

The Voice Of Wisconsin's LBGT Community

WMI Light

August 13-26, 1998

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IT IS BECAUSE OF ...

WHO WE WERE . . . hidden, frightened, HOMOSEXUAL, NOT GAY. Yet a precious few found ways to break through the fear and shame. **RISKING EVERYTHING** at Stonewall and countless other places, they won a measure of dignity and freedom. Those living in the future they dreamt of know that we were always part of them and they will always be part of

WHO WE ARE . . . **GROWING STRONGER** every day, still under attack but **STANDING UNAFRAID** we continue the struggle for equality. **ACCEPTING NO LIMITS ON OUR CIVIL RIGHTS**, we are **MOVING FORWARD** to

WHO WE WILL BE . . .

the day when the marches are finally over and we are **FULLY EQUAL**. We know that day is coming. We are **REJOICING** in that knowledge. Behind the **GLORIOUS** stripes of our Rainbow Flags, we march **UNITED** with those who came before and **for** those who will come after. For each of us knows in our hearts and in our souls that it is for these reasons and for reasons that cannot be expressed, because they must be felt . . .

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- Bill "Mr. PrideFest" Meunier

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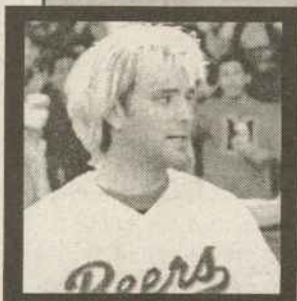
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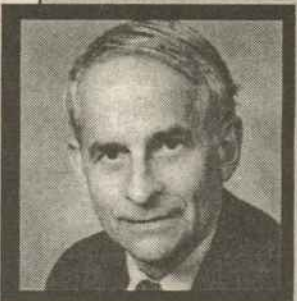
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is a
pleasure

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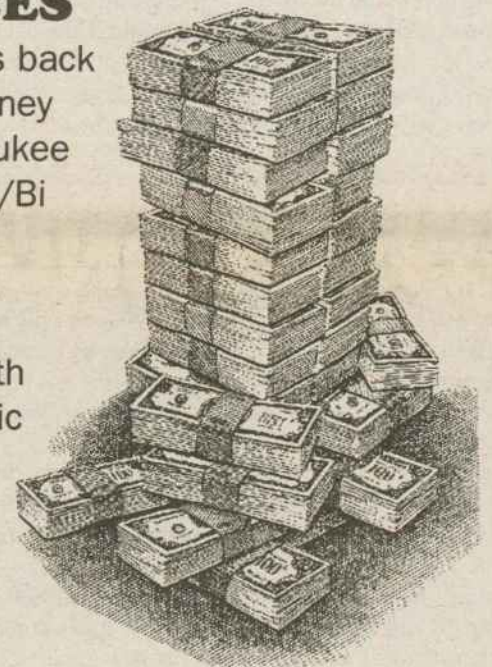
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EDITORIALS

Baldwin For Congress

Newspapers normally wait until shortly before an election before officially endorsing a candidate. But nothing could be more appropriate for this paper than to issue its endorsement of Tammy Baldwin for Congress in its PrideFest issue. Just as PrideFest is rightfully a source of statewide pride for our LGBT community, so too is Tammy Baldwin.

We are proud of her stands for the elderly, for farmers, for students, for the working poor and for the middle class. We are proud of the fact that Tammy is one of the most effective, respected and listened to legislators in the State Capitol. We are proud of her ability to work behind the scenes and bring to the forefront practical solutions to everyday problems faced by everyday people.

And we are proud of the courage she has shown. Throughout her political career, Tammy Baldwin has always run for office as an openly Lesbian candidate. While we recognize that Tammy's Democratic opponents have been supportive of Gay civil rights, we also recognize that no one can speak for us better than we can speak for ourselves.

For the six years she has been in the State Assembly, Tammy Baldwin has raised her voice for ALL of her constituents. Now we have a chance to send this remarkable, articulate and intelligent woman to raise her voice in Washington. We urge the voters of the Second Congressional District to do just that.

It's time we stop settling for anything less than the best. On September 8, vote for Tammy Baldwin in the Democratic primary for Congress.

Wisconsin's Gang of Three

As they have in the past, three Wisconsin Congressmen, Representatives Petri, Sensenbrenner and Neumann, joined in the chorus of hate when they voted for the Hefley Amendment.

The amendment would have overturned President Clinton's Executive Order banning federal job discrimination based on sexual orientation. It was voted down by a wide margin, no thanks to Wisconsin's Gang of Three.

There is little we can do to punish Petri and Sensenbrenner for their votes, as they face light opposition in November. Neumann is another matter. He is running for the U.S. Senate seat now held by Russ Feingold. Feingold is running for re-election.

With HIS votes on Hefley, DOMA and other issues, Neumann has made it clear that he will pander to the religious right whenever he gets the chance to do so. With OUR votes in November, we can make sure he never gets the chance to do so again.

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

This is an issue that I am particularly proud of. It is loaded with important information: the announcement that Chastity Bono will be the Honorary Chair of the AIDS Walk, the Fannies Fire, the Ron Geiman hiring, the Greer Firing, the Reggie Interview, the new Club Five opening, the latest hot political news from Madison and, of course, everything you need to know about Wisconsin's biggest LGBT event, PrideFest in addition to other items.

On top of all that, we finally get to show you the new look that we've been working on for months. We hope you like it. Feel free to let us know what you think.

This issue also contains the very sad news that one of our leaders, J. Robert Moore, passed away. Bob was a good friend.

The last time I spoke with him, it was typical Bob — giving me encouragement, boosting my ego. I congratulated him on being honored by PrideFest with its lifetime achievement award and he told me that he was pleased with my work here.

Sometimes we argued about politics — he had strong Republican tendencies — but the amazing thing was that no matter how much we disagreed or how heated those discussions became, we never got angry with each other. There was never any name-calling, and we always remained firm and fast friends.

Of course, Bob was more than my friend. He was an outstanding leader who accomplished much more than can ever be recounted here. That's why I was so very pleased that Bob was honored by PrideFest with its Lifetime Achievement Award.

I don't know how PrideFest will handle Bob's award but I have a suggestion: Throw a few volleyballs out from the stage — Bob loved Vball — and tell everyone that they can't leave until they've told someone how proud they are of them.

He was one of the finest individuals I have ever known, and I will miss him. Bob this one is for you. As always... Yours In Pride.

Bill

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hear from
you!**



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

OP ED

Do Unnatural Acts Cause Natural Disasters?

By Janis Walworth

Pat Robertson, founder of the Christian Coalition, recently warned Orlando, Florida that it was courting natural disaster by allowing Gay pride flags to be flown along its streets. "A condition like this will bring about ... earthquakes, tornadoes, and possibly a meteor," he said.

He was apparently referring to his belief that the presence of openly Gay people incurs divine wrath and that God acts through geological and meteorological events to destroy municipalities that permit Gay people the same civil liberties as others.

Robertson also warned Orlando about terrorist bombs, suggesting the possibility that God may also employ terrorists.

Before Pat and his Christian cronies get too carried away promulgating the idea that natural disasters are prompted by people who displease God, they should take a hard look at the data.

Take tornadoes. Every state (except Alaska) has them — some only one or two a year, dozens in others. Gay people are in every state — even Alaska. According to Pat's hypothesis, there should be more Gay people in states that have more tornadoes. But are there? Nope.

In fact, there's no correlation at all between the number of Gay folks — as estimated by the number of Gay political organizations, support groups, bookstores, radio programs, and circuit parties — and the annual tornado count (r equals .04, p equals .78 for you statisticians). So much for the "God hates Gays" theory.

God seems almost neutral on the subject of sexual orientation. I say "almost" because if we look at the density of Gay groups relative to the population as a whole, there is a small but statistically significant (p less than .05) correlation with the occurrence of tornadoes. And it's a negative correlation (r equals -.28).

For those of you who haven't used statistics since 1973, that means that a high concentration of Gay organizations actually protects against tornadoes. A state with the population of, say, Alabama could avert two tornadoes a year merely by doubling the number of Gay organizations in the state. Tough choice for Alabama's civil defense strategists.

Although God may not care about sexual orientation, the same cannot be said for religious affiliation. If the underlying tenet of Pat's postulate is true — that God wipes out offensive folks via natural disasters — then perhaps we can find some evidence of who's on God's hit list.

Jews are off the hook here. There's no correlation between numbers of Jews and frequency of tornadoes. Ditto for Catholics. But when it comes to Protestants, there's a highly significant correlation of .71.

See **DISASTERS** on page 29

LETTERS



Dear Editor,

This letter is in response to the Terry Boughner's final editorial *Merging the AIDS Network and ARCW*.

We find it an amusing twist of logic for a newspaper, whose purpose is to find and report the news, to assert that since "I don't really know about them," therefore, "they seem isolated and out of touch."

If you don't know about our services, you might check with the 10,500 area individuals who during 1997 received our targeted prevention services, the more than 300 persons who are HIV positive who received comprehensive case management services, the 300 plus who benefited from housing counseling and assistance, the 113 receiving well over 500 hours of pro bono legal assistance provided by our panel of 90 area attorneys, the 1,000 plus who received early intervention counseling, the 85 participants in various ongoing support groups, or the 70 participants in our wellness programs, the folks who benefited from thousands of hours of volunteer support and tens of thousands of dollars worth of other emergency funds and vouchers for transportation, food, mental health and other services, the hundreds of "cold callers" who received specific information on the epidemic, and the 700 area providers and professionals who received technical assistance and training.

Thanks to a generous grant, we also reached an estimated 1.7 million South Central Wisconsin TV viewers with purchased ads featuring a prevention message from UW Men's Basketball Coach, Dick Bennett, in addition to countless PSA slots.

The fact that we have always approached our mission as building community capacity to respond to the AIDS epidemic, rather than building a one-stop shopping center resource as ARCW is so successfully doing, is a function of our local vision.

We are very successfully building that capacity here and invite you to talk with folks at the Madison Community Health Center's Williamson Street or South Side clinics, the Dean Clinics in Madison and Janesville, the UW Hospital's HIV/AIDS Clinic, and a host of others with whom we work very closely and even subcontract for services.

We do not believe the Milwaukee model is appropriate here. Nor do we honestly believe, at this point in time, that our clients would be better served by a merger.

Our mission is to assure the availability of the full range of quality services for persons infected and affected by HIV in South Central Wisconsin, and if at any time in the future a merger is the best way to assure that availability, we will be the ones initiating the discussion.

Mary Turnquist
Executive Director
AIDS Network

The Fannies Fire — Did She Do It?

A Wisconsin Light
Investigative Report

Copyright By Bill Meunier

For more than a month, *Wisconsin Light* has been looking at the charges and evidence surrounding the arson at Fannies, a Lesbian bar located in Milwaukee.

Did Dixon burn down her own business or has the State ignored or overlooked important evidence in its quest to find a culprit? We make no judgments one way or the other. Our purpose is to present what we know both sides are saying, and let our readers decide for themselves.

Because of the complex nature of the allegations, our report is necessarily lengthy. Therefore we have divided it into three parts.

Part 1 of a 3 Part Report

Milwaukee — According to Wisconsin Department of Justice Assistance, Wisconsin had 1,189 arson fires in 1997, including 457 within the Milwaukee city limits. The Milwaukee fires caused \$3.1 million in damage. One of them occurred at Fannies, a Milwaukee Lesbian bar, during the evening of Tuesday, October 28.

Following the fire, the Milwaukee Police launched a seven and a half-month investigation that included a rarely used "John Doe" proceeding. Then on Friday, June 12, 1998, the Police arrested Fannies owner, Sharon Dixon.

Dixon was charged with arson with intent to defraud, possession of a controlled substance, and possession of an explosive device. The latter charge has since been dismissed due to lack of evidence.

There are various theories on the Fannies fire, but the main one goes something like this: Dixon was in debt, and Fannies was facing stiff competition from a new Lesbian bar, Dish. Dixon didn't have the money to remodel her establishment so it could compete with Dish.

So, the theory goes, she burned it down in order to collect on her insurance. The insurance money would then have allowed Dixon to refurbish Fannies, get out of debt and reopen her failed restaurant, Mike and Anna's.

That's the theory. But is that theory true? Apparently the State of Wisconsin thinks it is.

The Criminal Complaint against Dixon contains the outlines of what can only be considered as a circumstantial case against her. Taken individually, none of the allegations contained in the complaint mean that Dixon did, in fact, burn down Fannies.

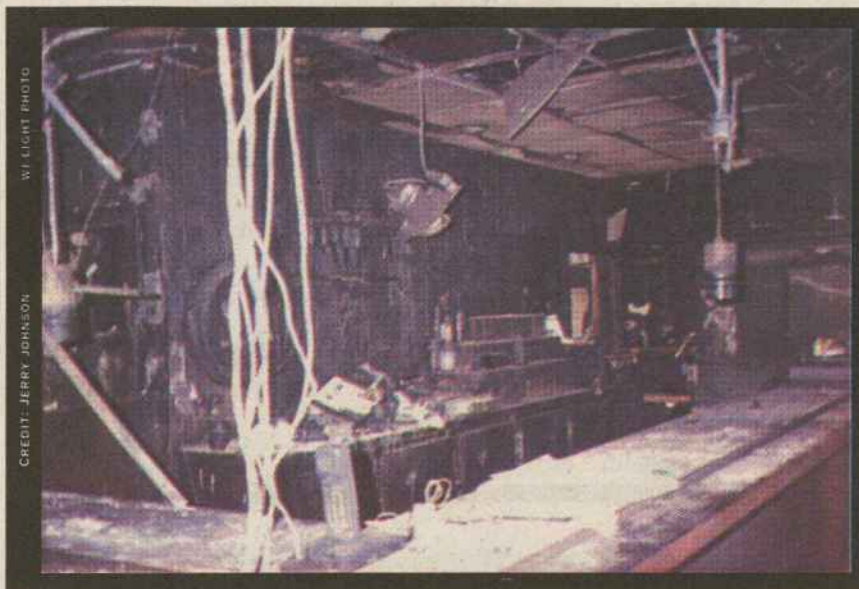
The State thinks that a judge and jury looking at all the evidence together will conclude that she did.

It should be noted that a Criminal Complaint does not contain all of the evidence or allegations that the State may use against an accused individual. Typically these complaints will put forth only enough evidence to justify issuing an arrest warrant.

What the Criminal Complaint does do is give an outline of the State's case. Is that case strong enough to convict Dixon? The answer to that question depends on whether or not a jury will believe her answers to the allegations the State is making.

The People vs. Dixon

The State's case seems to center on four major areas: Dixon's financial status, evidence gathered at the scene of the fire, items that were found in a storage locker, and statements made by Dixon to her friends.



The October 28, 1997 arson at Fannies caused extensive damage to the bar.

Dixon contends that there was additional evidence at the fire scene, evidence the Police either missed or ignored. While admitting that it was "bad timing," she says that things moved from the bar to a storage locker or to the homes of friends were moved for reasons other than an impending fire. She asserts that her finances were in good shape and that the statements cited in the complaint were either being taken out of context or were misunderstood.

Who Set the Fire?

The person or persons who set the fire at Fannies have not been apprehended, but one thing is certain, it was not Sharon Dixon.

Contrary to a current rumor in Milwaukee's bar community, there is no evidence that Dixon herself set the fire. The State does not seem to be claiming that she did.

The fire broke out sometime around 7pm. Earlier in the evening, Dixon met some friends at the bar. At about 6pm, the group left the bar to have dinner at the Senor Frog's restaurant in downtown Milwaukee. When they returned, Fannies was on fire.

The fact that Dixon was not present at the time the blaze was set, however, does not mean that she did not hire someone to do it for her. The State believes that is what happened.

The Scene of the Fire

In its description of the crime scene, the complaint implies that Dixon hired someone to burn down Fannies.

It notes that two of the bar's four doors were open when firefighters arrived on the scene and it says that there were no signs of forced entry. If that is true, it would mean that someone entered the bar using a key.

It states that after the fire was suppressed, Dixon's keys were found on the floor behind the bar.

The Complaint says that the alarm system was not activated, and that Dixon's truck was not parked in what a friend said was its normal space.

Basically, the State is saying that an arsonist got into the bar using Dixon's keys, and that Dixon didn't activate the alarm system so it would not alert the Police or Fire Departments to the break in or the fire.

Furthermore, the State seems to be contending that Dixon parked her truck away from the bar so it wouldn't be damaged in the fire.

Dixon disputes that viewpoint. She

says that there was evidence of a break in. Dixon contends that the back door dead-bolt was left in an open position. She says that proves the arsonist broke in through that door, set the fire and then left by unlocking the dead bolt on the front door.

"All they had to do was pop the wood on the back door frame, expose the dead-bolt and yank the door open. There was only a thin strip of wood there," she says. "After they set the fire, they left by the front door. All they had to do was flip open the dead bolt on the front door lock."

Dixon's statements on the door jam received support from Dennis Dermitt, who occasionally did work at the bar. Dermitt, who says that he has worked with wood all of his life, looked at the door jam the day after the fire.

Dermitt said, "The wood was peeled out and there were marks on the side of the wood from a crowbar or something." He also said the affected wood was scorched, which would indicate the marks and peeling occurred before the fire.

Dixon says that it didn't really matter if the alarm was activated or not, since it had not worked for over a year prior to the fire. She said she continued to set it anyway because she didn't want anyone to know that it was not functional, but she admits that she didn't set it that night.

According to the complaint, Dixon told the Police that she didn't set the alarm because she had not expected to be gone from the bar for a long period of time.

"I said that to the Police because I didn't want anyone to know that the alarm never worked," said Dixon.

Dixon said that when the alarm did work, it was monitored by Central Control Alarm Company. Central Control is no longer in business.

When asked why her truck was not parked in front of or behind the bar, where her friend, Monica Balfour, said it normally was left, Dixon replied, "The truck is not normally parked anywhere. The truck is parked wherever I decide to park it."

George Vomverg of George's Pub, a neighborhood tavern just down the street from Fannies, confirms Dixon's statement. "Sharon parked the truck all over the place around here," he said.

The Debt from Mike & Anna's

All of the State's evidence against Dixon will probably mean nothing unless it can prove that she had a motive to burn down her own business. The State thinks it has a motive: Sharon Dixon owes what

most people would consider to be a lot of money.

Chief among those demanding payment from Dixon is the Internal Revenue Service.

Speaking of her IRS dispute, David Garaghty, Dixon's attorney, said, "The problem is that anyone that has a fire has a motive to burn the place down. They seem to be making a point about this alleged problem they had with the Internal Revenue Service. It was not a substantial IRS problem."

According to the complaint, Dixon told Police that "she was presently in a dispute with the IRS for \$30,000 in various tax obligations."

Dixon says that this debt resulted solely from her involvement with the now closed Mike and Anna's restaurant. According to Dixon, her restaurant business partner, Bob Chomlinski, failed to pay the establishment's withholding tax bills.

Dixon says she was in negotiation with the IRS over the tax bill at the time of the fire. "They offered a settlement of \$20,000," she said. "I knew they were not going to come after Fannies while we were in negotiations, which we were at the time of the fire."

In addition to failing to pay its federal withholding taxes, Mike and Anna's had also failed to pay the State of Wisconsin all of the sales taxes it had collected from its customers. "The State was owed \$10,000 on the sales taxes," says Dixon.

In addition to Mike and Anna's tax problems, the restaurant had other debts as well. Dixon says that her restaurant business owed an additional \$10,000 to various creditors.

Dixon said the \$10,000 owed to other creditors pleased her because restaurants often carry a debt that is several times that amount.

Conversations with several individuals familiar with the restaurant business confirmed Dixon's statement that an end of the month debt of \$10,000 is not a large amount for a fine dining restaurant.

Nevertheless, the additional debt brings the total debt owed by Mike and Anna's to \$40,000 — even with the IRS offer to knock \$10,000 off of its bill. Dixon said she was planning to put Mike and Anna's into bankruptcy, which would have still left the tax bills of \$30,000.

Dixon also told the Police that the City of Milwaukee had a pending foreclosure action against Fannies for her back taxes owed in 1995 and 1996.

"I usually wait until after Halloween, which is one of my busiest times to pay my taxes," said Dixon. "The bar burned down before Halloween. It never would have gotten that far if it hadn't been for the fire."

Dixon says she was just being honest in her talks with the Police. "If had burned my bar down, do you think I would be telling the Police that I had tax debts?" she asks.

IRS tax liens are a matter of public record as are foreclosure procedures. Chances are that the Police would have found out about Dixon's tax problems whether she told them or not.

Dixon says it would make no sense for her to burn Fannies down because it was profitable, and that it was worth more than she could have gotten from her insurance. *Wisconsin Light* found evidence supporting Dixon's claim.

See part two of our three part report in our next issue.

Ron Geiman Named *Wisconsin Light* Publisher

In Step founder, Ron Geiman, has been appointed Publisher of *Wisconsin Light*, Greg Quindel, Chairman of the new Wisconsin Light LLC Board of Directors, has announced. "Ronnie brings a wealth of newspaper experience that is unequalled in our community, and we are all absolutely delighted at this development," Quindel added.

Geiman, a Wisconsin Gay newspaper pioneer, founded *In Step* in 1984 when there were no widely distributed Wisconsin-based Gay or Lesbian publications. Most people thought his new venture would fail, but Geiman's vision, hard work and flair allowed him to hang on to his dream and make it a success.

Geiman served as Publisher/Editor of *In Step* for 12 years until his health forced him to retire in July 1995. *In Step* was sold to its current owners, Bill Attwell and George Cabal, in April of 1996.

Even before establishing *In Step*, Geiman was already familiar with the Milwaukee Gay-publishing scene. He had worked with both *Chicago Gay Life* and the Chicago-owned *Escape Magazine*, which focused on Wisconsin.

