is wonderful," says Amber. "She stood behind me and told the complainers that we are a different bar. She made it clear that we are trying to bring something new to Milwaukee."

Different she is. Amber refuses to play the classic disco that is a staple at most other dance clubs. "You can't stay in the 70's and 80's forever," she said. "We want to move on from that. Times change. I think you need to be open minded."

Amber feels that working at Dish, a bar that caters to women, but that also has a substantial number of male customers, has helped her tremendously. "The women's community is smaller. I can look out and see people I know. That helps me to determine what to play. But the men really help too, because they will break the ice. They are willing to dance to something they've never heard before. The women will just stand around," said Amber. "Once the women see the men dancing they will join them on the floor."

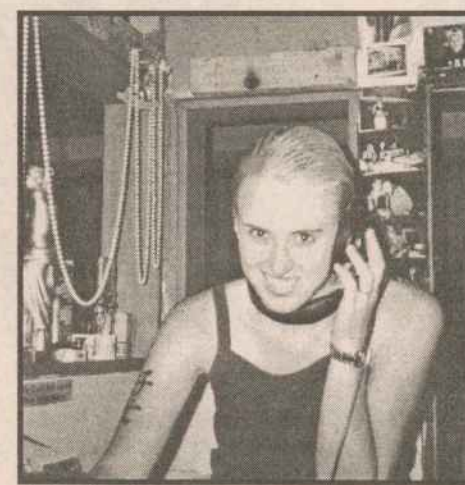
Amber says her favorite song right now is *The Insomnia Remix* by Faithless. Her least favorite is *Be My Lover* by La Bouche. She loves the new "speed garage" style of music.

Asked to sum up her style, Amber says, "I am never going to play a remix off of WKTI (a local radio station). What does that do for you? When you go out, you want to have a good time. You want the bar and the music to do something for you."

Doing something different has begun to win Amber a growing following. As they say in France, "Viva La Difference!"

Tony Ritschard — Manoeuvres, Madison. It's been 11 years since Tony Ritschard stepped up to put some music on the turn table. In all that time he says that he has never forgotten how to party.

Tony began his DJ career while working as a



Amber from Dish

bartender at the New Bar in the old Hotel Washington. "One of the DJ's didn't show up one night, so they asked me to fill in," he says. "I liked it. I liked it a lot."

After a stint at the Cardinal, he returned to the New Bar. When the Hotel Washington burned down in February of 1996, Tony moved over to Manoeuvres where he has been ever since.

What does he like about being DJ? "I like watching people dance. I like the positive messages you can give to people by playing music," he says.

Tony finds playing music at the club to be therapeutic. "If I am not having a good day, I can come in and play something that makes me happy," he says. "It's like music therapy."

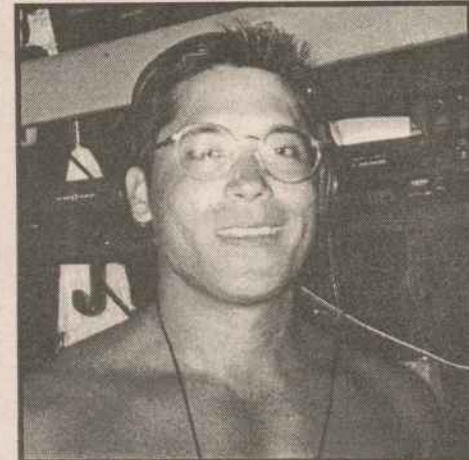
Tony does something not often seen in the Gay dance club scene. He looks for music performed by openly Gay and Lesbian artists. "I think the club and Madison itself needs to be reminded that we're Gay. The straight people, who come in to

dance, need to be reminded that we're Gay," he says. "We're not going to play that radio music all the time, just because that's the type of music that attracts a crowd."

How does he find openly Gay and Lesbian music? "I have a lot of connections in New York and LA and San Francisco," Tony says. When I hear about a new song or a new group, I make some calls and find out if it's any good and where I can get it from. I love getting songs and playing them before they get on the radio."

His latest "find" is Joi Cardwell's *Sound of Love*. "It's a nice end of the night kind of a song," he says before adding that he will definitely be there at PrideFest '98 to see Cardwell perform.

Tony's favorite new song is the razor and go mix of *Here We Go Again* by Aretha Franklin. He says that he doesn't know what his least favorite is. That could be because he doesn't play music



Tony Ritschard of Manoeuvres.

he doesn't like. In fact, anyone who has watched him work, knows that it is not unusual for Tony to pop out of the DJ booth and join the crowd on the dance floor.

Tony seems to believe that if he is having a good time, so will the crowd in the club. At this point, Tony Ritschard has 11 years of good times, and he is hoping for many, many more.

Tony Aiello and Dave Colombo — La Cage, Milwaukee. Tony, aka Tanya, and DJ Dave are regular fixtures at La Cage where they hold court on Friday and Saturday nights. Although they have somewhat divergent tastes, the two of them comprise a formidable "tag team."

"We get along great," says Dave. "We take turns between working the music and working the lights. We give suggestions to each other." "There is no arguing," adds Tony. "We respect each other. I think we are twin sisters separated at birth."

Tony has been a DJ for 18 years. He got his start at Jodies in Racine. In 1984 he came to La Cage and has been there ever since. Dave joined Tony in the booth five years ago.

Tony favors newer music, while Dave likes to play more of the Top 40. How do they work things out? "Dave does the music from 10 to 1," says Tony. "After 1:00, I come on and take it to closing time. When Dave is playing, I do the lights and lasers and videos. When I am playing, he takes over the visuals."

Tony says his strength is his mixing and that Dave is great at doing the videos. Both of them believe in promoting positive messages with their selection of music. "You won't hear any of that 'Slap my bitch' stuff here," says Tony.

What you will hear and see, as any La Cage regular knows, are great mixes, good transitions and fabulous images. All of it produced through a \$500,000 sound and light system that is the envy of many clubs. The system includes computers,



Tony and Dave from La Cage

several video players, and dozens of screens in addition to the expected turntables and CD players. "We are always adding something new," says Tony. "We try to be cutting edge."

The La Cage system takes a lot of technical skill to keep everything working in synch. That skill is definitely there when Tony and Dave are in the booth. It's one of the reasons why La Cage is one of the most popular Gay dance clubs in the state.

OUT in the Theatre

Show Boat Drops Anchor in Milwaukee for a Spectacular Four Week Run

Reviewed by John Jahn

The new Tony Award winning epic production of Jerome Kern and Oscar Hammerstein II's landmark musical saga, *Show Boat*, directed by Harold Prince, had its Milwaukee premier in Uihlein Hall on Saturday, July 18. It will end its run on Sunday, August 16. If the musical theater is at all of interest to you, this fine, flawless production is truly a must-see.

Show Boat is considered to be an American musical masterpiece and a milestone in the history of musical theater. It is a vital and timeless work. It is filled with lovely songs and energetic dance sequences, and it has a serious plot involving love won and lost, racism, and a four decade sweep through the lives of a travelling song and dance company.

The Harold Prince directed version, currently playing in Milwaukee, is a majestic one, involving a company of 50 actors, 20 musicians and 68 people backstage. *Show Boat* boasts some 500 costumes and the same number of props, four turn of the century wagons and carriages, cars from 1902 and 1927, and the 30 foot tall "Cotton Blossom" floating theater - the show boat itself.

Of course, the heart and soul of any successful musical are the songs, and few can better those of *Show Boat*. Kern's lush melodies provide a perfect accompaniment to the evocative lyrics of Hammerstein in such

gems as "Can't Help Lovin' Dat Man," "You Are Love," "Why Do I Love You," "Only Make Believe," "Bill," and "Ol' Man River," which acts as a recurring theme and effectively evokes the passage of time.

This *Show Boat* does not cut corners on its budget. It's a \$10 million production filled with lavish sets, costumes and lighting - and it boasts an impressive cast as well.

Sarah Pfisterer alum of Greendale High School) brings great energy, fine acting and a gorgeous singing voice to her portrayal of Magnolia. Alex Sharp portrays her husband, Gaylord Ravenal, and his voice blends with Sarah's harmoniously, bringing great tenderness to their duets.

Debbie Le Coudreaux evokes all the pathos from her role as Julie, especially in her second act love song, "Bill." We are even treated to seeing a well-known star with a Milwaukee connection, Tom Bosley, famed for his role as Howard Cunningham on TV's "Happy Days." He is superb in his economical, humorous portrayal of the Cotton Blossom's boss, Cap'n Andy.

Tickets for *Show Boat* may be purchased in person at the Marcus Center Box Office, 929 N. Water St., and at all Ticketmaster outlets. To charge tickets by telephone, call (414) 273-7206.

Pamela Brown's La Bete at Villa Terrace

Milwaukee — Amethyst Productions continues its summer series at Villa Terrace Decorative Arts Museum with *La Bete*, David Hirson's comedy of manners in the mold of Moliere.

Winner of the Outer Critics Circle Award for best new playwright, Hirson's takeoff on Moliere's comedies is a tour de force of language and style in its own right.

Mimicking the rhymes and iambic pen-

tameter of the French master, Hirson's comic play examines deeper themes of art versus entertainment and self-reliance versus government funding.

La Bete opened July 24 and will run through August 9 at Villa Terrace, 2220 N. Terrace Avenue in Milwaukee. It is under the direction of Pamela Brown. For tickets and other information, call (414) 299-0435.

Gutzman's Salome: An Eye Catching, Scandalous, Decadent, Marvelous Production

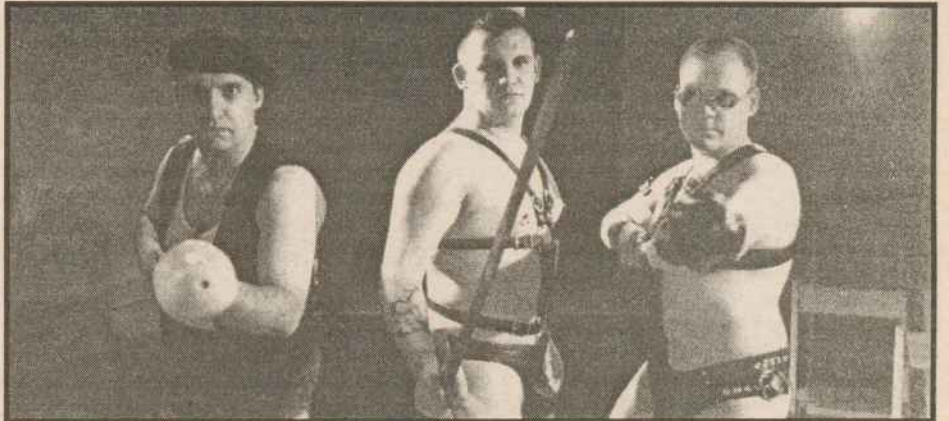
Reviewed by Glenn Bishop

Ever willing to come to the rescue, the marvelously reliable Glenn found himself rushed into the breach, replacing another Wisconsin Light writer, and reviewing the scandalous new production of Oscar Wilde's scandalous play, *Salome*, produced by Milwaukee's legendary theatrical impresario, Dale Gutzman.

Still, after a close, close friend of Glenn's

(read that as tiny) Circlestage Theater is an eye-opener in so very many ways. Wilde's play delights in the thorough decadence of the tale, and Mr. Gutzman uses these elements in the text to create a world where the quest for sexual pleasure is supreme.

