

WMLight

September 24 –
October 7, 1998

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Vol. 11 • No. 20
Issue 266

STANDING UP FOR OUR AMERICA

President Clinton's conduct in the Monica Lewinsky affair is difficult to defend. Facing a hostile Congress waiting for him to make the slightest misstep and confronted by numerous rumors of sexual misconduct, all while under investigation by a partisan Republican Special Prosecutor, he jeopardized his legacy and all that he has worked for by engaging in extramarital sex with an intern in the White House. His supporters are understandably angry over his conduct.

Nevertheless, the nature of the current crisis in Washington transcends anger. It is part of a larger battle over the very nature of American society and the way that society is governed. If Bill Clinton loses his fight, America's Gays and Lesbians will lose too.

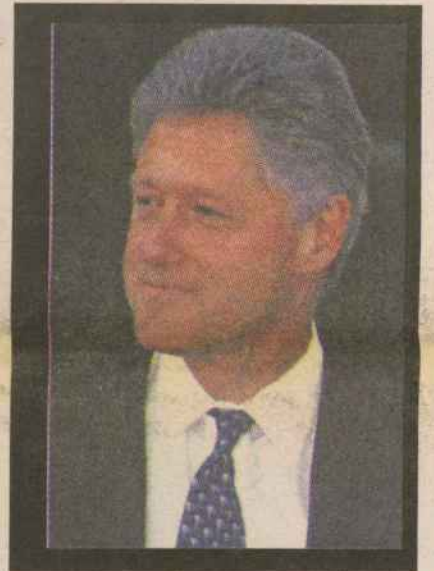
There has been some basis for disappointment in Clinton's performance on issues of concern to our community. Yet, there is no doubt that he has been the best friend we have ever had in the White House.

President Clinton has stood between us and the forces of Majority Leader Trent Lott, Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich, Pat Robertson, Jerry Falwell and the rest of their ilk. All of them are intent on turning back the clock on the post-Stonewall gains of our community. Despite their best efforts, our President has seen to it that the Federal government is open to us on a level that would have been unthinkable just a few years ago.

What is tragically disappointing to us is the violation of the President's pledge, made on *60 Minutes* in January of 1992, that if elected, he would not embarrass the country with sexual misconduct. The pledge was unambiguous, and while the show had an incredibly wide audience, it was most effectively directed to Democratic Party activists whose support was absolutely critical to his efforts to secure the nomination for the Presidency of the United States of America.

Bill Clinton's ability to play the hardball politics necessary to get elected in an environment of incredibly dirty politics was evident then and even more evident now. His call for an electable center-left coalition that would bring a breath of fresh air to 12 years of stale Republican politics was, in the end popular, especially with increasingly Republican suburban voters.

Gays and Lesbians responded to that call. We came through with countless volunteer hours, millions of dollars and most importantly with millions of appeals at the company water cooler, within our families and within our wide circles of friends. The President



The Embattled President

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A PICTURE IS WORTH 14,300 WORDS



PRIDEFEST



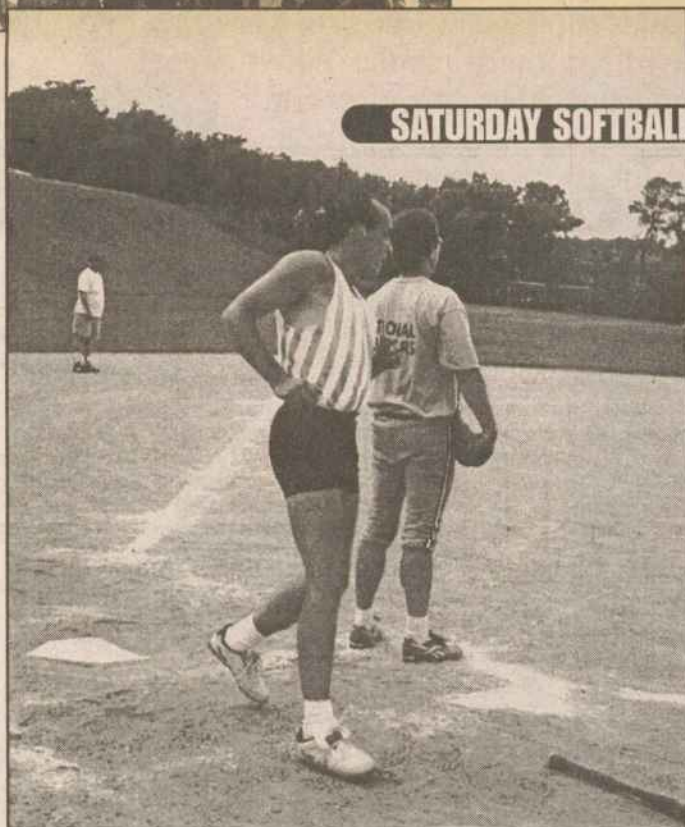
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SOCIETY

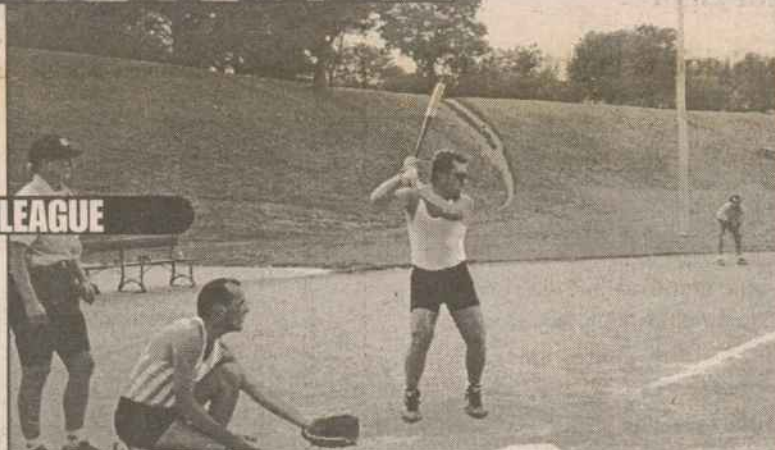


PRIDEFEST

Photos from WI Light Archives

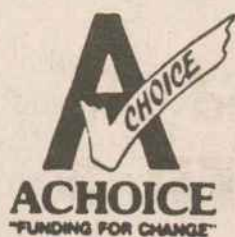


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Staff

Publisher: Ron Geiman (RonGeiman@aol.com)

Editor: Bill Meunier (Editor@wilight.com)

Production Manager/Health Editor: Yuri Keegstra

Arts & Entertainment Editor: Jerry Johnson

Sports Editor: Bob Melig

Director of Sales: Annabelle Havicek (adswilight@aol.com)

Copy Editor: Rick Haag

NE Wisconsin Bureau Chief: Mike Fitzpatrick

Columnists & Reporters: Ted Berg, Glenn Bishop, Dr. Terry Boughner, Chris Fallek, Tina, John Jahn, Jim McFarland, Eldon Murray, Belle Pepper, Dusty Sass, Carl Szatmary, Ruthie

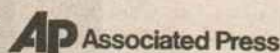
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Subscriptions: One year, first class - \$43.95

National Advertising Representative
RIVENDELL MARKETING COMPANY, INC.
(212) 242-6863

Wisconsin Light
is published biweekly by

Wisconsin Light LLC
225 South 2nd Street
Milwaukee, WI 53204
(414) 226-0075
FAX (414) 226-0096



LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Dear Readers,

This was the most difficult issue for me in my ten-year plus tenure at *Wisconsin Light*. The only issue that even comes close was the one that reported the Republican takeover of Congress.

Besides a number of technical problems, our office staff had an ongoing debate on how to treat the Clinton scandal. The viewpoint of each staff member changed, more than once, on what our response - if any - should be. We agonized over the issues of sexual harassment and the unfairness of the investigation, as well as Clinton's conduct, and our community's reaction. We argued over whether or not to write a parody of the crisis. We wrote and rewrote and rewrote again two editorials.

In the end we decided that the crisis in Washington could not be ignored. Beyond the current round of jokes, beyond the pundits making their predictions, there is the simple truth that the resolution of this crisis may have a great impact on the way our country is governed.

Like you, we want the whole thing to go away. But like you, we know that it won't. It won't because the forces arrayed against Clinton are by and large the same forces arrayed against our community. We are all too familiar with their tenacity, unfairness and lack of scruples.

We understand that you may be tired of reading and hearing about the Clinton/Lewinsky scandal but we also understand and take seriously our responsibility to help our readers make sense of what is happening. In a democracy, an uninformed citizen is an innocent bystander. We cannot afford the luxury of innocent bystanders. We must all be active participants.

It is our hope that you will read our front page editorial, what we call our "sticky web" story that begins on page 4 and our full page editorial on page 15. To some this may seem like overkill, but the issues involved here are too important to cover and analyze in just a few paragraphs. It is nearly impossible to overstate the seriousness of the situation.

Our extensive coverage of the Clinton crisis is aimed at helping you to become an active participant. If it helps you to convince others that what is happening in Washington is wrong, if it encourages you to help fine fair minded candidates like Tammy Baldwin and Russ Feingold, than it was worth all the many hours we spent discussing, arguing and soul searching over it.

We make no pretense that we are unbiased. It is hard to be unbiased when you believe the future of your country may well be at stake. What is happening in Washington and around the country is a knock down, all out, bare knuckled fight. Our gloves are off and yours should be too.

Simply put, it is not enough to be angry about the situation. We must get active about it too. The religious right will be doing everything it can to use this crisis to win at the polls in November and force its agenda on the rest of us. They can only succeed if we sit on our hands and allow it to happen.

We take our responsibility as *your* newspaper very seriously. We don't expect that everyone will agree with our first-ever front-page editorial and the amount of coverage we have devoted to the crisis. But as the Chairman of our Board, Greg Quindel, said, "Sometimes it is up to us to lead and to do and say what we know is right." We have tried to do just that.

The political situation is volatile. No one can predict the outcome of the efforts to remove the President or the results of the November elections. One thing, however, can be said for certain. No matter what happens we must face it together. You can be assured that the *Wisconsin Light* will be there to help our community do just that.

It is to all of you, who like us, have agonized over this crisis, that we dedicate this issue.

Enjoy the *Light*

Bill

COMING OUT - OCTOBER 22

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ELECTION '98

Section

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overwhelmingly received our support at the polls with an incredibly high percentage of our votes – and we voted. This is the time to respond again. This President, as imperfect as he may be, has done his best for us. If we fail to support him with calls to our elected representatives now, and our votes for fair minded candidates in November, we may wind up regretting our inaction for years to come.

This is not the time to harbor ill will over Bill Clinton's failures. It is more than the President who is under siege. It is our American sense of fairness, the fight for equality under the law for all of our citizens, the right of every citizen to privacy and, we believe, the delicate system of checks and balances that make our government function.

Special Prosecutor Kenneth Starr has engaged in an un-American, unfair and unacceptable investigation that included the private sexual conduct of the President and Lewinsky. Starr has spent four years and over \$50 million of our tax dollars investigating Whitewater, Travel Gate and other matters. The best that he has been able to come up with is that the President had consensual private sex in the White House and then lied about it to protect his reputation and his family's feelings.

The prosecutor is one brilliant man and we assume that Mr. Starr has provided himself and his investigators with the necessary argumentation to legally justify all aspects of this despicable inquisition. However, what is legally acceptable and morally right are not always the same thing – as this case shows.

Obtaining information concerning the private sexual behavior of consenting adults, without any knowledge of criminal wrong doing associated with such acts, is unconscionable. The fact that Kenneth Starr began investigating Clinton's alleged perjured testimony in the Paula Jones suit, even before that testimony was given, exposes as fraudulent, his argument that his excesses were necessary because the President had perjured himself.

Even the court hearing the Jones case ruled that contemporary consensual sexual activity was not material to that case. On that basis alone, many legal experts question whether or not perjury was committed. We must wonder why Jones' lawyers after talking to Starr informant Linda Tripp asked questions about that activity in the first place.

We cannot see how the Jones matter was material to any of Starr's investigations of the President at the time. Mr. Starr, and his supporters, have simply not made that case but you can bet that they will try.