Some may find it strange that Geiman is joining the staff of *In Step's* competitor, but those who know Ron and the history of the two papers will not be surprised. The sometimes-competing papers enjoyed a close working relationship.

Former editor and *Wisconsin Light* co-founder, Terry Boughner, says that Geiman was instrumental in the establishment of the *Light* in 1987. "We had a meeting to decide on a response to the demise of *Out* (an LGBT publication based in Madison). Ron was among the first to encourage us to start up a new paper," says Boughner. "There's probably no one in Milwaukee for whom I have greater respect than Ron Geiman.

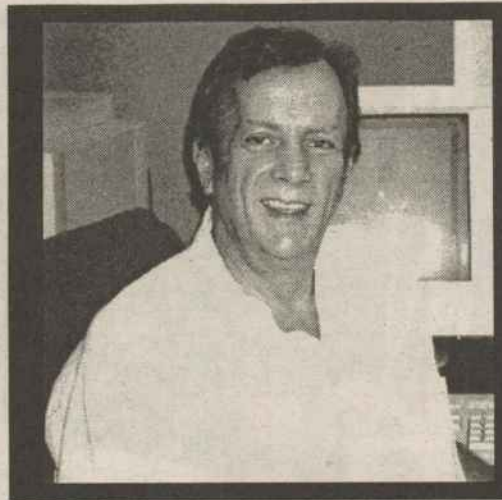
He is a personal friend, an esteemed colleague, and a man who has gone above and beyond for the community — not only in Milwaukee, but throughout the state as well. My respect for him is limitless."

Geiman is considered by many to be a community icon. He has received

numerous awards from organizations as diverse as the Cream City Foundation, the SSBL, PrideFest and many others. In April 1995, over 500 people gathered at a special reception held in Geiman's honor. The reception held at Milwaukee's elegant Renaissance Place was sponsored by every major Milwaukee LGBT organization in addition to many of Milwaukee's LGBT leaders.

Wisconsin Light Editor Bill Meunier is among Geiman's many fans. "I am really excited to be working with Ron. We've known each other since I came out," said Meunier. He also joked that Geiman "provided him with an older helping hand." "This addition stands as further proof of our ability to attract an exceptional team of people dedicated to making *Wisconsin Light* one of America's finest LGBT publications," Meunier said.

Geiman, 46, is originally from Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. He enlisted in the Army for three years with the guarantee of becoming a military journalist. After training and school, he was



assigned to Saigon, Vietnam, where he worked with the Military Assistance Command, Vietnam (MACV) as a staff writer and photographer.

After Saigon, Geiman spent his last year and a half of military

service stationed in Milwaukee at the Army Recruiting Headquarters in the Advertising Public Relations Department.

"I came out within two months of my arrival in Milwaukee," Geiman said, "and the Army knew, quickly, my story." After he was discharged, Geiman opted to stay in Milwaukee to live with his then partner. He also opted to study at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. "For seven semesters I took a variety of courses ranging from journalism to creative writing, public relations, film and video."

During those years, Geiman worked at Suburpia. For two years he was also a "Person Friday" for the Advertising Director at Deutsche Zeitung, the German American weekly newspaper, formerly based in Milwaukee.

"I finally realized that I didn't want to work for a degree, because I wasn't sure I could be pigeonholed into any one type of work," he says. "I wanted to be involved in all the areas I had studied and not just one."

He quit school and started work at

The Factory, the legendary Milwaukee nightclub. Geiman managed the popular dance bar from 1980 to 1982, then went to work for the Chicago Gay papers.

Geiman says that he is looking forward to sliding back into the workplace after a three-year absence and various health battles. "I'm really agog at the fact that I am back in my old office space on South 2nd Street, three years to the month later, as Publisher of the "other" paper. I never would have thought it conceivable — even a year ago — but now my health allows me to work again. I was made an offer I couldn't refuse. I hope I can once again bring peace between the two papers in a renewed era of cooperation."

In his role as Publisher, Geiman will serve as an advisor to the growing *Wisconsin Light* team including Meunier, a longtime community leader who has been with *Wisconsin Light* since its inception, and Chairman Greg Quindel who is structuring the *Light* and has been heavily involved with Milwaukee's two alternative weeklies, *Shepherd Express* and *The Paper*.

Advertising Director, Annabelle Havlicek, has worked with *Wisconsin Light*, *In Step*, *The Wisconsin Pride Guide*, *Shepherd Express* and *The Paper*, as well as numerous other publishing projects within the LGBT community.

Production Manager and Health Editor, Yuri Keegstra, also works as a community outreach worker at the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin. Keegstra has used his computer and design skills for a variety of projects within the LGBT community.

This *Wisconsin Light* team receives support from a growing number of Bureau Chiefs, reporters and organization leaders from throughout the State. As Meunier puts it, "We are determined to give Wisconsin a first rate, first class publication. We are pleased that, along with so many others, Ron Geiman is willing to use his skills and share in our dream."

Gay Guernsey Tally Stuns Green Bay's Gay Community

Green Bay — The crowd at Za's gasped when the 1997-98 Gay Guernsey "Queen" was announced last Saturday night, August 8. Not because of who won but because of the staggering amount raised by Green Bay's Gay community over the last four weeks for the ARCW Client Emergency Fund - over \$11,000. What the crowd didn't hear was that the number was closer to twelve thousand.

Final figures released Sunday show that this year's fund raising pageant netted \$11,897, nearly double last year's tally and fully one-third of all the money ever raised in the seven year history of the pageant.

The winner and top fund raiser was Timmer, who represented the Napalese Lounge. Timmer raised just over \$4,300, edging out first runner-up Rick of Buddies' \$4,100 by just \$200. An additional \$3,500 was raised by candidates Sue, representing Sass, Tod from Za's and Bambi from Brandy's II.

This is the third year in a row that a candidate from Napalese Lounge has won the contest.

According to pageant director Elsie Bovine, even she was surprised at the final numbers. "I had expected we'd do between eight and nine thousand, but

this far exceeded my wildest dreams." she said. "It really says a lot about the generous nature of the Gay community in Green Bay."

Bovine thinks a number of factors contributed to the success of this year's event. "First and by far the most important is the fact that this year's contestants really worked their butts off to raise money," Elsie said. "The friendly competition between Rick and Timmer certainly helped but even the other contestants averaged over a thousand dollars each — that's never happened before."

Bovine also feels the amount raised is an endorsement by the Gay community of ARCW's programs and services. "You can always get someone to give you a dollar or two for any Gay cause but this kind of giving shows that the community is really behind ARCW," she said. "People were nervous about all the changes at Center Project-ARCW in the last year and a half, but the dust settled and people realized that things were even better than before."

Bovine won't rule out the Reggie White factor either. "The community has really become energized in the last few months with the Reggie business and the announced cuts in government


AIDS money," Elsie said. "This is just one way we showed that we're here, we're together and we're not going away."

Bovine had been nervous due to the timing of this year's pageant events. "We kicked-off on the Fourth of July weekend, had a less successful softball tourney because we conflicted with the MAGIC picnic, and had the finale on the first home Packer game of the new season," she noted. "Next year I'm submitting my show schedule to the Packer front office and everybody else so they can schedule around me!"

In the last seven years the Gay Guernsey pageant has raised more than \$35,000 for the client emergency fund. This year's total represents a nearly 4000% increase from the \$300 first raised in 1992. Monies raised are used for direct client assistance for Green Bay and Brown County clients of ARCW. Nearly half of the clients served

in ARCW's 17-county northeast region reside in Brown county.

— *WI Light* Northeast Wisconsin Bureau



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Anti-Gay Firefighter, Congressional Candidate, Ron Greer Fired

By Mike Leon

WI Light Madison Bureau

Madison — Following a year-long investigation, the five member Madison Police and Fire Commission unanimously voted to fire Ron Greer, a controversial member of the Madison Fire Department and a Republican candidate for Congress.

Greer, an evangelical pastor, has become a lightning rod for anti-Gay activity. His slashing attacks on "homosexuals" have gained him national prominence. But his on-the-job attacks on Gays and Madison Fire Chief, Debra Amesqua, got him into trouble with the Fire Department.

Greer received a two-month suspension from his job after he handed out anti-Gay flyers while on duty at his firehouse. He was suspended again after he sent out a fax that criticized Amesqua.

In the fax, which was titled "Homosexual chief rewards homosexual chief for assault?" Greer accused Amesqua of giving favorable treatment to Training Fire Chief Marsha Holz. The fax said that Amesqua gave favorable treatment to Holz because "both women are homosexual." Neither woman has publicly stated the nature of their sexual orientation.

Greer's difficulties with the department have received national attention. ABC, C-Span, and several religious media shows and magazines have produced stories about his fight to keep his job.

The Commission's vote to fire Greer came after it had reviewed five charges filed against him by Madison Fire Chief Debra Amesqua. The charges were relat-

ed to Greer's fax.

Amesqua's charges stated that Greer had violated five Fire Department rules. These violations included rules that prohibit harassment based on sexual orientation. The Commission agreed with Amesqua that Greer had violated all five rules.

After the vote, Greer said he was not surprised by the decision, and continued his calls for the dismissal of Amesqua over her handling of Holz.

Greer has amassed a legal defense fund of \$600,000. On August 5, he filed a complaint in U.S. District Court charging that his civil rights had been violated by the City of Madison Police and Fire Commission.

Greer claims he was punished for freely speaking out. He also says that he was denied due process rights by the Commission's refusal to consider whether his allegations about Amesqua were true.

In an interview with *Wisconsin Light*, a soft spoken and affable Greer stated his case.

"The media has basically decided to paint a picture of me that is inaccurate, and people tend to believe what they read in the media, more so than what they know or could know about an individual," said Greer. "People who know me know me."

Greer faces five opponents in his quest for the Republican nomination for Congress. The other four candidates have criticized Greer's anti-Gay stance.

One of Greer's Republican opponents, Josephine Musser, summed up the political atmosphere at a recent candidate forum saying, "I personally don't think

hating homosexuals is a qualification for Congress."

Asked to respond to the criticism he has received about his anti-Gay stance, Greer said, "If everybody in your part of the race is suddenly focusing on you, that says that somewhere in their minds, some pollster's mind, you've got a threat... That's been clear with (Greer opponent) Nick Fuhrman attending to my candidacy more than anybody else. The strategy is to paint a picture that I don't have a chance, therefore, they (conservatives) shouldn't waste a vote on me. They should vote for Fuhrman."

Hotel Washington Fire

Perhaps the most incendiary remarks Greer made came while the Hotel Washington burned down in 1996. While the fire which destroyed an LGBT sanctuary long regarded as sacred to the LGBT community burned in the background, Greer told a *Capital Times* reporter, "It's a tragic loss of a historical building. But I am glad to see certain establishments in the place are gone. If it means the end to certain types of business, I don't have a problem with that."

Greer achieved near pariah status after his comment was published. Openly Gay Alderman Mike Verveer told *Wisconsin Light*, "That day in February of 1996 when Greer, accompanied by his children, gleefully observed his colleagues putting out the fire and announced before the assembled news media that he, more or less, was happy a fire had occurred, was utterly disgusting and embarrassing, especially coming from a firefighter," said Verveer.

Verveer adds, "I am very relieved that

the PFC fired Greer in a unanimous decision. It's like a breath of fresh air that he's gone. He's free to spread his message of hate outside of work."

Greer blasted Verveer and *Capital Times* reporter Joe Schoenmann for his reporting of the Hotel Washington fire incident, saying the reporting of his comments were taken completely out of context and were distorted.

"Mr. Verveer has been disingenuous about a number of things," he said. "He and others have totally distorted what I said. When Joe Schoenmann asked me about the hotel I told him, 'it was a tragic loss of a historical landmark.' When people lose their business it's equally tragic... (asked) if I'm going to give my support if those businesses open back up, I said, 'No, that's not going to happen,'" said Greer. "(Schoenmann) said, 'well what do you think?' I said, 'I'm glad those businesses won't be providing encouragement to people in that lifestyle and that kind of activity anymore. But at the same time it's still a tragic loss.'"

Greer added, "Joe Schoenmann took a portion of what I said — what's eye catching, what's exciting. I said, 'I was glad that those businesses won't be involved in encouraging people in that lifestyle.' We stopped by the fire because that's what firefighters do... Any statement that says I was glad the Hotel Washington Fire took place is off-base and an outright lie," said Greer.

Greer's political fortunes are an open book. But with expectations of a low turn out primary, observers give Greer a clear shot at winning the Republican nomination for Congress.

Phelps' Campaign Attacks Tammy Baldwin

News Analysis By Mike Leon

Madison — Openly Lesbian and Gay Wisconsin congressional and state assembly candidates have found a new political enemy in an old friend. Such is politics.

Progressive Rick Phelps, a former Dane County Executive and long-time supporter of Gay and feminist causes, is one of three candidates vying for the Democratic nomination for the 2nd congressional district. Phelps political opponents, and observers, say he has moved aggressively against Mark Pocan, an openly Gay candidate for the downtown Madison Assembly seat now held by Lesbian State Representative Tammy Baldwin, and Ms. Baldwin herself, who is opposing the Phelps congressional bid.

State Senator Joe Wineke (D-Verona) is also vying for the Democratic congressional nomination in the tight 3-way race.

Numerous observers say the moves can be understood considering that Phelps is Baldwin's opponent for the nomination. Assembly candidate Mark Pocan is widely said to have miffed Phelps when he spoke at a rally prior to the recent Madison Pride March. During his remarks, Pocan said, "first and foremost you should send Tammy Baldwin to the US Congress."

Days after Pocan's Pride address, Pocan assembly opponent John Hendrick sent out a mailing reading in part: "When Rick Phelps vetoed sprawl sub-divisions, John Hendrick rallied support..." "When Rick Phelps wanted a pro-planning Plan Commissioner... he appointed John Hendrick..." and so on.

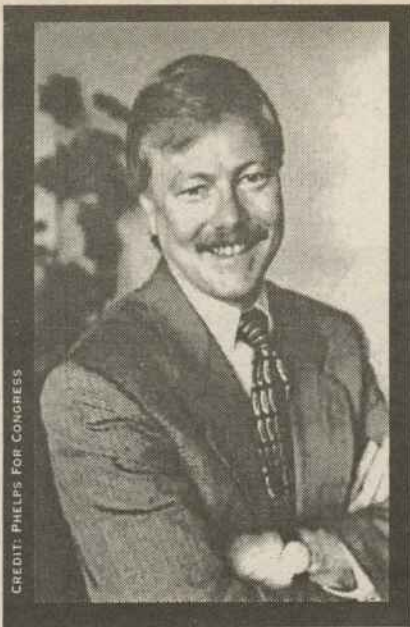
The Henricks' literature mentioned Phelps' name six times including the front cover fold reading, "When you vote for Rick Phelps for Congress, please support John Hendrick in the 78th Assembly District."

Observers say that it's a no-brainer that Hendrick addressed his mailing to Phelps supporters by getting his hands on a Phelps mailing list.

"Not from the Phelps campaign," says Phelps' campaign manager Jim Messina. Messina said there was absolutely no coordination or communication about the Hendrick literature piece between the Hendrick and Phelps campaigns and no sharing of mailing lists. "We're staying out of that (the 78th Assembly) race," said Messina.

Political supporter lists are a hot commodity in electoral races and are available for the taking by the tenacious and well-connected.

Hendrick refused comment on this story except to say that he was preparing a 20,000-piece mailer with Tammy Baldwin's picture on it. Baldwin's campaign manager said the Baldwin cam-



Rick Phelps

paigned received no contact from the Hendrick campaign about the inclusion of Baldwin's picture on Hendrick's literature.

Hendrick also sent out a mailing to supporters of PFLAG leader and Madison School Board member, Jo Anne Elder. The affable Elder let Hendricks use her list but has endorsed Pocan.

"If people get a mailing from John Hendrick with the endorsement of Colin Powell,

Nelson Mandela, or Fidel Castro, they should probably think twice about that mailing too," said Pocan.

Pocan's campaign offered an upbeat assessment. "We are not going to let this bother us. We're continuing to stick to our game plan," said Glenn Wavrunek, Pocan's campaign manager.

In the Baldwin/Phelps/Wineke congressional race, the criticism of Phelps' stems in part from a recent statement made to the *Wisconsin State Journal* (August 5, 1998) by Phelps campaign manager Jim Messina. "There's no question that Tammy Baldwin is trying to buy

this election with out-of-state special interest money," said Messina.

Messina repeated his criticism in a phone interview with the *WI Light*. "Tammy Baldwin has a majority of her money coming from out of the state... The campaigns should be funded predominantly by people in the 2nd congressional district," said Jim Messina.

The Phelps campaign produced data showing that the Baldwin campaign has received 68% of its money from out-of-state donors and that Phelps and Wineke have each received 26% of their campaign funds from such sources.

Messina also indicated that the sources of the out-of-state money (largely women and LGBT groups and individuals) were not a point of contention.

"I'm not making an attack on where the money is coming from... It's about raising money inside the 2nd congressional district," said Messina.

Some observers view Phelps' campaign manager's words as a thinly veiled political trashing of LGBT and women's groups working to elect one of their own. They see it as a politically expedient attack to help Phelps' garner votes in rural outlying areas of the 2nd Congressional District. They believe the attack subtly plays to bigoted sentiments against women, Gays and Lesbians outside of Madison.

Observers predict each of the three candidates could well pick up over 30% of the primary vote in this toss-up race. "Phelps is giving his tacit support to the candidate running against the Gay person

See **PHELPS** on page 28

Chastity Bono Named Honorary Chair of AIDS Walk Wisconsin

By Bill Meunier

Milwaukee — A nationally known Lesbian leader has been named as the Honorary Chairperson of the 9th Annual AIDS Walk Wisconsin. Chastity Bono, daughter of superstar Cher and recently deceased Congressman Sonny Bono, will be in Milwaukee to help lead the September 20 walk. Over 10,000 walkers are expected to participate in this year's edition of Wisconsin's largest single day fundraiser.

As Honorary Chair, Bono will be the keynote speaker at the AIDS Walk Breakfast, speak during the Walk's opening ceremony and cut the official ribbon to begin the walk, which assembles at Henry W. Maier Festival Park (The Summerfest grounds).

A viewing stand will be set up along the Walk route to allow Bono to view the walkers and wave to the crowd. Bono is expected to announce the total dollars raised during the closing ceremony which will begin around 4pm.

Bono is an articulate speaker who has held positions with several national LGBT organizations including the National Gay Lesbian Task Force and GLAAD, the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation. She has toured the country speaking out on issues of importance to America's Lesbians and Gays.



CHASTITY BONO - 1998 AIDS Walk Wisconsin Honorary Chair

In June, Bono resigned her position as GLAAD's Entertainment Media Director to work on creative entertainment projects and to promote her new book, *Family Outing*, which will be released in October.

An October, 1997 *Los Angeles Times* article said that Bono is the most frequently sought after Gay consultant in Hollywood.

In the public eye at a very early age, Bono often appeared on her parent's television show, *The Sonny and Cher Comedy Hour*, in the early 1970s. She also served as a consultant to, and

See **BONO** on page 27

AROUND THE STATE

Conference Set on Gay Education Issues

Waukesha County Technical and Madison Area Technical colleges are sponsoring a two-day conference entitled "Opening Doors to Understanding: LGBT Issues in Higher Education" Sept. 24-25 at Olympia Resort & Spa, Oconomowoc.

"Lots of people want a discussion of Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual/Transgender issues," says Waukesha County Tech instructor, Rich Uspel. "Our conference moves that discussion to a level and into a venue which is respectful to everyone. Reggie White is welcome at our conference, if he listens to others' views, but not if he demands that others listen only to his views."

The two-day event includes sessions on Religion & Spirituality, Health & Wellness, the History of Gay Studies Programs, Student Development & Campus Climate for LGBTs, Corporate Closets in the Business World, LGBT Support Groups, and Curriculum Integration Strategies.

For more information, contact Deb Wallendal, Waukesha County Technical College, (414) 691-5346, dwallendal@waukesha.tec.wi.us or Sean Robinson, Madison Area Technical College, (608) 246-6333, cro5965@madison.tec.wi.us.

Green Bay

Angels of Hope MCC Church Vandalized

Vandals damaged a large sign in front of the Angels of Hope Metropolitan Community Church on July 22. The attack came a day after widespread local news coverage concerning the publication of a second anti-Gay ad featuring Green Bay Packer Reggie White in a Washington, D.C. newspaper.

According to Pastor Ken Hull, the word "faggot" was spray painted across the side of the church's large lawn sign. "It may have simply been a coincidence," Hull said. "But with Reggie and the Packers all over the local news, the timing is suspicious."

In reviewing other events, which might have triggered the attack, Pastor Hull noted that the church had been featured four days earlier as the "Church of the Week" in the *Green Bay Press-Gazette*. "The paper made it very clear that we have a ministry to the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender community," Hull said.

The damage was repaired quickly, according to Hull. "They didn't do a very good job," Hull said. "They used white spray paint and painted over letters of the same color."

Angels of Hope owns its facilities in Green Bay and rents a church building in Appleton. The congregation was cited for its more than 500% increase in membership in the last three years.

— *WI Light* Northeast Wisconsin Bureau

See **AROUND THE STATE** on page 30

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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House Votes On Anti-Gay Riggs and Hefley Amendments

Compiled From Various Sources

Washington, DC — In the span of one week, the Republican controlled House of Representatives passed one Anti-Gay amendment while rejecting another one.

The House narrowly adopted the Riggs Amendment, which was aimed at Domestic Partnership benefits. The House also soundly rejected the Hefley Amendment, which would have overturned President Clinton's Executive Order forbidding anti-Gay job basis in the federal government.

The Riggs Amendment if enacted into law would prevent local governments from using Federal housing funds to implement laws that require contractors to offer domestic partnership benefits. The Amendment was attached to VA-HUD funds appropriations bill.

Lesbian and Gay activists were pleased by the fact that the Riggs Amendment passed by only two votes, 214-212.