As the lights come on, the audience is treated to the writhing bodies of a couple quite obviously copulating beneath a scarlet cloth.



Gutzman's production of *Salome*; left to right: David Caldwell as Soldier #2, Benjamin Robertson as Naaman, and Lawrence J. Lukasavage as Soldier #1.

referred to Glenn's position as that of a "second-stringer" and that perhaps a reading of Tom Stoppard's play *Real Inspector Hound* was in order, Glenn must admit to total bewilderment.

But back to *Salome*...

Glenn's reading the Bible ended pretty much about the time Glenn was booted out of Sunday school as an incorrigible, heathen youth. Nevertheless, Glenn recalled that *Salome*, displaying a great deal of naughtiness, demanded the head of John the Baptist on a silver platter. Glenn always thought that through it all, the silver platter showed her to be a rather classy broad.

Mr. Gutzman's production at the intimate

Some in the audience may have thought this a happy, humping het couple, but Glenn was not surprised in the least to see two wickedly handsome male youths (Karl Miller and Truog Tieu) caught in the act. Yet even Glenn must admit to a raised eyebrow at their delicious nakedness (almost).

Male characters in scanty, designer briefs and various leather paraphernalia abound in *Salome*.

John the Baptist (Braden Moran), called Jokanaan, is discovered beautifully filling out a pair of Calvin Klein briefs in a small cage. Hands bound, lips rouged, it is thus that the voluptuously supplicant Jokanaan is spied by *Salome* (Sarah Sokolovic). Glenn felt it

Please see *Salome*, Page 23

La Cage

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OUT In Print



New on the Shelf

FICTION

Wicked Games
By Ellen Hart
St. Martin's Press; HC \$24.95

One of the most popular authors of Lesbian mysteries, Ellen Hart, is back with another deliciously eerie new thriller featuring her unabashed protagonist, Jane Lawless.

In this latest adventure, Jane gets a new tenant who seems to be a nice man, but who has graced the local papers with an account of a murder he has witnessed without actually seeing. He is psychic. Little does Jane know that his appearance will set off a string of troubles she cannot imagine.

An Arrow's Flight
By Mark Merlis
St. Martin's Press; HC \$24.95

From the author of *American Studies* comes this joyous, imaginative tour de force. As the siege of Troy has dragged on for years, an oracle supplies the Greeks with what they need for victory: Pyrrhus, son of the fallen Achilles.

But *An Arrow's Flight* is a not your typical Greek historical adventure. Pyrrhus has been working as a go-go boy in the big city and plans on going to war.

Author Mark Merlis has created a fabulous new world where legendary heroes declare their endowments in personal ads and any street panhandler just might be a divinity in disguise. A must!

NON-FICTION

The Lesbian & Gay Book of Love & Marriage
By Paula Martinac, Roberta Achtenberg
Broadway Books; Pb \$18.00

Paula Martinac's *The Lesbian and Gay Book of Love and Marriage* is a crossbreed of a book that offers knowing, humorous insights on love in the Gay lane.

The book crosses 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") and homo-childcare cues by way of Dr. Spock ("Are Grandma and Grandpa on Board").

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 both frank and funny, practical and political.

Gay Travels: A Literary Companion
Edited by Lucy Jane Bledsoe
Whereabouts; Pb \$14.95

Travel literature can offer a delicious way of anticipating, enhancing, and savoring your travels, especially if the theme coincides with your own experiences. In *Gay Travels: A Literary Companion*, Lucy Jane Bledsoe has compiled 17 travel stories by some great contemporary Gay writers, wherein they explore Russia, Tangier, India, Israel, Central Africa, Indiana, and a multitude of Gay travel experiences.

This is not a guide to Gay-friendly accommodations and entertainment. Rather, it's a beautiful companion set that invites you to enrich your own travels, contemplate, compare, and enjoy a lot of good literature.

August at Afterwords!

Monday, August 10th 7:30pm
Life Outside by Michelangelo Signorile

Wednesday, August 19th 7pm
Lesbian & Gay Writers' Group
New members welcome!

Wednesday, August 26th 7pm
Lesbian Reading Group
Rafferty Street by Lee Lynch

Friday-Sunday, August 28th-30th
See ya at PrideFest —
or stop in at Afterwords
Open normal hours during PrideFest

Book Review

HUSBAND HUNTING MADE EASY AND OTHER MIRACLES FOR THE MODERN GAY MAN

BY PATRICK PRICE

Reviewed by Glenn Bishop

Glenn's humble literary efforts in the *Wisconsin Light* have resulted in receiving various and sundry new books to review. When *Husband Hunting Made Easy and Other Miracles for the Modern Gay Man* by Patrick Price appeared with the post, Glenn quite naturally assumed such was the case.

Not so. In actuality, a former dearest friend of Glenn's, who shall remain forever nameless, with a great deal of viciousness in her so-called heart, sent the book to Glenn to highlight just how pathetic Glenn's romantic life has been of late. All Glenn can say is, "Thanks, Bitch!"

Still, the book's cover is simply adorable, and Glenn tentatively opened to a page, then to another and a few more, until the book was read in one greedy gulp. How wonderfully funny and wise is Patrick Price.

How ironic, then, that Glenn has decided to review it.

First things first. *Husband Hunting Made Easy* is NOT some dry, tediously boring sociological study on the mating habits of giddy Gay men of the '90s. If Patrick Price's approach is firmly tongue-in-cheek, his book is neverthe-

less loaded with invaluable nuggets of truth.

Take the first chapter. Amongst this definitely critical section on men to avoid dating are so many, many truisms. Who, for example, hasn't learned the bitter truth of falling for straight men or of dating someone more attractive than oneself - although this has not terribly often been a problem for Glenn!

While choosing the right guy is a key part of the process, Patrick Price forces the reader into some critical self-awareness. Particularly fascinating is a 12-question quiz, "How Needy Are You?" Despite Glenn scoring in the highly desirable "Boy Scout" category, boyfriends have not been knocking down the door.

Taking the reader from the "Top Ten Most Pathetic Opening Lines" (#1: Are you legal?) to "Things Best Not Brought Up on the First Date" (#3: That your life sucks) and on to the all important subject of sex and beyond, Patrick Price is the best friend with whom you've always wanted to share your relationship problems.

Let's face it, at a mere \$12.95, *Husband Hunting Made Easy* is a heck of a lot cheaper than a therapist. Still, the author's little bio doesn't indicate Mr. Patrick Price's status - husband-wise. Since the accompanying picture shows that the surprisingly young Patrick is, quite simply, as cute as a button, Glenn must wonder what gives.

Summer Reading for Women

By Cynthia Van Vreede

When hitting the beach for the day or taking off for the weekend, one of the best ways to relax is to sit down and read a good book. And luckily for us, there are plenty of good books available for just about every woman's taste.

If you like mysteries, there are several new books by familiar writers. Sandra Scoppettone's *Gonna Take A Homicidal Journey* is the fifth outing (so to speak) of Lesbian detective Lauren Laurano. When we last left Lauren, she and Kip were having a problem in their relationship.

They are still together, but they're trying to get things back on track. It's not any easier for them when Lauren investigates a murder during their vacation.

Naiad has published two new mysteries. *Bad Moon Rising* is the second of the series by Barbara Johnson. Insurance Investigator, Colleen Fitzgerald, made her first appearance in *The Beach Affair*. In *Bad Moon Rising*, Colleen's investigation into the overdose of a porn star takes her into the seamy underworld of the sex industry.

The second Naiad offering is *River Quay* by Janet McClellan. This is the third book by McClellan to feature Homicide Detective, Tru North. Tru is looking into an arson-related murder.

McClellan, herself a Police Chief with over 25 years in law enforcement, gives an authentic voice to Tru North.

Two other mysteries have recently been issued in paperback. *Robber's Wine* by Ellen Hart has restaurant owner and amateur sleuth, Jane Lawless, snooping around a murder investigation in the remote woods of Minnesota.

Martina Navratilova's *Killer Instinct* is now on the shelves. Jordan Myles, ex-tennis champ now TV personality, checks out the bad things that are happening at the Desert Springs Sports Science Clinic.

Now if mysteries aren't your thing, there are plenty of new books for you to read, like *Rafferty Street* by Lee Lynch.

In this book, a Lesbian bus driver strives to keep her job amidst sexual misconduct allegations. Lynch's earlier books are *Dusty's Queen of Hearts Diner* and *Morton River Valley*.

New from Naiad is *Endless Love* by Lisa Shapiro. Andrea Stern returns home to reconnect with her family after a personal tragedy. She meets Gwen — a woman who challenges Andrea to make peace with the past.

Also from Naiad is *The Naked Eye* by Catherine Ennis. This seventh book from Ennis

has wildlife photographer Katherine Duncan in the swamplands of Louisiana. She has an attractive new landlord who becomes a friend. As the friendship deepens, a sexual tension develops between them.

What could be safer than a platonic friendship with a straight woman? Carpenter Kasey Holland decides to play it safe with Connie Bradford in *Love in the Balance* by Marianne K. Martin. Martin's first book is the best-selling *Legacy of Love*.

A couple of hardcover books now available in paperback are *Terminal Velocity* by Blanche McCray Boyd. A terrible title for a great book about a plantation-bred Southern gal who finds her destiny as a radical Lesbian and sometime fugitive.

Also new in paperback is *Hood* by Emma Donogue. Hood takes place in 1970s Catholic Ireland when convent school teenager, Pen O'Grady, falls in love with fellow student, Cara Wall.

If you're not into fiction, there are some new books of interest to you. Kate Clinton's autobiographical *Don't Get Me Started* is a fun beach read. Kate combines her opinions on a variety of topics with her comic routines for a very funny take on life.

For biography nuts *The Queen of Whale Cay* by Kate Summerscale is for you. The Queen was "Joe" Cartairs, an eccentric Lesbian, who was heir to the Standard Oil fortune. Her Granddaddy was John D. Rockefeller's treasurer. Marion "Joe" Carstairs loved to race speedboats and once was the fastest woman on water.

She had over 120 girlfriends, including several actresses from stage and screen.

What is "home" for Lesbians? Is it the house we grew up in or the space we've created or found for ourselves as we grew older? This question is posed by Susan Fox Rogers in *Chasing the American Dyke Dream: Homestretch*.

This fine anthology includes essays by Terry Wolverton, Louise Raffkin, Valerie Miner and Tatiana de la Tierra.

Girljock: The Book is a collection of articles from *Girljock: The Magazine*. *Girljock* was covering women's sports long before ESPN and corporate marketers got in the game. *Girljock: The Book* professes to help you get in touch with your inner Rugby player and help you with your crush on the gym teacher.

As they say, "What fun is standing on the sidelines when enlightenment is just a quick read away?"

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OUT on Film

Saving Private Ryan is Unforgettable

Reviewed by John Jahn
I've seldom found myself at a loss for words to describe a movie-going experience. I would have had trouble writing an adequate review of *Schindler's List* had I worked for Wisconsin Light in 1993.

Even the searing and indelible impact of last year's underrated *The Sweet Hereafter* cannot come close to Director Steven Spielberg's World War II epic masterpiece, *Saving Private Ryan*. I can quite honestly say that no one who sees it will, as was the case with *Schindler's List*, be able to forget it.