The use of an increasingly vicious four-year investigation in a salacious and excessive manner by the Prosecutor and the Judiciary Committee stands for all to see. The calculating manner, timing and the clearly partisan presentation of Starr's report, all done without the normal standards of decency with respect to the rights of the accused, is unacceptable in our America.

The exposure of such unnecessary graphic detail to the nation and its children and with such Prosecutorial abandon, just to obtain the desired partisan results, hopefully will be a bite that comes back to haunt those responsible.

Defenders of Mr. Starr will go point

by point, question by question, document by document, photo by photo and explain why each had to be presented. They have their side but to us, as in the comments of Supreme Court Justice Potter Stewart, "I may not be able to define pornography but I know it when I see it."

We believe that the beginning of this process towards impeachment was designed solely for political gain in the November 3 elections. It is not even remotely reminiscent of the highly respected Watergate Hearings.

This sad tale of sex, the whole thing, doesn't come close to an impeachable offense. We

heard all summer that Starr was getting ready to finally release his barrage. Where is Whitewater? Where is Travelgate? Releasing those reports piece-by-piece, in some attempt to dig at Clinton's wounds, will only make Starr look more pathetic than he already does.

We realize that good people will differ with us, but in our America, people should not persecuted for LEGAL CONSENSUAL ADULT SEXUALITY.

William Jefferson Clinton has been an excellent President. He has been a most capable administrator and effective manager of our economy. He has succeeded in moderating what we believe to be dangerous initiatives that threaten the very soul of American government and its relations to the people. The importance of the Presidency and the need to provide the check, in our checks and balances, is critical to the success of our American system of government.

This Constitutional assault on the Presidency must be stopped immediately. We do not have a parliamentary system of government. The Republicans do not get to remove the President simply because they don't like him or his policies.

Nor should they continue to use our tax dollars for investigations that never end, spread reports of grand jury testimony that are never true and promise indictments that will never be handed down. Unable to win the Presidency, incapable of stopping the man who defeated them from aiding in our fight for equality, they have set out on a course to destroy him so they can more easily attack all that he has done.

We know that many Republican voters are fiscal conservatives and social progressives. We also know that many, many Republican voters are not Christian moralists who are bent on creating the religious right's version of an "inclusive" Christian theocracy. But what was once a pesky fringe element within a responsible body politic has now engaged in a dangerous and vicious power grab by entrapping the President.

The Christian Coalition and their individual and organizational supporters are a relatively insignificant portion of the American populace. But in conjunction with those conservatives not com-

fortable within the realm of progressive politics, they have become a dangerous force. With millions of dollars and their very sophisticated marketing, including over 45 million voter guides just this fall, they have without doubt, become a formidable force in American politics. We cannot overstate this point.

They have made it clear that they believe that, not only do we bring AIDS upon ourselves but that it is God's punishment for our "immoral behavior."

They made it clear that given the chance, they will roll back our hard fought victories that have substantially expanded our civil rights, especially in

some states including Wisconsin.

They believe that an employer should have the right to fire an employee because they are Gay or Lesbian. They believe that privately owned public accommodations should be free to refuse its services to our community.

They believe in a restrictive regulation of books, photos, plays and art that threatens our sacred right to free speech.

They believe that the government belongs in the decision making of young woman who makes a mistake on a date and that she should not, even for one day, even after rape or incest, have the right to decide, whether or not, to bring a new life into her world.

This President has stood in the way of their attempts to impose these and other beliefs on our pluralistic American society. Yes, the President has violated his pledge not to engage in sex-

ual misconduct that would embarrass the country. We have a right to be angry about that violation. But that anger should not cloud the fact that, as a result of his misconduct, and through shrewd, calculating and cynical efforts by a broad base of Clinton critics, the future of dozens of dangerous proposals circulating in Congress are now enhanced.

The Christian right wing is only a few votes short of cloture in the Senate. With that, they would be free to vote on absolutely any proposal offered by the current Republican leadership. Conservatives certainly believe that they are within striking distance of a gaining a veto-proof senate and House in the November elections and they may be right.

To the Lesbian, Gay Bisexual and Transgender community, the specter of a Congress totally dominated by a political party which is itself dominated by religious zealots is analogous to a Jihad or even a fascist takeover. While we do not accuse these people of being the same, or as bad as some in history, we cannot let them redefine freedom in America.

We can not let them have that chance. Whatever differences, whatever disappointments we have had with our President, we must not let them get in the way of helping him now. In a very real sense, his fight is our fight. It is a fight against partisan excess, the use of our government to force a religious agenda on society and the perversion of our governmental institutions for political gains. It is a fight for equality, for fairness, for privacy and for an America that accepts, understands, forgives and embraces all of its people.

It is time to return to those water coolers, to talk to our families, co-workers, and friends. It is time to get out our checkbooks, and spend some volunteer hours helping candidates who are fair minded. It is time to stand up for our President and for the country we want America to be.

"Obtaining information concerning the private sexual behavior of consenting adults, without any knowledge of criminal wrong doing associated with such acts, is unconscionable."

Clinton Caught in Starr's Sticky Oral Sex Web

All you need to know about what really happened

By Gregory Quindel & Bill Meunier

In an earlier example of an investigation gone wild, allegations that the President and First Lady were somehow involved in the death of White House Council Vince Foster have been the most serious charges leveled in the now six-year-old criminal investigation by two separate Special Prosecutors. The most striking aspect of the murder investigation conducted by Special Prosecutor Kenneth Starr was that three different law enforcement agencies and Clinton's first Special Prosecutor had already concluded that Foster had died of a self-inflicted gunshot wound. Still, Starr pursued the investigation after several conspiracy books and a videotape, promoted by anti-Gay crusader Jerry Falwell, were released.

Now, Starr has released his long-awaited report to Congress. His report deals only with the Clinton-Lewinsky scandal. An examination of the report,

and the history behind it, raises as many serious questions about the conduct of Kenneth Starr, and his investigation, as it does about the conduct of the President.

The 6-year \$50,000,000+ investigation into the business, political and personal lives of the President and First Lady has resulted in a lurid report, an accompanying video and thousands of salacious supporting documents outlining 11 incidences whereby the President engaged in consensual oral sex with former White House intern Monica Lewinsky.

In the referral to the House Judiciary Committee, Starr alleges that Clinton perjured himself in his January 17, 1998 testimony in the 2.5 million dollar Paula Jones sexual harassment suit, when he denied having "sexual relations" with Lewinsky and that he engaged in various methods of obstruc-

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AIDS Walk '98 Raises \$632,888

by Ron Geiman

Milwaukee — Wisconsin AIDS Walk '98 was held Sunday, September 20 with near-perfect weather conditions. Nearly 10,000 participants raised \$632,888 for 19 Wisconsin AIDS organizations. The 10K walk stepped off at 12:30pm after a morning of activities, speeches, cheerleading and exercise at the Summerfest Grounds. Honorary Chair, Lesbian Chastity Bono, spoke at both the preceding Walk Breakfast, and at the opening ceremonies, where she received a rousing welcome.

The official numbers recorded by the turnstiles at the grounds totaled 7,022, but Walk organizers recognized the large number of people who registered and sent in their donations prior to the Walk, or joined in without entering the gates. Walkers came from all over the Midwest, many by car, bus, vans, motorcycles and bikes. There were large contingents from Northeast Wisconsin, as well as the South Central and North Central parts of the State.

The assembled crowd was charged up at the pre-Walk rally with rousing speeches from Mayor Norquist, AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin (ARCW) Executive Director Doug Nelson, Rep. Tom Barrett, WTMJ's Carole Meekins (who also served as emcee), and Chastity. Youthful PWA and Camp Heartland speaker Stephanie Ray, who at 12 years of age, brought many in the crowd to tears with her poignant comments.

Perennial protesters from Wisconsin Christians United greeted walkers as they turned the corner from Harbor Drive to Michigan to Lincoln Memorial. However, there were far more "true" Christians participating in the Walk than were demonstrating against it.

It was a wonderful day of fundraising and camaraderie, with "smiles for miles" and delightful stops along the route with refreshments and entertainment to provide a lift to walkers. Walkers who gave of their time and shoe leather raised much needed funding to continue providing services for the ever-increasing AIDS caseloads. They are proof that the power and virtue of walking can help to bring about a cure.

A big thanks also to the co-chairs, steering committee, all the volunteers, entertainers and sponsors who made this year's walk possible. Each year, a large number of companies return as sponsors, and each year some new ones join the fight. Because of their continued support and commitment in the fight against AIDS, people throughout Wisconsin will continue to receive life-sustaining services, research and prevention activities.

The AIDS Walk Breakfast was attended by 250 corporate supporters, friends, Gays & Lesbians, and a number of politicians including: State Representatives, Peter Bock, Ray Underheim, Barbara Notestein, Tammy Baldwin; State Senators Richard Grobschmidt and Peggy Rosenzweig; US Congressman Tom Barrett, and

Senator Russ Feingold; and Milwaukee County Executive Tom Ament.

Ament commented that the Walk presented "an opportunity to recommit to the cause of living without fear or prejudice, and resolving to work together to combat AIDS." He also committed to an additional increase in funding in his next budget, which drew a big round of applause and a promise from Nelson to hold Ament to an increase in funding.

Nelson then thanked the absent US Rep. Jerry Kleczka for his ongoing fight in committee to increase Wisconsin's AIDS housing funds by 10% in the next budget. Nelson also saluted Feingold for becoming, without hesitation, "the first US Senator to sign on to what became a very contentious fight to change the formula to bring equity to AIDS funding across the country... helping to win for Wisconsin a 50% in Ryan White Care Act funding... his courageous vote of great integrity to oppose the Federal ban on funding of needle exchange... and his consistent support, courageous stands in the fight against AIDS."

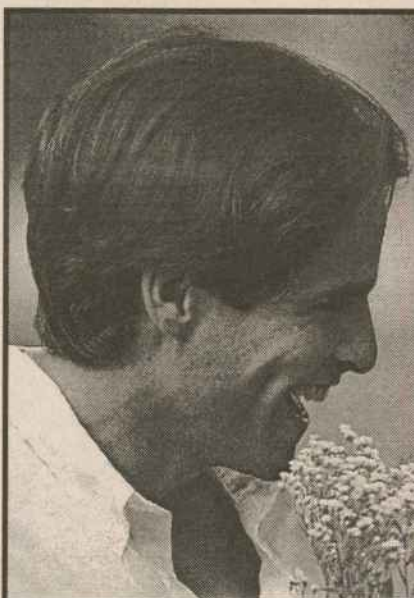
In his comments, after a warm reception, Feingold saluted the people, programs and organizations around the state that do such an effective job in fighting HIV/AIDS. "We still need Federal help... to make sure Wisconsin gets its fair share of AIDS funding... and to maintain a firm infrastructure to care for those with HIV/AIDS."

Bono reflected on her childhood, a time when she was surrounded by many Gay men who worked around her show biz parents. By the time she was older, and had come out, most of those men had since died of AIDS, and that made her deal with the issue of AIDS up close and personal. Then, in her public Gay life, working with national organizations, AIDS again was an issue she had to constantly confront and educate herself and others about.

After the Walk, the top three Walkers were named: 3rd with \$3,083 was Shirley Burr from Sheboygan; 2nd was Chicagoan John S. with \$3,200, and 1st with \$11,110 was Milwaukeean Robert Parrish.

Unfortunately, after yearly increases in the amount of money raised and sponsorships received, the AIDS Walk in the last two years has seen precipitous drops in dollar totals. Last year was less than the year before, and this year was lower than last. Meanwhile, thanks to the hoopla and sometimes success of drug cocktails, which have helped reduce the number of AIDS deaths, a large sector of the public has been convinced that the epidemic is mostly behind us. However, caseloads continue to grow, new infections occur, and the need for services steadily increases.

That continued need guarantees that there will be a 1999 AIDS Walk Wisconsin. As Nelson puts it, "There is no cure. There is no vaccine. We need to keep walking until it's over."