Wisconsin's Congressional delegation split along party lines on the vote. Republicans, Neumann, Klug, Sensenbrenner and Petri voted for Riggs. Democrats, Barrett, Kleczka, Johnson, Obey and Kind voted against it.

Although the Riggs amendment passed the House, it faces a bleak future. It is not part of the Senate version of the bill. The two vote margin of victory makes it unlikely that the amendment will be included in the bill when a Joint House-Senate Conference committee meets to iron out difference between House and Senate versions.

Even before its passage by the House, Riggs was watered down. In its original form it would have prevented Federal Housing Funds from going to any City that required its contractors to provide Domestic Partnership benefits. The only city with such a requirement is San Francisco, which receives \$60 million in Federal Housing money.

Lesbian and Gay activists were pleased with narrow margin of the Riggs vote. Later, they were elated when the Hefley Amendment was voted down by a wide margin.

The Hefley Amendment would have overturned President Clinton's Executive Order banning federal job discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. It was defeated by a vote of 252-176.

Hefley (R-CO) and three other Republicans including Rep. DeLay (R-TX), who ranks third in the GOP House hierarchy, introduced the measure. Its large margin of defeat was seen as a surprising setback for conservatives, and pleased the President.

"This vote reflected the values of our nation," said Clinton. "The American people believe in fairness, not discrimination."

Activists had hoped that a coalition of moderate Republicans would join with Democrats in defeating the measure, but few, if any observers expected Hefley to fail by such a wide margin.

That margin came about when 63 Republicans joined with 188 Democrats and 1 independent in voting against the measure. The other 161 Republicans

along with only 15 Democrats voted in favor. Log Cabin Republican activists in particular were pleased that thirty-some conservatives joined GOP moderates in voting against Hefley.

During the debate on Hefley only a handful of Republicans spoke in favor of its passage. Several staunch GOP conservatives such as Rep. Rohrabacher (R-CA) and Rep. Bliley (R-VA) strongly opposed it. They were joined moderate Republicans such as Rep. Chris Shays (R-CT). Shays told the House, "I speak strongly in my outrage that some on my side of the aisle, my leaders in particular, have sought to make this a political issue."

In the Wisconsin Congressional delegation, Republicans, Neumann, Petri and Sensenbrenner voted for the Hefley amendment, while Republican Scott Klug, joined all five of the state's Democratic representatives in voting against it.

Lesbian and Gay civil rights advocates attacked both amendments as attempts by the GOP leadership to gain votes by bashing Gays. "They are throwing political bones to the extreme right wing of the party in advance of the '98 elections," said David Smith, spokesman for the Human Rights Campaign, the nation's largest Gay and Lesbian political organization. "They perceive it to be good politics in a low-turnout election. And they need to energize their base."

Smith's comments were echoed by Jim McFarland, Treasurer of Log Cabin Republicans of Wisconsin, a Lesbian/Gay Republican organization. While praising those GOP conservatives who voted against Hefley, McFarland said, "This fall's election is expected to have the lowest turnout in history, so both parties are doing everything possible to scare their base vote into voting for them. The GOP leadership is once again engaging in Gay-bashing to ensure that the fundamentalist Christian movement turns out in droves to vote for Republican candidates."

Walt Jackson, President of Action Wisconsin, hailed the vote on Hefley. "It's great that Congress is finally listening to public opinion," said Jackson, who cited recent polls showing that most Americans oppose Anti-Gay workplace discrimination.

Other activists noted the irony of Neumann's vote in favor of allowing Federal government discrimination against Lesbians and Gays. Neumann had signed a pledge that he would not discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation in hiring his staff.

Neumann, who is running for U.S. Senate this year against incumbent Russ Feingold, then told a Christian Coalition prayer breakfast that he would not hire someone who is "openly Gay." Later, he claimed that he was not contradicting his pledge.

His vote on the Hefley Amendment will raise further questions about his commitment to the pledge.

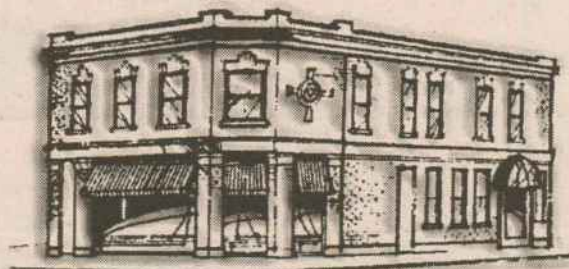
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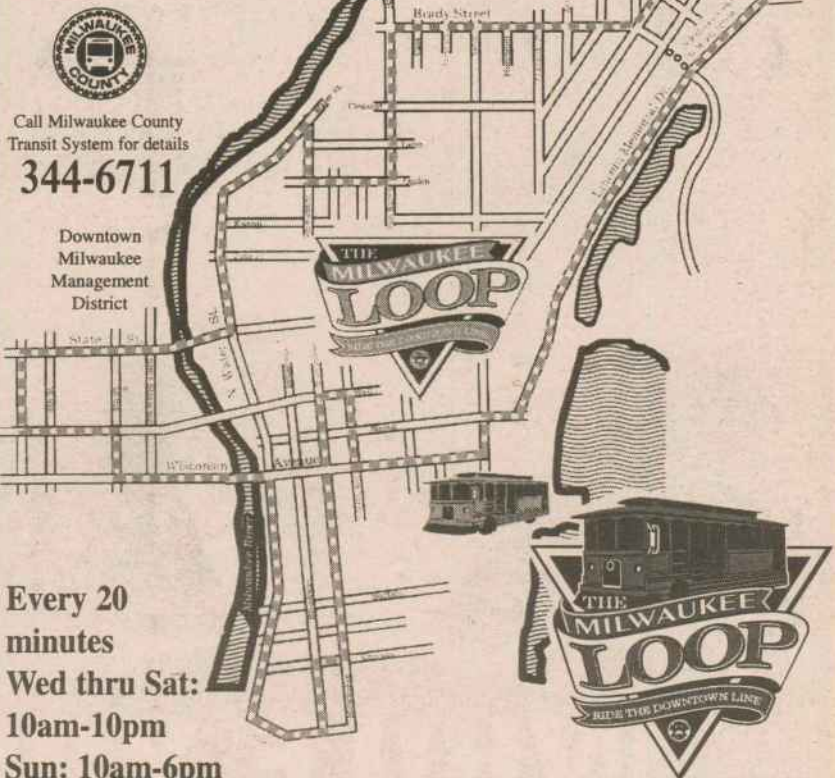
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An Interview with Reggie White

By Arnie Stapleton
AP Sports Writer

Green Bay, Wis. (AP) — Despite age and admonition, Reggie White insists he'll make some noise in his final NFL season — on the field and off.

His bad back no longer gives him fits. Regrettably for the Green Bay Packers, the same cannot be said for the anti-Gay message the 36-year-old defensive end has spread since his infamous speech to Wisconsin lawmakers in March.

The Packers were drawn into the debate when two newspaper ads included an unauthorized photo of White in his uniform, prompting team president Bob Harlan to apologize to the nation's largest Gay and Lesbian political group.

"I believe everyone is entitled to their opinion," general manager Ron Wolf said. "But sometimes it's time to shut your mouth."

White, an ordained, nondenomina-

tional minister since age 17, retorted: "You've got to realize, I'm not going out volunteering to continue to speak on this issue. I'm being asked about it."

In a wide-ranging interview with The Associated Press, White said God has healed him for the fourth time in his life and "as much as people want me to be quiet, I won't. It just makes me more determined to spout off."

Although coach Mike Holmgren cautioned White that more controversial comments could hurt the team, there's no separating man from minister, the player from the preacher.

White is the most-honored defensive end in the NFL, but the legacy he wants to leave goes far beyond that. "I hope that my life serving God and doing what he called me to do would overshadow anything I did in football," White said.

Critics contend that White's anti-Gay campaign is clouding his image as a man who has worked tirelessly to bridge

the racial, religious and economic divide in this country. "I am not a hypocrite," White said. "Just because that one issue is a political hot button, that doesn't mean I'm going to back off. I mean, God called me. I have to do this."

Just as he must play another year of football. After failing to win a second straight Super Bowl, White retired in April, only to return two days later, citing inspiration from the Lord and fears that he was breaking his word to the Packers.

"I want to go out right," White said. "And I think God wants me to go out right." He's first in line for every drill, every sprint. And his famous club move is back, too. "I might be having the best camp since I've been here," said White, who joined the Packers in 1993, guiding Green Bay to respectability after 25 years of ineptitude.

Despite recording 11 sacks and earning a record 12th straight Pro Bowl berth last year, White's game declined

because a displaced vertebra in his lower back caused spasms.

"After games, I was walking like I was 70," White said. "My spasms were so bad that they were pulling my spine, making me crooked."

With White's back quiet, the Packers were hoping he'd be silent, too. Holmgren nixed a group interview on the sideline when camp began for fear White would spout off in front of the TV cameras. Since then, White has chatted on occasion, usually with just brief comments on his health or football.

But he's not backing down on his denunciation of homosexuality. "I'm a minister," White said. "And the one thing I can say about this issue is I don't think there is a person in America who can prove that Reggie White hates, because my life hasn't shown it."

In White's speech to Wisconsin lawmakers, he used cultural stereotypes to describe racial differences and denounced homosexuality as "one of the biggest sins in the Bible."

David Smith, a spokesman for the Human Rights Campaign, the nation's largest Gay rights group, said he doesn't believe White is hateful but the remarks "could give license to haters and sometimes that manifests itself into violent acts."

White said he's only repeating Scripture. And he insists he's preaching the doctrine of "love the sinner, hate the sin."

Still, he realizes his words have struck the wrong cord with some. White said he and his wife, Sara, received mail from people "who were on our side but their letters felt too intense and too hateful. We threw those letters away."

White insists his stance cost him an analyst job at CBS, too, something the network denies. "I was offered a deal and we had the numbers in place," White contends.

But then came White's speech to Wisconsin lawmakers in which he used cultural stereotypes to describe racial differences and denounced homosexuality as "one of the biggest sins in the Bible."

Those remarks, calculated to raise both issues and eyebrows, prompted CBS Sports president Sean McManus to back off, White said. "Sean called and said, 'We need to move back because of the comments that you made and we don't want Gay activists picketing us,'"

Network spokeswoman Leslie Ann Wade denies White was ever offered the job. "CBS Sports had serious discussions with Reggie White and with many other individuals but never finalized an agreement with Mr. White," she said. "Talent decisions are based solely on what is best for the NFL on CBS and not on influences from any special interest groups."

White said CBS left the door open for him to join the network next year but that he told McManus: "I don't want to work for cowards."

White's only regret in all this? That he drew the Packers into the firestorm. For that, he said he's sorry. But he's not the least bit repentant about anything else and will continue to speak out.

"It's made people think," White said. "And it's given me the opportunity to minister to people I've never had the opportunity to minister to."

ANNOUNCING!

Milwaukee

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LGBT

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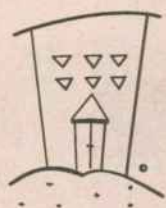
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AROUND THE NATION

Gore To Speak at HRC Dinner

Washington — The Human Rights Campaign has announced that Vice President Al Gore will be the featured speaker and receive its National Leadership Award during the organization's Second Annual National Dinner.

"We are very excited and honored that Vice President Gore will attend our National Dinner. The Vice President has a long record of advocating equal rights for gay and lesbian Americans. The Vice President's presence reaffirms his commitment to battling discrimination and demonstrates his willingness stand up for what is right," said HRC executive director Elizabeth Birch.

The Second Annual National Dinner will take place on September 19, at the Washington, DC Marriott Wardman Park Hotel. In addition to Vice President Gore, the black-tie gala will feature world-renowned poet Dr. Maya Angelou. HRC will also present its first National Family Civil Rights Award to rocker Melissa Etheridge and her partner, producer Julie Cypher. Last year, President Bill Clinton was the keynote speaker. Tickets may be purchased by visiting HRC's web site www.hrcusa.org or by calling 1-800-494-8497.

Christian Coalition Target of Spending Complaint

Honolulu — Protect Our Constitution and Protect Our Constitution/Human Rights Campaign, the two groups fighting the anti-Gay marriage measure in Hawaii, have filed a formal complaint with Hawaii's Campaign Spending Commission. The groups charge that the Christian Coalition and its local affiliate, the Hawaii Christian Coalition, are blatantly flouting Hawaii campaign spending laws.

The state legislature has placed a question on the ballot for the November election, to determine whether the Hawaii constitution should be amended to grant the legislature the power to limit marriages to opposite sex couples. This has brought a flood of religious political activist groups into Hawaii.

Under the Hawaiian campaign spending law, any group who raises more than \$1,000 in support of a ballot question must register and file reports with the Campaign Spending Commission. Neither the Christian Coalition nor the Hawaii Christian Coalition, have registered. Yet, these groups have embarked on a full-fledged electronic fund-raising appeal with explicit instructions on how to give money by credit card.

The Christian Coalition is even electronically soliciting cash from overseas to help raise the \$1.5 million they believe is needed to win passage for the referendum. Posted on the Hawaii Christian Coalition web site, in boldface type it says, "Foreign Checks Also Accepted."

See **AROUND THE NATION** on page 28

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OBITUARIES

In Memory of J. Robert Moore

Milwaukee — Community leader J. Robert (Bob) Moore died at 4am, August 7 at Sinai Hospital from non-Hodgkins lymphoma. His family was at his side at his peaceful end. Memorial Services were held this past weekend in Milwaukee at the Village Church, where he was an active member.

Shortly after arriving in Milwaukee in 1971, the Princeton alumni quickly lent his energy to existing organizations. He was a retired Executive Director of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee's master of business administration program. For a brief time, he served as a Special Assistant to the Chancellor at UWM.

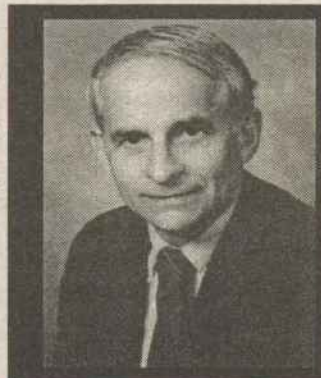
Bob's involvement in the Milwaukee Gay and Lesbian community goes back 25 years. He served as Treasurer of Gay People's Union, hosted the opening reception for the Cream City Business Association, served on the board of the Lambda Rights Network, and served as the sports director for PrideFest where he spent countless hours preparing for the Miller Lite Volleyball Tournament.

He was to receive PrideFest's Lifetime Achievement Award during the festival on August 30 for his overwhelming contributions to the community.

In addition to his organizational involvement, Bob was a mentor, advisor and friend to many individuals in the community. One of those was *Wisconsin*

Light Editor, Bill Meunier. "When I was first coming out, Bob introduced me to people and gave me good advice," said Meunier. "Later on he was always there with encouragement and support for the projects I've gotten involved with. This is a devastating loss for us all."

What significantly stands out in Bob's contributions to the community is the number of times he played a key role



in the formation of new organizations or served in a leadership capacity. The list is impressive: organizer of the walking component of Frontrunners of Milwaukee; co-founder of the Public Officials Reception Committee; co-founder of Cream City Squares; founder and officer of the Log Cabin Club of Wisconsin; founder, treasurer, president and editor of Milwaukee's GAMMA;

co-chair of the first national assembly in July, 1978, of Lutheran's Concerned-WI. All these organizations are still going strong.

Bob's contribution to the missions of these very diverse organizations has had a direct impact on literally hundreds, if not thousands, of people and has enhanced our community as a whole by providing us with the means to funnel our energies for various causes. We are fortunate that Bob's path brought him to Milwaukee. Because of Bob Moore, our history is richer and our future holds greater opportunities for LGBT people within our community.

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RUBIN'S



Positive Outlook

ARCW Gives Recommendations on State Budget

Milwaukee — "Every two years, the state of Wisconsin sets its course in the fight against AIDS. ARCW recently presented the State with a comprehensive plan to prevent new HIV infections and meet the needs of people with HIV disease and AIDS well into the next century," said ARCW Deputy Executive Director Mike Gifford.

On June 15, ARCW presented its recommendations for the next state budget to the Department of Health and Family Services. Key components of ARCW's

recommendations include:

- Wisconsin's first ever HIV prevention initiative focused on populations at highest risk for HIV including harm reduction programs, a statewide HIV prevention campaign and intensified HIV counseling and testing;
- State developed standards of care for post exposure treatment for people with isolated and accidental exposure to HIV;

See **ARCW** on page 29

Sex Cultures Examined at San Francisco Conference

San Francisco — A controversial track of workshops focused on "Health Issues Facing Gay Men's Sexual Cultures" at this year's National Lesbian and Gay Health Conference drew hundreds of energized participants to workshops on circuit parties, leather sex, and "safer" barebacking. It also attracted a large and cross-generational crowd to a community forum on Viagra use among Gay men held in San Francisco's Castro District. Hart Roussel, a conference participant from Albuquerque, New Mexico, captured many Gay men's feelings about this breakthrough track: "These workshops demolished the good Gay/bad Gay dichotomy and discussed Gay men's sex cultures thoughtfully, even critically, yet without pathologizing them."

Organized by a group of Gay male health activists — including Eric Rofes, author of *Dry Bones Breathe: Gay Men Creating Post-AIDS Identities and Cultures*, Michael Scarce, coordinator of LGBT resources at University of California, San Francisco; Tony Valenzuela, Los Angeles-based author and activist; Chris Bartlett of Philadelphia's Safeguards Project, Richard Elovich from New York's Gay

Men's Health Crisis, and Race Bannon, an organizer in the San Francisco leather community — the workshops were among the highlights of this year's health conference and generated extensive discussion and debate among conference participants. The purpose of the workshop track as stated by the conveners in the introductory session was "neither to judge nor engage in endless debate about whether drugs, muscles, leather or sex are 'right' or 'wrong.' Instead, we hope to move the discussion to another level and assist health providers working with Gay men in addressing the health promotion and harm reduction needs of Gay men who participate in these diverse subcultures within our communities."

Some of the workshop session discussions became highly-charged and a bit contentious. "Sure there were tensions in the room when Gay male HIV prevention workers talked about their own experiences using drugs or attending bareback parties or circuit events," said Jonathan Martin of Boulder County AIDS Project in Colorado. "It's so hard for people to separate their own experiences from those of the community, even when space is provided. Our com-

See **SEX CULTURES** on page 29

New Treatments Lead Some To Practice Unsafe Sex

Milwaukee — Optimism concerning new HIV treatment advances has led some Gay men to take fewer safer sex precautions, according to a study conducted by the Medical College of Wisconsin's Center for AIDS Intervention Research (CAIR). 97% of the men surveyed agreed that safer sex is still important despite the availability of new medical treatments. However,

8% of all men surveyed and nearly 20% of HIV-positive respondents who are themselves on combination therapy regimens said that they personally practice safer sex less often since they became aware of the new treatments.

Protease inhibitor combination regimens have dramatically improved the health of many people with HIV and AIDS, and news reports have informed

See **NEW TREATMENTS** on page 35

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Make plans now to enjoy another winning season

PrideFest Celebrates : "Many Worlds One Community" August 28-30 at SummerFest Grounds

By Ron Geiman

PrideFest returns to the stunning lakefront Summerfest grounds for the third year with an additional stage, more headliners, an expanded Saturday children's lineup, plus all your favorites from past festivals. Enjoy diverse entertainment, fabulous food, Saturday night fireworks, Sunday Pride Parade at 2pm, shopping and a variety of other activities.

The Miller Oasis, called the Alyn Hess Stage and sponsored by Miller Brewing, will again be the main stage with five major headliners playing during the weekend: **Joi Cardwell, Men Out Loud, Musique, Mrs. Fun, and Jeff Miller.**

This year for the first time, the festival will expand to include the **Harley Davidson Stage**, renamed the **Ben Johnson Stage** in honor of the local Gay and AIDS activist who recently passed away. The **Challenging Party** stepped forward to sponsor Ben's stage.

The **Miller Lite Volleyball Tournament** returns on Saturday. The all new grass courts, surrounded by bleachers, will be available Sunday for open play. The **Dance Tent**, co-sponsored by **LaCage** will be open all three days, with a special Friday night **'70s-'80s Retro Dance Party**. Lesbian dance diva **Joi Cardwell** will perform in the Dance Tent, Friday night at 9:30pm, thanks to the sponsorship of **Dish**.

The festival is open Friday from 5pm-Midnight, Saturday 11am-Midnight, and Sunday 11am-11pm. Prices are \$5 at the gate or \$12 for a three-day pass. Children under 12 are free with an adult. There are several discount plans available including:

- \$2 buttons which were still available as of press time from PrideFest Council Members and at Designing Men, Afterwords Books/Espresso Bar and This Is It. The \$2 pin allows you to get in free during the hours of 11am and 1:30pm on Saturday and Sunday.

There are even ways to get in free:

- Bring four or more non-perishable food items to the front gate Friday night from 5-9pm or Saturday 11am-2pm. Food will be donated to the Hunger Task Force.
- All day, every day with your Pride Card.
- Sunday from 2-4pm with your *Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel* Press Card.
- Volunteer! Until August 15 you can register to volunteer (see web site address and phone number at the end of this article) and get in free on the day(s) you work.

Because of potential problems with underage drinking, PrideFest has set up an ID bracelet system. Show your legal identification card once and have a bracelet snapped on your wrist. The bracelets, sponsored by ID Lube, will be available at the Information Booth and all Drink Ticket Booths. ID Lube banners will mark the locations, and different colored bands will be used each day. Everyone who plans to drink (no matter how many wrinkles) **must** have a bracelet to drink alcohol.

Friday night, the Dance Tent and the Miller/Alyn Hess Stage will be open. See the articles elsewhere in *Wisconsin Light's* **Special PrideFest Pull-Out Section** for details on both the Friday Night Dance Party and the Hess lineup. One of the features at the Miller/Hess stage from 8:30-10:45pm will be the **Possum Queen Finale**. Always a crowd pleaser, it will help round out the rest of the evening's entertainment.