Saving Private Ryan hits you hard right away with a 30-minute cinematic tour de force that is, without a doubt, one of the finest half-hours ever committed to film. It's a soldier's-eye view of the Allied D-Day invasion of Normandy in German-occupied France, on June 6, 1944.

I've seen many, many "war movies" in my lifetime, being a fan of the genre since childhood, but never before have I witnessed a more violent, gory, visceral depiction of war. Actual wartime newsreels come closest in comparison, but certainly no other movie thus far comes close.

Spielberg spares the viewer nothing of the horrors of battle. There are images of bodies being cut to pieces by bullets, limbs blown off, and various other scenes of carnage and destruction. Thus, I have this warning to those who are squeamish: you'll find the first 30 minutes of *Saving Private Ryan* rather unbearable. Indeed, the film very nearly earned an NC-17 rating.

As he did with *Schindler's List*, Spielberg employs hand-held cameras, a slight speeding up of some of the images, muted colors (black & white in *Schindler's List*), and several different kinds of film stock. As good as the following 2 1/2 hours are, it will be the first 30 minutes that everyone who sees this movie will remember most vividly.

Most "traditional" war movies fall into three categories: heroic tales of glory (*The Guns of Navarone*, *The Green Berets*), biopics (*Patton*, *MacArthur*), or revisionist (*Platoon*, *Apocalypse Now*). *Saving Private Ryan* doesn't adequately fall into any of those.



Captain Miller (TOM HANKS, foreground) and Private Reiben (EDWARD BURNS) are American soldiers on a dangerous mission behind enemy lines.



MATT DAMON stars as Private Ryan in the World War II action drama *Saving Private Ryan*.

It's a condemnation of and warning against war in general, wrapped in a tale of human courage and sacrifice. Although the film is only very loosely based upon a true incident (see *The Fighting Sullivans* for a depiction of the story that is much closer to the truth), it's hard not to accept these characters and events as completely real.

The plot involves the efforts to save the last surviving Ryan brother who's gone to war. Of the four Ryan brothers, only one is left, James (Matt Damon).

Army Chief of Staff George C. Marshall (Harve Presnell) is stirred by the grief-stricken family's plight and decides to search out and deliberately rescue James Ryan from suffering the same fate his brothers did. Thus, Captain John Miller (Tom Hanks) is chosen to lead a team of eight men whose goal, as Miller says, is to "find a needle in a haystack of needles."

There's nothing particularly complex about the structure or plot of *Saving Private Ryan*. Spielberg ensured that everyone in the movie is developed into a multi-dimensional individual. They are "citizen soldiers" — ordinary men caught in the teeth of a terrible time and place in history.

Although this isn't necessarily Tom Hanks' highest profile role, it is certainly one of his best performances, full of war-weariness, resignation and devotion to duty.

The supporting cast including Edward Burns, Jeremy Davies and Matt Damon is uniformly excellent. Damon gives a solid performance that calls for him to be as much a symbol

as an individual.

Finally, there's Tom Sizemore (*The Relic*), whose portrayal as Miller's faithful friend and sergeant is vivid and engaging.

With his Holocaust drama, *Schindler's List*, set alongside the war epic, *Saving Private Ryan*, Steven Spielberg has given us two of the decade's most gripping, disturbing and powerful motion pictures. In many ways, these films are artistic and dramatic equals.

For those who are willing to brave the movie's shockingly realistic and unforgettable images, *Saving Private Ryan* offers a singular motion picture experience. ★★★★★

Hopkins, Banderas Bring Excitement and Charisma to The Mask of Zorro

Reviewed by John Jahn

Zorro, the swashbuckling hero of the oppressed, was first introduced to the world in 1919 when he debuted in Johnston McCulley's serialized novel, *The Curse of Capistrano*. The next year he made his way onto the silver screen (with the handsome, athletic Douglas Fairbanks Sr. in the title role) in *The Mark of Zorro*.

One of the best Zorros was provided by the painfully handsome Tyrone Power in 1940. The most recent was the slapstick farce and slim spoof, *Zorro — The Gay Blade* (1981), in which George Hamilton not only played the title character, but also his campy, Gay twin brother, B u n n y Wigglesworth. The awfulness (and homophobia) of that movie lead to a 17-year hiatus from Zorro movies.

Now both Anthony Hopkins and Antonio Banderas make their mark in *The Mask of Zorro*, a '90s attempt to revive interest in the venerable hero. Vastly improved over its most recent predecessor, this latest take on the Zorro legend offers a great deal of excitement and adventure, combined with a somewhat irreverent tone that keeps the mood light without trivializing its characters.

When the film opens in 1821, the mask is worn by Don Diego De La Vega (Hopkins). He is the original Zorro who defends Mexico

against its foes, most prominently his arch-enemy, Don Rafael Montero (Stuart Wilson), a cruel governor.

Eventually, De La Vega is captured and imprisoned. Some two decades later, he manages to escape. Soon after, he encounters a thief on the run, Alejandro Murrieta (Banderas), and decides to groom him as the next Zorro.

The only weakness to *The Mask of Zorro* is its predictable plot. In this genre of film, good must necessarily triumph over evil, the villains must be punished, the hero gets the girl (yes, girl; we're still waiting for a Gay action-adventure hero), and the ending must be happy. As far as following the formula goes, Zorro does a suitable job.

Nevertheless, *The Mask of Zorro* has plenty of action, tumult and daring-do. And, like *Raiders of the Lost Ark*, it never takes itself too seriously. There are no giant lizards, asteroids, computer-generated toy soldiers, pyrotechnics or "special effects" as we've come to know them.

Hopkins is, as always, excellent as he takes up where Errol Flynn left off. Banderas infuses Zorro with more than adequate charm, sexuality and charisma. If the filmmakers can produce another one like this, here's hoping that Zorro rides again! ★★★1/2



ANTONIO BANDERAS plays the roguish outlaw turned elegant hero in *The Mask of Zorro*

Salome, Continued from Page 5

quite understandable that Salome would demand giving Jokanaan a much closer look.

Against their orders, Jokanaan's tattooed, beefy guards ultimately give in to Salome. Yet it requires that Salome use all of the despicable feminine wiles at her disposal to have him released from his small prison.

With shameless abandon, Salome tempts

ol' Salome could possibly want if only she'll dance for him — she chooses well everybody knows what she chooses.

There is much to commend this marvelous production. The difficult Wilde dialogue is handled with surprising aplomb by the whole cast. Sarah Sokolovic is sensational as Salome — something of an evil '20s flapper. Dale



Dale Gutzman as Herod Antipas and Braden Moran as Jokanaan (John the Baptist)

Jokanaan and yet he spurns her.

Wilde makes much of the contrast of the strength and dignity of the Christian prophet and the sexual ambivalence and depravity of

Gutzman and Monica Degnam Hobler marvel as a Biblical takeoff of Albee's George and Martha.

While the play's the thing, even the most



Karl Miller as Captain of the Guard and Trung Tieu as the Page of Herodias.

the Tetrarch of Judea, Herod Antipas (Dale Gutzman), and those lost souls who surround him, including Salome, as well as the delightfully pouty "XY Boy", the Cappodocian son of an enemy king (Eric Nelson).

When the obsessed Herod offers Salome the sun, the moon, the stars — just anything little

reluctant theatergoer will find in Salome much to catch the eye and feed the imagination.

Salome is playing July 30, 31 and August 1 at Circlestage Theater, 783 N. Jefferson in Milwaukee. Curtain is at 8pm. For tickets and other information, call (414) 466-4049 or (414) 545-8580.

There's Something About Mary: A Combination of Lowbrow Comedy and Romance

Reviewed by John Jahn

Peter and Bobby Farrelly's first two films, *Dumb and Dumber* and *Kingpin*, were outrageous, uncouth, bawdy and unapologetically lowbrow. Their third film, *There's Something About Mary*, is all of that and one more thing: hilarious.

The so-called comedy of their first two films quite frequently missed the mark, and I chuckled more than I laughed at them. That situation was reversed with *Mary*.

It's not enough to simply put gross-out humor on film and expect everyone to laugh. It must be accompanied by good timing and reaction shots. These two elements separate *Mary* from its predecessors. The Farrelly Brothers haven't changed their m.o., they've just become better at their craft.

The narrator of the story is Ted (Ben Stiller). When we first meet him, it's 1985 in the small town of Cumberland, RI at his senior prom, which he's about to attend with the girl of his dreams and lusts, Mary (Cameron Diaz).

Things are going well until Ted makes a pit stop in Mary's bathroom where, after failing to "tuck himself in" properly before zipping up,

he leads us into one of the film's most painful comedy sequences.

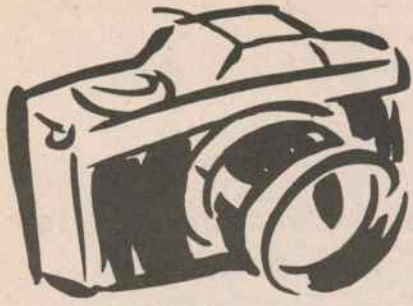
Cut to the present-day, in which Ted, now a moderately successful writer, still holds a torch for Mary. He hires a private investigator (Matt Dillon) to track her down. Unfortunately, Matt doesn't just find her, he falls for her himself!

When Ted finally takes matters into his own hands, he finds himself in the midst of a bizarre romantic pentagon involving a British architect (Lee Evans) and a famous NFL quarterback.

While replete with crude, lowbrow humor, *There's Something About Mary* is also effective as a sweet, albeit offbeat, romantic comedy. For those who embrace this sort of slapstick humor in all its perversity, the romantic aspects of the film are a decided plus.

The Farrellys probably set out with the intention of offending as many theatergoers in two hours as they could. Their welcome unwillingness to comply with the rigid doctrines of "political correctness" can lead to duds like *Kingpin* or comic gems like *There's Something About Mary*. I haven't laughed this hard at any movie so far this year. ★★★

Just Us Closes...



Gotcha!

...La Cage Reopens...



...Fluid Celebrates Grand Opening

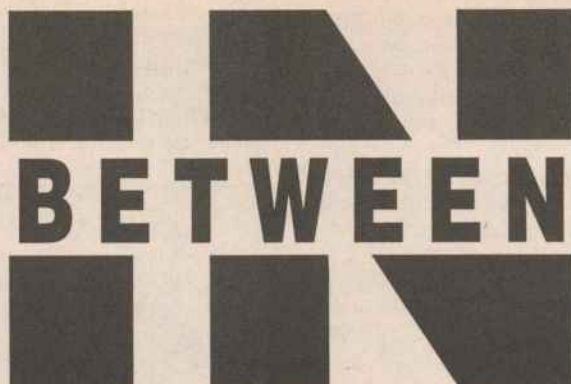


Gay Milwaukee's

George, Cory
& Staff at LaCage:
CONGRATS ON A
JOB WELL DONE!