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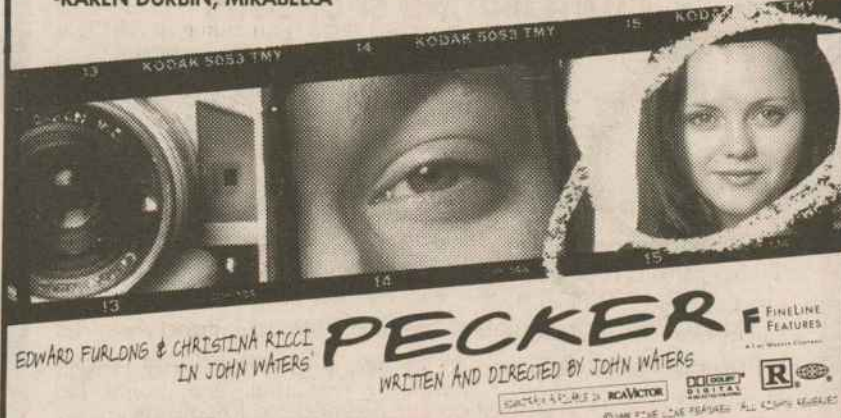
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AROUND THE STATE

Madison

Outreach Forming Support Groups

Outreach, Madison's LGBT Social Services Agency, is forming men's and women's support groups for the fall. Both groups will run for ten weeks beginning in early October, and will meet at the Outreach office. Outreach's coming out support groups are peer based and led by trained facilitators. A full ten-week commitment is asked of all participants. More information can be obtained by calling (608) 255-4297.

Outreach is also looking for volunteers for all of its services including Out-Line, telephone and drop in peer counseling, information and referral, Support Group Facilitation, and its Speaker bureau. Training sessions for volunteers are scheduled to begin in the fall. Interested volunteers should call Callen at (608) 225-4297.

Over 60 People Attend LGBT Meeting

Over 60 people of all ages and from diverse walks of life gathered at the First Congregational Church on September 13th to envision the future of the LGBT community at a Town Meeting.

After a summer of reacting to events staged by the radical right, the meeting was an opportunity for LGBT people and allies to look ahead and map out a positive, proactive vision for themselves and their community over the next five to ten years.

Several present at the meeting felt that reaching out and bringing people together to decrease their sense of isolation should be a top priority. The meeting did, in fact, bring together people who don't often have the opportunity to talk with each other.

Some were longtime activists and others were newly out or new to activism. Besides long-term visioning, several concrete short-term strategies also emerged in the areas of media activism, alliance building in the religious community, coalition building, work in the schools, political involvement, and internal healing for our community.

Small groups with a focus in these areas have begun meeting. Another town meeting is planned for mid-November; the exact date has yet to be decided. The meetings are co-sponsored by Outreach, GLADE, GLSEN, the UW Ten Percent Society, Coming Out Coming Together, and Action Wisconsin.

Variety Show Looking for Entertainers, Volunteers

The Lesbian Variety Show Weekend is looking for entertainers, artists and volunteers for the 13th annual extravaganza to be held November 13 to 15. Call (608) 251-3953 for more information. Performers and artists should call no later than September 30.

Marshfield (Central Wisconsin)

The Marshfield Gay and Lesbian Organization will be sponsoring a social on October 12 at 7pm. The event will feature the movie *The Birdcage*. Bring a dish to pass. Everyone is welcome to attend.

On October 19, the Marshfield Gay Lesbian Political Organization will hold its monthly meeting. The topic will be "coping with sexuality on the job," dealing with job discrimination. Plans for an upcoming Christmas party and the 1998 Christmas cruise of homes & businesses in the Marshfield area will be discussed. For more information, contact MGLO & MGLPO at (715) 387-2068 or send an email message to mglo18@hotmail.com.

Milwaukee

Medical College Gets \$4 Million Grant

The Wisconsin Medical College's CAIR program has received a grant of \$4 million to study the needs of persons with HIV and to evaluate the effectiveness of health promotion programs in meeting those needs.

As part of the study, CAIR will offer mental health services to over 300 persons living with HIV and AIDS. Dr. Jeff Kelly, Director of the CAIR program, will head the new study.

The new study comes at a time when many persons with HIV are living longer due to new drug therapies. Very little research has been undertaken to understand how people living with HIV can best deal with the challenges these new treatments pose.

"We need to develop counseling approaches that can help people with HIV to access and adhere to health care, benefit fully from the new treatments, refrain from activities that would result in HIV transmission to others, and move from a preoccupation with dying to a focus on healthy living," said Dr. Kelly. "This is especially important because persons who are now contracting HIV are younger and more disenfranchised than ever before."

Kelly's concern stems from the difficulties associated with maintaining the strict regimens required by the new drug treatments. These regimens are difficult to follow. Furthermore, some persons with HIV have difficulty consistently maintaining safer sex recommendations and disclosing their HIV status to others, especially when they

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Titletown Tidbits

by Mike Fitzpatrick

Fall is Here: While some mark autumn with the turning of leaves and cooler winds, the sure sign of fall in northeast Wisconsin's Gay community is the replacement of picnics with workshops and educational presentations.

Antique Meet: Positive Voice, Inc. (PV) kicked off its sixth lecture season September 21 with its home grown version of the PBS series "Antique Road Show." Members and other interested parties were invited to dine at the Bay Family Restaurant West and bring a collectable or two for local experts to review. Although actual appraisals were not made, the evening yielded a treasure trove of story telling as the fascinating histories of many of the objects were recounted.

Family Focus: The Family Service Association of the Fox Valley, Inc. (FSA) began a six week series of free 90-minute workshops for LGBT people and their families September 23 with a program entitled "Preventing Family Trauma Through HIV/AIDS Awareness." Future programs include "communicating with Significant Others" (Sept. 30), "Creating AODA Awareness and Defense Systems" (Oct. 7), "Parenting Skills" (Oct. 14) and "Taking Shame Out of Sexual Orientation in the Family System" (Oct. 21). Programs are held at FSA, 1488 Kenwood Center in Menasha and are facilitated by FSA therapy and counseling staff members. For more information call (920) 739-4226.

Walker Run-Up: Although the overall number of participants for this year's AIDS Walk Wisconsin was down, it wasn't because northeast Wisconsin wasn't trying. Regional registrations rose by close to 20% and topped 1100 in the area. A record number of 17 buses provided transportation from Green Bay, the Fox Cities, Manitowoc and Sheboygan. Kudos to Lamers Bus Company for donating the buses and drivers.

Titletown Top Man: Congratulations to Green Bay's Jeff Jennings on being named first runner-up in the national Mr. Gay USA pageant held in Texas recently. The multi-talented Mr. Jennings has won a variety of Mr. Gay Wisconsin titles over the last four years, including the USA system title twice, and can always be counted on to donate his time for Gay charities.

Stillborn: Yuma's on Broadway is history before it even opened its doors. The Public Protection Committee of Green Bay's City Council made it official when it refused again to grant the tavern a liquor license.

Reggie Watch: The Minister of Defense has been showing some of his old form of late, making three sacks in the recent Tampa Bay game, obviously taking to heart the old adage "don't quit your day job." That's a wise move considering he's now 0-2 moonlighting as Minister of Offense for the Radical Right.

Last May Reggie saw his personal call to repeal Ypsilanti, Michigan's civil rights ordinance rejected by voters. Now Wisconsin's Second Congressional District primary voters rejected Ron Greer, for whom Reggie campaigned.

Reggie hasn't learned that the great majority of active voters lived through the Civil Rights struggle of the '60s and find the picture of a black celebrity fighting against civil rights for other minorities incongruous, if not ludicrous. Reggie has already completed anti same-sex marriage commercials for the upcoming constitutional referendum in Hawaii. If Reggie's streak holds, you might want to book your honeymoon suite now to avoid the rush after November.

AROUND THE STATE continued from page 6

are feeling well. Those who lapse in their safer sex practices run the risk of transmitting and contracting drug resistant strains of HIV.

Participants will be followed for a three-year period to determine the intervention's impact on medical treatment adherence, HIV health status, avoidance of high-risk sexual or drug use practices, psychological coping, and quality of life.

Simultaneous studies using the same research methodology will be conducted at Columbia University in New York, the University of California - San Francisco, and UCLA. The researchers will eventually combine findings from all of these programs. The Medical College of Wisconsin team, headed by Doctor Jeff Kelly, will have administrative coordinating responsibility for the five-year national project.

Whitewater

Romanovsky & Phillips Appear at UW-Whitewater

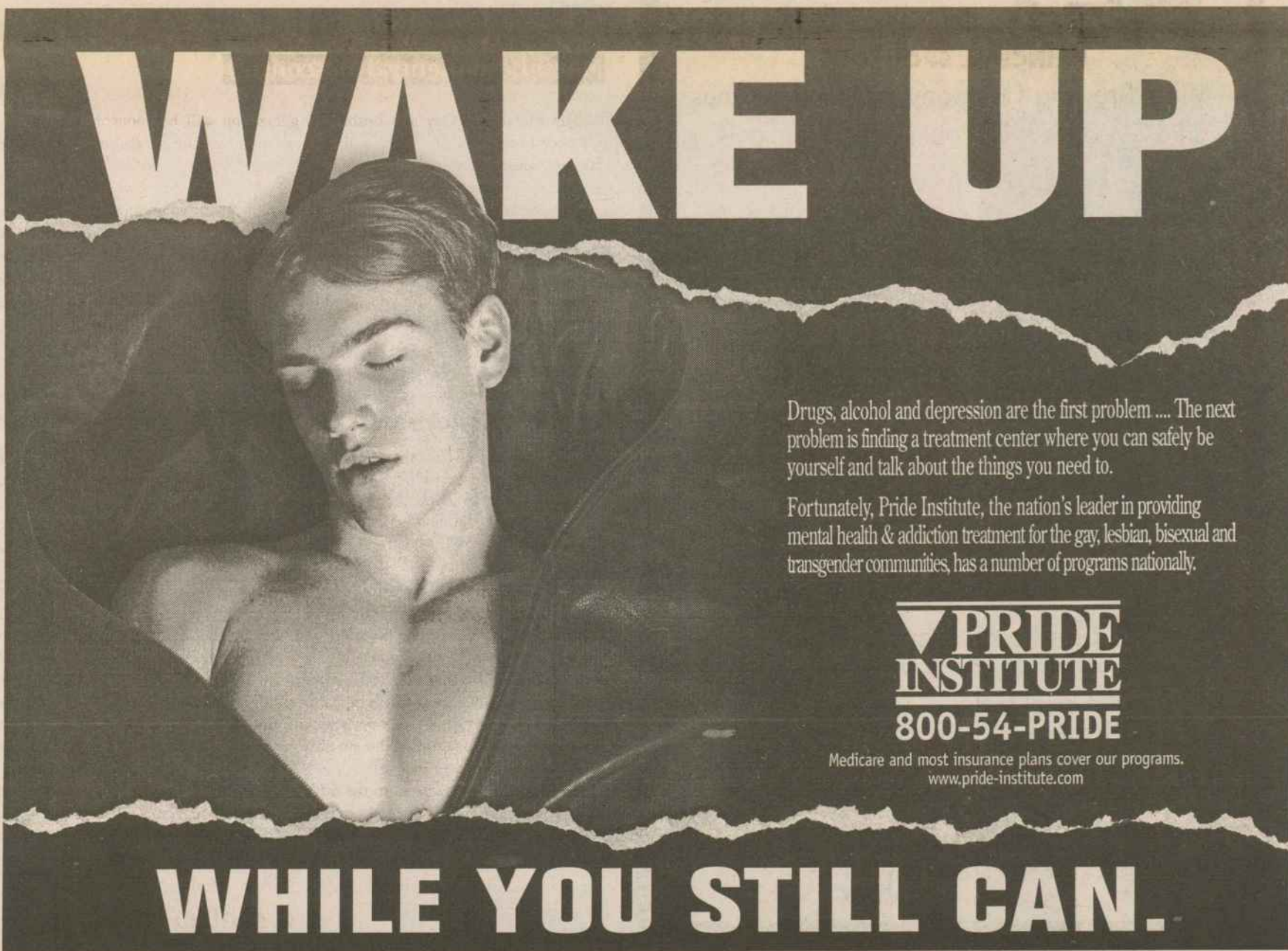
Comedians Ron Romanovsky and Paul Phillips bring their brand of Gay humor and music to UW-Whitewater's Young Auditorium with their "Let's Flaunt It" World Tour Friday, October 9 at 7:30pm.