Saturday and Sunday, all stages and areas will be up and running all day long. Besides the **Miller/Hess** and **Harley/Johnson** stages and the **Dance Tent**, there are



plenty of other stages and areas to visit and enjoy. These include:

- **Rainbow Cafe**, sponsored by **Woody's**
- **Stonewall Stage**, sponsored by **In Step and Q-Voice**
- **Nelvin Johnson Youth Activity Area** sponsored by **Cream City Foundation**
- **Children's/Variety Stage**, sponsored by **Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel**
- General Information booth sponsored by **WI Light**
- **Channel 4 Children's Play Area;**
- **The Market Place;**
- **Lots of Food & Beer Stands, and**
- **Lakefront Promenade.**

Don't forget to pick up some official **PrideFest Souvenirs**. This year's theme, *Many Worlds, One Community*, and the logo designed by Barb Peterson/Wild Child Design, reflects on our local celebration in a global reference. The official items will be in a booth directly across from the Miller/Hess Stage.

New this year are denim shirts embroidered with the PrideFest corporate logo. You can also buy items with this year's logo on T-shirts, sweat shirts and other apparel as well as pins. PrideFest souvenir cups will be available at several locations for \$2. When used on the grounds, visitors get three additional ounces of beer or soda at the same cost as disposable cups. The cups will help cut down on trash, as well as provide an inexpensive keepsake.

Thanks must go out to all the sponsors who have contributed to make this year's festival happen: **Miller Brewing, Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel, AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin, Cream City Foundation, Damron Company, ID Lubricants, Wisconsin Electric, Wisconsin Light, In Step, Q-Voice, Instinct Magazine, American Airlines, Challenging Party, LaCage, Dish and Woody's.**

Visitor Information

Coming from out of town? If driving anywhere on I-94 or I-43, once you get close to Milwaukee's downtown, you'll start seeing signs for the Summerfest Grounds (Maier Festival Park), just follow those signs. Specifically, the easiest routes are to take I-94 east from Madison, I-43 south from Green Bay, or I-94 north from Chicago to the downtown I-794 spur and follow the signs.

Another option, if you know Milwaukee, is to take the **PrideFest Shuttle**, sponsored by several bars. Look for the article and ad elsewhere in this *Wisconsin Light* **Special PrideFest Pull-Out Section**. The shuttle will run free from those bars and clubs from 11am-11pm both Saturday and Sunday. Park there and you won't have to hunt and pay for a parking space near the grounds, and the Shuttle drops you right at the front gate!

The official PrideFest Hotel, **The Park East**, still had some rooms set aside for PrideFest at the rate of \$72 (just mention PrideFest) as of our press time. Call (800) 328-7275 as soon as possible. Rooms were going fast at that great rate, and they'll let you squeeze in four per room!

For more general information, contact PrideFest at (414) 272-FEST, or log into their web site: www.pridefest.com

For other hotel and special travel information, contact the Greater Milwaukee Convention and Visitors Bureau at (800) 554-1448. Let them know you are visiting PrideFest, so they know we're coming!

Our History Lesson...

By Terry Boughner

At the risk of getting irate letters from those in other states, I have to say that to my knowledge no state has contributed more in the fight for LesBiGay freedom than Wisconsin.

The most famous example, of course, is Wisconsin's Gay rights law. Wisconsin was the first state in the nation to have a such a law protecting people against discrimination based on sexual orientation.

In other ways, too, Wisconsin has excelled. Our softball and bowling tournaments are the "granddaddies" of them all.

Now, as I write, a contest is taking place to decide if Wisconsin will send its first woman to Congress, Tammy Baldwin, who is an open Lesbian.

Our community here in Wisconsin can take great pride in what has been done. It is good to remember our accomplishments. It is equally good, I

think, to remember the place Gay people have had in history.

The religious extremists would have us believe that Gay people just "appeared" in recent decades, popping up like Minerva out of Zeus's head. As with just about everything else they talk about, this isn't true. In every place and culture, as far back as there is history, there have been Gay people.

One note of caution here. There is no word for "Gay" or "homosexual" in ancient Egyptian, Hebrew, Latin or Greek. This, therefore, makes it impossible to condemn Gays (if you're going to talk about something, it's nice if you've got a word for it). It also makes it difficult to say someone in the ancient world was "Gay" as we understand the term. Yet, there are indications.

For example, Pharaoh Akhenaton (the first monotheist in history) was probably bisexual inasmuch as he married his younger brother on the balcony

of his palace (Nefertiti had been sent packing). Every time I see the ankh cross I think that could also be a symbol of the Gay movement.

David, King of Israel, was probably bisexual, but toward the Gay end of the scale. His love for Prince Jonathan is beautiful to read. The same thing is true of the Biblical story of Naomi and Ruth.

In Greek history, the Sacred Band, the Theban military unit, was made up of Gay men. I think that's beyond doubt.

(Incidentally, I've heard it said that the Sacred Band was the only all-Gay military unit in history. Not so. The Mamelukes, the warrior class that dominated Egypt for nearly 700 years, were made up of Gays.

The 17th and 18th century pirates of the Caribbean were, arguably, also a military group. There is a great deal of documentary evidence to show that many a fearsome buccaneer captain married his favorite boy.

Without putting too fine a point on it and with space limitations what they are, we can say this with absolute certainty: that there is no time in history in which Gay and bisexual people have not played a role. Gays have been popes (five that we know about), monarchs (James I of England, Queen Christina of Sweden), military leaders, potentates of all kinds (one President of the U.S.) and on and on. We truly have been and are everywhere.

One thing, though, is different about us in the late 20th century. That is that for the first time in history, members of our community have joined together to achieve our rights. We are, thankfully, no longer willing to sit back and take it. We have stood up. It is this that is new in our history. It is this that Wisconsin is building on. It is this that PrideFest is all about.

PrideFest Headliners Provide Something for Everyone

PrideFest expands to the **Harley Davidson/Ben Johnson Stage** sponsored by **The Challenging Party** this year, providing more entertainment possibilities than ever before. However, the **Miller Oasis/Alyn Hess Stage** sponsored by **Miller Brewing** remains the "Main Stage," and this year four national acts will be presented providing a diverse lineup. **Joi Cardwell**, **Men Out Loud**, **Musique**, and Milwaukee's own **Mrs. Fun**.

A last minute addition to national acts announced by PrideFest is out Gay country-western singer **Jeff Miller**, who will perform after the fireworks at the **Harley Davidson/Ben Johnson Stage**.

JOI CARDWELL DANCE DIVA AND MORE

With more than twenty singles and two albums, music in movies and commercials, and plenty of top-of-the-chart dance tunes, you'll say, "Oh, that's who she is!" It will become obvious you've heard more of her music than you think. Her appearances are being co-sponsored by **Dish**.

Cardwell will perform twice. On Friday, August 28, she will appear in the **Dance**

Tent which is co-sponsored by **LaCage** for a 9:30pm show during the "'70s-'80s Dance Party." Her most recent single is *Found Love*, and other top songs include *Run To You*, *Soul to Bare*, *Club Lonely*, *Jump for Joy*, and *You've Got To Pray*.

On Saturday, August 29, Ms. Cardwell will appear on the **Miller/Alyn Hess Stage** at 7:30pm as part of the pre-fireworks build-up. Not just a singer/songwriter, she is also a producer and performs live more than 50 times per year.

She got her start by winning *Amateur Night* at the *Apollo* five times, wooing and winning a crowd so tough it is legend. Her delicate voice and



ability to put depth and emotion into the simplest phrase has won acclaim, as have her writing talents. "I didn't really choose dance music, it kind of chose me," she says. "I actually perform all kinds of music, some jazz, some pop, some R&B."

But it was the dance music that lead her to the top of the charts. "I said, well, since I'm here I might as well do the best I can and be the best dance singer I am going to be — and not negate the other side of my soul either, which is why I have a band as well."

Besides appearing at *Wisconsin Light's* 10th Anniversary Gala, Cardwell has toured the world singing at top venues and international jazz festivals, and has appeared at three other Pride festivals this year.

MEN OUT LOUD

A CAPPELLA HARMONIES WITH A GAY SENSIBILITY

Men Out Loud won a singing contest three years ago, and has been on the road to stardom ever since. Their four part harmony will grab your attention at the **Miller Oasis/Alyn Hess Stage** at 8pm Saturday, August 29, and at 4:30pm Sunday, August 30. Their appearance is being sponsored by the **AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin**.

They also appeared at *Wisconsin Light's* **Decade of Light** celebration last November, and they toured the nation appearing at numerous Pride festivals. When they entered California's *Harmony Sweepstakes* singing competition, they got the attention of a record producer, and after a little shuffling among labels, released *Sweet Enuf 2 Eat* on *Pure Mercury* in 1997. Their CD hit the top of the *Advocate's* chart last fall.

Steve Steinberg is sort of the founder of the group because they first sang together in his LA living room after the '95 quake to calm their nerves. "We have a group made up of four solo singers. The lead vocals change on every song we do. That gives us four distinct sounds."

He sings bass and is a second generation L.A. native. Santo Ragno, first tenor, comes from Connecticut; Joseph Pearce, second tenor, hails from Salt Lake City, Utah; and Rob McElroy is a baritone from Texas.

Their sound can be sweet but ranges from pop, disco, and doo-wop to R&B, with a little crooning and a tad of Broadway in the mix. Reviewers have compared them to *Boyz II Men* or *Manhattan Transfer* with plenty of their own vocal ability to blaze their own path.



Their CD includes *Empty Chairs at Empty Tables* from *Les Miserables* as an AIDS memorial song that never leaves a dry eye in the house.

(This writer assures you of a wonderful, entertaining experience.)

MUSIQUE

(Push, Push) IN THE BUSH

In the late '70s, the ultimate girl trio **Musique** received immediate worldwide recognition as one of the most exciting female vocal groups in disco, dance and pop music. Their infectious lively show comes to the **Miller/Alyn Hess Stage** at 9pm, Saturday, August 29.

Their 1978 debut album on *Prelude Records*, *Keep on Jumpin'* led them to the top of the charts with the hit *(Push, Push) In the Bush*. Sales hit over 25 million internationally and the songs *In the Bush* and *Keep on Jumpin'* both placed on the disco, R&B and pop charts. Another hit was *Summer of Love*. In 1990 *Musique* earned *Billboard Magazine's* Best Female Group Award. Since then the group has toured the nation and the world.

Lead singer and original member **Mary Seymour** was a featured vocalist with *Atlantic Record* recording group **Change**, made famous by *Luther Vandross*. The album *Glow of Love* went gold.

Seymour was on Broadway as a featured singer in the musical *Hair* at the *Biltmore Theatre*, and starred in the Tony Award winning musical *Raisin* at the *Lunt Fontaine Theatre* in the role of *Ruth Younger*.

The trio has also been featured on *MTV's* *Rockin' Thru the Week* and their performance has grown to include the *Great Divas of the Seventies Dance Music* tribute and the *Donna Summer Medley*.

Shake your groove thang...baa-by!

MRS. FUN

BLAST OFF AFTER THE FIREWORKS

Often referred to as "Milwaukee's most unusual duo", **Mrs. Fun** will play on the **Miller/Alyn Hess Stage** after the fireworks Saturday night, August 29. Their fourth CD, *Groove*, came out in June on *Fun Times Records*.

"It's some of our best playing yet on a recording," says **Connie Grauer**, who plays keyboard, composes the tunes and sings. **Kim Zick** contributes occasional back-up vocals (and running commentary) from behind the drumset.



Originally from *Waukesha*, in the '80s they formed **Mrs. Fun** in *Nashville*, and relocated to *Milwaukee* in 1990. The *Wisconsin Area Music Industry* has given them numerous awards for jazz, keyboards, percussion, female vocalist, and best stage entertainer. Their performances and recording have both won accolades.

The *Toronto Star* described them this way: "Mrs. Fun gets down to business with the bare minimum of Grauer on piano and vocals, Zick manning an extensive drum and percussion kit. Stylistically, the piano leans to the school of aggressive bass-driven jazzfunk while the drums leave no hole unfilled while occasionally getting way, way out there before snapping back, crisp as a rimshot."

They've won plenty of friends in the music business and have recorded with *k.d.lang*, *Victor Lorenzo*, the *Indigo Girls*, and *Phranc*. They also recorded a version of *Janey, Don't Lose Your Heat* on the *Bruce Springsteen* tribute, *One Step Up/Two Steps Back*.

Their other CD's are *Lulu's Walk*, *They Are Not a Trio*, and *No Ennui*. They also appeared on an '80s compilation on *Don't Records* entitled *Gag Me With a Spoon*.

They've shared the stage with *Bella Fleck* and the *Flecktones*, *John Schofield*, *Billy Cobham*, *k.d.lang*, *Arlo Guthrie*, *Robert Cray*, *Janis Ian*, and toured with the *Indigo Girls*.

The best way to experience **Mrs. Fun** is live... almost anything can happen when they're on stage.

Lesbian Comedians to Double Up Jessica Halem and Tracey Rose do Two Shows

Jessica Halem likes to talk about politics, current events and about everyday life as a young, radical, feminist Lesbian. "Most people seem to like laughing about those things, too," said Halem.

Tracey Rose claims to be a big old Lesbian, and wants you to be her friend as she shares anecdotes about her personal life and lightly critical social commentary.

The two women will team up for side-by-side shows on Sunday at the Miller Oasis/Alyn Hess Stage at 5:30pm, with two special guests from "Hysterical Women." On Saturday, Jessica starts at 7pm, with Marlene Moore and Chris Sevell of "Hysterical Women". They will play the stage together, feeding off each other, or doing whatever fits their fancy.

Halem is a graduate of Sarah Lawrence College and has worked as an AIDS Peer Educator and a pro-choice organizer for the United Nations Center for Human Rights. She also worked for Bella Abzug. Abzug, a pioneering feminist "and one of the funniest congresswomen ever," drove Halem to the comedy stage. "Bella thought it was a super idea and it definitely made a lot of sense to go from the international women's movement into stand-up comedy," Halem commented.

She has performed in NYC at Caroline's Comedy Club and Don't Tell Mama. She recently moved to the Chicago area where she has appeared at Zanies Comedy Club and Cafe Ashie. She also emceed the Young Women's International Talent Showcase during the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing, China.

Rose is back at PrideFest from '96, but since then her act has changed, as she has gotten more stage time and has fine tuned her routine. She comments, "I think I've been able to figure out how to be likable to more types of audiences."

In Chicago she participated in a weekly show called Funny Chicks with other women stand-up comics. "You never knew who would show up," said Rose, either on stage or in the audience.

When commenting on audiences who don't always get some of her jokes Tracey said, "The Gay crowds, of course, get all the jokes, thank God. But I think any comic's job is to get the audience on your side, and if you can do that, you can make them laugh."

Sunday Parade Takes Pride to the Streets New 2pm Step-off Time

Wisconsin's Pride Parade, expected to be the biggest ever thanks to the new date and time, will step off from PrideFest's North Gate at 2pm on Sunday, August 30. This year's theme is *Many Worlds, One Community*. The parade will follow the same route as last year along the string of downtown streets with rainbow flags gracing many of the light poles.

Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (P-FLAG) will once again serve as the color guard to lead off the parade. P-FLAG members from around the state have been invited to participate. P-FLAG also just installed a series of pro-Gay billboards throughout the north side of Milwaukee that read "Someone You Know and Love Is Gay." The billboards go up in plenty of time to increase Gay awareness in time for the festival and parade.

The previous noon starting time left little chance to attend church, have brunch, prepare costumes or floats. The 2pm step off will allow the parade units plenty of time to line up and prepare.

Marching units, decorated cars and floats cost \$35 to enter. Forms are available from the PrideFest office (414) 272-3378 or cash only at the PrideFest Information Booth sponsored by *Wisconsin Light* on the grounds prior to the event. Individual marchers are invited to join in with their favorite group or meld into the end of the line and follow the parade back to the festival grounds.

First place prizes will be awarded to the best marching unit, decorated car and float, with a special award for the best use of the *Many Worlds, One Community* theme. Elaborate floats are encouraged, but city public decency ordinances and state obscenity statutes will be enforced. In other words, no jock straps, g-strings, bras, panties, nudity or see-through clothing. Chap wearers must wear suitable attire over their erogenous zones.

The Judge's Reviewing Stand will be on Chicago Street in front of Survival/Revival Resale Shop, 246 E. Chicago, on the last leg back to the festival grounds. Local politicians and personalities often serve as judges, so give them a wave or a holler when passing by!

PrideFest reminds everyone that their main job is to provide the permits, place and focus; but it is up to each of us to make the parade a success. Whether you participate as a marcher or a viewer, come out!

A contingent of motorcyclists is also forming for the ride, and plans to assemble around noon. Look for all the chrome and leather, and you'll have the right group. All are invited to attend, and if you know who "Papa Joe" from *Quest* is, check in with him.

Convertibles Needed

PrideFest organizers are looking for people who own convertibles and are willing to drive their cars during the Parade. A total of 12 cars are needed. "This year we are featuring our award recipients in the parade prior to them receiving their awards on the festival grounds," said Rick Finger, Parade Coordinator. "We also have some elected officials and people running for office who would like a chance to share in the spirit of the parade."

Anyone with a convertible or a classic car who can assist, please contact Rick Finger at (414) 272-3378 or e-mail skschur@aol.com.

Lot Available for Float Building

Rick also has arranged to have the huge empty lot behind the Eagle/Gus's Mexican Cantina at the rear of Old World Third Street and Juneau Avenue, available for float building. The secured lot will be available from August 28-30. For more information contact him at the above number or e-mail address.

1998 PrideFest Council Members

PrideFest is a year-round project for the members of the Pride Council. They contact the performers and vendors, raise funds, arrange events and, finally, rush around the entire weekend to make sure you enjoy PrideFest. They are listed in alphabetical order.

Be sure to give them a hearty "Thanks"!

Jane Baudelaire, Secretary, Public Relations, Marketing, Merchandise Coordinator.

Ted Berg, Family Services Coordinator.

Jill Clark, Entertainment Coordinator.

Susan Cook, Co-Director and Volunteer Coordinator.

Charles Daniels, Entertainment Coordinator.

Rick Finger, Parade Coordinator.

Michael Hall, Co-Director, Operations Coordinator.

Christine A. Klein, Treasurer, Receptionist.

Michael S. Lisowski, Vice President, Booth Coordinator.

Sharon Mahos, Food Coordinator.

Bob Moore, Volleyball/Sports Coordinator.

John Prentice, Esq., Legal Advisor.

Kathy Prodoehl, Beverage Coordinator.

Sheldon Schur, Security Coordinator.

Del Slowik, Food Coordinator.

PrideFest would like to thank the 1998 Proud Crowd donors:

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Chris Briere	Tom Mielke
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Amy Kallas	Anonymous
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Jane Baudelaire	Dr. Deb Topham
John Wirth	Anonymous
Mary Rita Hurley	Cliff Heise
Anonymous	Anonymous
Joshua J. Feyen	Susan K. Cook
Anonymous	Kurt W. Schwanz
Jacque	Stephanie Hume
Reidelberger	Dorothy K. Dean
Cory Sterling	Patrick Prudlow
Theodore T. Berg	Anonymous
Mark Hagner	Yuri Keegstra
Sue Burke	James Tate
Randy Holden	Lynne Joyrich
Happy Mom, Elna	Max Barnett
D. M. Harmon	James L. Mc
Jon Tschachler	Farland
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Dan Hahm	Anonymous
Mark P. Behar, PA-C	Anonymous
Don Millbrook	Patrick Wessels
Brigitte J. Vojcsik	Andrew Banaszynski

MEMORIALS

In memory of David S. Koetz
In memory of Ronald Volkman
In memory of J. Robert Moore

Wisconsin Pride Parade Route Step-Off 2pm, Sunday, August 30

The Parade will leave from PrideFest's North Gate, head north on Harbor Dr. to Michigan Ave., west on Michigan to Cass St., north on Cass to Wisconsin Ave., west on Wisconsin to Water St., south on Water to Chicago St., then east on Chicago past the Reviewing Stand in front of Survival/Revival and back to the PrideFest grounds.

PrideFest Schedule

Hour by Hour and Day by Day

Friday, August 28
Festival Open 5pm-Midnight

Miller/Alyn Hess Stage

5pm: Rufus and the Singing Machine — Start the festival with a little bit of funk

7pm: Opening Ceremonies

7:30pm: Wisconsin Artist Medley — Performers from around the state start the evening with some back to back acts.

Dance Tent

7:45pm: 70s Dance Party, DJs start spinning your retro favorites

Miller/Alyn Hess Stage

8:30pm: Possum Queen Finale Show (See feature on this page.)

Dance Tent

9:30pm: JOI CARDWELL, Live (See Headliners feature page 16.)

Miller/Alyn Hess Stage

10:45pm: Josie Santiago — Your perennial favorite local high energy dance music sensation.

Saturday, August 29
Festival Open 11am-Midnight
Special Children's Day & Fireworks

Miller/Alyn Hess Stage

11am: Rufus and the Singing Machine — A little bit of funk to start your day.

Stonewall Stage

11am: Youth Counselor Meeting — Directors, counselors and program managers from LGBT organizations will meet and network.

Children's & Variety Stage

11:30am: Side by Side — Children's sing-along. (See Children's feature this page.)

Stonewall Stage

12pm: LGBT Youth: Fierce & Fabulous — Merilyn Levin, MSW shares what's happening for LGBT youth across Wisconsin. Thanks to Diverse and Resilient Grants there are now over a half dozen programs serving the needs of our next generation. Sponsored by the Gay Alliance of La Crosse Area Youth (GALAXY).

Dance Tent

12-5pm: Female Impersonators & Male Performers — (See Dance Tent feature this page.)