—Curtis

625 S 2nd St



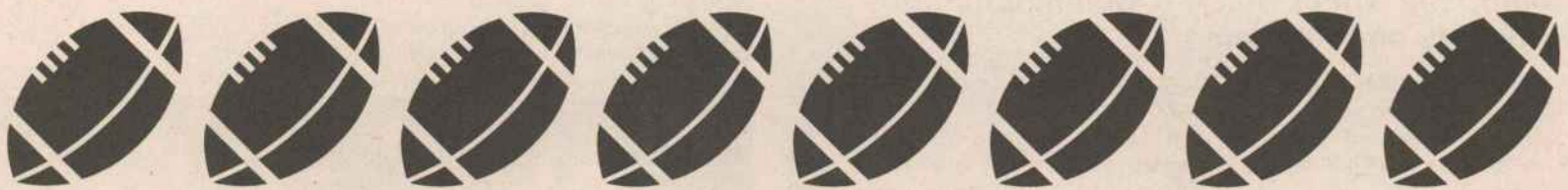
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Make plans now to enjoy another winning season



THE NIGHT LIGHT

by Dusty Sass

So did you have a good time in Madison during its Pride Weekend? I know I did. Friday night I actually got to meet the fabulous *Wisconsin Light* columnist, Tina Lee at the United's Awards Dinner. I can attest to the fact that she is just as funny in person as she is in print. After the dinner, I went to the 10% Society Dance at the Monana Terrace. It was fabulous! Over 2,000 of us were in the place having a great time.

After the dance I stopped in at Kirby's Klub to see one of my favorite bartenders, Matt. Unfortunately, he wasn't there. It seems his parents dropped in on him. He told me that they bought him a brand new bed! Guess he wore the old one out. Wonder how that happened!

Then some friends who work at the State Capitol took me around the town to some really nice places. We wound up at Manoeuvres. Loads of other people had the same thought, the place was packed.

Saturday was great. The MAGIC Picnic was just fabulous! Congrats to the Scheel's on their 25th annual bash. We had a great time selling balloons at our *Wisconsin Light* booth. Tammy Baldwin even stopped and helped.

Saturday night we did the bars again — big shock there huh? Kirby's Klub had a great show. The strippers tried to recruit me to join their troupe, but I said "No, I am chained to my computer and *Wisconsin Light*. Over at the Shamrock, several members of our staff — who shall all remain nameless — were having a blast singing with and without jukebox accompaniment. Thankfully, the staff of that very friendly place didn't toss us out on our ears.

Sunday was equally fabulous. I just loved Marc Poca's speech. When he pulled out that plunger I was up there cheering with the rest of them. The parade was super too. Our Dear Ruthie, wants to thank everyone who cheered her all the way down State Street. Course she got all those cheers for that purple hair. Our editor, Bill Meunier, said she must have used up all the Welch's in the trailer park to get it that color. He was just jealous because she looked prettier than he did!

Sunday night was spent over at Manoeuvres for the Miss Capital City pageant. I couldn't believe it! It actually started on time! The pageant was well done. Congrats to Gingivitis for winning the coveted crown.

I have been out and about in Milwaukee too! The grand opening of La Cage's renovated Dance Dance Dance was great. Waiters walking around with snacks like shrimp and sandwiches, great music and those huge video screens! Well, all I can say is that it was well worth the wait.

On Saturday the 25, I went to the Just Us closing party. Actually first I went to In

Between and that cutie, Rick Forbes and his friend, Eva, decided to join me and In Between owner, Curt. Thing is they had a limo. Not just a little one either. I think this car needed a whole block to park in. Well anyway, we took the limo over the Just Us to say our good byes to that establishment.

I will miss that place. I loved their shows. They weren't glitzy, they weren't pretentious, they were just pure fun. Co-owner Jan and I talked about the shows and agreed the element of the unexpected was a big part of them. You never knew whose wig was going to fall off, or whose bracelet was going to go flying into the audience.

On Sunday the 26, I stopped in at Fluid to help them celebrate their Grand Opening Weekend. It didn't look like they needed much help. The place was packed. They had a piano player and lots of food and lots of people.

It's always nice to stop in there because the owners, Billy and Jimmy are such sweethearts. Good things should happen to good people!

Coming Up! .. Friday, July 31, the Triangle will have its big "Mystery Party of the Decade." I still can't figure out what's going on. But my spies tell me that the event will have mega prizes and lots of surprises. And there is not truth to the rumor that I will be jumping out of the cake! I don't do cakes anymore not since I got frosting caught in myÉ well nevermind.

On Saturday August 1, South Water Street Docks is having a carnival of sorts. All of the Possum Queen candidates have been invited to take a turn in the Dunk Tank — that's DUNK tank not DRUNK tank, although a few of them could do either. The festivities will be capped off by a great show. The whole thing helps the Infamous Topaz, her partner in crime, Aqua Marie promote their candidacies.

If you are near Kenosha, you should check out the Miss Gay Kenosha USA pageant at Club 94. It will feature a veritable bevy of stars. Show time is 10:00.

Also that same evening, M&M will hold a benefit for its new Possum Queen candidate. I don't know who they are putting up, but I hear that he puts out.

Speaking of putting out, I hope that you are putting out some bucks for the Possum Queen candidates in Milwaukee and for the Gay Guernsey candidates up in Title Town. You know I never knew that cows could lay eggs until I heard that Napalese Lounge in Green Bay was selling them to benefit their candidate. I wonder if anyone has told the *Weekly World News*.

Speaking of the Gay Guernsey pageant, the finals will be held at Za's on Saturday, August 8. Don't miss them! It will be a perfectly moovelous time!

Well that's it for now. They tell me space is tight this issue, and I can't ramble on. Hope to see you out and about soon. Meanwhile, play safe and be proud!

Miss Gay Capitol City, Ginga Vitis, to help send her to state pageant. Also starring Michael K (Mr. Capitol City), Ms. Sarah Jane Whitney, Vicki C, Ida Ho, Corey Allen and Desiree Matthews.

Sunday, August 9
Manoeuvres & Mad Bar (Madison), 150 S. Blair Street. 10:30pm. Mr. Captiol City Michael K will host an evening of entertainment featuring lots of local talent.

Fluid (Milwaukee), 819 S. 2nd Street. 7-11pm, Trixie on the piano.

CONFERENCES/CLASSES/SEMINARS

Thursday, July 30
Audubon Court Books (Milwaukee), 383 West Brown Deer Road, 7-10pm. Master Chess. Play Russian master Leonid Aranovich as he takes on all challengers while giving tips for improving your game.

Wednesday, August 5
Summer Gatherings (Milwaukee), Summerfield United Methodist Church, 728 East Juneau Avenue, 6pm Praise & Prayer;

Please see Calendar, Page 24

Calendar of Events

CLUB/BAR EVENTS

Friday, July 31

Triangle (Milwaukee), 135 East National Avenue. All Hell Breaks Loose, The Party of the Decade begins.

Saturday, August 1

South Water Street Docks (Milwaukee), 354 East National. Summer Carnival, 1-9pm featuring games, prizes, food, clowns and face painting and the Possum Queen Dunk Tank Challenge. 10pm-Midnight. Possum Queen Benefit Show for Aqua Marie and Infamous Topaz with guests and special surprises.

Manoeuvres & Mad Bar (Madison), 150 S. Blair Street. Unicorn Club Night with levi/leather, uniform or shirtless dress code enforced. Last Club Night to be held at this location.

Triangle (Milwaukee), 135 East National Avenue. All Hell Breaks Loose, The Party of the Decade continues.

Sunday, August 2

Manoeuvres & Mad Bar (Madison), 150 S. Blair Street. 10:30pm Sharp. Benefit show for

WISCONSIN LIGHT GUIDE TO GOING OUT

CENTRAL WISCONSIN

Oz	MW, DJ	320 Washington, Wausau	54401	842-3225
Platwood Club	G/S, MW, DJ	1730 Hwy 10W, Stevens Point	54481	341-8862

EAU CLAIRE

Scooters	Wm	411 Galloway St.	54703	835-9959
Wolf's Den	MW, G/S	302 E. Madison	54703	832-9237

FOX RIVER VALLEY

Rascal's Bar & Grill	MW, Food	702 E. Wisconsin, Appleton	54991	954-9262
Diversions	MW, DJ	1413 Green Valley, Neenah	54911	725-3374

GREEN BAY

Brandy's II	Mw	1126 Main St.	54304	437-3917
Buddies	MW	1264 Main St.	54304	437-9256
The Napalese Lounge	MW, DJ	515 S. Broadway	54303	432-9646
Sass	WM	840 S. Broadway	54304	437-7277
Za's/Java'	MW, DJ	1106 Main St.	54301	435-5476

LA CROSSE

Cavalier Lounge	Mw	114 N. 5th St.	54601	782-9061
Players	S/G, MW	218 Main St.	54601	782-9279

LAKE MILLS

Cross Roads	G/S, MW	W6642 Hwy. B	53551	648-8457
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MADISON

Geraldine's	WM, DJ	3054 E. Washington	53704	241-9335
Kirby's Klub	MW, DJ, Shows	121 W. Main St.	53703	251-5838
MAD Bar	M. L/L	150 S. Blair	53703	258-9918
Manoeuvres	MW, DJ, Shows	150 S. Blair	53703	258-9918
Shamrock	MW	117 W. Main St.	53703	255-5029

MILWAUKEE

1100 Club	M, L/L, Food	1100 S. 1st St.	53204	647-9950
Ball Game	M, Sports Bar	196 S. 2nd St.	53204	273-7474
Boot Camp	M. L/L	209 E. National Ave.	53204	643-6900
C'est La Vie	M, Shows	231 S. 2nd St.	53204	291-9600
Club 219	Mw, DJ, Shows	219 S. 2nd St.	53204	271-3732
D's Place	Wm, DJ	4025 N. Port Washington	53212	962-9487
Dish	W, DJ	235 S. 2nd St.	53204	273-DISH
Emeralds Lounge	MW	801 E. Hadley St.	53212	265-7325
Fannies	Wm	200 E. Washington St.	53204	649-9003
Fluid	MW	819 S. 2nd St.	53204	645-8330
Glass Menagerie	Fine Dining	124 N. Water St.	53202	347-1962
In Between	Mw, Sports Bar	625 S. 2nd St.	53204	273-2693
Kathy's Nut Hut	Wm	1500 W. Scott St.	53204	647-2673
La Cage	Mw, DJ, Shows	801 S. 2nd St.	53204	383-8330
M&M Club	MW, Food	124 N. Water St.	53202	347-1962
Mama Roux	Mw, Food	1875 N. Humboldt	53202	347-0344
The Milwaukee Eagle	M, L/L	300 W. Juneau	53203	273-6900
Renez Co-Z Corner II	MW	3500 W. Park Hill	53208	933-RENE
Silver Dollar Café	Food	831 S. 16th St.	53204	645-8860
South Water St. Docks	M, L/L	354 E. National Ave.	53204	225-9676
Station 2	Wm	1534 W. Grant	53204	383-5755
This Is It	Mw	418 E. Wells St.	53202	278-9192
Triangle	M	135 E. National Ave.	53204	383-9412
Walker's Point Cafe	Food	1106 S. 1st St.	53204	384-7999
Woody's	M	1579 S. 2nd St.	53204	672-0806

RACINE/KENOSHA

Club 94	MW, DJ	9001 120th Ave., Kenosha	53140	857-9958
Filling Station	MW, Food, DJ	6325 120th Ave., Kenosha	53140	857-3744
JoDee's	MW, DJ	2139 Racine St., Racine	53403	634-9804
What About Me?	MW	600 6th St., Racine	53403	632-0171

SHEBOYGAN

The Blue Lite	MW	1029 N. 8th St.	53081	457-1636
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SUPERIOR

JT's Bar & Grill	MW, DJ	1506 N. 3rd St.	55880	394-2580
Main Club	MW	1217 Tower Ave.	55880	392-1756
Trio	Wm	820 Tower Ave.	55880	392-5373

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View From Brewer's Hill

By Terry Boughner

As most of you know by now, a coalition of Christian Fundamentalists has spent hundreds of thousands of dollars on ads staring the ubiquitous Reggie White in all his Packer regalia. The ads call for a "national discussion" on homosexuality.