Romanovsky & Phillips began their career at San Francisco's Valencia Rose Cafe in 1982 as the musical break for Gay Comedy Open Mike Night. Since then, they have appeared in over 200 cities in the U.S., Canada, and Australia. Their music is a blend of humor, satire, social comedy and polished performance techniques.

This event is part of the student oriented "Party at Irv's" series. Tickets for this performance are \$2.50 and \$5 for UWW students with valid identification, and \$10 and \$12 for the general public. Call UWW Ticket

Services at (414) 472-2222 (Voice and TTY) or stop by the ticket outlet at the Young Auditorium weekdays from 9:30 am to 5pm for tickets or further information.

The "Party at Irv's" is preceded by an hour of live piano music, and refreshments are available for purchase in the Auditorium's Fern Young Terrace.



WAKE UP

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PRESENTS

Romanovsky

&
Phillips

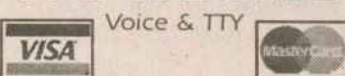


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The Fannies Fire Did She Do It?

By Bill Meunier

This series, which will end with our next issue, examines the October 28, 1997 arson fire at Fannies, a popular Lesbian bar located on Milwaukee's near South side. Fannies owner, Sharon Dixon, is free on bail awaiting trial on charges related to the fire.

Sloppy Police Work?

Sharon Dixon charges that the Police did not properly investigate the fire at her bar. Dixon says that none of the area businesses with security cameras were asked if those cameras showed anything unusual the night of the fire. Furthermore, she says that during a pre-trial hearing, the investigating officer admitted that no picture was taken of the back door jam after the fire.

That may be crucial since Dixon claims that the door jam showed clear evidence of a break in. That contention, which is supported by one of her workers (see Fannies Fire Part One), could prove critical in her trial.

Wisconsin Light in a walk through the area around Fannies was able to find only one security camera. It pointed to the alley way directly behind Fannies bar. It was our observation that this camera could not have picked up anything related to the fire, since it was pointed at a severe downward angle. The camera is operated by Mill Valley Recycling.

We did, however, talk to George Vomverg, owner of George's Pub. His bar is located less than 150 feet away from Fannies. Vomverg told *Wisconsin Light* that on the night of

the fire, he and a customer had observed a light green or turquoise car repeatedly driving down East Washington past his bar and Fannies.

Vomverg stated that he did tell the Police about the car when they interviewed him. However, he also said that he did not get a license plate number and was not able to identify the make of the car.

Wisconsin Light made several attempts to get a copy of the Police report regarding Dixon's arrest, but was unable to do so. The Open Records Division of the Milwaukee Police Department told *Light* that the report was unavailable because the case was "under investigation."

Two months after our request was made and three months after Dixon had been arrested, the report still has not been released to us.

While we cannot say what the Police report contains, we can say that the District Attorney has over 7,000 pages of evidence in its case against Dixon. Many of these pages contain information not directly related to the fire or to the investigation against Dixon.

The District Attorney's office has told Dixon's attorney that they will charge

her 50 cents a page for this evidence. This means that Dixon would have to come up with \$3,500 to view the evidence against her. Dixon said her attorney is trying to negotiate a lower price.

The Other Charges

In addition to being charged with Arson with Intent to Defraud, Dixon was also charged with Possession of a Controlled Substance and Possession of Explosives.

The Possession of Explosives charge was dropped when, during a preliminary hearing on the case, a Police Detective admitted that the devices were not opened or tested.

The devices, which Dixon says belonged to her late brother, varied in size. The biggest one was 4 inches long and 1 7/8 inches in diameter.

Dixon doesn't deny knowing that the devices were in the locker, but she says she looked at them as "firecrackers," and didn't know it was illegal to possess them.

Dixon says that she hopes people understand that the devices were not meant to burn down or blow up Fannies, pointing out that she still had them after the fire.

The Possession of a Controlled Substance charge is still in effect. On November 20, 1997, the Police searched Dixon's apartment. In a fire safe, they found three prescription pill bottles containing various types of pills.

Included among those pills were 274 unmarked tablets, which the Wisconsin Regional Crime lab identified as morphine

tablets.

According to the complaint, the pharmacy name, patient name, and prescription number were cut off from two of the bottles. The third bottle had Sharon Dixon's name on it.

Dixon says that she got the morphine tablets from her mother and from the mother of a friend who had died of AIDS.

"They gave them to me because of my back problem," she said. I didn't know it was illegal to have them."

Pharmacist Jim Searles, owner of Milwaukee's Brady Street Pharmacy, said in his 25 years of practice, he never saw a morphine prescription for the amount of pills found in Dixon's possession. Even if the pills came from two prescriptions, he said the amount would still be excessive.

Searles said pharmacies are required by law to put two special labels on prescriptions for narcotics. One label reads: "Federal law prohibits transfer of this drug to any person other than the patient for whom prescribed." The second label reads: "Caution federal law prohibits dispensing without a prescription."

In our next issue: If not Dixon, then who?

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tion of justice concerning the denial. The Report, sent to the Capitol Hill Wednesday, September 11 did not contain any evidence relating to the original focus of the Starr investigation, the so-called Whitewater Real Estate and Banking Scam.

Starr may have some evidence of wrongdoing, but nothing that comes close to the level of an impeachable offense. It is believed that Starr is holding his report until after the sex scandal softens Clinton's public support or he resigns. Released now, Whitewater would get lost in all the salaciousness. Later, Starr could argue that Whitewater is part of a pattern of immoral behavior and just one more reason for impeachment.

Starr also investigated the firing of several non civil service Bush holdovers in the White House Travel office. The fact that they legally worked at the discretion of the President was ignored. Mr. Starr needs to explain why he hasn't issued his conclusions in this minor six-year-old case.

The report to the Judiciary Committee was also devoid of any mention of the FBI File Case or any of the other non sex-related allegations against the President or First Lady.

Clinton's strategy, to publicly deny the Lewinsky affair, unraveled when it was confirmed in early August of this year that the Special Prosecutor had obtained a dress from Lewinsky. That dress had been stained with presidential semen. Since the disclosure, Clinton has, in a somewhat contorted manner, acknowledged the relationship, but not the perjury.

Last month, Lewinsky was called to the Whitewater Grand Jury to substantiate earlier alleged presidential perjury in the Paula Jones case. Before the President had ever said a word of testimony in either deposition, Starr had wired Linda Tripp so that he and Tripp could tape Lewinsky talking about her relationship with the President and their strategies to keep the affair secret. On the day before Clinton's first deposition in the Jones case, Tripp was paraded over to Jones' attorneys to help complete the trap into which the President had walked.

When the President first testified in the Jones case on January 17, 1998, he chose his words very carefully, but without the knowledge that Starr and Tripp had taped conversations with Lewinsky. The case was dismissed when the courts ruled that Jones' allegations, even if true, did not constitute sexual harassment because there was no evidence that her career as an Arkansas state employee had in any way been affected by the incident. What Clinton did or did not do with consensual adults years later had already been ruled irrelevant.

Relying on the fact that he had not had intercourse with Lewinsky, Clinton denied having a "sexual relationship" with her. Starr commenced a seven-month effort to get at the "truth" behind the Clinton/Lewinsky relationship. For seven months, Lewinsky resisted Starr's relentless efforts to get her to admit to a "sexual relationship" with the President.

Lewinsky, according to the Starr Report, had begun her internship at the White House in July '95. She testified to the Whitewater Grand Jury that, over the

next several months, she repeatedly re-introduced herself to and engaged in "intense flirting" with the President. Her first opportunity for sexual activity with the President came in the afternoon of November 15, 1995 during the second day of the federal Government shut-down. At that time, she had already obtained a paying job at the White House that would start on November 26. During this period, the White House staff had been reduced to 90, including the interns, from the normal 430.

When no one was looking, she exposed herself to the President by lifting her blouse in the back to bare high-riding thong underwear. Then again, at about 8pm, she spotted Clinton alone in George Stephanopoulos's office and told him that she had a crush on him, and they kissed.

At 10pm, again in George Stephanopoulos's office, she performed oral sex on the President while he took care of some business on the phone. When the call was finished, he asked her to stop. She testified, "I told him that I wanted...to complete that. And he said that he needed to wait until he trusted me more."

Two days later, she again performed oral sex on him, again without ejaculation. Ditto for New Years December 31, 1995, January 7, January 21, February 4, March 31 and April 7, 1996, again, all without the President ejaculating. Lewinsky was banished, by a senior staff member, to the Pentagon in April '96. In one of those historic curiosities, this was the same office in which Linda Tripp, the former Bush White House

time she stood outside his church to be sure he would see her as he left in the limo. After most of her appearances the President would call Lewinsky, it seems at least in part, to be sure she wasn't wavering in her secrecy. After nearly 11 months of frustration and numerous conversations with Travelgate character Linda Tripp, Lewinsky placed the following Valentines Day "love note" in the February 14, 1997 Washington Post.

HANDSOME
*With love's light wings did
I o'er perch these walls
For stony limits cannot hold
love out,
And what love can do that
dares love attempt.*
— Romeo and Juliet 2:2
Happy Valentine's Day
M

Two weeks later, on February 27, Lewinsky arranged to be at the taping of Clinton's regular Saturday afternoon radio broadcast. Clinton, possibly worried about the implications of her publishing love notes in a nationally distributed newspaper, met with her. She testified that he "started to say something to me and I was pestering him to kiss me,

"In a moment that would reshape American politics, the President led Lewinsky into the Oval Office hallway and, once again, consented to her demands for oral sex."

employee who had testified against the Clintons in the Travelgate case, had also been transferred. According to Lewinsky, she did not see the President privately for nearly 11 months until February 28, 1997.

During this period, Lewinsky testified that she cajoled the President to get her a job at the White House, and intimated that she would go public if he didn't deliver. The President never did get her the job, but later on did try to help her get a job in the private sector.

Again, according to Lewinsky's testimony, she grew increasingly frustrated by the President's failure to deliver on the job and also because she had been so effectively cut out of the White House loop. So, she began what could be termed stalking of the President at public events. Videos of her in the front of crowd lines have been broadcast over and over and over.

She testified that she would arrive early so that she could get close to the President during his appearances. One

because it had been a long time since we had been alone."

In a moment that would reshape American politics, the President led Lewinsky into the oval office hallway and, once again, consented to her demands for oral sex. Lewinsky begged for the President to complete the act. "And I continued to perform oral sex and then he pushed me away, kind of as he always did before he came, and then I stood up and said I care about you so much; I don't understand why you won't let me make you come; it's important to me; I mean, it just doesn't feel complete, it doesn't seem right." Unfortunately for Clinton, he let her finish.

She saved her navy blue dress, purchased at the Gap, keeping it unwashed for 17 months. Later, it was entered into evidence that Clinton had perjured himself in the Paula Jones case. As it turns out, the DNA on the dress was the only irrefutable evidence of their relationship.

Starr further alleges that the President perjured himself again in his August 17, 1998 testimony at the Whitewater Grand jury. While the President acknowledged inappropriate behavior with Lewinsky, he refused to go into detail. However, he did deny sexual intercourse, which, according to Clinton, he thought was necessary to engage in "sexual relations". Clinton's defense of the perjury charge stems from his understanding of the term "sexual relations", as defined by the Federal judge hearing the Jones case. To this day, he has continued to protect his legal defense in the case, but has clearly and publicly acknowledged inappropriate sexual behavior with Lewinsky.