Nelvin Johnson Youth Activity Area

12pm: Drag 101

Rainbow Cafe

12pm: Robert Nugent Jones — Original upbeat music promoting tolerance, covers of Erasure, Madonna and Pet Shop Boys material. He's appeared at venues large and small, and this is his return engagement at PrideFest.

Miller/Alyn Hess Stage

12:30pm: Pulsation Band — Chicago's own multiethnic all-woman top 40 dance performs music from the '70s-'90s.

Children's & Variety Stage

12:30pm: Ballet Wisconsin — Performs *Peter and the Wolf* (See Children's feature this page.)

Nelvin Johnson Youth Activity Area

12:30pm: GALAXY — Presentation by Gay Alliance of La Crosse Area Youth

Harley/Ben Johnson Stage

1pm: Nuna — Grunge and more. A roller coaster ride performance band and ready to issue a CD. Has appeared in Madison, Chicago and Milwaukee clubs.

Stonewall Stage

1pm: Milwaukee's GALANO Club — Roy Badger and Phil Reitz discuss the Club's mission. Galano hosts fellowship meetings for AA, Al-Anon, and other 12-step programs, as well as provides social opportunities for the LGBT community.

Rainbow Cafe

1pm: Diane McCarthy — Country Western vocalist singing about life and problems.

Children's & Variety Stage

1:30pm: Cream City Chorus — Milwaukee's fine choral ensemble makes an annual appearance at PrideFest as well as seasonal concerts.

Nelvin Johnson Youth Activity Area

1:30pm: Yuri Keegstra — Getting involved politically, why and how.

Miller/Alyn Hess Stage

2pm: Dorrian Gray — Ethereal dream pop containing ambient rhythms, swirling vocal melodies and a mood-driven wall of sound approach.

Nelvin Johnson Youth Activity Area

2pm: P-FLAG — Panel discussion of families with Gay, Lesbian, and straight parents and children. Sponsored by Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays.

Stonewall Stage

2pm: Soul 2 Soul — James Earl Hardy, author of *B-Boy Blues*, and two other books, will read do a reading and book signing. Brought to PrideFest by Soul 2 Soul, ARCW's Gay & Lesbian Outreach Program for LGBT Communities of Color.

See **PRIDEFEST SCHEDULE** on page 20

70's Dance Party on Friday

Get Your Retro Groove On

The very popular **Dance Tent** sponsored by **LaCage** will host a Friday night '70s **Dance Party** when **Dish** co-sponsors a performance by Lesbian dance music diva **Joi Cardwell** for a special all dance music track show at 9:30pm. (Cardwell performs again Saturday evening on the main stage.)

Charles Daniels, the PrideFest Co-Entertainment Coordinator who arranged the evening, urged all to "Come radical, come Afro-fluff, come fly-guy collars, dress the era. Relive the '70s and '80s when people could enjoy the music and enjoy themselves."

The evening starts at 7:45pm with deejays spinning the hottest retro groove, then return to the tables again after Cardwell's performance. Plan on dancing the night away until 11:45pm. Let the deejays dig up a few memories for the "older" crowd, and get some of the younger ones swinging to the music.

"The Dance Tent is the heartbeat of the festival," said Jill Clark, Entertainment Coordinator. "Everyone knows where it is, and it is always jammed." Two buildings, complete with refreshments, adjoin the tent providing a resting area to catch your breath and replenish fluids.

Saturday from Noon-5pm, the Dance Tent will hold an impersonators and male entertainers revue with special guests Mr. and Miss Mystique WI, Dynasty's Divas and Mystic Magic. Other performers from throughout the state will represent Madison, Wausau, Appleton, Green Bay and Racine.

After the show, it's all dancing from 5pm until the 11:45pm closing as Wisconsin's diverse deejays take you around the world.

Sunday dancing will send you off prior to the Wisconsin Pride Parade and greet you with thumping rhythms upon your return until the night comes to a close.

Over 30 club deejays from throughout Wisconsin have been invited to spin for a shift throughout the three days of the festival. Any deejays who haven't responded as of yet, please contact Tony at La Cage, (414) 383-8330, between 8-10pm.

Saturday is Children's Day

PrideFest is proud to announce a full range of activities from 11am to 7pm on Saturday, August 29 at the **Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel Children's Stage** and the **Channel 4 Children's Area**.

The Children's Area will be open from 11am to 7pm for children to crawl, climb, jump, swing and unwind. A special visit from the "Sand Man" will allow small children to create their own artwork out of colored sands and glass bottles.

The Children's Stage kicks off at 11:30am with the musical sing-along, dance-along group, **Side by Side**, featuring Diane Bloom and Sandy Lewis. The group loves to get the kids into the act.

At 12:30pm and 4pm **Ballet Wisconsin** will perform *Peter and the Wolf*, a story about a brave little boy who was afraid of the wolf. The lively and famous classical score by Prokofiev assigns a different instrument to each character, becoming a wonderful tool to teach children about various instruments.

Expect lots of inventive costumes including a life-size tree. Formerly called Et toi, tu dances? under the direction of Yves de Boutellier, the troupe was renamed this year to Ballet Wisconsin.

A **Magic Show** at 2:30pm will stupefy the kids with tricks, and balloon sculptures. At 6:15pm the costumed children's troupe, **Little People**, will dance through the area, and lead a parade onto the rest of the grounds.

Throughout the day, jugglers, the **Uppity Women Stilt Walkers**, face painting and clowns will help provide an enjoyable afternoon for the younger set.

Possum Queen Finale Friday

Milwaukee's annual **Possum Queen** winner will be named after final competition at PrideFest which begins at 8:30pm at the **Miller Oasis/Alyn Hess Stage**. The annual competition began months ago as various candidates for the revered title cajoled, danced, mimed, cooked and did whatever it took to buy votes. The one candidate who raises the most money will be crowned the winner.

The always campy competition began years ago as a way to raise funds for people with HIV and AIDS. Expect the best and worst entertainment you'll ever see grace the Miller stage in some get ups that are guaranteed to be out of this world.

For the second year in a row, Lizzie Bordeaux is choreographing the finale, the second year it will be held at PrideFest. Previously, the finals rotated from bar to bar, but PrideFest provides a much larger audience for the final competition.

"Let the Possum Fur Fly!"

Youth Activity Area

New at PrideFest this year is the **Nelvin Johnson Youth Activity Area** sponsored by the **Cream City Foundation**. Programming at the area is all created and presented by young people. This comes as a result of the successful '97 Youth Stage and pulls them into this year's theme, *Many Worlds One Community*.

PrideFest is expanding the stage to a designated area for two full days of activities of interest to Wisconsin's LGBT youth. The new area is called the Nelvin Johnson Youth Activity Area in honor of Nel, a member of CCF's board for more than ten years. Nel left an endowment to be used for youth activities. Although the foundation is helping to underwrite it, the endowment's funds are not being used. Instead, the foundation hopes that the activities will encourage applications for the funds.

Please check elsewhere in this section for an hour by hour schedule of activities in the area on both Saturday and Sunday.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 28
5pm-Midnight

SATURDAY, AUGUST 29
11am-Midnight

SUNDAY, AUGUST 30
11am-11pm

\$5 at the Gate
\$12 for 3-day Pass
Children under 13
FREE with adult

E-MAIL
pridemilw@aol.com

WEBSITE
www.pridefest.com

HOTEL/TRAVEL
Greater Milwaukee
Convention &
Visitor's Bureau
800/554-1448



Join us August 28th, 29th and 30th, 1998
ENJOY NON-STOP ENTERTAINMENT INCLUDING:

MEN OUT LOUD ▾ JOI CARDWELL ▾ MUSIQUE ▾ MRS. FUN



TICKET/BUTTON LOCATIONS:

Afterwords Books
2710 North Murray
Milwaukee

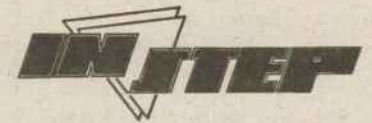
Designing Men
1200 South 1st Street
Milwaukee

This Is It! (Buttons Only)
418 East Wells
Milwaukee

Za's
1106 Main Street
Green Bay



Challenging Party
▽▽▽▽▽▽▽▽▽



HENRY W. MAIER FESTIVAL PARK ▾ MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN

PrideFest Schedule

Saturday continued from page 18

Rainbow Cafe

2pm: Dykapella — All woman a capella group from Madison.

Harley/Ben Johnson Stage

2:30pm: Fweep — Alternative pop in a return engagement. Together for over three years, they love coming to the fest.

Children's & Variety Stage

2:30pm: Magic Act — (See Children's feature page 18.)

Nelvin Johnson Youth Activity Area

3pm: Jason and the Dancers

Nelvin Johnson Youth Activity Area

3:15pm: Fest City Singers — Milwaukee's choral group makes its annual appearance at the festival. They also perform several concerts throughout the year.

Stonewall Stage

3pm: Community Center Town Hall Meeting — The Milwaukee LGBT Community Center Board will provide a general update on the progress and service delivery, followed by a Q&A forum.

Miller/Alyn Hess Stage

3:30pm: Lu Shanti and Steve Polifka — PrideFest favorites performing a mixture of pop and top 40.

Harley/Ben Johnson Stage

4pm: Framing Amy — Alternative pop group featuring 15 new songs from their latest CD. The five-member band returns after winning the 1998 WAMI Best Pop Group category. Purchase their newest release after their concert.

Children's & Variety Stage

4pm: Face Painting — With an "Alley of Clowns."

Nelvin Johnson Youth Activity Area

4pm: Spirituality — Ted Berg discusses spirituality in the LGBT community.

Stonewall Stage

4pm: Aging With Pride — Milwaukee Senior Action in a Gay Environment (SAGE) Founder and Chairman Eldon Murray discusses the issues of aging within the LGBT community and what SAGE can do for you.

Rainbow Cafe

4pm: Johnny B — Original pop music.

Children's & Variety Stage

4:30pm: Ballet Wisconsin — Performance of *Peter & the Wolf*

Miller/Alyn Hess Stage

5pm: Stardust — Mix of '50s and '60s rock and roll, country, blues and jazz.

Nelvin Johnson Youth Activity Area

5pm: Talk Show — Open topic discussion

Stonewall Stage

5pm: Outreach — Outreach is a social service agency providing service to Madison's LGBT community. Representatives will share history, services offered, volunteer opportunities, and fill you in on the recent merger of MGLRC and The United.

Rainbow Cafe

5pm: Robert Nugent Jones — (See Noon listing.)

Harley/Ben Johnson Stage

5:30pm: Power Play — High energy rock that's danceable. This is no easy listening music. The band has been together six years and has appeared at clubs and a variety of festivals keeping the crowds happy and dancing.

Children's & Variety Stage

5:30pm: VolleyBall Awards — From the Miller Lite/PrideFest Volleyball Tournament played earlier on the grounds.

Nelvin Johnson Youth Activity Area

5:30pm: ARCW's Queer Musical Chairs — An all-queer version of your favorite kid's game.

Nelvin Johnson Youth Activity Area

6pm: ARCW's "Singled Out" — Queer version of the MTV show.

Stonewall Stage

6pm: Financial Strategies for Gays & Lesbians — Single, couple, or with kids, this program will provide financial advice tailored for the unique challenges that affect LGBT clients. Gain a better understanding to take control of your financial destiny and how better planning can protect your financial well being. Presented by Carol L. Busch, CFP; Ruth J. Irvings, Attorney; and Daniel D. Schmidt, PCU. Sponsored by American Express Financial Advisors. Repeated tomorrow at 3:30pm.

Rainbow Cafe

6pm: Teri Vann — All the way from Little Rock, Arkansas; country western. First runner up at Arkansas Female Entertainer of the Year in 1997.

Children's & Variety Stage

6:15pm: Little People — Life size puppets incorporate music, comedy & dance for the kids.

Children's & Variety Stage

6:35pm: Side by Side — (See 11:30am or Children's feature on page 18.)

See **PRIDEFEST SCHEDULE** on page 21

Eat Your Way Through PrideFest!

Before you leave for PrideFest '98, remember to pack your appetite with you.

"We have a lot of space to work with," says Sharon Mahos, food coordinator. "The more entrees we have to draw people to the Miller and Harley areas, the more people will be happy."

Recruitment for vendors were aimed at the Gay community. "We made every attempt to have Gay-owned or Gay-friendly businesses on the grounds. We don't want the festival to look like everything else in town, either. We'd like a bit of uniqueness. We hope we'll have everyone's mouth watering."

B&B Fried Green Tomatoes, soul food; **Karen's Big Olaf Supercones**, frozen yogurt and ice cream; **Juicy Fruits**, fresh fruit, blended drinks, caramel apples, and assorted dipped fruit; **Gus's Cantina**, Mexican food; **Chan's Chinese Food**, egg rolls, vegetable fried rice, vegetable lo-mein; **3B Concessions**, Italian sausages, corn dogs, and other items; **Anderson's Corn**, the pros of corn on the cob; **Hot Stuff**, non-alcoholic margaritas, pina colodas, strawberry daiquiris; and **Saz's**

barbecue, onions, french fries, and mozzarella marinera.

Tom Stevens Concessions, Philly steaks, Cajun food, and more; **Bab-A-Loo's Foods**, Fijian spicy green papaya and seaweed salad, Tongan allegre-adobo eggplant stir fry, Hawaiian Lomi Lomi Sashimi Salmon; and **Pasticceria Occhio Bello**, baked Italian delicacies, cannoli, eclairs, brownies, pastaciotti, sfogliadilli, chocolate chip cookies, muffins, nuts, candies, biscotti, and breads.

In addition, three volunteer-run food booths will return: **Pride Grill**, hamburgers, cheeseburgers, french fries, brats, and veggie burgers; **Di Vinci's Pizza**, meat and veggie pizza, garlic bread, and meatball sandwiches; and **Freedom Frier**, with french fries, batter fried mushrooms and onion rings, and more.

The Pride Grill is being staffed by volunteers from the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin, and Da Vinci's Pizza is staffed by Galano Club volunteers. Both organizations will be earning 10% of the gross sales.

Awards to be Presented For Leadership, Service and Spirit

PrideFest is proud to announce that the following individuals, demonstrating leadership, community service and notable achievements, will receive their awards after the Wisconsin Pride Parade on Sunday, August 30, at the Harley Davidson/Ben Johnson Stage, around 3:30pm:

Community Service Awards

The donation of time and energy to organizations is priceless. The community service award is presented to individuals or organizations who have made exemplary contributions to the community.

Jan Uebelherr is a journalist for the *Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel*. Her coverage of PrideFest has been consistently fair and objective, which has resulted in a more positive image of the festival and the LGBT community overall. Her level of professionalism as a reporter and her desire to work directly with our community representatives has given us a stronger voice in Milwaukee through the state's largest daily.

Thomas Reed, director of strategic planning and programs for Miller Brewing Co. and Philip Morris Management Corp. has been with the company for 15 years. Miller has been a leader in funding LGBT programs and in the fight against AIDS. Tom has testified on behalf of Miller in front of state legislatures in support of Gay civil rights bills. Miller is the only alcoholic beverage company to do so.

Tom has helped the following local LGBT organizations receive funding from Miller: Cream City Foundation, Saturday Softball League, Lesbian Alliance of Metro Milwaukee, The United of Madison, Holiday Invitational Tournament, GAMMA and the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin.

Mark Marriuci is the owner and publisher of *Quest* magazine and one of

the founders of **Rainbow Over Wisconsin (ROW)**. As a Green Bay native, he has made a conscious decision to improve the quality of life for LGBT people in the Fox Valley area. His goal is to make it desirable for LGBT people to live their lives within their hometowns with a support network of friends and family, and with the acceptance of the community at large.

Mark was instrumental in forming ROW, a nonprofit organization that hosts fund raising events, and distributing those funds to LGBT groups in the Fox Valley area. As owner and publisher of *Quest* for five years, he has given a voice to communities in the northern portion of the state.

He is also co-owner of Za's nightclub complex in Green Bay, which hosts many community benefits.

Stonewall Awards

This award goes to individuals or organizations who have demonstrated the spirit of the Stonewall Riots by fighting to bring about change for the benefit of the community. Usually their fight begins as a personal crusade against an injustice, but often leads to a far-reaching impact for the good of the community.

Sunshine Jones, JoAnn Kelly, and their daughter **Sol**, of Madison, have been active in the quest for equal rights for Gay and Lesbian families with children. Sunshine and JoAnn were both instrumental in the founding of Madison's **Lesbian Parents Network** in 1989. This group continues to provide much needed support and advocacy to more than 150 Madison-area families. Sunshine was also instrumental in founding of **Gays, Lesbians, and Allies for Diversity in Education**, a group working for change in Madison's schools.

In the past year, the family of three

See **AWARDS** on page 22

PrideFest Schedule

Saturday continued from page 20

Miller/Alyn Hess Stage

7pm: **Women Comedians** — Jessica Halern and friends (See Comedian feature page 17.)

Stonewall Stage

7pm: **Same Sex Domestic Violence** — Callen Harty discusses domestic violence within LGBT relationships and how to recognize signs and find help. Sponsored by Outreach.

Rainbow Cafe

7-9pm: **Mia Montenegro & Ronnie Nyles** — Country, Ballads and Rock. Two great performers share the stage for a 2 hour show. Both are acoustic guitarists and vocalists who can rock out and put on a great show.

Miller/Alyn Hess Stage

7:30pm: **JOI CARDWELL** — (See Headliners feature page 16.)

Harley/Ben Johnson Stage

7:30pm: **Krystal Moon** — Has performed in several Milwaukee women's bars, offering a good mix of country and top 40.

Miller/Alyn Hess Stage

8pm: **MEN OUT LOUD** — (See Headliners feature page 16.)

Miller/Alyn Hess Stage

9pm: **MUSIQUE** — (See Headliners feature page 16.)

Harley/Ben Johnson Stage

9pm: **Sometimes Y** — Their first CD released in March was all original music. *I Am*, 3 years in the making, offers crisp, guitar-driven rhythms, progressive percussion, thunderous base, and vocals that keep a balance between playful and introspective.

LAKEFRONT FIREWORKS, 10pm — (See Fireworks feature page 22.)

Miller/Alyn Hess Stage

10:30pm: **MRS. FUN** — (See Headliners feature page 16.)

Harley/Ben Johnson Stage

10:45pm: **JEFF MILLER** — Out Gay country western singer who has travelled the Gay club and festival circuit for the last several years. Ask him about his horse!

Sunday, August 30

Festival Hours 10:15am-11pm

Pride Parade 2pm • Open Volleyball • Dance Tent 11:30am-10:45pm

Rainbow Cafe

10:30am: **Interfaith Service** — Rev. Jan Doleschal officiates an inclusive service for people of all faiths.

Nelvin Johnson Youth Activity Area

11am: **Youth Parade Entry** — Set up and finish banners.

Miller/Alyn Hess Stage

11:15am: **Jerry and Heath Show** — a combination of song, dance and magic.

Rainbow Cafe

11:15am: **Like Our Sisters Before Us** — Women in Wisconsin's Labor Movement. Presentation and book signing by Jamakaya.

Stonewall Stage

11:30am: **Dignity** — Can one be honest to themselves as an LGBT person and as a Catholic? Dignity can help you find the answers. Followed by a worship service.

Miller/Alyn Hess Stage

12pm: **Rod Johnson** — Combination song and dance group.

Nelvin Johnson Youth Activity Area

12pm: **Band at Parade Set-Up area**

Rainbow Cafe

12pm: **Sara Jane Whitney & Co.** — Ms. Gay Wisconsin 1998.

Harley/Ben Johnson Stage

12:30pm: **Pulsation Band** — Chicago's own multi-ethnic all-woman top 40s dance band with music from the '70s-'90s.

Stonewall Stage

12:30pm: **Domestic Partner Benefits for Public Employees** — K. Scott Hubli reviews the current state of affairs of domestic partnership benefits for public employees in Wisconsin. Plus, an overview sponsored by Pride in Wisconsin Government detailing efforts to improve employment equity for state LGBT employees.

Rainbow Cafe

1:15pm: **Cream City Squares** — Square Dancing Lessons; swing with a partner and do-si-do.

Miller/Alyn Hess Stage

1:30pm: **Rufus & The Singing Machine** — Guest vocalists.

Stonewall Stage

1:30pm: **Stopping the Religious Right** — Susan Matulis discusses the Religious Right's attacks on the LGBT community and how to stop them. Sponsored by Wisconsin Research Center, Inc.

Nel Johnson Youth Activity Area

1:30pm: **Parade Check-In** for those participating with the youth group.

WISCONSIN PRIDE PARADE STEPS OFF AT 2PM

Harley/Ben Johnson Stage

2pm: **Zoinks** — Modern Rock band with a playlist from The Pretenders to Lynard Skynard.

Children's & Variety Area

2pm: **Atahualpa** — South American Mountain Andean music. The seven members all have family in the mountains of Ecuador and this music reflects their culture.

Stonewall Tent

2:30pm: **Human Rights League** — J.S. Bethea and Wendy Slusar facilitate HRL's membership meeting. Includes bylaw changes for inclusive language and an update on National Coming Out Day.

Miller/Alyn Hess Stage

3pm: **Josie Santiago** — Milwaukee's favorite local Pride diva performs.

Harley/Ben Johnson Stage

3:30pm: — PrideFest Awards Presentations

Stonewall Tent

3:30pm: **Financial Strategies for Gays and Lesbians** — (See Stonewall's Saturday, 6pm listing.)

Harley/Ben Johnson Stage

4pm: **Les Lokey Band** — A blues rock artist offers powerful acoustic soul medicine. Just the right type of music for the end of the parade when you wanna rock.

Rainbow Cafe

4pm: **Kenni Feinberg**

Miller/Alyn Hess Stage

4:30pm: **MEN OUT LOUD** — See National Acts Feature Article, sponsored by the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin (ARCW).

Children's & Variety Stage

4:30pm: **Cream City Squares** — Square and line dance group performance.