The problem with that is, from all I can see, the sponsors of the ads don't know anything about what they want to discuss. But woe betide those who disagree with them.

In a most outrageous absurdity, the Religious Right claims that anyone who disagrees with them is challenging their right of free speech. If that's true, then well over half the profs I had in school lost their right of free speech because of me.

Also, your motive is suspect. You can only be disagreeing with them because they're not politically correct. That's stupid. Let me be clear. I take umbrage at what they're saying because what they're saying is wrong, completely wrong, utterly wrong, wholly wrong. Is that clear enough?

Sadly, they have their supporters.

For example, the July 18 issue of the *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel* carried one of the most patronizing, ill thought out columns it has ever been my displeasure to read. It was written by syndicated columnist Betsy Hart, who asks her readers to be "tolerant" of all this error - which in her ignorance she doesn't see as error at all.

Fine, okay, Betsy, have it your way. 2+2=6, the moon is made out of green cheese, there's a bridge in Brooklyn for sale and I decided to be Gay out of pique.

Among other things, she maintains that Gay "desires" are "unhealthy." What she neglects to say is that if Gay desires cause guilt and neuroses in some Gays, it is people like her who have caused it.

Far be it from me to suggest that what is really unhealthy is to be found in the Religious Right.

To cite another example, throughout her column Hart takes the position that being Gay is all about sex and nothing more. Being Gay is an act, that's all.

What she and others like Cal Thomas and Reggie White should know - and could learn if they wanted to - is that being Gay is not an act. One cannot define Gay people solely in physical terms anymore than you can define anyone else that way. Yet Hart and the Religious Right insists that this is the case.

If you think about it, their position is so very, very sad. They claim to be Christians. Christians believe that the most important part of an individual is the spiritual component - mind, heart, soul - call it what you will. Defining a person or a group of people solely in physical terms is not only demeaning, it is the almost total negation of what those of the Christian Right say they believe.

To make another point, one of the leading tenets of the Christian faith is that God is love. God is not the God of love. God is love. In

...talking about Gays, the Christian Right ignores this as well.

Being Gay means that a person can enter the mystery of love with someone of the same gender. In this love, the Gay person finds emotional and spiritual fulfillment, a wholeness that they cannot find with someone of the opposite gender.

This love between two men or two women is good. It is very good. It is the moral equivalent of love between a man and a woman. There is no difference, none at all. I say that from experience.

Jerry is the single most important human fact in my life. I love him. In his eyes I see beauty. In his smile I see warmth and sweetness. From the love we share, I know what my mother and father had in all of their 47 years together.

For anyone to call the love that Jerry and I have for each other wrong, is worse than an error, it is an obscenity before God who is love itself.

Newsweek carried an article about this whole thing. In it the writer discusses John and Anne Paulk, the "ex-Gays" who are now married to each other and have a kid. I read through it and could only shake my head.

John Paulk is quoted as saying that he "wanted to be physically complete with a woman." That's it? Where's the love in all this, or (far be it from me to be cynical) is there any love between his wife and him at all? Or are they simply using each other to prove to themselves and the world how "straight" they are? Sad.

If those two don't feel for each other the ineffable magic of love, it just may be that love will find them one day. When it does, one of two things will happen: either they'll stay together, knowing always what they lost; or they will follow their heart - which should have been done in the first place.

As the former editor of a Gay paper, I have had numerous opportunities over the years to speak to young Gay people, both individually and in groups. I tell them always, believe in love. Believe that love will find you as a Gay person.

When it does, there is no need whatsoever to feel guilty about that. It is good. Follow it. Go with your heart.

I tell them, too, that as Gays they can build a home with their lover. I tell them that they will experience all the trials and tribulations make all the compromises that any other couples do. No difference.

And I tell them, do not, under any circumstances, listen to those who tell you that being Gay has no meaning other than sex. Those people are wrong, dead wrong.

Do not, under any circumstances, listen to those who would say to you that as a Gay person, you are a sinner. They are wrong, dead wrong.

The Religious Right is out to force its agenda on this country. They are using us, Gay people, as their battering ram. If there is sin, this is it. If there is ignorance, this is it, too. If there is evil, that might be the case as well.

Dear Ruthie

Hello all! I've just returned from the wonderful city of Madison, Wisconsin. What a bunch of wonderful, crazy, fun loving people! I can't say enough about the hospitality, smiling faces, and warm comments I received during their Pride celebration! Thanks to everyone who turned out and greeted us at the picnic and the march.

I'd particularly like to thank Ouvie, the hunky Swede who gave me my daily massage at the hotel. I swear the paper will pay for this massage too.

Now bring that big, blonde, buffed body over here and read me like a sheet of Braille, baby! That's it! Work my buns like a Rubik's Cube! By the end of the weekend, Ouvie had my body so loose I kept sliding under the dashboard while trying to drive back home.

I hope my editors don't mind the expenses I racked up! But, damn it, relaxation is not cheap!

One more thing before we read a letter - I'll be performing at South Water Street Docks in Milwaukee on August 1, 1998.

They're having a helluva party that day with drinking and lots of craziness. Rumor has it they'll have a dunk tank!

Don't bother looking for me in that tank, however. The closest I ever got to a dunk tank was the night I wore a feather boa around my neck at Studio 54 and accidentally flushed the lower half of it down the toilet.

Damn thing yanked me clear outta my shoes. The last thing I remember was having the underwater current suck the contacts out of my head and the urgent need to hold my breath as I tried to pry my head out of the toilet. I still have a dent on my skull from the suction. I just thank God Liza knew mouth-to-mouth.

Now where was I? Oh yeah - Docks. So anyway, they are topping off the fun with a show at 10pm. I believe that the proceeds will be going to Possum Queen hopefuls, the infamous Topaz and Aqua Marie. I'm looking forward to partying with you two glamour girls.

Hey - call me! The three of us may be able to get a bulk discount with Ouvie!!! I look forward to tipping back a few with you gals and maybe picking up some drunken sailors at the end of the night.

Oh hell - let's call a spade a spade. At two o'clock in the morning, I'll pick up anything. It doesn't matter if it's a sailor, a retired Air Force janitor, or a guy who can sing the "Be All That You Can Be" theme. If he's drunk and on the floor, I'm picking him up!

Dear Ruthie,

My boyfriend just moved into my apartment. The same week he moved in, I caught him calling his ex, who he broke up with over eight months ago!

He was telling him that he has moved, so the guy shouldn't try to reach him at the old address anymore. I didn't hear him give the guy his new (my) phone number or address.

He ended the call by telling the guy off and saying that he finally found his true love (me), and that he was happy they broke up (the other guy cheated on him).

We got into a huge fight about this telephone call because it pissed me off, and I didn't think it was right for him to call him. He says he just wanted to tell the guy off.

I think he may still have feelings for him, so he called just to hear his voice. He didn't give his ex our address or phone number, so I do not know what to think.

Are they getting together behind my back? I do not know what to think and wonder if I should regret having him move into my apartment.

Help me!

(Signed)

Eavesdropping Operator

Dear Operator,

This reminds me of the time I caught my then husband, Vinnie, having phone sex.

I came home early from the beauty shop. My toenails were still a little wet, so I carefully walked through the trailer on my heels. As I approached the bedroom, I heard Vinnie initiating sex over the phone.

Well...I figured he was on the phone. I mean, there was no way he was in there with an actual woman. After all this is Vinnie we're talking about! I could barely make love to him. There's no way some other gal was going to do it.

Anyway, I hear him begin to go at it, so I snuck over to the kitchen phone and quietly picked up the extension. I was shocked.

The voice on the other end was none other than - I can barely bring myself to say this - the voice on the other end was the

recording that announces the time.

My Vinnie was getting off to a recording announcing that it was 3:14pm. She didn't even sound that hot. Actually, I think she had a lisp.

Of course, it being Vinnie, the recording only rattled on until 3:16pm before he was done, but I figured I'd get even. Two days later, I began a torrid affair with the recording of the man who offered the daily weather.

OK, OK - I admit it - that isn't true! I ended up sleeping with some guy filling pot-holes outside the trailer - but I did ask him what the weather was like.

So how does this tie in with your lover calling his old partner? Beats the hell out of me, but now I have an excuse to pour myself a martini and have a cigarette.

I think your boyfriend may still be harboring feelings for his ex. Too often people use confrontation as a reason to see or talk to the other person again.

Calling the guy just to tell him off makes me think there's more to it, and he was hoping for something to come out of this call. I have a sinking feeling that he called to let him know that he was at a new location in the event that the ex should ever want to talk.

I doubt, however, that he will admit that to himself, let alone admit it to you.

I thought it was odd that he told the old boyfriend that he shouldn't try to reach him at the old address anymore. What was that all about?

How often did the ex-lover try to reach him at the old address? However, if you didn't think he was cheating on you before this call, chances are that he is not cheating on you now.

There's a second problem here, too. You said in your letter that he broke up with this person eight months ago. So, he was in a relationship eight months ago? Since then, he has met you, fallen in love with you, and has moved in with you.

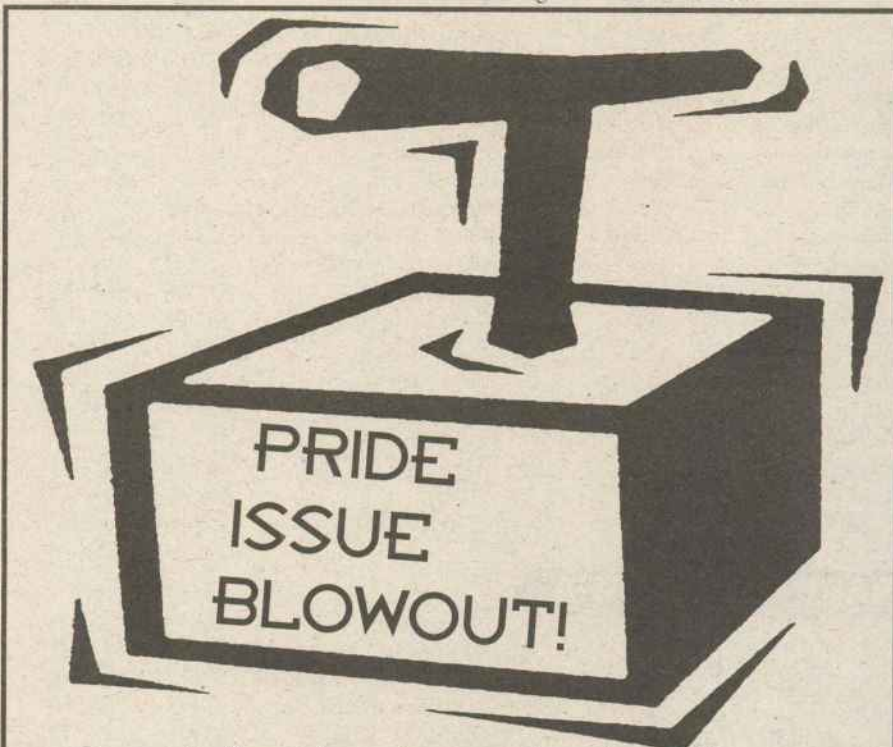
Seems like things are moving a little too fast here. Maybe if you two had dated longer, you would have found out more about any feelings for this ex-boyfriend.