More than a few Americans see Starr's report as clear evidence that the Prosecutor has acted improperly, and experts around the country are questioning its legal value. Starr claims that the President's refusal to tell his aides that he had engaged in sex with Lewinsky constituted subordination of perjury. He also contends that Clinton's appeal of a court decision that ordered the Secret Service to testify was obstruction of justice. Critics point out that under the American system of justice, everyone has a right to appeal judicial decisions they don't agree with.

The strongest accusation — that Clinton perjured himself — may have credence, but is hotly disputed. What may seem like a lie may not be perjury. Witnesses do have the right to try and present their defense in the best possible light.

To many it appears that right wing conservatives laid a trap for the President. That trap began when Jones filed her suit. The suit, which had previously been dismissed, was going nowhere until the conservative Rutherford foundation, funded by Richard Mellon-Scase, paid for all of Jones' legal fees, estimated to be over \$300,000. Mellon-Scase is the same benefactor who endowed a chair at Pepperdine University, a position that Starr first accepted, and a few days later declined, in February 1997. He did, however, indicate that he would accept the position after he had concluded his \$50+ million investigation...whenever that might be.

Starr has made no secret of his far right tendencies. In the early days of his investigation, he received large speaking fees for anti-Clinton tirades to various new right organizations such as the Christian Coalition.

Starr may have decided that he didn't need the money. In addition to being on the Federal payroll and receiving speaking fees at right wing events, he also maintained an active legal practice. His clients include many of Clinton's severest critics. State of Wisconsin taxpayers also contributed to Starr's coffers when he was retained by Governor Thompson to defend Wisconsin's expansion of school choice to include religious schools. Thompson appointed Starr over the objections of Attorney Jim Doyle who was elected by the people of Wisconsin to represent their interests in federal court cases.

Starr, for lack of credible criminal evidence in his various probes of the Clintons, set the President up with the help of little ol' Linda Tripp, but the truth remains. He couldn't have done it without the help of the President.

AROUND THE NATION

Victory Fund Candidates 10 and 4 So Far

Washington - 10 out of 14 Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund-endorsed candidates have won their primaries - some of them by large margins - according to sources at the organization. Among the winners are three Lesbian Congressional candidates, Wisconsin's Tammy Baldwin - who is running for an open seat in the Second Congressional

District, Grethe Cammermeyer, who won her primary in Washington State by a margin of more than two to one, and San Diego City Councilwoman Christine Kehoe.

Prior to the primaries, Gay political operatives in Washington privately told *Wisconsin Light* that they believed Baldwin had the best chance of the three to become the first Gay non-incumbent and the first Lesbian ever to be elected to the House of Representatives.

Cammermeyer's primary victory, which was expected, came on Tuesday,

September 15. It puts her in position to challenge Republican incumbent Jack Metcalf. The 70-year-old Metcalf garnered less than 49% of the vote in the GOP primary. The district is considered a "swing district," meaning that both parties are given a chance to capture the seat.

Metcalf has raised the issue of Cammermeyer's sexual orientation. Swept into office by the Republican tide in 1994, he barely won re-election in 1996.

Kehoe faces Republican incumbent Brian Bilbary in her bid. Bilbary is thought to be a strong opponent.

New Revelations in Milk's 1978 Murder

San Francisco - The *San Jose Mercury News* is reporting that a soon to be published article shows that Dan White, who murdered San Francisco Mayor George Moscone and openly Gay Supervisor Harvey Milk, also intended to kill two other city officials: Willie Brown, who is now the Mayor of San Francisco, and Ruth Carol Silver, another County Supervisor. The murders took place in November, 1978.

The article, which is expected to appear in the October issue of *San Francisco* magazine, says that White confessed his intentions to former homicide detective Frank Falzon shortly after he had been paroled from prison. The revelation is important because a jury refused to convict him of first degree murder charges. Instead, White was convicted of involuntary manslaughter after he claimed that he never meant to kill anyone.

During White's trial, his attorneys raised the now famous "twinkie defense." They claimed that White didn't mean to kill Milk and Moscone, and argued that his eating too much junk food clouded his judgment.

Milk was America's first openly Gay official. After the White verdict was delivered, thousands of Gays and Lesbians chanting "He got away with murder" rioted. The rioters stormed City Hall and burned a number of police cars. Spontaneous protests broke out in other cities as well.

White went on a rampage after it became clear that Moscone was not going to appoint him to a post on of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors. White had resigned the position earlier that month. He apparently blamed Milk and Silver for the Mayor's decision.

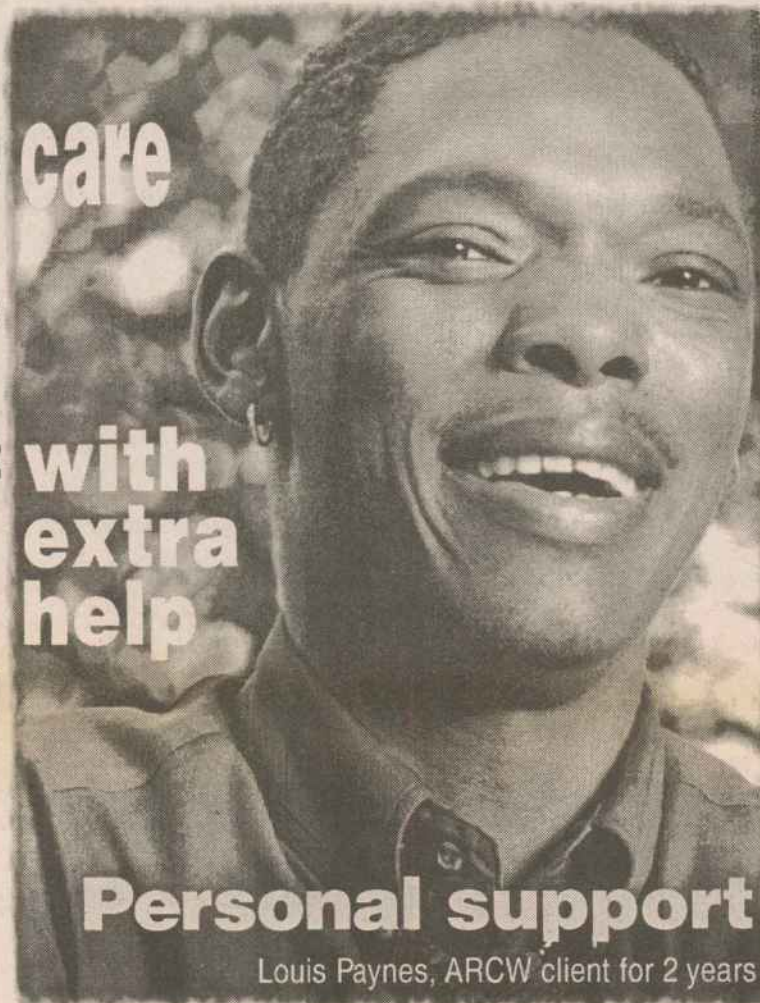
Milk, who while he was alive said he realized that he might be assassinated, was an outspoken advocate for LGBT civil rights. In addition to his role as a City Supervisor, he helped to lead the effort to defeat the Briggs Initiative in 1977. The statewide referendum would have banned Gay and Lesbian teachers. Milk is regarded as both a hero and martyr by Gays and Lesbians across the country.

White committed suicide shortly after being released from prison.

Defense Department Bans Discrimination against Gay Civilian Employees

Washington - Defense Secretary William Cohen has announced that the Defense Department will provide explicit protection for civilian employees against discrimination based on sexual orientation. In July, the Secretary signed an amendment to the Defense Human Goals charter. The amendment added sexual orientation as an impermissible basis for discrimination.

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of myself
can be
tough,
but with
extra
help
I am
doing well."



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AROUND THE NATION

The change was made partly as a result of concerns expressed by Gay Congressman Barney Frank (D-MA).

Cohen informed Frank of the Department's decision to protect against sexual orientation discrimination through a letter he sent in response to Frank's repeated requests that the Department join every other executive branch agency in explicitly prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation.

Frank most recently urged that Cohen take Department-wide action after a commander based at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base improperly issued a statement of the Air Force's nondiscrimination policy, omitting sexual orientation. After Frank asked the Secretary to intervene, that statement was retracted, and the Air Force clarified that its policy includes sexual orientation.

Cohen also told Frank that he intends to follow up on the changes made to the Human Goals Charter by issuing a Department-wide policy memorandum in the next 60-90 days that will include sexual orientation as a prohibited form of discrimination against civilian employees of the Department. Until this takes effect, the Secretary said that the Department has established an interim policy for the submission and processing of complaints of sexual orientation discrimination.

Lesbian Activist Arrested

Anderson, IN - Bad Puppy reports that a noted lesbian activist was arrested after she interrupted a press conference in Mayor Mark Lawler's office. The press conference was called by two State legislators, Woody Burton (R-Greenwood) and Jack Lutz (R-Anderson), to announce their proposal to ban same sex couples from adopting or providing foster parenting services to children.

Bill Smith of the Indianapolis-based Indiana Family Institute was preparing to introduce Burton and Lutz when Marla Stevens leapt up shouting, "I don't intend to stand and sit still while you defame me and millions of Gay Hoosiers in the process."

To pleas that she allow the men to speak, Stevens retorted, "Your actions are not civil and not deserving of anything more than my actions right now." She denounced Smith's religious right group saying, "You dare to go after our families in this manner... You have created a situation where violence occurs by hate-mongering. When you decide we are second-class citizens, you give aid and succor to those who would hurt us."

After an hour, during which Stevens refused to leave or allow anyone else to talk, she was arrested and led away in handcuffs. Stevens has been charged with disorderly conduct and resisting arrest. She had refused to provide any information about herself to the arresting officers.

Salt Lake School Board Refuses to Reconsider Gay Ban

Salt Lake City (AP) - The Salt Lake City Board of Education has refused to reconsider its decision banning a Gay club and all other school clubs not associated with classroom subjects.

Two members of the board asked that the issue be discussed at Tuesday's regular board meeting. Four members wanted the ban to stay in place and three voted to open the issue for discussion again.

All non-curricular clubs were banned in February 1996 to prevent the East High School Gay-Straight Alliance from meeting. State lawmakers also passed legislation prohibiting school clubs that encouraged illegal activities.

Since the ban, two non-curricular clubs have found outside sponsors and continue to meet under the Civic Center Act. One of them is the Gay-Straight Alliance, sponsored by the national Gay, Lesbian, Straight Education Network. The other is the Key Club.

"Most of the needs of the students we disenfranchised have not been met," said School Board President Karen Derrick, who voted in favor of the ban three years ago, but said on Tuesday she had changed her mind.

Last spring, the Board was sued over the issue in federal court. A pair of students and their parents filed the lawsuit backed by the American Civil Liberties Union and several national Gay-rights organizations. A mediation hearing in July failed to resolve the lawsuit and the case is proceeding.

We should focus on the classroom, not on litigation," said board member Kathy Black in voting against changing the current policy. Board member, Richard Tyler spoke in favor of a change.

"I'm a product of non-curricular clubs," Tyler said. "This society does not have a stellar reputation for accepting change. I think this is a perfect opportunity to do it."

The 1996 ban eliminated the Polynesian Club, the Beef Club, the Young Republicans and Young Democrats and dozens of other clubs. After the ban was announced, thousands of Salt Lake students marched out of their schools in protest.

New York Bashings Up by 81%

New York - According to *The New York Times*, Gays and Lesbians are calling for the City of New York to do more to combat hate crimes directed against them. While New York is enjoying a decrease in hate crimes directed at other groups, anti-Gay crimes have risen by 81% since the beginning of 1998.

"The police bias unit is doing a great job after the fact, after someone has been a victim," said Christine Quinn, the Executive Director of the New York City Gay and Lesbian Anti-Violence Project. "What we need is a law-enforcement response that will deter this crime and

send a message that there is zero tolerance for this type of hatred in New York City."

Police Commissioner Howard Safir says that he had increased the number of officers in Greenwich Village after three murders were reported there. Quinn took issue with the Commissioner's remarks. She says that most of the new officers were undercover. "Prostitution clearly is not the biggest problem facing the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgendered community," said Quinn.