Stonewall Stage

4:30pm: **Stonewall Riot: First Hand Account** — J.P. Ranieri was living in Greenwich Village when police made arrests at the Stonewall Inn. The riots sparked the LGBT civil rights movement. JP gives his story as an eyewitness and participant.

Children's & Variety Stage

5pm: **Co-Z Productions** — Featuring local African American performers.

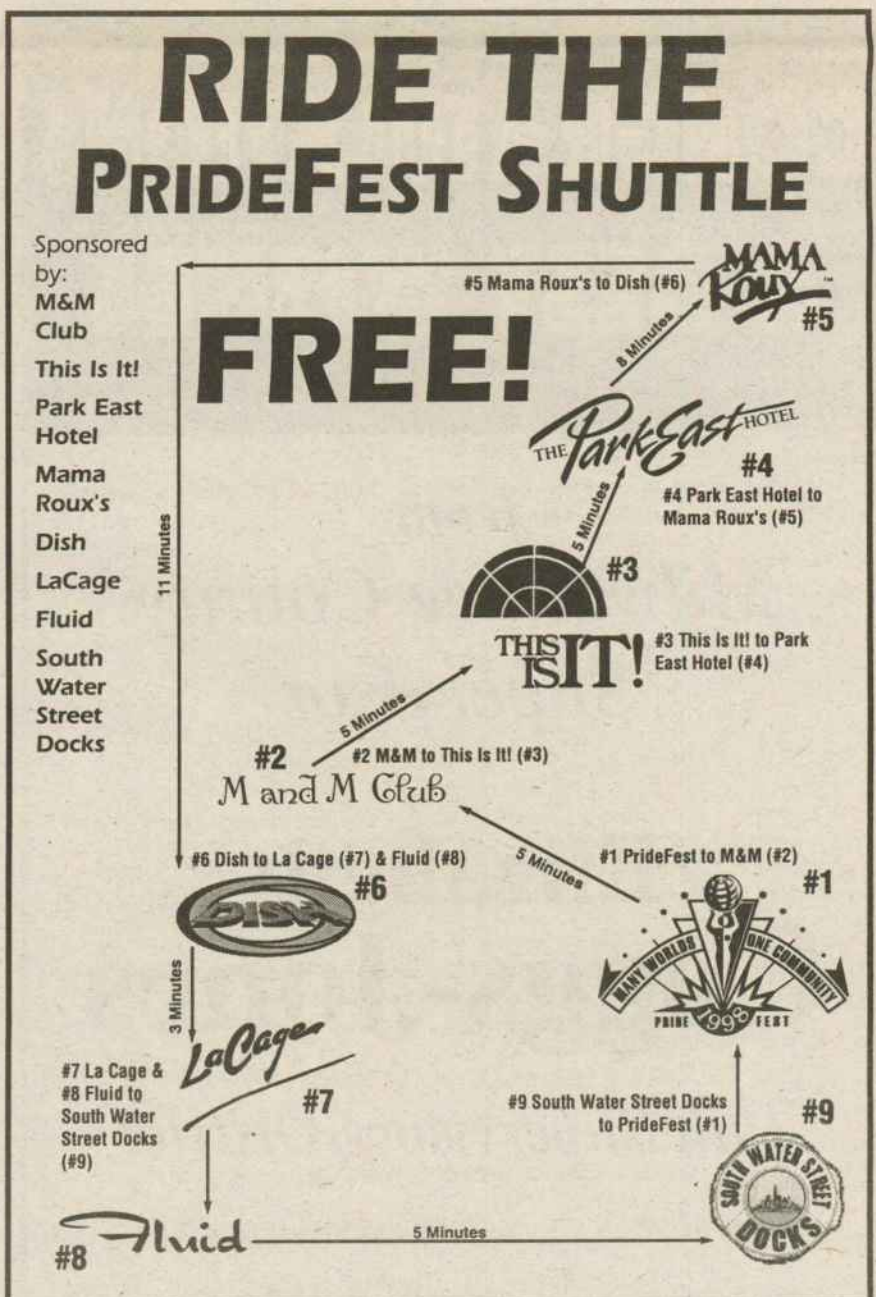
Nelvin Johnson Youth Activity Area

5pm: **"Keep it in the Closet"** — Stage play by Jennifer Johnson.

Rainbow Cafe

5pm: **Diane McCarthy** — Country Western vocalist.

See **PRIDEFEST SCHEDULE** on page 22



PrideFest Schedule

Sunday continued from page 21

Miller/Alyn Hess Stage

5:30pm: Comedians Tracy Rose & Jessica Halen — (See feature article.)

Stonewall Stage

5:30pm: **Queer Pictionary** — Win fabulous prizes playing an all-queer version of this family favorite. Participants will be challenged to draw LGBT-themed images — let your imagination fly with this one! Sponsored by ARCW's Gay and Lesbian Outreach Program.

Harley/Ben Johnson Stage

6pm: **Commitment Ceremony** — Facilitated by Rev. Lew Broyles. (See Special feature this page.)

Nelvin Johnson Youth Activity Area

6pm: Youth Fashion Show

Rainbow Cafe

6pm: Teri Vann — Country Western vocalist.

Stonewall Stage

6:30pm: **Foster Parenting** — Yes, LGBT people can be foster parents! Presentation by D.A. Leonard, Foster Care Licensing Worker.

Harley/Ben Johnson Stage

7pm: **Stardust** — Mix of '50s and '60s R&R, Country, Blues and Jazz.

Rainbow Cafe

7pm: Robert Nugent Jones — Original pop music.

Miller/Alyn Hess Stage

7pm: **Xanadu Dance Troupe** — Original dance choreographed to music and light.

Miller/Alyn Hess Stage

8pm: **B.J. Daniels Revue** — You don't have to go to Vegas to see the best of the "Girls." The traditional PrideFest send-off. Until 10:45pm closing.

Harley/Ben Johnson Stage

8pm: **Jack Sunday** — Featuring Mia Montenegro and Ronnie Nyels; classic rock, country dance and ballads.

Saturday Night Fireworks

Thanks to sponsor Miller Brewery, at about 10:05pm on Saturday, August 29, the Bartolotta Fireworks Co., one of the best in the nation, will light up the sky with pride. Rockets will be launched from the Summerfest island in Lake Michigan, so prime viewing spots are along the lakefront. The rain date is Sunday night.

PrideFest began its tradition of "Lighting the Sky with Pride" in 1995. The 15-20 minute light and sound intensive display is planned months in advance. Because Bartolotta builds their own fireworks, each show is designed to fit the customer.

Creations often include bright rainbow colors, and continuing attempts to create pink triangles. There will be plenty of loud explosions, too. Show producers try to create a display that starts with a compelling bang, goes onto paint the sky, and builds to a gradual climax that will knock your socks off.

PrideFest Shuttle

An easy way to avoid the traffic around the PrideFest grounds and to save on parking fees is to take advantage of the popular **PrideFest Shuttle**. The bus shuttle will carry people to and from the festival grounds from 11am to 11pm both Saturday and Sunday, thanks to the sponsorship of generous local businesses.

Last year was the Shuttle's first year, and it proved so popular, that the return was guaranteed, with more attention paid to scheduling. Times will be posted at the front gate of PrideFest where the shuttle loads and unloads.

The 1988 Business Owners for Pride sponsors and shuttle stops include: **Dish, La Cage, Fluid, M&M Club, Mama Roux's, South Water St. Docks, Park East Hotel** and **This Is It**. Bus stops will be marked with signage.

Volleyball Tournery Saturday

Up to 16 teams have been invited from throughout the upper Midwest to compete in this year's Miller Lite-PrideFest Volleyball Tournament. This is the first year the grass courts will be on the PrideFest grounds, directly east of the main gate. Surrounded by bleachers for sun-loving spectators, the Sports Area is behind the fountain area.

Round Robin play begins sharply at 11am. Tournament elimination play should run from approximately 1-5pm. The Awards Presentation with trophies and game balls will be held at 5:30pm at the nearby Children's Stage.

The tournery is sponsored by Miller Brewing Co., but is coordinated and run by GAMMA, a Milwaukee social-athletic organization.

Open play on Sunday will allow for pick up games. All ages and abilities are encouraged to participate from noon to 6pm.

Commitment Ceremony

Make or renew your commitment as a couple at PrideFest's popular annual ecumenical ceremony. The Rev. Lew Broyles, pastor of Milwaukee's Metropolitan Community Church (MCC) will officiate for the fourth year. Gather up your spouse to be and meet at the Harley Davidson/Ben Johnson Stage at 6pm, Sunday.

Broyles comments, "What makes the mass wedding better and better every year is the growing seriousness of commitment on the part of participants. It would tear your heart out just to see it." Broyles expects up to 125 couples, if the weather cooperates. Past years have included couples from four surrounding states, as well as Wisconsin.

A huge cake, decorated to "nth" degree by the baker, should be big enough to feed all the participants and guests. Last year the bottom tier was 4 x 6 feet.

Couples must pre-register for the wedding at the MCC booth in the Marketplace area. For a \$15 fee they will receive flowers or a boutonniere, a picture in front of a decorated trellis, cake and a certificate.

AWARDS continued from page 20

testified before the State Legislative hearings four times on bills affecting LGBT family rights. Their most recent testimony was against AB 104, the same sex marriage prohibition bill. Their testimony, given in Wausau, provided the legislators with specific insights into the joys and problems of two Lesbians raising a family.

Scott Gunkel's energy and enthusiasm has touched many organizations in the Milwaukee area including: **Cream City Foundation, Human Rights League, Lambda Rights Network, Cream City Business Assoc., Community Election Coalition, American Civil Liberties Union-Milwaukee, Wisconsin Research Center, Sherman Park Rainbow Assoc., Gay Pride Committee, PrideFest, and ACT UP.**

Scott's dedication goes beyond his being a volunteer. He has committed himself to securing better lives for all LGBT's through his work for Gay civil rights legislation and improved relations between elected officials and our community. Scott has consistently called for equal rights and justice for *all* people.

He has worked long and hard, and believes in a day when everyone will be able to share the same unalienable rights and privileges that were never meant to be special privileges, but irrefutable rights of all.

Lifetime Achievement Award

Is presented to and individual who has demonstrated ongoing leadership and commitment to the LGBT community. Individuals who have received this award in the past have been instrumental in changing the course of our community's history.

J. Robert Moore was to be given this award during PrideFest. Unfortunately he passed away at 4am, August 7, from non-Hodgkins lymphoma. Please see our memorial to Bob on page 12.

CONGRATULATIONS
& BEST WISHES

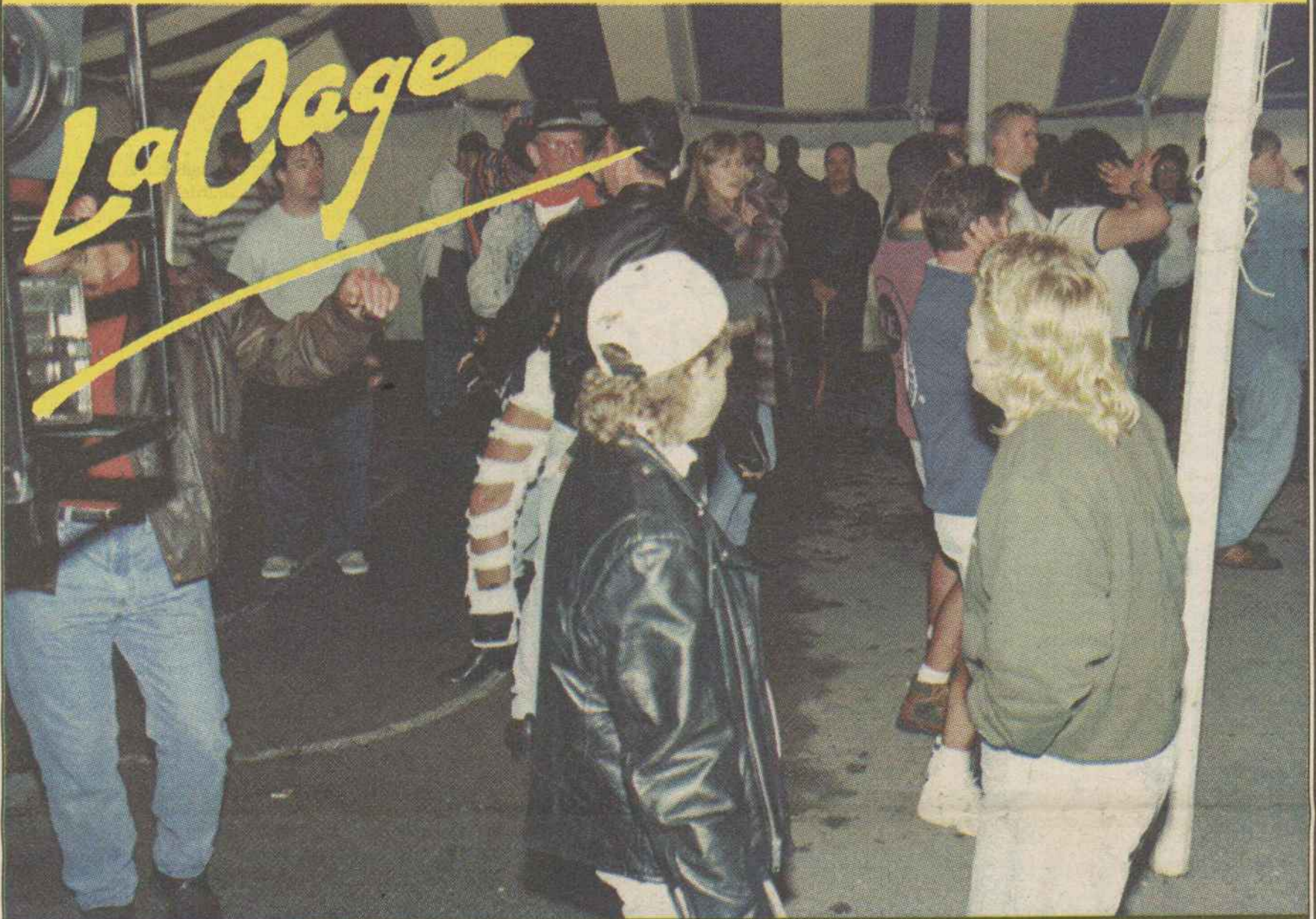
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Supervisor

Elizabeth
Coggs-Jones

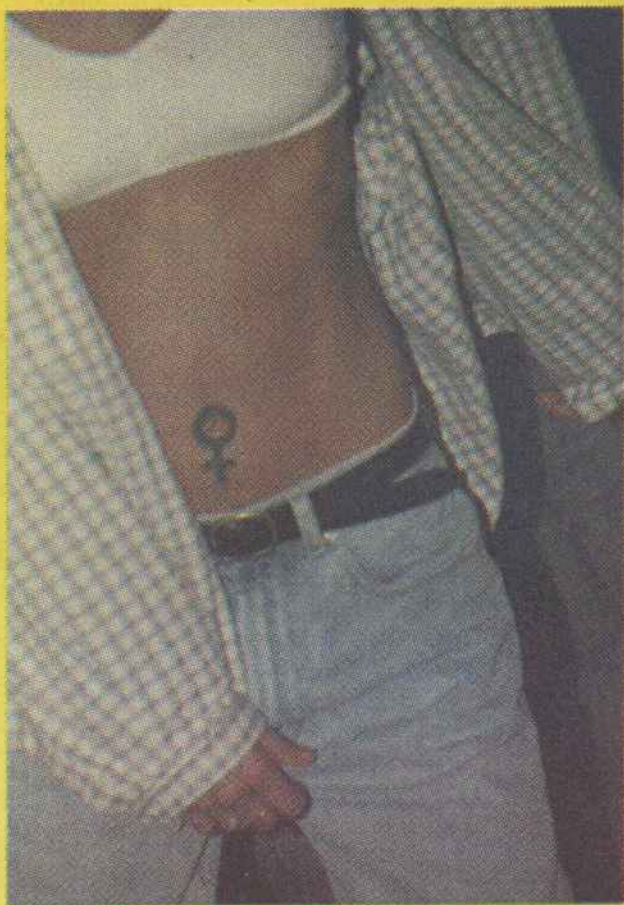
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later . . .**

Spotlight

August 13-26, 1998

Madison's New Club 5 Offers Haven for Soft Dining and Hard Core Fun

By Mike Leon

Madison — Follow the oval Applegate Court in Madison, and you'll hit a can't miss proposition, Club 5. Opening September 3rd, Club 5 is an ambitious, large new haven for the LGBT community here.

Ed Grunewald, the sole proprietor of Club 5 and owner of the old Manoeuvres, a downtown Madison Gay bar closing its doors August 30, has made a large monetary investment in totally remodeling the interior of the old Bicycle Bombay Club on Madison's near south side.

Grunewald is bullish on the LGBT community. "It's important that the community have a haven like this. And Club 5 is bigger, better, and more fun," says Grunewald. "There's enormous support here. Even people who have never come to Manoeuvres give me support and encouragement in this."

Club 5 is almost five times bigger than the old Manoeuvres, notes Grunewald. And he is quick to report that the old flavors of Manoeuvres will be preserved.

The club will preserve the Levi/Leather ambiance of the old Mad Bar in Manoeuvres with a separate entrance and phone for the new Barracks men's bar. "The attitude and atmosphere of the Mad Bar is here," said Grunewald.

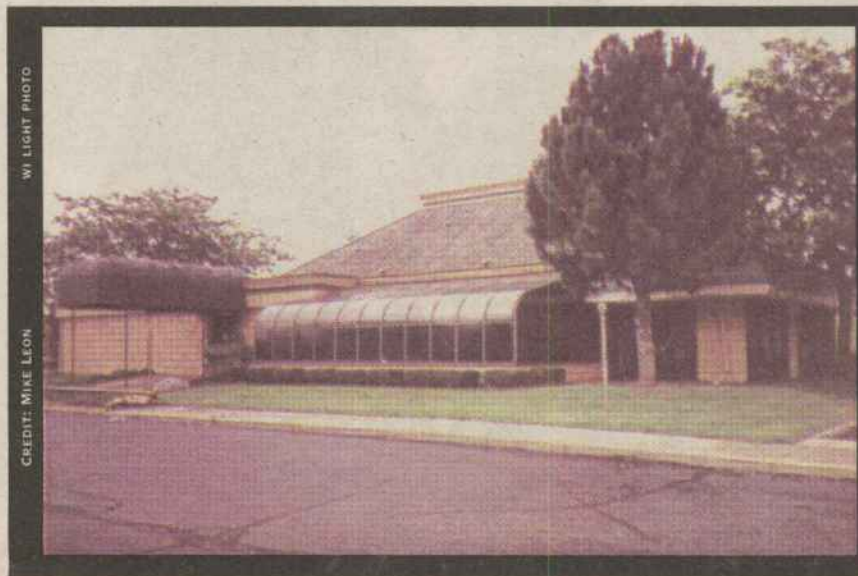
Club 5 will also feature an expanded Planet Q dance/video floor. The huge 1,550 square foot space is much larger than the dance floor at Manoeuvres. Planet Q, with its loud, dancing-fool flavor opens after 10pm.

To top it off, Club 5 offers an upscale atrium restaurant for wining and dining at affordable prices. The menu features seafood, an excellent wine list, Sunday Brunch, and for this writer a crucial feature of the establishment — the Black Angus Steak, perhaps the only evidence for a benevolent, interested god in the world today.

The hours for the Club 5 restaurant are 11am for lunch, with dinner served at 5pm till 10:30pm, with after bar hours on Friday and Saturday.

"The restaurant is open for everybody, but it functions as a romantic getaway that is secluded from the Men's bar and dance floor," said Grunewald. "I don't want to sound arrogant, but it's nice. Our chef is from the Madison Club, so you know the menu will be excellent."

And it's all within a short two-mile drive of the old Hotel Washington.



The new Club 5 will be located in the building pictured above.

Take Fish Hatchery Road, make a left on Greenway Cross, follow the oval shaped Applegate Court and you're plugged straight into a secluded, but eminently accessible sanctuary.

"Madison is a small town. It has big ideas, but it's geographically small. People don't walk home from downtown Gay and Lesbian bars, they all take cabs after drinks. But everything's close together, and driving out here takes literally minutes," said Grunewald.

Grunewald emphasized that the seclusion of, and significantly larger space of the establishment will make the Club 5 more friendly for two clientele in particular. Club 5 will be more Lesbian friendly.

"Our Planet Q dance floor alone is 1,550 square feet. Manoeuvres as a whole was 1,980 square feet," said Grunewald. "Manoeuvres was so small that a lot of Lesbians have told me they felt left out, it was more cramped. Now they have a lot

more space, and everyone respects each other's space. That's the nature of the community."

Grunewald said Club 5 will also be perfect for those in the community who do not want to advertise their intimacy preferences, or are in the process of coming out. He points to the secluded features of Club 5 with large trees around the front and side, and the location at the end of a rounded road.

"Seclusion was part of the success of the Hotel Washington. Right now with Manoeuvres, it's on a busy, lighted intersection. I think Club 5 will be better for people who don't want to advertise who they are, or who are thinking about coming out. They walk out of the bar and it's much more private for them," said Grunewald.

Asked to comment on the opening of the establishment in light of the recent, widely publicized bigoted Madison



Madison's Manoeuvres (shown above) will close on August 31st.

billboard controversy, the anti-Gay statements from Ron Greer, and the national attacks on the LGBT community, Grunewald said, "The Gay community is too strong here to let Ron Greer and Reggie White affect who we are. Our Club functions as an affirmation of who the community is."

"I talked to Tammy Baldwin and she was really supportive. That's the way everyone has been. It's my business, it's what I do for a living, but it's also the community's space and home. I can't do this without the community."

Next summer the optimistic Grunewald says he has plans to build patios off the restaurant and men's bar.