Now that you've got him, what do you do with him? Well, stop fighting, first of all. Sit down and talk this out. Tell him your fears and concerns, and see what happens. Listen to what he has to say about his feelings and try to work this out.

If things aren't working out, you two may want to continue dating, but resume separate homes for a little bit longer.

Ruthie

I want your letters! Let me answer more of your problems. Just like this guy, you can write me at: Dear Ruthie, c/o *Wisconsin Light*, 225 S. Second Street, Milwaukee, WI 53204. You can also e-mail me via www.wilight.com



Special rates for all advertisers in our Pride Issue!

Call Annabelle at 226-0075 for details

Mention Pride in your ad and receive an additional discount Ad must be received by August 8th

National News, Continued from Page 12

philosophically with the fact that we have a wide range of employees," Vivion said. "We're quite an avant garde company, despite the public image."

The idea for extended benefits coverage came about as a result of Safeco's acquisition of the Indianapolis-based American States Insurance Company last year. American States had provided health, dental and group life insurance coverage for the same sex partners of its 5,000 employees. Safeco decided to keep the policy intact after the merger.

The change is aimed at employees who cannot legally marry their domestic partners, which means that unmarried heterosexual partners still will not qualify, Vivion said.

Detroit Mayor Blasted by Black Gays

Detroit — Some Black Gays and Lesbians say Mayor Dennis Archer's snubbing of their week long celebration is symptomatic of larger rifts in the Black and Gay communities. Archer refused to write a letter of support for the Hotter Than July celebration, sponsored by Detroit Black Gay Pride Inc.

Anthony Neely, Archer's press secretary, said the mayor refused to support the celebration because it was sponsored by an organization he was not familiar with, and because it suggested negative stereotypes. "The mayor's position is that the theme, Hotter Than July, is inappropriate and suggestive because it brings to mind negative stereotypes that aren't beneficial to the group or the city," Neely said. "When you look at the AIDS epidemic, it disproportionately affects the black community. We thought it was not an appropriate message to endorse because of those issues."

Some Gay African-American leaders say they are not happy with the message Mayor Archer is sending. Keith Boykin, Executive Director of the National Black Gay and Lesbian Leadership Forum in Washington, D.C., told The Detroit News "It's most troubling that the Mayor would single out African Americans in his own community and choose not to support them. There has been a history of exclusiveness in the Gay community against blacks and a history of unacceptance of Gays in the African-American community."

Hotter Than July co-chairman R. Leon Mathews said the purpose of the event is to call attention to social, political and health-related

issues. "I view Hotter Than July as a tool to educate and enlighten people as to the magnitude the black Gay community positively influences culture in America," Mathews said. Mathews said Archer did send several assistants to meet with organizers of the event, but has not sent a letter of support.

Detroit political consultant Mario Morrow said Archer's position is understandable. "Detroit is a different type of community. In other cities, the Gay community is very strong politically and they will publicly embarrass political candidates who don't support their issues," Morrow said.

Hate Crime Charge in Illinois

Springfield, Ill. (AP) — A former Springfield resident has been charged with a hate crime in the alleged abduction, torture and robbery of a man who told police that his attackers presumed he was Gay.

Thomas Goacher, 27, also was charged with aggravated kidnapping, armed robbery and aggravated battery in the January beating and robbery of Steven Preister of Washington, D.C.

Preister told police that Goacher and two others kidnapped him while he was visiting Springfield on business. He said one of his abductors told him, "I hope you die of AIDS."

Preister told police he was leaving a bar frequented by Gay patrons when a van pulled up alongside him. The occupants — two men and a woman — offered him a ride, which Preister refused, Springfield police Sgt. Bill Pittman said.

Preister said his assailants then forced him inside, pressing something that may have been a gun into his back. He said they took him to a local cemetery and beat him with a tire iron until he gave them the key to his hotel, where he was keeping his money.

When police received a tip about Goacher's involvement, he already was being held in the Sheridan Correctional Center on a 1992 criminal sexual assault conviction. He was jailed in June with a release date of Dec. 5, according to the Illinois Department of Corrections Web site. There have been no other arrests in the case.

Candidate Cries Foul Over Phony Ad

Reno, Nev. (AP) — GOP Rep. John Ensign

accused the Democrats of dirty tricks after someone tried to make it look like he is Gay by placing an ad in the Men Seeking Men section of a local alternative weekly. Ensign, who is married and has three children, is running for Democratic Sen. Harry Reid's seat.

The ad, sent to the *Reno News and Review*, a free newspaper, appeared to have been faxed from the Nevada Democratic Party's Reno office. The fax contained the party's name and phone number.

The ad, submitted in Ensign's name read: "Vegas politician seeks Republican man for companionship while campaigning in Reno. Must be interested in animals, canoe rides on Lake Tahoe, and possibly living in Washington. Being a Promise Keeper would be a plus." The ad did not run. A newspaper staffer realized it was a prank.

Ensign campaign manager Mike Slanker said Tuesday that Reid and the Democratic Party "signaled again today that they plan to run the dirtiest campaign in Nevada's history."

Dismayed Democratic officials said they are investigating to see who sent it, and they apologized to the congressman, who belongs to the Christian men's group Promise Keepers. Nevada Democratic Party chairman Paul Henry said the ad was despicable. "To the extent it's our fault, I take full responsibility for it and apologize to the congressman," he said.

Candidate Accused of Putting Out Misleading Ad

Atlanta (AP) — A lawyer committee has accused Georgia Supreme Court candidate, George Weaver of distributing misleading information about his opponent in a television ad.

A special election monitoring panel of the Judicial Qualifications Commission said Weaver had agreed to stop distributing a flier that mischaracterized Supreme Court Justice Leah Sears. The flier accused Sears of supporting same-sex marriage and opposing Georgia's sodomy law. The panel said the Atlanta lawyer now is repeating the false allegations in the TV ad.

Bill Hollberg, Weaver's campaign treasurer and law partner, called the Committee's accusation "totally outrageous." He said Thursday that the original flier was changed to meet the panel's concerns, even though the campaign felt the changes were unnecessary. The new flier received no complaints and the commercial is consistent with the flier, he said.

Hollberg said they plan to file a lawsuit claiming the Committee is trying to restrict political speech. "It's an effort to promote the incumbent and harm and muzzle the challengers," he said. "There's nothing in that ad that isn't absolutely accurate."

Tidbits, Continued from Page 5

officially distance the Packers from the anti-Gay remarks of Reggie White. Harlan remained silent amid a large chorus of boos and catcalls, then moved to the next question.

Following local letters to the Editor lambasting Harlan's action and the subsequent furor over Reggie's appearance in Packer attire in two anti-Gay newspaper advertisements, Harlan has made an official apology to the Human Rights Campaign.

More directly, a visibly upset Packer Coach, Mike Holmgren, canceled an impromptu press conference Reggie's handlers had set up after a recent team practice, saying in effect that it was time for the Rev. White to start earning his \$2.2 million dollars.

Although White's press people are touting that he's taking part in every practice exercise, word from the rail birds (team practice watchers) is that Reggie is pooping out after only one or two repetitions.

Word has also been leaked that Reggie delayed the start of his promised back conditioning program for three months, thus his back is prone to easy injury. The prospect looms that the Packers may have to consider cutting Reggie if he doesn't shape up.

If Reggie continues to under-perform, will Harlan, Holmgren, and company have the guts to cut White and bring a sorry close to a once brilliant football career? This would probably bring down the wrath of the Radical Right, which will likely call the termination a "caving in" to the political left — or the "sodomite community" as Reggie's wife, Sarah, viscusly calls anyone who disagrees with her man. Or, will they allow Reggie to limp through his final year, allowing the team to be the target of the left, and risk the wrath of millions of Packer fans if the team fails to repeat as NFC champs?

America has already seen the divisiveness brought about when religion and politics mix. In Green Bay, where more people wear green and gold on their backs than crosses around their necks, the triple combination of religious, sports and political fanaticism mixing is downright frightening!

Beer, Continued from Page 9

That's what gave him the idea and some of the know-how for Queer Brewing Co. Still, the experience was far removed from the hours and money spent on trademarks, logos, licenses, packages and, of course, creation of the beer itself.

Feemster gives high praise to Berkeley-based Golden Pacific Brewing Co. and Brewmaster, Alec Moss, who helped him create the pale ale, which uses three different barleys and four kinds of hops. The rest — from the graphics to sales and delivery — has been all Feemster's doing.

It will be a long time before Feemster breaks even. That goal is made even more distant by his commitment to donate 10 percent of all sales, starting with the very first case, to charities. Retailers and bar owners designate the charities to receive this bounty. So far they have picked such groups as Visual Aid, which benefits artists with AIDS, and the STOP AIDS Project.

"Besides just being a good beer, it pulls into an emotional benefit as well as a tangible benefit," he said of his product. "The fact that it gives back to the Gay community makes it come full circle as fully entrenched in the Gay community."

Market research shows the microbrewing business caters to just 3 percent of the total beer-drinking population, meaning few Americans ever stray from major labels.

David Edgar, Director of the Institute for Brewing Studies in Boulder, Colo., said three other Gay beer companies — in Atlanta, Austin and Denver — are all out of business. The company that brewed the beer for Denver-based Pink Triangle said the failure of that company, which generated a lot of press and hate mail, was due to the owner's personal problems.

"It is a small niche within a niche," said Edgar, pondering the potential of Queer Brewing. "While I believe those beers have not been financially successful in other cities, for one to have San Francisco as the market focus could very well prove successful."

Feemster said he just hopes people who like good beer will like his. He plans to forge his way into more mainstream venues, such as major grocery stores, other parts of the San Francisco Bay area and eventually out of state.

Feemster said he often thinks about his life growing up in a devoutly Christian family in Texas, where he was taunted by the very word he now uses so openly as a marketing tool. Despite his family's beliefs, Feemster said, they have been exceptionally supportive of both his lifestyle and his business — but they haven't quite gotten past the company name.

"They sit around the table and pray for me; they pray for my partner, John, and they pray for my 'venture,'" he said.

Hepatitis, Continued from Page 5

person who has Hepatitis A Virus and uses unsanitary preparation methods. Hepatitis B used to be called Serum Hep and can be found in urine, blood, and semen of infected people. It is spread by unprotected anal or vaginal sex; sharing needles used for drugs; body piercing or tattooing; contact with open soars; sharing toothbrushes, razors, nail clippers or wash cloths; human bites; living in a household with ongoing untreated Hepatitis B infected person. Hep B can survive outside the body for as long as 7 days in dried secretions.

HOW CAN I PROTECT MYSELF?

With Hepatitis A, one could use a barrier when rimming and wash your hands immediately after touching a used condom or fingering your partners anal area. Hepatitis B can be protected by practice of "safer" sex with no exchange of body fluids and blood. The final way to protect yourself is to vaccinate yourself. For Hepatitis A it is two shots and B is three shots. Another way to be proactive with this disease is to tell your friends who are at risk to be vaccinated.