City Comptroller Alan blames the lack of response from high ranking City officials, including Mayor Giuliani, for

the increase. *The Times* quotes him as saying, "As the crime rates have dropped enormously, crime rates where the victims are Gay men or Lesbians are going up. The reason for that is in our society. Even here in New York City, which has to be the most tolerant city in the world, there is an acceptability to expressing bigotry against Gays and Lesbians. And that is a terrible tragedy."



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For more information or to assist with an event, contact the Human Rights League at (414) 228-1921 or the Community Center at (414) 483-4710

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6
Panel Discussion: Inclusion, 6:30pm
M&M Club, Upstairs, 124 N. Water St.
Hosted by the Human Rights League

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6pm - 8:30pm
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Hosted by the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center
Please call (414) 264-4354 to register

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10
Second Annual Coming Out Dance, 8pm - Midnight
\$10/Single, \$15/Couple
Ramada Inn, 633 W. Michigan
Call 483-4710 for advance ticket information.
Hosted by the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center
Platinum Sponsor: AIDS Resource Center Of Wisconsin
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SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11 • NATIONAL COMING OUT DAY
Sneak Preview Of "A Home Of Our Own"
Noon - 3pm
Milwaukee LGBT Community Center, 170 S. 2nd St.
Hosted by the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center

MONDAY, OCTOBER 12
Public Officials Reception, 5:30pm
First Unitarian Church Community Room, 1342 N. Astor
Hosted by the Human Rights League

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14
Panel Discussion: Let's Talk About SEX!!
7pm - 8:30pm
Milwaukee LGBT Community Center, 170 S. 2nd St.
Hosted by the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center

All events are free of charge unless otherwise indicated.

AROUND THE WORLD

Brazilian Rules for Gay Man

Brasilia, Brazil - According to Reuter's, Brazil's highest court has ruled that Gays and Lesbians can inherit rights from their partners. The Brazilian Supreme Court unanimously ruled in favor of Milton Aves Pedrosa whose partner died in 1989.

"A judge today cannot ignore that two people of the same sex become involved," Supreme Court Judge Ruy Rosado said in an explanatory statement. "Their sexual behavior may go against moral standards, but the civil union between them is legitimate."

Pedrosa will have rights to half the property of his partner, Jair Batista Prearo, including an apartment the two brought together. Even though Pedrosa and Prearo lived together for seven years, Prearo's father had claimed ownership of their home.

Despite the court's decision, a bill to legalize same marriages has gone nowhere in the Brazilian Chamber of Deputies. In 1996 a Senate committee approved a measure that would have legally recognized same sex couples. That measure must pass the Chamber of Deputies before it can be voted on by the entire Senate.

Though the law falls short of the rights granted to heterosexual couples, it would allow Gays and Lesbians to have "contracts of partnership." These would give same sex partners the right to file joint tax returns, as well as inheritance and pension rights in the event one or them dies.

Mayor Ordered to Issue Gay Pride Proclamation

Fredericton, New Brunswick - Mayor Brad Woodside has been ordered to proclaim Gay Pride Weekend as an officially recognized municipal event by the New Brunswick Board of Inquiry, according to the Canadian Press Agency.

CPA reports that Woodside said he would abide by the order, but would make it clear that he doesn't agree with it. "I believe in free speech, and I believe in having the freedom to express yourself," the five-term Mayor told reporters. "I think it's important as a politician that you just don't do it unless you believe in it, and therein lies the problem for me."

The Board of Inquiry ruled that Woodside discriminated against Gays and Lesbians when he refused to issue a Gay Pride proclamation. "It's a question of balancing rights, but the balance has been found to clearly favor the complainants," wrote Commissioner Brian Bruce. Bruce added the Gay Pride advocates "are simply seeking to exercise their right to be equal members of the community, as they are entitled to do by law."

Woodside said that he will not help write the proclamation, and that when he reads it, he will make it clear that he is opposed to it. "I believe the majority of people in this community will acknowledge homosexuality but will not condone it and should not be expected to condone it," he said bitterly.

"I've received phone calls from other cities in Canada that are going through the same thing," Woodside said. "Contrary to what was said in this report - that Gay Pride is widely accepted in North America - that's not the case. I wouldn't consider Toronto and Vancouver to be the standard we all try to live by."

Last year the Mayors of two cities in Ontario were fined for refusing to issue Gay pride proclamations. Woodside was not fined.

Afghans Execute Gays

Kabul, Afghanistan - Afghanistan and Iran may be bitter rivals, but they share at least one thing in common. Both countries execute Gays.

Reports coming from Afghanistan indicate that the hard line Taliban regime, which controls 90% of the country, has executed at least five Gay men since the beginning

of the year. Typically those caught having Gay sex are swiftly tried and executed by having a stone wall pushed on top of them.

In one recent incident, a reporter from the AFP news agency said that he had witnessed the savage beating of two soldiers caught having sex with each other in a barracks. The men suffered a daylong ordeal of public humiliation and beatings before being incarcerated.

Fijian Constitution May Change

Suva, Fiji - According to ABC News - Australia, officials in the Fijian Government want that nation's newly adopted constitution amended because it includes a provision guaranteeing Gay and Lesbian civil rights. Fiji is one of only two nations in the world - South Africa is the other - to grant explicit constitutional protection to Lesbians and Gays.

Former Government Whip, Pastor Joeli Kalou, told the Fiji Assembly that the inclusion of sexual orientation in the list of protected classes would lead to an increase in homosexual activity in Fiji. "If including sexual orientation gives rise at all to increasing the practice, then I'm against it," Kalou said.

Fiji Prime Minister Sitiveni Rabuka agrees with Kalou. ABC reports that he has asked the Attorney General to work with a Parliamentary committee and consider amendments to the Constitution.

Gay civil rights opponents contend that the constitutional provision would give Gays and Lesbians the right to marry. Others say that is not true because the Marriage Acts would have to be revised before it would be possible for same sex couples to be married.

Zambian Group Attacked

Luksaka, Zambia The *Sunday Mail* has reported that Zambia's Home Affairs Minister, Peter Machungwa has threatened to arrest the leaders of a new LGBT group, Legatra - Lesbians Gays, Bisexual Association, group forming in that African country.

Under Zambia law, homosexuality is a felony which carries a minimum sentence of 14 years in prison. Machungwa told the press that homosexuality is "unafrikan."

Rueters News Agency reports that the Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly, Simon Mwila asked Vice-President Christon Tembo to state the government's position on homosexuality. Mwila is apparently hoping for a statement that would buttress Machungwa's promise.

On Thursday, September, 17 Legatra took the bold step of holding a public meeting in the capital. The meeting was broken up by anti-Gay opponents. Gershom Musonda, Project Manager for Legatra said that he believes there are 500,000 Gays and Lesbians among Zambia's nine million people.

The meeting was attended by about forty people including journalists and human rights activists. Among those in attendance were observers from the Zambia Independent Monitoring Team, ZIMT. ZIMT is an influential minority rights group. It's support of Legatra has come under fire from other organizations.


Security officials were also present at the meeting but made no arrests.

Suit to Be Married Filed in Quebec

Montreal, Canada - The Canadian Press News Agency has reported that two Montreal men who have been in a 25 year relationship have filed suit for to be married. If successful the suit could establish Gay marriage as a constitution right in Canada.

Michael Hendricks and Rene Leboeuf want to be recognized as legally wedded. Hendricks is well known in Montreal's Gay community. He said that he wished to have his relationship legally recognized for practical reasons. "In concrete terms, it'll give us recognition," Hendricks told the news agency. "We'll be able to share our pensions and of course the inheritance. If I pass on, he'll be left with nothing. If we're married, then we'll be covered and assured."

British Columbia and Ontario have granted some limited spousal benefits to same - sex couples, but so far Quebec where Hendricks and Leboeuf live has not. Quebec's Parti Quebecois government has not yet fulfilled its campaign pledge to enhance Gay civil rights in the province.



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Tom Reed of Miller Brewing Company accepts the Community Service Award from PrideFest, Inc.'s Co-Director Mike Hall and Treasurer Christine Klein.

National Coming Out Day Activities in Wisconsin Salute "Opening Closets, Opening Minds"

Milwaukee and Madison both offer a full slate of activities for ten days surrounding the actual Sunday, October 11 official National Coming Out Day (NCOD). NCOD was born from the 1985 March on Washington and has been promoted nationally as a way to keep the community focused on the political and personal act of coming out to friends, family and co-workers.

This year's national slogan is "Opening Closets, Opening Minds." Local activities offer a wide variety of programs to partake of. In Madison, The Ten Percent Society at UW in conjunction with OutReach, are organizing events, while in Milwaukee, the LGBT Community Center and the Human Rights League for LGBT's do the same.

The Milwaukee celebration's various supporters who helped the Community Center and HRLG put on the program include: The Cream City Foundation, Jack H. Smith of Shorewest Realtors, PrideFest, the Wisconsin Research Center, Hume Law Offices, and the Support Group Program at The Counseling Center.

Monday, October 5

Madison: Kevin Jennings Book Signing and Appearance: Room of One's Own Feminist Bookstore, 6pm. Reading and signing of *Telling Tales* by Kevin Jennings, Executive Director of the Gay Lesbian Straight Education Network (GLSEN).

Madison: Frederic March Play Circle: UW Memorial Union, 8 and 9:45pm. *Out of the Past* is a 65-minute 16mm film, exploring the critical link between knowledge of history and of self. Sponsored by GLSEN of Wisconsin and the Ten Percent Society. Suggested donation \$5, \$3 students.

Tuesday, October 6

Milwaukee: "Inclusion: Does the LGBT Community Really Mean It?": M&M Club (upstairs): A panel discussion hosted by the HRLG includes representatives from the HRLG Board of Directors and from the Bi and Transgender communities.

Wednesday, October 7

Milwaukee: Owing Your Own Business in the Year 2005: Ensuring Your Success as an Entrepreneur: Milwaukee LGBT Community Center, 170 S. 2nd St., 8:30pm. Workshop topics include business market trends, identifying customer needs, business assessment tools, and resources available. Call (414) 264-4354 to register.

Thursday, October 8

Madison: Hate Crimes Prevention Workshop and Panel Discussion: UW-Madison Memorial Union, (TITU). An explanation of the process of reporting and prosecuting LGBT-specific-hate crimes.

Friday, October 9

Madison: Ten Percent Society Dance: UW Memorial Union Great Hall, 8pm. DJ, cash bar, \$3. Open to UW-system students, faculty and guests.

Saturday, October 10

Madison: Dyke Dance: UW Memorial Union Tripp Commons, 8pm. DJ, cash bar, \$3. Open to self-identified women from the UW-system students, faculty and guests.

Milwaukee: 2nd Annual Coming Out Dance: Ramada Inn, 633 W. Michigan, 8pm. Singles \$10, couples \$15. This semi-formal dance hosted by the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center will feature an Out-Coming Court, music, non-alcohol and alcohol bars. Call (414) 483-4710 for Advance Ticket Information. Sponsored by ARCW and LAMM.

Sunday, October 11

Milwaukee: Sneak Preview of "A Home of Our Own" the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center: 170 S. 2nd St., Noon-3pm. Take a sneak peek and check out this work in progress while the Center prepares for its November grand opening.

Madison: PFLAG Workshop: LGBT Campus Center, 406 W. Gilman, 7pm. The Parents, Friends, Family of Lesbians and Gays organization facilitates a discussion on its important work.

Monday, October 12

Milwaukee: Fifth Annual Public Officials Reception: First Unitarian Church Community Room, 1342 N. Astor, 5:30pm. Hosted by the Human Rights League for Lesbians and Gays. A prime opportunity to talk with your public officials.

Milwaukee: NCOD Awards: Presented by HRLG during the above-mentioned reception. The Awards honor the significant contributions and commitment of those who have been "out" and supportive in the Milwaukee LGBT community.