As an idyllic, cultural nexus embodying tolerance and affirmation and just plain fun, it appears likely that the LGBT community will support Club 5. Ed Grunewald, with a gambler's grin, is betting a lot of money on it.



The Planet Q bar will be ready to go when Club 5 opens.



Work is proceeding on the Club 5 restaurant.

DEEP INSIDE HOLLYWOOD

by Romeo San Vicente

Breakout hit?

Will and Grace, the new NBC sitcom featuring a Gay man (played by **Eric McCormack**) living with a straight woman, is generating positive buzz among critics, many of whom are calling it the best of the peacock network's fall originals.

The pilot was described as touching and humorous, though "Will" is — big surprise — portrayed as more asexual than queer. However, his best friend (to be played by **Sean P. Hayes**, "Billy" in the hit independent movie *Billy's Hollywood Screen Kiss*), is said to be a flamer.

Meanwhile, **Nathan Lane's** new sitcom, *Encore!*, is in trouble. One of the biggest problems is said to be Lane who critics found less-than-convincing as a womanizing former opera singer. That would be kind of like asking **John Goodman** to play the lead in *The Kate Moss Story*.

Elsewhere on the TV front, **Susan Sarandon** has announced plans to produce *Prayers for Bobby* for airing on NBC sometime next season. The movie, based on pioneering Gay journalist Roy Aarons' book of the same name, tells the true story of Mary Griffith, a mother who prays her homosexual son will be "healed" only to have him commit suicide. Griffith went on to become a Gay rights activist.



PRAYERS FOR BOBBY - It's rumored Susan Sarandon is producing this movie to be seen on NBC

NBC loves those cheap "ripped from the headlines," movies-of-the-week, but bravo for this one, which couldn't be more timely in the face of the far right's media campaign advocating that homosexuals and Lesbians can be "cured."

Meanwhile, you may have watched *Philadelphia* when it aired for the first time on network television August 9th on CBS. Wonder why it took so long to get to free TV?

Well, CBS has owned the rights to broadcast the groundbreaking film for two years, but, due to "sensitive subject matter," the movie remained shelved. Disney's ABC may have received the most attention for its homo-reticence, but this incident is further proof that no network shies from controversy as aggressively as CBS.

And speaking of reactionaries, the folks over at the Parents Television

Council recently announced their list of shows depicting "bad family values." Topping the list: *Ellen* and the Kevin Williamson produced *Dawson's Creek*.

The Indecisive Girl

What's up with **Madonna**? First she wavers about playing Maggie the Cat in a London stage production of *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*. Now she has bowed out of director **Wes Craven's** next film, *50 Violins*.

The decision was said to be mutual, though rumors had her being dropped because of excessive demands. Her departure is strange, though, considering she spent three months learning to play the violin for the role of the real-life **Roberta Tzavaris**, a New York instructor who taught inner-city children how to play the instrument. Craven (*Scream*) and Madonna reportedly disagreed on how the character should be played.

On the personal front, Madonna was recently spotted in Manhattan dining with Sony recording honcho **Tommy Mottola**, Mariah Carey's ex-husband. Strictly business, they say.

Meanwhile, Madonna's brother, **Christopher Ciccone**, is said to be dating openly Gay actor **Wilson Cruz**, of *My So-Called Life* fame.

The Queen's English

Rapper **Queen Latifah** said recently she doesn't care if people think she's Gay, adding that she'll never answer that question. The rumors have always circled the rap goddess, who played a Lesbian in the 1996 film *Set It Off*. They were inflamed by her new sexually explicit single, *Get Off Minez*, which is lyrically ambiguous as to the object of her affections.

In other diva news, the bid to find a cure for homosexuality was taken to new lengths recently by a San Rafael, Calif. psychiatric patient who believes Fleetwood Mac songstress **Stevie Nicks** is a witch and can cure him of his desire towards other men. Nicks has been granted a restraining order against the man.

Acting is the Best Revenge

Is revenge best served on stage? *Cybill* co-star **Christine Baranski** may be thinking just that in her bid to play an aging sitcom star in a new play to be directed by **Mike Nichols**.

Baranski reportedly never got along with series star **Cybill Shepherd**, and she wasn't the only one to have such problems. The writer of the play is former *Cybill* executive producer **Howard Gould**, and of course everyone speculates the character he's written is based on Shepherd.

Baranski picked up yet another Emmy nomination for her role on *Cybill*, as did the creators of *South Park*, who received a nod for outstanding animated program for their episode entitled *Big Gay Al's Big Gay Boat Ride*.

Trey Parker and Matt Stone now take their warped (and I mean that in the best way) view of tolerance to the big screen in the just-released *BASEketball*. (See our review on page 26.)

Though the film is clearly aimed for the Adam Sandler set, one scene features

Dear Ruthie

Well, it's been a helluva week here at the Rusty Nail Trailer Park. I had Pearl over this week because she was having her place painted. She said that the fumes made her constipated (she wasn't able to convince her college-boy painter to sneak her into his dorm for the night, so she needed a place to stay.)

Well, one night Pearl and I invited our girlfriend Harriet over to have an old-fashioned slumber party. You know ... cute pajamas, soda, junk food, prank phone calls, and pillow fights.

I quickly discovered, however, that a slumber party at our age includes gold lam, sweat pants, martinis, blood pressure medication, 1-900 calls, and in Pearl's case, prune juice and bran muffins.

So anyway, we call a few guys over — the first no-no of a slumber party, but a necessity for three mature women who just had their hair frosted.

I called my ex-husband Vinnie — he brought the booze, the trailer park repair man, Enrique — he brought some salsa dance music, and Mr. Kim — the owner of Dragon Lady Nails. Pearl said that if we got Mr. Kim drunk he'd give us free pedicures.

Next thing we knew, the martinis were flowing and Enrique was dirty dancing with Vinnie. Two hours later, Mr. Kim was applying much needed moisturizer to Pearl's feet and I was outside trying to convince Harriet that it was okay to climb down off the roof of the trailer.

I later found an intoxicated Enrique trying to mummify the cat using my nylons. Needless to say it was a pretty wild night. I don't remember anything after Mr. Kim rubbed Gold Bond powder in between my toes, so you can imagine how shocked I was when I woke up the next morning.

My cat was completely shaved — well except for a swear word that someone shaved onto his little skull.

Poor Enrique was tied down to the hammock outside. He woke up in between Possum Queen hopefuls Iona and Ilisa Trailer. How the hell did you two get in here? Give Enrique his green card back and take my nylons off your heads!

You know Ilisa Trailer don't you? Hey — Ilisa, what's with the mustache? Girl looks like Janet Reno on steroids.

My gal pal, Harriet, was fast asleep under the sink and Pearl.... well... Pearl woke up naked with my life-size Fabio cutout (needless to say, she and I are currently no longer on speaking terms).

Mr. Kim was nowhere to be found, but Vinnie woke up with his toenails painted a sassy China red.

Speaking of Iona and Ilisa Trailer, I believe those gals are having a little cocktail reception at This Is It on Saturday, August 15. I think the drinks start flowing at 4pm with the girls whopping it up until 8pm.

Anytime these two have a drink in



their hand (which is often) you're guaranteed a good time — so stop by!

I've got to go recover now — see you all next week!!!!

Dear Ruthie,

I've been dating this guy for seven months — steady — I'm talking everyday we see each other. Anyway, he has a few thousand dollars due on credit cards. He wants me to put his debts on my credit card because he says he'll get a lower interest rate that way.

He says that he will then be able to pay them off easier as there will be less interest. He has created a payment plan so that he will pay me to pay off this debt of his on my card. I don't like the idea of having someone else's large debt on a card with my name on it.

We get into a fight every time he brings it up. He wants to know why I will not do this for him. Should I? I do trust him.

Like I said, he even has a payment plan worked out. I don't know why I won't let him. Please offer your advice.

— (signed) Bankruptcy Bob

Dear Bobby,

Well slap a nylon over my head and reach for the sky, sistah! I got a yen for some cash and you seem to be the Gay Bank of America. There's two things going on here:

- 1) Your lover isn't responsible enough to admit that this is his problem to fix by himself and...
- 2) He thinks you're a bank. Apparently this guy thinks he can use his Tyme card on you and twenty dollar bills are gonna come shooting outta your rear!

Keep your backside covered and tell your buddy to go screw someone else outta the money, Jack!

If you take on his balances, you become responsible for them. Should you break-up, guess who is stuck? That's right, Sticky — you!

Okay, so he's got some payment plan worked out? What if he loses his job? What if he gets injured on the job and can't work? Will he be able to make those payments then?

If he wants to transfer his debts to a lower interest rate, he can just as easily go to a bank and apply for a consolidation loan. Even if his credit is horrible,

See **DEEP INSIDE HOLLYWOOD** on page 27

See **DEAR RUTHIE** on page 27



OUT on Film

BASEketball: A Laugh Filled Pleasure

Reviewed by
Glenn Bishop

Take one part social commentary, one part zany sex farce, throw in the creators of the Gay-friendly and phenomenally popular South Park and there you have *BASEketball* in a nutshell.

Director/co-writer/producer David Zucker has sought to present a satire on today's crass commercialism in professional sports while incorporating the silly, decidedly boring mix-and-match-ing of baseball with the traditional basketball shooting game, HORSE.

In slap-dash fashion, Zucker and company have thrown into this mix a mish-mash of plot elements including a more silly than sinister plot with a cartoon villain (Robert Vaughn's embarrassed turn as sleazy sports entrepreneur, Cain), a feeble romance with a pretty girl and a dying little boy desperate for a liver operation.

With no expectations whatsoever, Glenn must come clean and while *BASEketball* is very much a "guilty pleasure", Glenn did have a good time, laughing a whole lot.



BASEketball - Coop (Trey Parker) and Remer (Matt Stone) make up a new sport only to have it turn into a major corporate and widely popular league.

Truth be told, Glenn is actually rather puzzled as to why.

To begin with, Trey Parker and Matt Stone are wonderful as a couple of likeable-lovable losers, Coop and Remer. They are not only *BASEketball*'s founders but the sports first superstars. As lame as Zucker's script proves to be, Glenn could only wonder what impact that these two South Park whiz-kids might have had given the chance.

Another of the film's decidedly curious pleasures includes an especially pleasant, warm and fuzzy Gay-friendly spin — the inspired creation of a *BASEketball* team called the San

See **BASEKETBALL** on page 28

Clever Dialogue & Convincing Portrayals Imbue the Fable, *Henry Fool*

Reviewed by John Jahn

Writer/producer/director Hal Hartley's latest film, *Henry Fool*, holds the distinction of having been shown at both the 1997 International and Cannes Film Festivals. It is a remarkable motion picture.

Hartley has woven thought-provoking ideas into an engrossing story that, though unconventional, is likely to keep most viewers involved. Hartley's idiosyncrasies are very much in evidence, but remain subservient to the characters and narrative.

The most fascinating aspect of *Henry Fool* is its take on the age-old art vs. morality debate. The film also smartly addresses the commercial side of the issue — how a morally questionable work of art (in this case a poem) can become a hot commodity. *Henry Fool* addresses these subjects in a unique, quirky way that is both entertaining and engrossing.

The name of the title character is obviously intended to be ironic, because Henry (newcomer Thomas Jay Ryan) is anything but foolish. He's cultured, educated, erudite, certainly egotistical and brilliant. He befriends the other central figure, Simon Grim (James Urbaniak), an introverted, inexpressive garbage man whom most people think is retarded or slow.

When Henry encourages Simon to



HENRY FOOL - Thomas Jay Ryan as Henry Fool and James Urbaniak as Simon Grim

express himself in writing, the latter fills up several composition books with poetry. As these poems become public, they're either found to be beautiful and deep or scatological pornography from a sick mind. It depends upon whom you ask.

We viewers never get to hear a line of the work of either Henry or Simon, which I found to be somewhat annoying. But the more I thought about it, the more I realized that the literary works of the film's characters were themselves meant to be hidden characters.

What we do see is the way in which Simon's published poetry affects different people in wildly different ways, and how the lack of success on Fool's part affects him and all his friendship with

See **HENRY FOOL** on page 28

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appeared on, the television show *Ellen*.
 "We are proud that Ms. Bono is coming to Wisconsin to be the Honorary Chair of the AIDS Walk. She will bring a powerful message, especially for young people, about AIDS prevention and the importance of enlisting in the fight against AIDS," said Lisa Wolter, deputy director of community relations for the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin (ARCW). AIDS Walk Wisconsin is produced by ARCW.

"Chastity Bono is an outstanding advocate for human rights. She's a national leader in the campaign to end discrimination against Gay men and Lesbians. Her strong support for the fight against breast cancer and AIDS demonstrates her compassion and commitment to helping people improve their lives," said Wolter.

Bono follows Greg Louganis - 1997, Bette Midler - 1996, and Vice President Al Gore and Tipper Gore - 1995, as AIDS Walk Wisconsin Honorary Chair persons.

AIDS Walk Wisconsin is one of the most important fund raising tools in the local fight against HIV. The money raised through the walk provides support for 19 different organizations from throughout Wisconsin. These groups use the funds for HIV prevention programs, AIDS drug trial research and serve men, women and children affected by HIV and AIDS.

Over the last 8 Walks, 56,430 people have walked and 677,160 people have donated money to the Walk raising over \$4.5 million for AIDS services throughout Wisconsin.

AIDS activists point out that despite

advances in drug treatment therapies, this is still no cure for AIDS. Furthermore the new drug therapies are not effective in all cases.

Tickets for the breakfast are \$50 per person. Reserved tables for ten and individuals seats are already on sale. Those wishing to purchase tickets or full tables should call (414) 225-1517 as soon as possible.

Admission to the AIDS Walk is free. Registration cards are available at LGBT bars and other businesses throughout Wisconsin. Walkers can also register online at www.arcw.org or by calling 1-800-348-WALK.

This year's confirmed benefiting agencies are from throughout Wisconsin. They include: AIDS Network - South-central Wisconsin; AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin - Appleton, Eau Claire, Green Bay, Kenosha, La Crosse, Milwaukee, Rhinelander, Superior, Wausau; Camp Heartland; Central Wisconsin HIV/AIDS Ministry Project; Coulee Region YWCA - GALAXY Program; East Central Wellness Project; Great Lakes Hemophilia Foundation; Manitowoc County AIDS Task Force; Milwaukee LGBT Community Center; Positive Health Clinic/Aurora; Richard's Place - Waukesha; Rodney Scheel House Foundation - Madison; Saint Camillus HIV/AIDS Ministry; Sheboygan County AIDS Task Force; University Health Services, UW-Madison; Urban League of Greater Madison; Visiting Nurse Association of Wisconsin; Wisconsin AIDS Research Consortium; and Wisconsin Council of Churches.

the animators turned actors in a full-out, deep-tongue kiss. And one of the teams in this sports parody is named the San Francisco Ferries, whose male cheerleaders are well-endowed and appear nearly naked.

The duo's next movie is *Orgazmo*, a porn industry spoof scheduled for release in October by October Films. The producers are trying to lobby the Motion Picture Association of America to reconsider the NC-17 rating given to the film.

Stardust Memories

David Bowie is returning to his roots, bringing back his old Ziggy Stardust ambisexual persona for a new movie and double-disc soundtrack. The glam icon was created in 1972 and led to a top-selling album, a sold-out tour and a film of what was then said to be the Spiders from

Mars' final show.

Bowie has not said whether he will play Ziggy in the new movie, and his age, 51, may lessen those prospects. Especially since "Major Tom" has made such a big deal recently of his devotion to heterosexuality.

For the Record

If you've been wondering, like me, whether Brad Rowe, the studly boytoy of *Billy's Hollywood Screen Kiss* is as sexually ambiguous as the character he portrayed in the movie, here's the word. Rowe, a Milwaukee native, is a breeder. Typical Midwestern blond!

Romeo San Vicente, who would've gladly volunteered to save Private Ryan, can be reached care of Wisconsin Light or at RSVicente@aol.com. For more Deep Inside Hollywood, visit www.Gay.net.

RUTHIE continued from page 25

the bank may still be able to transfer some of his balances to a loan. Your guy will get a lower interest rate — most likely — and can simply make payments to the bank.

Go this route and keep your name out of his credit history. Go the other route and you may be taking up residency at the poor house!

Dear Ruthie,

Where can I meet a man? I've tried everything- bars, blind dates, phone clubs. I just want a fun loving guy with a kind heart who likes to take long walks and knows how to have a good time.

- (signed) Looky — Lou

Dear Lou,

You wanna meet some great people, huh? Well, go take a hike! Literally.

If you wanna meet a neat guy (do the kids still say neat?) head on down to the Wisconsin AIDS Walk on Sunday, September 20, 1998. Or better yet — call ARCW at 1-800-348 WALK and ask how you can volunteer before the walk. I can tell you right now, the lake-front will be packed with great, kind hearted men and women alike — all of them gorgeous on the inside!

What better way to get to know people in the community then to donate time or money to such an important cause? I can tell you now, it will be a wonderful day — one you won't forget for a long, long time.

I can't wait to strap on my sequined

tennis shoes, throw on my leopard skin headband, and walk among the masses for one of Wisconsin's favorite events.

It's always fun to see how much money the girls at the beauty shop donate to my walk. Pearl — I'm asking for a few bucks, that's all. I know you keep mad money under your Odor Eaters. Now fork it over!

I also go from trailer to trailer collecting contributions from my neighbors. Hey Chester — remember last year when your Pit Bull bit me in the keester? I didn't sue your ass and now I'd like to cash in on that favor. Open that vault, you call a wallet and give me a dollar!

I also hit up my ex-husbands for contributions by using threats involving parole officers and IRS officials.

Let me tell ya, the walk itself is a piece of cake — trust me. Last year my friend Harriet didn't even need her oxygen tank.

You'll have so much fun seeing the sites, meeting new people and talking with friends that before you know it, you'll be at the finishing line. And maybe, just maybe, there will be a special someone at that finishing line just waiting to meet you!

If not, come to my place. We'll feed Mr. Kim some vodka and get our toes done.

I want to answer your questions! your questions. You can write me at: Ruthie c/o Wisconsin Light, 225 S. Second Street Milwaukee, WI 53204. You can also e-mail me at wlight@aol.com.



MODEL CALL!

Monday, August 17, 1998

Beauty Hair Salon

1633 North Farwell Avenue

Volunteer in the fight against AIDS and be part of Milwaukee's premiere alternative fashion show, occurring on Saturday, October 10. CALL 414-291-2856 FOR MORE INFORMATION.

Survival/Revival Resale is a program of the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin. Donations are tax-deductible and all proceeds benefit ARCW. VOLUNTEERS ARE ALWAYS NEEDED.





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running for Tammy's seat and now he's attacking Tammy. This is the politics of divisiveness: he can't be against this stuff when Ron Greer does it, but when it works to his advantage he starts to do it," said a Democratic legislative aide.

Another Democratic political aide not associated with, but supportive of the Baldwin campaign, said, "Rick's a progressive, he's a (LGBT) supporter and he's a tough, mean political campaigner. That's his political history. Politics is war, he's in this thing to win."

Baldwin's campaign steadfastly refuses to go negative, even to defend her in the face of the attacks. Future

print media pieces like this and the Wisconsin State Journal's story are likely receive Baldwin's standard: "We will not go negative and run our campaign this way - through the newspapers" - a sentiment now prevailing among both Pocan and Baldwin strategists.

Nevertheless, it appears that like most political primaries involving dueling progressives, these assembly and congressional races are likely to get ugly - despite efforts to stay positive and on message.

Politics remains, like war, a rather dirty enterprise.

- WI Light Madison Bureau

BASEKETBALL

continued from page 26

Francisco Ferries, a team with the hottest go-go boy cheerleaders Glenn has ever seen.

Then there is an even more curious pleasure, the complete lack of the expected female nudity - the only naked butts in sight are those of the two stars.

True, *BASEetball* isn't going to win any awards. Also true, many of Zucker's gags fall flat. Still, there's plenty of laughs and Parker and Stone are most inspired movie comedy duo Glenn has seen in many a moon.

Finally, how could Glenn not love any film that refers to terminally ill children as both "health challenged" and "survival impaired"?

HENRY FOOL

continued from page 26

Simon.

Both Simon and Henry are compelling characters, but Henry is more enigmatic. Despite his many flaws, he's a driven, brilliant man with a certain charm and magnetism.

But like all mysterious movie characters, he has at least one skeleton in his closet.

Hartley (*Simple Men, Flirt*) designed *Henry Fool* as an offbeat fable. Much of what happens in the film is scarcely believable by real-world terms. It's impossible to see how Simon's poetry would become so popular so quickly, and the conclusion is a bit over-the-top.

But you can surely savor the dialogue, which is often clever and frequently brilliant. Hartley has also succeeded in casting actors who can speak their lines convincingly.

Despite its flaws of believability, *Henry Fool* is ultimately saved by excellent writing and fine performances. It offers a thoroughly satisfying 2 hours and 18 minutes in a darkened theater. *Henry Fool* opens exclusively at Milwaukee's Oriental Theater on Friday, August 14th.

AROUND THE NATION

continued from page 11

HRC National Convention to Train Activists

The Human Rights Campaign's second national political convention will take place September 17 to 20. OutVote '98 is intended to help activists develop their campaign skills.

The event is expected to attract over 1,000 Lesbian and Gay activists to Washington, D.C. It will take place in Washington, D.C.'s Marriott Wardman Park Hotel.

OutVote '98 includes an impressive array of speakers including: Rev. Jesse Jackson, AFL-CIO President John Sweeney, Assistant to the President Virginia Apuzzo, White House AIDS Policy Director Sandra Thurman, Representatives Barney Frank (D-Mass.), Cynthia McKinney (D-Ga.), and Connie Morella (R-Md.), Seattle City Council member Tina Podlodowski, Betty DeGeneres, and John and Michael Galluccio and other prominent national leaders.

Travel arrangements can be made through Travel-On, HRC's official travel agency for the weekend, by calling 1-800-333-1225.