WORRIED ABOUT COST?

As Mark Behar, a volunteer since 1975 and a physician assistant, said in an article, "Don't despair. An effective vaccine to protect you against infection is available at the Brady East STD Clinic for free. The friendly and supportive volunteer staff who won't make you uncomfortable about your sexual orientation or specific sex practices. BestD Clinic staff will first screen you to find out if you've ever been infected before. If you are vulnerable to the disease, BestD Clinic will give you the entire series at NO COST TO YOU!"

Call their number 272-2144 or stop by at 1240 E Brady Street for more information.

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I'm into white socks, bare feet and painted toes. Really into walking shoes! Spicy Latina fem, 34, will worship/massage/lick your feet after walking 10K at AIDS Walk Wisconsin, Sept. 20. VISIT ME AT www.arcw.org.

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AIDS REGISTER TODAY!
WALK Walk Highlights for Week of 7/27/98
On August 1, Join Milwaukee's South Water Street Docks for an
WISCONSIN AIDS Walk benefit - Carnival 2-8 PM, Possum Queen Show 10 PM.

Dykes To Watch Out For by Alison Bechdel



Possum Droppings

By Ted Berg

I hear the Possum Queen candidates are busy putting their dresses together for the campaign's Grand Finale at PrideFest on Friday, August 28th — sequins and feathers are becoming endangered species.

For the second year in a row, Lizzie Bordeaux will choreograph the finale. This will also be the second year the finals will be held at PrideFest. It should be a lot of fun. The Possum Queen campaign raises money for people with HIV and AIDS. Lend your support to help make the Grand Finale even grander!

Upcoming Events: On Saturday, August 1, South Water Street Docks will have a Drag Queen Dunk Off — no, it's not a Possum Queen Drunk Off. Any

Possum candidate can raise money for their campaign by scheduling half an hour in the dunk tank. Steve, a bartender at Docks, said, "Now is the time to get back at your favorite Possum candidate in the spirit of fun." There will also be a waterlogged drag show to entertain Possum supporters.

Also August 1, M&M's will have a drag show fundraiser for their new candidate at 10:30pm. Who will it be? One must attend to find out. My personal choice is Boo Boo La Roux. He blushes so when people call his name to do a number or two.

On Saturday, August 8, Amanda Hunt of the Ballgame takes her show to the "Flatlanders" with a special bus tour for Chicago's Halsted Days. Call the Ballgame for details: (414) 273-7474.

On Saturday, August 15, This Is It will have a beer bust and raffles for Ilease A Trailer from 4 to 8pm. I hear many of the raffle items come from rummage sales in the trailer park. Velvet pictures anyone?

That same day, M&M's will hold its famous weenie dog races. Oscar Meyer supports this event wholeheartedly. He hears our community is big on wieners, the all-beef kind.

Rehash...What do ice cream, mascara, lipstick, heels, an American marsupial and Drag Queens have in common?

No, it's not a ratty fur-covered drag queen at Dairy Queen! On second thought, that could be an idea for a Possum Queen fundraiser.

If you don't know the answer to the question, you should have been at the Ballgame on July 8.



Ballgame candidate, Amanda

Hunt, dished ice cream, as well as many of her friends, at an ice cream drag show fundraiser. Jack Frost, who portrays "Rip Taylor", was MC. The artistry of Brittany Morgan and Aja Knight made the night special. Some of the VIP guests were Ilease A Trailer of This Is It and Iona Trailer of Just Us. The money raised will go to the STD Specialties Clinic.



Ice Cream Drag Show at the Ballgame. From left to right: Jack Frost, Amanda Hunt, Ajeia Knight and Brittany Morgan

On July 11, we knew where the beef was. It was at Kathy's Nut Hut. Queen Mary, their Possum candidate, had a steak dinner fundraiser. Sue Luke and Kellie Martin



Queen Mary's steak dinner fundraiser. Supporters of Kathy's Nut Hut's Possum Queen candidate.

teamed up to bring a variety of music to partygoers. Queen Mary thanked her fellow bartenders: Laurie, Mooshi, Michelle and Ronda, all of whom have helped make her campaign a success.

Kathy Kau, proprietor of Kathy's Nut Hut, won the Tommy Award in 1997 for her above and beyond the call of duty support for the Possum campaign. Queen Mary has raised funds with raffles, car washes and poker runs.

The most ingenious idea was to talk her friend and co-bartender, Laurie, into doing a pie-throwing contest. If she were a bartender at a men's bar, she would have gotten hit with one or two pies. Being from a Lesbian, but Gay-friendly bar, she was hit by 30 pies. What a waste of good whipped cream! The money raised will go to ARCW.



Where's the beef? From left to right: Casper, Queen Mary (Possum Queen candidate from Kathy's Nut Hut), and Corine.

Brendan Francis said, "Beauty is the bread that never grows stale." The beauty of the Possum Queen campaign is the commitment of the candidates and all of their supporters to fight a killer disease. Bread is a food that sustains life, and the money raised helps sustain and improve the lives of people with HIV and AIDS.

Their love for our community preserves us and doesn't allow us to become stale. Please support their efforts by buying some beauty. Donate a buck when you see them. It's the best bargain a dollar can buy.

Calendar, Continued from Page 21

6:30pm-Linda Mistele, Little Red Riding Hood and the Wolf, for adults.

Wednesday, August 12

Summer Gatherings (Milwaukee), Summerfield United Methodist Church, 728 East Juneau Avenue, 6pm Praise & Prayer; 6:30pm-Jennifer Graham Trio - enjoy the music.

EVENTS

August

Gallery 218 (Milwaukee), 218 South 2nd Street. Walker's Point artists will hold monthly rummage sales on the sidewalk to raise money for the gallery. Items include art supplies, antiques, household items and clothing. Call 277-7800 FMI.

Thursdays

Red Wheel Barrow (Milwaukee), Writer's Work Group, 1213 East Brady Street. Share works in progress, 7-8:30pm, Thursdays. 223-5941 FMI.

Saturday, August 1

Frontiers (Madison), Tour of Historic Mineral Point. Leaves Brian Garrison's house at 10:30am, arriving at Don Lamb's house around 11:30am. On to Gundy & Gray, a Gay-owned restaurant for a soup & sandwich style lunch. The balance of the day will be spent browsing around charming Mineral Point's antique stores, artist's studios, craft shops and historic sites. Call 608/829-1090 FMI.

Monday, August 3

Room of One's Own (Madison), 307 West Johnson Street. 6:30pm. Francesca De Grandis reads from Be a Goddess!: A Guide to Celtic Spells and Wisdom for Self-Healing, Prosperity and Great Sex.

Wednesday, August 5

Room of One's Own (Madison), 307 West Johnson Street. 5:30pm. Lesbian Poets Meeting. Readers or Listeners are always welcome.

Thursday, August 6

Rodney Scheel House Foundation, Ltd. (Madison), Celebrates its 3rd Anniversary, 5-7pm at the facility in Madison. Call 608/243-1830 FMI.

Friday, August 7

The Ragtime Era 1890-1915 (Madison), 1957 Winnebago Street, 8pm. A lecture by art and social historian E.M. Plunkett, from NYC. \$5. A reception follows. FMI 608/244-2751.

Saturday, August 8

Summerfield United Methodist Church (Milwaukee), Ice Cream Social & Bake Sale, 728 East Juneau Avenue, 11am-3:30pm. Ice cream, frozen yogurt, cake à la mode, coffee, soda, homemade baked goods. Proceeds to Interchange Food Pantry. Treasure Table items also available. Call 272-2610 FMI.

Room of One's Own (Madison), 307 West Johnson Street. 11am. Saturday Summer Story 1/2 hour for kids. Stories read by Room's own Nancy & Rene.

Monday, August 10

Frontiers (Madison), Film Circle Death in Venice, 7:30pm. FMI 608/276-4040.

Sunday, August 16

Riverwest Rainbow Association (Milwaukee), 2-5pm at Milwaukee's Gordon Park (corner of Locust & Humboldt in Riverwest area). FMI 414/225-1645.

Saturday, August 22

Wisconsin Light Thank You Party (Milwaukee), 4-8pm with a Brat, Chicken and Pig Roast. Bring a dish to pass and join Terry & Jerry and their guests. Silent Auction benefiting CCF Endowment Fund. FMI 372-2773.

FESTIVALS

August

Bristol Renaissance Faire (Statewide), In the cool shade of the forest. Saturdays & Sundays through August 23, 10am-7pm. Open rain or

shine. Take I-94 to the Illinois-Wisconsin border, turn west. 847/395-7773 FMI or www.renfaire.com.

FILM/TELEVISION

Tuesday, August 5

In the Life Television Show (Milwaukee), 11pm, Channel 10: WMVS.

GALLERIES/ART

August

Gallery H2O (Milwaukee), 221 North Water Street. Exhibition of paintings and drawings by classical portraitist Michael Merrit ends Sunday, August 2.

GREEN MARKETS

August thru October

East Town Farm Market (Milwaukee), Saturdays, Cathedral Square Park, 7:30am-12:30pm through Oct. 17.

Waukesha Farmer's Market (Waukesha), Corner of St. Paul & Madison Streets, 7am-1pm, Tuesdays, Thursdays & Saturdays through October. 549-6154 FMI.

Wauwatosa Green Market (Milwaukee), Thursdays through October 22, 8am-6pm at the corner of Harwood Avenue & State Street. 454-0200 FMI.

Westown Market on the Park (Milwaukee), Zeidler Union Square Park, North 4th & Michigan Avenue. Every Wednesday through October 21.

HEALTH/FITNESS

Thursday, August 6

BESTD Traveling HIV Testing Clinics (Milwaukee), 10pm-1am, La Cage, 801 South 2nd Street

MUSIC OF ALL KINDS

Friday, July 31

Audubon Court Books (Milwaukee), 383 West Brown Deer Road, 7:30-11:30pm. Dave Kenney jazz piano.

THEATER/DANCE

Thursday, July 30

Salome (Milwaukee), by Oscar Wilde, presented by Dale Gutzman at Circlestage Theatre, 783 North Jefferson, 8pm, \$12. 466-4049 FMI.

Friday, July 31

Salome (Milwaukee), by Oscar Wilde, presented by Dale Gutzman at Circlestage Theatre, 783 North Jefferson, 8pm, \$12. 466-4049 FMI.

Modjeska Youth Theatre Company (Milwaukee), 1134 West Mitchell. 7:30pm, Wizard of Oz live musical. \$6 and \$10. FYI 414/645-0700.

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Sunday, August 2

Modjeska Youth Theatre Company (Milwaukee), 1134 West Mitchell. 2pm, Wizard of Oz live musical. \$6 and \$10. FYI 414/645-0700.

Friday, August 14

Cabaret with a Twist (Statewide), featuring Colleen Burns and Jack Forbes Wilson at Madison Civic Center's Starlight Room. 8pm Fri, Aug 14; 5 & 8:30pm Sat, Aug 15 and 7:30pm Sun, Aug 16.