Tuesday, October 13

Madison: Before Stonewall: A History of the Gay and Lesbian Press: UW Campus Memorial Library, 4:30pm. Lecture featuring Dr. Roger Streitmatter, Journalism Professor at American University and author of *Unspeakable: The Rise of the Gay and Lesbian Press in America* (1995). Co-sponsored by the LGBT Campus Center, the Ten Percent Society, the Gay and Lesbian Alumni Council, Four Star Video, the Friends of UW-Madison Libraries, the Dept. of History, and the School of Journalism and Mass Communications.

Madison: AIDS, Love, and Staying Alive: UW Campus (Call 256-8361 for time and location) Scott Fried, author of *If I Grow Up* shares his compassion and knowledge as an HIV+ Jew. Presented by the Jewish Greek Council and Hillel.

Madison: Jean-Marie Salem Performance: UW Campus, 7pm (Location TBA, call 256-8361). Artist and musician whose work explores being an African American Lesbian in a white man's world.

Madison: How to Achieve a Feminine Voice: OutReach (Time TBA, call 255-8582) 14 W. Mifflin Street. Transgender Issues Workshop.

Wednesday, October 14

Milwaukee: Let's Talk about Sex! Politics of Sex in the '90s: Milwaukee LGBT Community Center, 170 S. 2nd St., 7pm. Hosted by the Community Center. Panel discussion looking at how sex, gender and orientation affect our perception of day to day events.



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Sep 13	TAMPA BAY	12:00pm
Sep 20	at Cincinnati	12:00pm
Sep 27	at Carolina	12:00pm
Oct 5	MINNESOTA (Monday)	7:20pm
Oct 11	OPEN DATE	
Oct 15	at Detroit (Thursday)	7:20pm
Oct 25	BALTIMORE	12:00pm
Nov 1	SAN FRANCISCO	3:15pm
Nov 9	at Pittsburgh (Monday)	7:20pm
Nov 15	at New York	3:15pm
Nov 22	at Minnesota	12:00pm
Nov 29	PHILADELPHIA	3:15pm
Dec 7	at Tampa Bay (Monday)	7:20pm
Dec 13	CHICAGO	12:00pm
Dec 20	TENNESSEE	12:00pm
Dec 27	at Chicago	12:00pm

IN BETWEEN is:
"Best Packer Bar"
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"One of four gay bar highlights"
1998 *Genre Magazine*



View From Brewer's Hill

by Terry Boughner

I have not read the full Starr Report and I don't intend to do so. I've been deluged with it from every side: TV, the newspaper, *Time* and *Newsweek*. The Swedish Prime Minister put it best when he is reported to have said that he was glad America has nothing else to worry about.

I did not vote for Bill Clinton to be a minister, a saint or the pope. I didn't think I was helping to select some moral guru in the White House nor some czar with quasi-sacerdotal functions.

Neither did I vote for a role model for kids. A few unvarnished history lessons about past Presidents will show that not many of our chief executives would have been good in that area — George Washington included.

I voted for Clinton (twice) because I believe in the things he wanted to accomplish in the areas dealing with racism, discrimination against Gays and women, health care, choice, education, the environment, gun control, etc.

Secondly, I voted for him because I thought he was the best man to administer the government. Despite some disappointments over things like Gays in the military, I remain convinced that my votes were correctly cast.

The ultra-conservatives and the jackasses of the religious right have hated this man from the beginning. They were joined by the Greek chorus of braying poltroons from conservative talk radio here in Wisconsin and elsewhere.

(Need I mention that all these people are homophobes?)

This wasn't necessarily a conspiracy, but a confluence of forces that had as its aim the destruction of this President. To say that this is part of the so-called culture war is not far-fetched.

After years of searching and \$60 million+, what has been the result; misuse of public money or the military, treason, murder, drugs, bribery, subversion of the Constitution? None of these.

After all that time and money (making Ken Starr and a gaggle of lawyers rich), they found not one scintilla of evidence of a serious crime, just sex. Clinton, I guess, had sex with a woman outside marriage and lied about it. Whitewater? What's that?

(Have you wondered what the furor would be like if, instead of Monica, the alleged sex partner would have been named Bobby or George?)

Did Clinton perjure himself in this matter? I guess that he did. But I ask

myself this: is he unable to conduct the business of his office because of it? If so, then a number of our chief executives should have quit: Jefferson, Jackson, Cleveland, Wilson, FDR, to name only a few.

Maybe Ken Starr should write a book: *Presidents I Would Have Nailed If I'd Had The Chance*.

Is the Republic in danger because of any of this? Should the President resign? If so, then let's start with the members of Congress. There's always been a close connection between sex (Gay and straight) and politics in Washington. Lord love a duck, I don't want to be cynical, but the number of resignations would nearly empty the place.

(Give me \$60 million, a couple of barrels of lawyers and enough time, and the dirt I'll dig up on anyone will make Hell blush.)

In my opinion, President Clinton is an extremely talented man with a fine ability to carry out the functions of being President of the United States. To my mind, his effectiveness has not been diminished in the slightest degree by his allegedly having an affair.

(Lest we forget, this man has done more for Gay people than any President before him. Of course, that's one of the reasons why the Far Right hates him so much.)

My opinion in all this is best summed up in a story.

In the midst of the Civil War, President Lincoln had ordered Grant summoned from the Western theater to assume command of the Union Armies. When Secretary of War Edwin Stanton heard about this he blew into the President's office, entering in large gusts.

"Mr. President, how could you?" Stanton demanded. "Grant drinks!"

Lincoln looked up from whatever he was doing and replied in that nasal twang of his, "Find out what he drinks and send each of my other generals a barrel of it."

Congress should send a message to Clinton saying, "You should'na. Don't do it again." — censure — and get on with the business of the government for which they were elected and let this highly capable President get on with running the country.

Positive Health Outlook

Are Lesbians at Higher Risk for Breast Cancer?

By Lisa Dillenburg

Doctors can seldom explain why one person gets breast cancer and another doesn't. However, by studying large numbers of women all over the world, researchers have found certain risk factors that increase a woman's chance of developing breast cancer.

Having risk factors means having a higher-than-average chance of getting this disease. However, studies show that most women with known risk factors do not get breast cancer. Many of the women who get breast cancer have none of the risk factors that we know about, other than the risk that comes with growing older.

The following are some of the known risk factors for breast cancer:

Age: Most breast cancers occur in women over the age of 50. The risk is especially high for women over 60.

Family history: The risk of getting breast cancer increases for a woman whose mother, sister or daughter has had the disease. The woman's risk increases more if her relative's cancer developed before menopause, or if it affected both breasts.

Personal history: Women who have had breast cancer face an increased risk of getting breast cancer again.

Early menarche/late menopause: Starting to menstruate at an early age

(before 12) or having a late menopause (after 55) can increase breast cancer risk.

Late Childbearing/Nulliparity: The risk is greater in women who had their first child after the age of 30 and those who never had children.

Benign breast conditions: For most women, the ordinary "lumpiness" they feel in their breasts does not increase their risk of breast cancer. However, women who have had breast biopsies that show certain benign changes in breast tissues, such as atypical hyperplasia, do have an increased risk of breast cancer.

Other risk factors that scientists are exploring include: environmental factors such as pesticides, electromagnetic fields, engine exhausts, contaminants in water and food, alcohol, diet, abortion or miscarriage.

While Lesbians face the same risk factors as other women, research has also shown that Lesbians may face additional risks. These risks have to do with detecting breast cancer early, when it is most curable with the least invasive treatments.

There is little research on Lesbians and breast cancer, specifically, but there is some literature on Lesbians and their use of the health care system for routine breast screenings and other health care. In 1995, Liza Rankow reported that

"Lesbians appear to be less likely to receive routine screening for breast and cervical cancer; therefore, they may be at risk of increased morbidity and mortality resulting from delayed diagnosis/treatment."

This was confirmed in a study by Kate O'Hanlan, who also identified the "myth of Lesbian immunity" and "lack of health insurance/money" (partially due to being women, but also due to few or no domestic partner benefits) as potential screening barriers. Finally, Rankow notes that Lesbians may be less likely to seek cancer screenings due to past negative experiences with homophobic providers and system-wide heterosexism (as evidenced by questions on medical intake forms that provide no place for Lesbians to "come out" if they choose).

This brings up another very important factor in Lesbian health. Is it safe to "come out" to your health care practitioner, and will your quality of care suffer as a result? CE Randall surveyed a group of nursing faculty in 1989 and the results were astounding: 17% thought Lesbianism was a disease, 23% thought Lesbianism was immoral, while 34% thought it disgusting; 52% believed it to be unnatural and 17% thought Lesbians molest children.

A national survey of Lesbian/Gay physicians by O'Hanlan in 1994 discovered that 98% of these health professionals believed that medical concerns might be overlooked if patients did NOT "come out" and 64% believed that patients risked receiving SUBSTANDARD CARE if they did come out!

This puts Lesbians in a dilemma, not only about whether or not to see a health care practitioner, but also whether to "come out" to that practitioner.

During National Breast Cancer Awareness Month, we'd like to encourage all Lesbians over the age of 40 to talk with their doctors about breast cancer screening (including clinical breast exams, breast self-exam and mammography). Lesbians with no insurance or who are underinsured and meet certain income guidelines may be eligible for FREE mammograms, PAP tests and pelvic exams through the Wisconsin Women's Cancer Control Program. To find out who your WWCCP local coordinator is, please call the Cancer Information Service at (800) 4CANCER.

You can also contact the Lesbian Health Issues Task Force of Dane County for information about Breast Cancer and other Lesbian Health issues. The Task Force is a grassroots organization whose mission is to promote and support the health and well being of the Lesbian community through education, advocacy and networking. It can be reached by calling (608) 255-0058.

The following are our long-term goals:

To enhance access to health care for the Lesbian community, and to advocate on its behalf with the healthcare systems;

To address issues of medical, mental and alternative healthcare;

To educate ourselves and each other about our common health concerns, and to work for change within our Lesbian communities and in the health care system;

To increase awareness of and visibility of Lesbian health concerns;

To serve the needs of a broadly defined Lesbian community, diverse in socioeconomic level, age, race, ethnic background, health and disability status, and to reflect that diversity in the Task Force membership;

To network with national, regional and local organizations with similar concerns and goals.

We Accuse

While we are angry over President Clinton's conduct, we are even more outraged over the conduct of the radical religious right and their Republican leadership in Congress. We accuse them of...

Redefining Morality

As Gays and Lesbians we are very familiar with the attempts of the religious right to define us solely by our sex lives. What they are saying is that if an individual person performs certain sex acts that they do not agree with, they are immoral. Conversely, they also seem to be saying that if a person does not perform those acts, they are moral no matter what other actions they may take.

To a large extent the current Clinton scandal is an extension of their battle to redefine morality, intrude on our private lives and impose their brand of sexual conduct on all Americans.

These are the same people who work against needle exchange programs, AIDS education and condom distribution, even though they know that their efforts will cost the lives of untold tens of thousands of their fellow citizens.

These people use their elected positions — as Majority Leader Trent Lott recently did — to pander to religious extremists by comparing us to kleptomaniacs and alcoholics, who call us sick and diseased. After they have sown their seeds of hate, these same people deny responsibility for violence against Gays.

These are the people who deny us the right to live in stable, legally recognized marital relationships, while claiming to be "family oriented."

These are the people who have, in a destructively cynical manner, set out to alienate the American people from their government, who work to suppress voter turnout and to deny Lesbians and Gays equality under the law.

Morality does not begin and end with any individual's sex life. Attempts to define morality solely on those terms risk the well being of the American people and the enhancement of the quality of life for all of society.

The religious right, radical conservatives and their Republican allies have ignored all that. They wrap themselves in the banner of morality while they ignore all but a few passages of the bible they profess to love and believe in.

Thwarting the Will of the People

Since Bill Clinton was elected in 1992, it has been obvious that the right wing of this country will do whatever it can to thwart him.

Unable to defeat Clinton's policies at the polls, his enemies have worked to distract the American people from the value of those policies. They have done this with a constant barrage of outrageous, scurrilous charges. Even Clinton's late mother — who was accused of murdering patients at a hospital — has not been immune.

No charge has been too ridiculous, too outrageous or too impossible to be ignored. Often these charges were investigated and reinvestigated and reinvestigated again.