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DISASTERS *continued from page 4*

This means that fully half the state-to-state variation in tornado frequency can be accounted for by the presence of Protestants. And the chance that this association is merely coincidental is only one in 10,000.

Protestants, of course, come in many flavors — we were able to find statistics for Lutherans, Methodists, Baptists, and Other. Lutherans don't seem to be a problem — no correlation with tornadoes. There's a modest correlation (r equals .52, p equals .0001) between Methodists and tornadoes. But Baptists and Others share the prize. Both groups show a definite correlation with tornado frequency ($r = .68$, $p = .0001$).

This means that Texas could cut its average of 139 tornadoes per year in half by sending a few hundred thousand Baptists elsewhere. (Alaska maybe?)

What, you are probably asking yourself, about Gay Protestants? An examination of the numbers of Gay religious groups (mostly Protestant) reveals no significant relationship with tornadoes. Perhaps even

Protestants are less repugnant to God if they're Gay. And that brings up another point — the futility of trying to save the world by getting Gay people to accept Jesus. It looks from our numbers like the frequency of natural disasters could be more effectively reduced by encouraging Protestants to be Gay.

Gay people have been falsely blamed for disasters ever since Sodom was destroyed by fire and brimstone. (We have been unable to find any statistics on disasters involving brimstone.)

According to a reliable source, the destruction of Sodom was indeed an act of God (see Genesis 19:13) and was perpetrated because the citizens thereof were, according to the same source (see Ezekiel 16:49-50), "arrogant, overfed and unconcerned [and] did not help the poor and needy" — not because they were Gay.

Now Pat would have us believe that Gays are the cause of tornadoes — as well as earthquakes, meteors, and even terrorist bombs — in utter disregard for evidence showing that Baptists are much more likely to cause them.

I say "Kudos!" to Orlando. Despite Robertson's warning that Orlando is "right in the way of some serious hurricanes" — hardly a revelation —, note that it was not struck by the very destructive Hurricane Andrew a few years ago.

And amid the recent conflagrations — that's fires — in central Florida, which occurred just after Pat sounded his alarm, Orlando was spared. Keep those flags waving!

As any statistician will tell you, of course, correlation doesn't prove causation. Protestants causing tornadoes by angering God isn't the only explanation for these data. It could be that Baptists and Other Protestants purposely flock to states that have lots of tornadoes (no, we haven't checked for a correlation between IQ and religious affiliation).

But if Pat and his Christian crew insist that natural disasters are brought on by people who offend God, let the data show who those people are.

Sources: *Tornado Occurrence by State, 1962-1991*; *1990 Churches and Church Membership*; *Population by State, 1990 US Census*; *Gay & Lesbian Political Organizations, Support Groups, and Religious Groups from Gayellow Pages, National Edition, 1987*.

SEX CULTURES *continued from page 14*

munities forget we're part of the sexual cultures we're working with."

Eric Rofes and Chris Bartlett organized a one-day pre-conference institute which drew over 100 participants. The institute focused on Rofes' controversial book and a discussion of "post-AIDS" or "post-crisis" HIV prevention work with Gay men in the United States and provided the theoretical frame for the track. Rofes explained that his book argues that "the event of AIDS as developed in urban Gay centers in the mid-1980s — and characterized as "crisis" — no longer fits most Gay men's everyday experience of the epidemic, even as the disease of AIDS continues." Bartlett then discussed the transformation of Philadelphia's Safeguards program from one focused specifically on HIV prevention to one focused largely on Gay men's health, broadly defined. "The SafeGuards Project has taken on crucial Gay men's health issues, including hepatitis prevention, intergenerational support, and health care access," declared Bartlett. "This work complements our HIV prevention in a powerful way."

Perhaps the most controversial workshop was Michael Scarce and Tony Valenzuela's "Reducing the Risk of Doing It Raw: Strategies for Barebacking Harm Education," which moved beyond the typical "is barebacking good or bad" conversation and focused on how health providers and activists could assist barebackers in reducing their risk of acquiring HIV and other sexually transmitted diseases should they decide to forgo the use of condoms. Scarce said, "By and large, AIDS prevention efforts have written off barebackers, demonizing them as the posterboys of unsafe sex, rather than meeting them where they are. We need a concrete and specific harm reduction approach that might not always include condom use." Scarce circulated a draft document titled "Possible Barebacking Harm Reduction Strategies," which included key information including:

- popper use dilates blood vessels in the rectum and leaves men more vulnerable to infection;
- lubricant should always be used, not just spit, as it helps prevent small tears which allow infection transmissions between tops and bottoms;
- early withdrawal before ejaculation can substantially reduce risk but is not a fool-proof method of prevention transmission of HIV and other STDs;
- "rationing your barebacking over time can limit the number of exposures and sex partners."

Scarce's draft also included discussion of negotiation with partners, before and after-care (i.e. appropriate times for douching and washing), and monitoring of immunity. "We wanted to move past moral judgments of bareback sex," said Tony Valenzuela, a panelist, "and provide supportive and useful information to meet these Gay men who bareback

where they are at. And, not surprisingly, we quickly realized that barebackers were not simply out there — a small, hidden pocket of the community — but here at the health conference and among HIV prevention workers and Gay male health providers."

On Tuesday, July 28, Valenzuela chaired a workshop titled "Bad Boys Du Jour" which focused on the circuit party phenomena and included Dr. Drew Mattison, San Diego-based co-author of *The Male Couple*; Alan Brown, publisher of the circuit culture e-zine *Electric Dreams*, frequently dubbed "the voice of the circuit;" Don Spradlin, a San Francisco based party producer; and Dr. Chris Carrington from San Francisco State University. Carrington and Mattison are engaged in ongoing research into the circuit and presented early, tentative findings of their studies. Mattison's preliminary data suggested many men attending circuit party weekends may not engage in sex throughout the weekend, though substantial numbers of men at the events engage in substance use.

Other key events in the track included a Viagra Forum in the Castro, featuring Dr. Marshall Forstein of Fenway Community Health Center in Boston; Sex and Queer Liberation, presented by Chris Bartlett and Ryan Goldner of Philadelphia's SafeGuards Project, "Leather Health: Mental and Physical Health Issues in Contemporary Gay Male Leather Cultures," featuring a panel of San Francisco doctors and mental health clinicians; and "Drugs in Partyland" led by Richard Elovich of Gay Men's Health Crisis in New York, which focused on harm reduction approaches to Gay men's substance use.

One conference participant from Philadelphia said, "This year's track covering recreational drug use and circuit parties is long overdue. More information in these areas is needed to better understand the circuit phenomenon and to stop stigmatizing our cultures and communities." Another participant, Andy Bagnall, who works at the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin, said, "What I liked best about the track was that we were able to bring our level of discussions on circuit parties, drug use, barebacking and other topics to the next level. Rather than endless bickering and infighting, we could talk about meanings of the acts and ways to address them in our work."

Carey Johnson from the Brattleboro Area AIDS Project in Vermont said, "I always enjoy the opportunity to come together with other people addressing the health needs of Gay, bisexual and other men who have sex with men. In my own community, I've necessarily broadened my approach to HIV prevention to include a comprehensive model of health and wellness, and it is gratifying to see a national trend in that direction. However, our future depends on educating our institutions, particularly our funders, on these trends."

The organizers announced plans to return to next year's National Lesbian and Gay Health Conference in July of 1999 in Dallas and facilitate a similar track of workshops.

ARCW *continued from page 14*

- Privatizing Wisconsin's partner notification program to increase contact with people who may have been infected by someone recently diagnosed with HIV;
- Enhancing community-based primary care for people with HIV/AIDS and achieving full access to medical care and drug therapies;
- Increasing community-based AIDS services to increase adherence to and success with new AIDS drug therapies.

"ARCW's proposal to privatize partner notification is receiving national attention," said Gifford. "We need to reinvent this traditional public health strategy to increase its reach and improve its effectiveness."

In the past four years, Wisconsin has reported 1,429 new HIV infections, a 31 percent increase. The number of women with AIDS in Wisconsin has increased 63 percent and the number of teens with AIDS is up 44 percent.

The 1997 Wisconsin Youth Risk Behavior Survey conducted by the state further identifies the serious need for increased HIV prevention services to save the lives of Wisconsin's youth. Six of 10 high school seniors report having sex. Fifty percent report unsafe sex behaviors and 60 percent report having multiple partners.

"Wisconsin needs to make a meaningful investment in HIV prevention," said Gifford. "ARCW's recommendations, based on the State endorsed HIV prevention plan will save lives, particularly among Wisconsin's youth."

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a wide audience of these treatment advances. Because of this, CAIR investigators became interested in determining whether AIDS treatment advances have caused people to "let down their guard" about safer sex. The survey was conducted with 397 gay and bisexual men in Milwaukee to determine whether perceptions regarding HIV/AIDS severity and the need to maintain safer sex practices have changed since development of the new treatments. Study results were published in the June issue of *AIDS*, an international scientific research journal.

"The survey responses indicate that while most gay men continue to practice safer sex, a subset of men are less likely to follow safer sex precautions because of a perception that the new drug regimens make HIV and AIDS less threatening," says Jeffrey A. Kelly, Ph.D., director of CAIR, professor of psychiatry and behavioral medicine, and principal investigator of the study.

Yet the threats of HIV infection and AIDS remain great. "The combination regimens are costly and difficult to follow, they do not work for everyone, and their long-term effects are not yet known," says Dr. Kelly. "The possibility of transmission of drug-resistant HIV strains is a potentially serious threat if safer sex practices become less diligent."

The researchers also studied perceptions about the severity of AIDS since the advent of the therapies. Ten percent of all surveyed men believed that AIDS is nearly cured and 13% felt that the threat of AIDS is less serious than in the past. HIV-positive men were more likely than their HIV-negative counterparts to perceive AIDS as a less serious threat or as very nearly cured.

"It is understandable that people experiencing the benefits of the treatments were more likely to feel that the threat of AIDS is less serious now. The treatment advances have given new hope to many people, but that optimism must be accompanied by an ongoing recognition of the fact that AIDS is not cured and it remains very important to maintain safer sex practices," says Dr. Kelly.

To combat public misinterpretation of HIV treatment advances, the researchers recommend that ongoing risk-reduction counseling be integrated into care and treatment programs for HIV-positive persons. In addition, public statements and media reports about AIDS treatment advances should make clear that an AIDS cure has not been found and that treatments for HIV can be very difficult and do not work for many people.

Former Thompson Aide Nabbed in Sex Store Raid

A former mayor, Wisconsin state senator and aide to Governor Tommy Thompson was one of ten men arrested in a police sting of a Green Bay adult bookstore over the weekend of July 31-August 2.

Daniel Theno, 51, New Franken, was one of nine men issued a municipal citation for lewd and lascivious behavior after undercover police witnessed them committing sex acts inside the Adult Toy Store, 163 N. Broadway. A tenth man was arrested for fourth degree sexual assault after allegedly propositioning an officer and grabbing him in the crotch.

Theno, a Republican State Senator from 1972 to 1986, then served as mayor of Ashland for three years. Prior to his present position as the Midwest Director of Government Affairs of the Fort James Corporation, Theno served as an aid to Governor Tommy Thompson, coordinating intergovernmental department relations. Theno has been a highly visible representative of the company, which operates two paper mills in Green Bay and is Brown County's largest employer, during negotiations on the environmental cleanup of the Fox River.

According to Theno, he has already paid his fine. "It's highly embarrassing," Theno said in an interview with a local TV station. "It's a mistake that I made and it's unfortunate."

The bookstore sting was prompted by complaints by area residents, according to Green Bay police Captain Bruce Tilkens. "Complaints were made to the neighborhood officers," Tilkens said. Media reports also cited complaints by adjacent business owners and On Broadway, Inc., a non-profit group attempting to revitalize the area.

Don Conrad, one of the owners of the bookstore, could be held responsible for permitting the activity and fined up to \$1,000 for each of the arrests. The Green Bay Protection and Welfare Committee will review the bookstore's adult entertainment license on August 11.

The bookstore sex-sting is the second such undercover operation to occur in Brown County this summer. In June, fourteen men were arrested for lewd and lascivious conduct at a wayside rest stop on northbound US 41, south of DePere. That operation was conducted by the county's Sheriff's Department.

- WI Light Northeast Wisconsin Bureau

Madison

Dane County: LGBT Community Welcomed and Valued

On the heels of the unanimously adopted resolution declaring the City of Madison a "City of Tolerance," the Dane County Board adopted a resolution declaring Dane County a "County of Tolerance."

"The recent stunts by Ralph Ovdal's Wisconsin Christians United only serve to drive a wedge into our community," said Supervisor Terese Berceau, co-sponsor of the resolution. "Dane County should go strongly on record in support of the innumerable contributions that the LGBT community have made to Dane County, and indeed everywhere. This is about simple justice and human rights."

The resolution narrowly passed the Ways & Means Committee by a 5-4 vote before coming to the full County Board. On August 6, the full County Board voted 31-2 in favor of passage.

Voting against the resolution Sup. William Hitzemann (Blue Mounds) said, "I think the billboards simply stated that homosexuality is not a family value. If everybody was homosexual, we would run out of families, would we not?"

- WI Light Madison Bureau

Milwaukee

SSBL Returns to Mitchell Park August 22

Relive the days of yesteryear, when Milwaukee's LGBT Softball league, the SSBL, returns to Mitchell Park for an All-Star Celebration. The league, which began at Mitchell Park in 1977, left for its current Sijan Field home in 1995 when the Milwaukee County parks converted one of the diamonds into a soccer field.

The fun starts at 1:30pm with the Recreational Division All-Star game. Rec division champ, Woody's 1, will take on a team of All-Stars composed of representatives from the division's other four teams. At 3pm Competitive Division champs, South Water Street Docks, will take on an All-Star team contributed by members of the other four Division teams.

The games will be followed by a party for the players and members of the SSBL booster club. The party will feature free burgers, brats, and hot dogs (donated by Grey Line Tours) and free beverages (donated by the league).

The big day ends with the First Annual SSBL Follies, which will be held at Club 219. Each team will contribute an act for the show. Admission is \$3, which includes a free drink. Showtime is 6pm.

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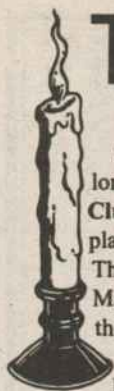
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The Night Light

by Dusty Sass

NEWS... We hear that the long awaited opening of the new **Club 5** in Madison will take place on Thursday September 3. That's because the landlord of Manoeuvres current digs says they are "Outta There" on August 31. Our Mad Town Bureau folks tell me that the new place is going to be **FABULOUS!** I can't wait to see it for myself.

Speaking of fabulous, **South Water Street Docks** and the **Woody's 1** teams won the competitive and recreation divi-

sions of the Milwaukee's **SSBL**. Congrats to the winners and to the rest of the teams for a fine season.

We hear that the **Miss Gay US of A** national pageant finals are all messed up. Apparently the promoters decided to move the site from Kansas City to Dallas Texas. They did that **AFTER** many of the contestants had already bought their tickets and reserved their hotel space for **K.C.**

I do hope our Wisconsin representatives keep past history in mind. Don't ride in any parades down there girls, especially if the route takes you by grassy knolls and book depositories.

My spies tell me that **Fannies** owner, **Sharon Dixon**, was at a Milwaukee Gay pub when someone threw a towel and it landed on a lit candle. The towel started on fire and someone yelled "Uh Oh! Sharon's here." I am told that Sharon laughed harder than anyone else.

RECAPS... **Fluid** was the site of the annual **Jamie (In Step photographer)/Jack Smith (Real Estate Agent extraordinaire)** birthday party. To me, they both looked younger than ever. Which is kinda scary, but maybe it was the lighting.

The big mystery party at the **Triangle** was incredibly fun. It was the bar's Tenth

Anniversary. This was a two-day extravaganza. Friday must have been family night because Rob's Mom was on hand to cut the cake, and Jamie was there with his Aunt from Austin.

On Saturday porn star **Ryan Wagner** was there. My spies tell me that Ryan and Rob used to be a hot item. Way to go Rob! Holding out on us huh? Both nights included an open bar, food and a big balloon drop with prizes. It was a great party.

Of course Ryan wanted me to go with him on his national tour but I declined. All that traveling, all those hot men in those packed bars... Wait a minute. Hey Ryan, wait up!

Then there was the **Packer Party** at **In Between**. The place had a big crowd, especially considering it was the first game of the pre-season, and what **Reggie White** has been up to. The Pack won the game, but it didn't look too good in the early going. Owner **Curt Peck** had the line of the night telling some customers who were getting boisterous, "Shhhh! You'll wake up the Packers, they're trying to sleep."

The **Possum Queen Carnival and Show** at **South Water Street Docks** were a whole lot of fun. The **Light's Dear Ruthie** was fabulous and so were all the performers.

After the show, I went to **La Cage** where my fav DJ tag team, **Dave and Tanya**, were holding court. I just love those huge screens in the south wing. The joint was jumping. One old timer told me as he looked around, "We haven't had a bar like this since the old **Factory** closed." Enough said.

I was over at the **Ball Game** the other day, where a big crowd had gathered just for the heck of it. I think it was like **Statue of Liberty Day** or something. The place was nice and crowded and everyone had a great time.

I also stopped at **Mama Roux** the other night. I ran into some friends there that I hadn't seen for awhile. That cutie **Wade** was tending bar.

Coming Up... On August 14th they have a big grand reopening party at **Brandy's II** up in Title Town. It's a two-day affair, so if you are in that area stop in.

Also on the 14th **Za's** will be the site of the **Tony K** benefit show. Mr. K is going to the **Mr. Gay US of A** finals in Dallas.

On Saturday, August 15, there will be a fun **Possum Queen Fund Raiser** at **This Is It**. **Iona and Ilisa Trailer** will be holding court from 4 to 8pm. You know, **This Is It** is always a great place to stop so don't miss it. I know I won't.

On August 16, **Manoeuvres** will host the **Miss Gay Wisconsin America** pageant. This will be the last big pageant at the bar before it closes and reopens as **Club 5**. Showtime is 9pm.

On Saturday, August 22, Milwaukee's **SSBL** returns to **Mitchell Park** for its **All-Star Games** and picnic. The league played at **Mitchell** for many years where there are many wonderful memories of great players and great games.

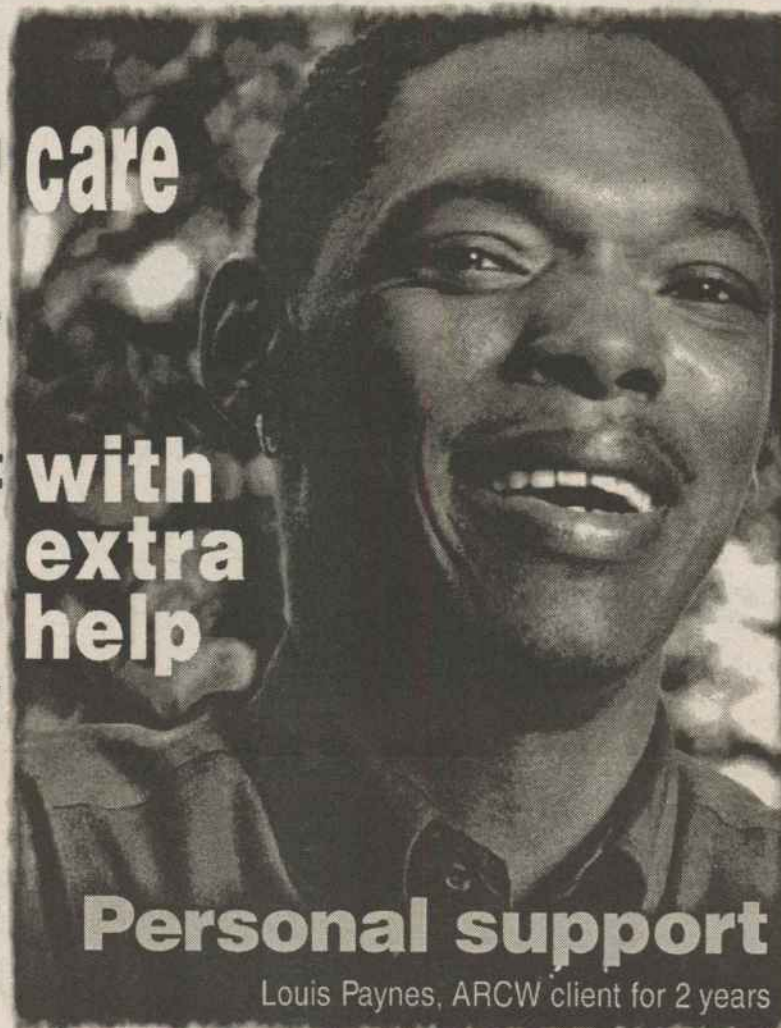
After the games, the league will hold its first annual **Follies** at **Club 219**. Show time is 6pm.

From August 29 to August 31, I'll be showing my pride at **PrideFest**. I can't tell you what I will be doing in the parade, but think balloons.

I am running out of space so, before our Editor comes and smashes my typing fingers, I'd better wrap it up.

Don't forget to sign up for **AIDS Walk Wisconsin**. See you at **PrideFest**. Till then, stay safe and be proud.

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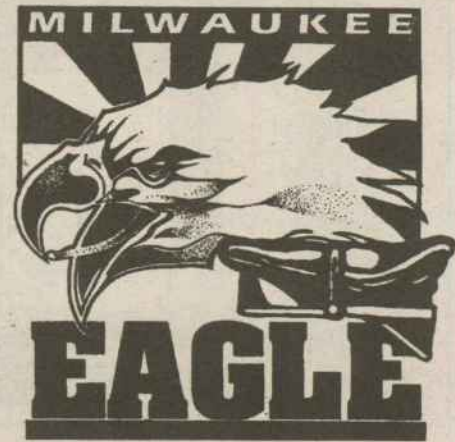
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