VOLUNTEERING

Saturday, August 29 & Sunday, August 30 SAGE/Milwaukee (Milwaukee). Volunteers are needed to staff the SAGE booth at Pridefest in increments of one hour. Pass out SAGE brochures, gather names/addresses for mailing list, etc. Call 271-0378 to volunteer.

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Historic Walker's Point: Unique opportunity to purchase a completely renovated 2-story cream city brick building in Historic Walker's Point. Luxuriously amended upper loft with hardwood and marble flooring, cream city exposed brick, glass block shower, gourmet kitchen, ultra high-end appliances (Sub-Zero, Viking), custom lighting, integrated sound system, fully air conditioned and much MORE!!!! Beautiful downstairs with hardwood floors, 20 foot ceilings, air conditioning. Perfect work/home environment. By Appointment Only - 272-2667.

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Galano Club A social club serving the recovering Gay and Lesbian community. Regularly scheduled AA, NA and Al-anon, ACOA and other 12-step meetings. Open nightly, 2408 N. Farwell Avenue. (414) 276-6936.

310-Religious/Spiritual

 **St. Matthew's Catholic Church at 1138 S. 25th Street in Milwaukee is a community which not only welcomes diversity but celebrates it! Please join us for worship on Sundays at 10:30am.**

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As you can see, we continue to grow. Get in on these new rates now . . . they're only for a limited time.

INDIVIDUAL LINE ADS: \$5 for the first 20 words; 25¢ each additional word. Includes body lead in. Payment in cash or money order only (Visa/MC coming soon). Add a box for a buck (\$1.)

BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION LINE ADS: \$7 for the first 25 words; 35¢ each additional word. Includes bold lead in. Payment in cash, check or purchase order. Discounts for volume buying. Add a box for a buck (\$1).

COMPLETE AND RETURN the form below with payment. **ATTACH YOUR AD, TYPED OR LEGIBLY WRITTEN.** Mail it or drop it at our office (Mon-Fri, 8am-5pm) or through our mail slot after hours at: Wisconsin Light, 225 South 2nd Street, Milwaukee, WI 53204.

QUESTIONS? Call 414/226-0075, ask for Classified Sales. You may fax your classifieds to 414/226-0096, but payment must be received by run date.

DEADLINES - Classified ads are due Thursdays, one week prior to publication (see below). Billing is not available unless you are purchasing a contract or are a verifiable business/organization and will be running your line ad at least 4 times. We do not accept classified ads on the phone - yet. Look for our expanded service including MC/Visa acceptance.

Choose your subhead from the list at the right:

(1st Choice)

(2nd Choice)

Or make a suggestion for one we're missing:

Issues ad should run:

- 8/13
- 8/27
- 9/10
- 9/24
- 10/8
- 10/22
- 11/5
- 11/19
- 12/3
- 12/17
- 12/31

100-Employment

- 101-Help Wanted
- 102-Work Wanted
- 103-Business Opportunities
- 104-Education Services
- 105-Career Services
- 106-Employment Agencies

200-Real Estate

- 201-Apartments for Rent
- 202-Rooms for Rent
- 203-Roommates Male
- 204-Roommates Female
- 205-Homes/Condos for Sale
- 206-Commercial Space
- 207-Real Estate Services
- 208-Mortgage Services
- 209-Vacation Properties
- 300-Body, Mind & Soul
- 301-Chiropractic Services
- 302-Medical Services
- 303-Dental Services
- 304-Optical Services
- 305-Counseling Services
- 306-Helplines
- 307-Diet/Fitness
- 308-Self-Improvement
- 309-Seminars/Classes
- 310-Religious/Spiritual

400-Services

- 401-Massage
- 402-Beauty
- 403-Child Care
- 404-Psychics
- 405-Dry Cleaning
- 406-Apparel
- 407-Computer Services
- 408-Financial Services
- 409-Insurance
- 410-Legal
- 411-Photographic
- 412-Woodworking
- 413-Home Improvement
- 414-Garden/Landscaping
- 415-Appliance Service/Repair
- 416-Auto Repairs/Service
- 417-Cleaning
- 418-Electrical
- 419-Plumbing
- 420-Snow Removal
- 421-Communications
- 422-Clerical Services
- 423-Nursing/Home Care
- 424-Funeral Services

500-Buy & Sell

- 501-Antiques/Collectibles
- 502-Appliances
- 503-Bazaars/Craft Fairs
- 504-Business/Office Equipment
- 505-Electronics/Computers
- 506-Good Things to Eat
- 507-Household/Furniture
- 508-Music
- 509-Pets/Supplies
- 510-Rummage/Garage Sales
- 511-Wanted to Buy
- 512-Recreation Equipment
- 513-Flowers/Plants
- 514-Lost & Found
- 515-Miscellaneous
- 516-Auctions
- 517-Jewelry
- 518-Clothing/Apparel
- 600-Transportation
- 601-Used Autos for Sale
- 602-New Autos for Sale
- 603-Motorcycles
- 604-Trucks/Vans/Trailers
- 605-Bicycles
- 606-Boats/Motors
- 607-Leasing/Rentals
- 700-Speak Your Mind
- 701-Anguish Column
- 702-Business Personals
- 703-Lost & Found
- 704-Meetings
- 705-Messages
- 706-Notices
- 707-Organizations
- 800-Miscellaneous
- 900-Adults Only
- 901-Date Lines
- 902-Introductions
- 903-Person-to-Person
- 904-Adult Talk

Name: _____ Daytime Phone: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Write ad below (legibly) or attach separate sheet:

Tineality, Continued from Page 5

variety of the unfamiliar. You won't see me passing up experiences. I collect them. Experiences are to me what beetles and butterflies are to entomologists.

I wonder sometimes what life would be like if my want of the unexpected weren't so acute. Sometimes I think my hankering for something new makes me a bit agitated and perhaps makes me less than an ideal wife.

Of course, who says my unsettled personality isn't in fact my most endearing quality? I don't know. I think it depends on whom you ask.

Sorry for getting philosophical. I have to question things. I need to know that I pass through life as a liver of life, not as a victim of routine and a slave to complacency and fear.

Now don't misunderstand me. I am not asserting that the new has to be complicated in order to be interesting. Some pleasures are simple.

I could, for instance, while on an afternoon stroll, ponder about the sun peeking through the puffy, white clouds overhead. I could gaze upon some animal and think how nice it would be to have my own Chihuahua, bug-eyed, yapping and peeing as they so often do.

Of course, I do these things and with alarming regularity. I have pleasant thoughts and chat casually with complete strangers, sometimes about a flowerbed, sometimes about a well decorated room.

I love to flatter women who have gentle natures and at least once a day I kiss my cat's furry, gray head and say something nice.

I love to dip my fingers into my much coveted jar of Nutella, greedily lick them, and think European thoughts.

I love all that. I can do it. Yet with all that caring and sharing, horseplaying and romping, chatting and flattering, petting and patting, none of it changes or chases away the longing for the unfamiliar.

I'm not so conceited as to think that I'm alone in my condition. I can't be the only one who creates mischief. I can't be the only one who has an occasional tendency to over-dramatize seemingly ordinary events.

No. I know there are more like me out there. I just wish one of them would throw a party or something.

Tina Lee is a married Bisexual woman who lives in Madison. Her observations of life are a Wisconsin Light exclusive.

Anniversary Party Supports AIDS Network



A 15th Anniversary party for Dale Laufenberg and Philip Caray was held at Ray's bar on Saturday, June 20th, 1998. This was the second benefit held by Dale and Philip to support AIDS Network. They also did a benefit to celebrate their 7th anniversary together. Pictured from left to right are Al Eggleston, Philip Cary, Ray Jacobson, and Dale Laufenberg.

F.Y.I.

by Belle Pepper

CHICAGO AREA LGBT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The Chicago Area Gay & Lesbian Chamber of Commerce, founded in 1996 by Chicago area LGBT business owners, has published its Summer 1998 Membership Directory.

The Directory, listing more than 250 members, is available by calling 1-888-GL-CHAMBER (888-452-4262), or writing The Chamber, Box #805, 3712 North Broadway, Chicago, IL 60613-4198. Web: <http://www.GLChamber.org>.

The Directory also lists discounts available at Chamber members with the Pride Dollars Discount Card. The cost is \$10 and can be ordered by calling The Chamber.

POLYMER CLAY PRIDE ITEMS

Tami Friday, a Milwaukee-area native and owner/operator of Friday Creations, will be displaying unique Pride items made of polymer clay at PrideFest '98, August 28-30.

Tami found that polymer clay, a colorful and durable plastic, turned out to be a well-suited material to make her pride-themed jewelry and sculptures. As Tami views it, "The more ways we have to demonstrate pride in ourselves, the better!"

For a free catalog send a SASE to: Friday Creations, P. O. Box 333P, Elm Grove, WI 53122-0333. Web: <http://members.aol.com/Fridaycrea81>.

SEND US CALENDAR INFORMATION

We're constructing a brand new Calendar for Wisconsin Light and can use your help. Please send us your calendar information for inclusion.

Anything and everything is welcome, from meetings to dances, fundraising events to pageants, shows to book signings, we want it all. It doesn't matter if you're an organization, a social club, bar, production company, gallery, museum or business, we're interested in seeing what you have to offer and so are our readers.

To mail your calendar entries, address them to: Wisconsin Light, Events Calendar, 225 South 2nd Street, Milwaukee, WI 53204. Or fax us at 414/226-0096. E-mail: wilight@aol.com. You're also welcome to drop them through our mail slot.

PARK ETIQUETTE

When you're in the parks remember: 1) Being in a Milwaukee County Park after 10pm is illegal; 2) Always be aware of your surroundings — not everyone out there has good intentions; 3) Don't carry large amounts of cash or credit cards with you; 4) Always be prepared for anything that could happen — bring condoms and lubricant with you.

If you're stopped by the police: 1) Remain calm — there is no need to panic; 2) Cooperate — arguing may only add tension and increase your chances of harm; 3) Communicate — always tell them what you are going to do before you do it; 4) Remember — in any arrest situation, you always have the right to remain silent; 5) If you are the victim of police harassment or abuse, call the Citizen Complaint Intake Center at 414/264-2600. (This information is courtesy of LAMM-EF.)

JOIN H.I.T.'S NEXT CASINO RUN

The Holiday Invitational Tournament (H.I.T.) will sponsor a Casino Run on Saturday, August 15 to the Empress Boat Casino in Hammond, IN. The cost is \$20 per person and includes roundtrip motorcoach travel, continental breakfast, free beer and soda, 3 gambling sessions on the boat, lunch and all-you-can-eat dinner buffet at the Empress Casino.

The motorcoach leaves promptly at 9am from the College Avenue Park & Ride (east-side) and returns at approximately 9pm. Reservations are required. Call Peter at 414/963-4037 or Rick at 414/463-9849. Space is limited and is on a first come, first paid basis.

RIVERWEST RAINBOW ASSOCIATION ANNUAL PICNIC

A friendly volleyball tournament, food and beverages and an exciting new setting to meet your neighbors is all on the agenda of the Riverwest Rainbow Association's annual picnic.

This lesbigay neighbors group will host the picnic on Sunday, August 16, 2-5pm at Milwaukee's Gordon Park (corner of Locust & Humboldt) in Riverwest.

Picnickers are asked to bring food or drink to share, if possible. FMI call 414/225-1645.

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WATCH LIVE SEX ON OUR WEBSITE!
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