In an onerous example, the FBI, US Park Service, Secret Service, an Independent Prosecutor and two Congressional Committee investigations into allegations that Bill and Hillary Clinton had murdered White House counsel Vince Foster were not enough. Another was conducted by the not-so-Independent Prosecutor Kenneth Starr. This was paid for, as were all the others, with your tax dollars.

Similar actions were taken on a host of other allegations. All of this was done to keep Americans distracted from the real problems faced by our country and Clinton's ideas for solving them. Clinton's critics hoped that all of these smoke screens would discredit him and, by association, all of those who have supported him, including many Gays and Lesbians.

Subverting the Constitution

There is little doubt that unless the President resigns, the Republicans will conduct their impeachment hearings. They will do this despite the fact that even if all of the allegations against Clinton are true, they simply do not meet the constitutional requirements for impeachment.

Clinton's Republican critics either don't know or don't care about keeping intact the delicate system of checks and balances laid out in the Constitution. What they want to do is similar to what is done in a parliamentary system of government when the legislature can vote "no confidence" in the Prime Minister.

Our constitution does not allow for such a vote. It wisely and rightfully has provisions that make it clear that only under the most extreme circumstances, "treason, bribery or other high crimes and misdemeanors," can the will of the people, as expressed at the ballot box, be set aside.

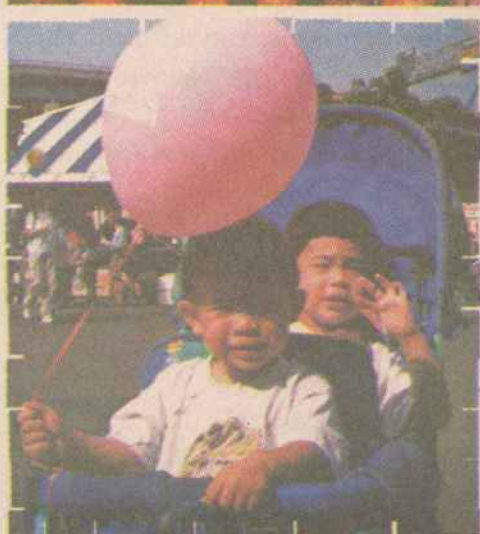
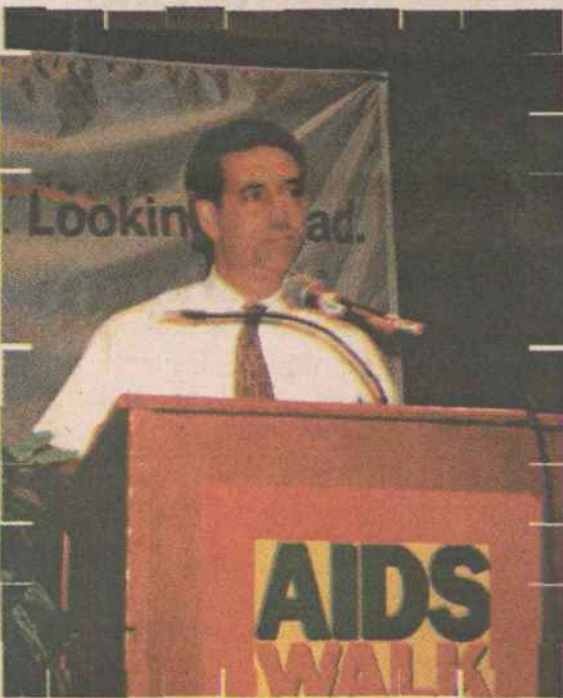
The intent of the constitution is unambiguous. Impeachment was intended as a means to remove an official who was acting against the Constitution and attempting to subvert our system of government.

Republican leadership has shown that it is more concerned with padding its congressional majority than it is with keeping its sworn oath to protect, defend and uphold the Constitution.

What MUST Be Done

Despite all, we have ultimate faith in American fairness. The spark of the revolution in 1776 still flickers in this country. The time is coming to rekindle it. That time is in November. There are politicians — from both major parties — who do understand and respect the diversity of our country, the need to keep church and state separate, and that holding office is a sacred public trust. They need and deserve our support.

Together, we must confound the strategists of the radical right. It's time to overcome our misgivings and turn out at the polls in record numbers. Moreover, we must get everyone we know — family, co-workers and friends — to do the same. It is our country's future — our future — that is at stake.



Spotlight SPECIAL SECTION

Bed & Breakfast Fall Feature

By Belle Pepper

There's still time for a romantic, fall getaway at any of these fine Bed & Breakfast establishments, either LGBT owned/operated or LGBT friendly. All are located right here in the State.

Bed & breakfast weekends are a great value. Breakfast, whether it be full, country or continental is included in the room charge. Rooms are full of antiques, amenities and/or atmosphere. The B&Bs offer a variety of locales to help you get in tune with small town America, Mother Nature, or just each other.

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Along with the walnut woodwork, frescoed ceilings, marble fireplaces, gasoliers and other original features, the Allyn Mansion Inn is completely furnished in authentic Victorian antiques. Guests enjoy the use of three formal parlors and two grand pianos.

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The 19th century circus capital and birthplace of the P.T. Barnum circus, Delavan still retains much of its Victorian charm. Centrally located between Lake Geneva, Alpine Valley and Kettle Moraine State Park, Delavan serves as an ideal hub for area attractions. The October Color Festival and Clown Town Colossal are held annually in October. November hosts the Holiday Craft Fair and Big Band Weekend.

Grand Prize winner of the Great

American Home Awards presented by the National Trust for Historic Preservation and recipient of the Wisconsin Historical Society's Certificate of Commendation for Historic Preservation because of its "exceptionally thorough and meticulous restoration," the Allyn Mansion ranks as one of the finest restoration efforts in the country.

Rooms cost from \$100/night with shared bath to \$125/night with private bath and fireplace. Tax is not included. Saturdays may not be reserved for single night stays May through October and certain holidays.

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Continued on page 18



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Continued from page 17

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gus omelet, broccoli quiche, homemade blueberry pancakes or blintzes. Rooms range from \$40-\$80/night plus tax. Third and additional nights are discounted. Two night minimum stay for Christmas to New Year's week, Valentine's week, Sept 15-Oct 31 and major holidays. Entirely smoke free. By reservation only.



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1437 County W
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(608) 877-9942

www.execpc.com/~wildrose

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Made up of "theme" rooms, Wild Rose has a guest room for everyone. Grandma's Sewing Room, Anglers Haven, and Toy Box are featured, along with the Sports Chalet, a private semi-rustic bunkhouse.

The character of Stoughton is enhanced by its historic buildings. The Victorian downtown has been designated a National Register Main Street Historic District. Cooksville, just seven miles south, boasts a general store operating since 1846. Cambridge, also nearby, holds a Fall Fest celebrating autumn harvests featuring music, farmer's market, pie baking contest and scarecrow contest each October.

Rooms range from \$57 (off season) to \$62 (on season). A full country breakfast is served each morning. Cash or checks is accepted. The entire house is smoke-free. Please inquire regarding children. No pets, please.

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GL Film & Video Fest Week 2

Reviewed by Glenn Bishop

Faithful readers will have found in the last *WI Light*, an overview Glenn provided of the entire 11th Annual Milwaukee Gay and Lesbian Film and Video Festival.

Here, Glenn will focus specifically on Week 2 highlights.

If there is one simply fabulous, not-to-be-missed program at this year's festival, it is "From the Archives: Some Essential Queer Cinema" on Thursday, October 1 at 9pm. From Kenneth Anger's classic *Fireworks* and Jean Genet's erotically sublime *Un Chant D'Amour* to Barbara Hammer's legendary *Dyketactics*, queer cinema just doesn't get any better than this, so don't miss it!

Another program for both boys and girls, and all those in between, is *We're Funny That Way* (Saturday, October 2, 7pm), a concert film/documentary of the First International Festival of Gay and Lesbian Humor. Included in the program are Milwaukee's own "funny guy", John McGivern, plus Kate Clinton, Steven Moore, Lea Delaria, Karen Williams and Bob Smith — who must be the least funny "funny guy" Glenn has ever seen!

More than just a Comedy Central special, *We're Funny That Way* features comic and revealing backstage interviews, focusing on how each comic has developed their own unique style of humor.

One of the joys of a festival such as this is the opportunity to see films that would never, ever reach Milwaukee. Such a film is *Dakan*, translated "destiny" (Friday, October 2, 7pm). This is

an extraordinary film and the first out of Western Africa to confront the issue of homosexuality. Sori and Manga are two 20-year-old students who are truly, madly, deeply in love. Unlike in America where Lesbians are chic, these lads don't even have a language with which to develop their relationship. Nor will their parents even allow for the possibility of the existence of their feelings for each other, Manga is even sent to a native healer to "cure" him.

Much closer to home is the delightfully grunge coming-of-age comedy *Totally Confused* (Saturday, October 3, 9pm). Set in Chicago, *Totally Confused* features Johnny, a record-store clerk whose dreams of "MTV success" clearly exceeds his meager talents. Johnny's best friend Wiley is something of a "gloomy-Gus". While he professes to be sexually confused, even Glenn clued in pretty quickly to the rapturous attention he plays to the presumably straight Johnny. Will Wiley ever make a move on Johnny? What will Johnny do? And what about Johnny's girlfriend? Perhaps lacking the dazzling smiles of *Billy's Hollywood Screen Kiss*, *Totally Confused* is quirky and refreshingly original!

Lastly, Glenn must make mention of Barbara Hammer's *The Female Closet* (Thursday, October 1, 7pm). Pioneering Lesbian filmmaker Barbara Hammer explores the Lesbian and bisexual histories of celebrated women artists and the attempts by art historians to keep them in the closet, long after their deaths. A worthy, intriguing and definitely thought provoking film.

Pecker: Waters' Best Film In Years

Reviewed by Glenn Bishop

In a very odd way, Glenn related to John Waters' delightfully madcap family of Divine, Edie the Egg-Lady, Mink Stole and, of course, blue-haired David Lochary, who was the first naked man young Glenn ever saw on film.

Over the years, Glenn has followed John Waters' sad if inevitable descent into mainstream cinema beginning with *Polyester*, only to be followed by the likes of *Cry-Baby* and *Serial Mom* with a mix of melancholy and disappointment.

Still, the ever-so foolish Glenn has kept a candle burning with the hope that John Waters might someday make a triumphant return to his deliciously perverse roots.

While *Pecker* may not reach the dizzy heights on the gross-out meter as does *Pink Flamingos* or *Female Trouble*, Waters is back in Baltimore with his most engaging film in ages.

Pecker is named for its youthful hero, Pecker (squeaky-voiced Edward Furlong), a photo-obsessed lad who is forever taking pictures with his thrift-shop camera. When not taking shots of sexy girlfriend (played by sexy

Christina Ricci), Pecker might be taking photos of his sugar-drooling little sis', rats fornicating in an alley or even hot, hunky male strippers "tea-bagging" customers at the local Gay bar Pecker's older sis works at.

When Pecker's Sub Shop boss tolerates his first "showing", Pecker is discovered by a sophisticated New York City dealer (Lili Taylor). Following a glittering opening at a chic NYC gallery, Pecker suddenly becomes the darling of the art world, not to mention a household name....

Success comes. It must! Yet, as this is very much a morality tale, it comes but not without a price. Pecker can only watch as his family, at the best of times teetering on the edge of lunacy, is driven to the brink of collapse.

Can Pecker maintain his artistic integrity and still get his kooky family back? Glenn'll never tell!

Pecker might not be a John Waters masterpiece, but it is a delicious satire on the art world and is happily filled with cameos ranging from Cindy Sherman to Patricia Hearst. And Edward Furlong is certainly a likeable little pecker,... er, *Pecker*.







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Gutzman's *Kiss of the Spider Woman*: A Delight to Behold

Reviewed by John Jahn

Kiss of the Spider Woman (music by John Kander, lyrics by Fred Ebb, book by Terrence McNally) is one of those musicals that wraps song and dance around a deadly serious plot. Though full of comedic moments, it has at its core fundamental lessons about life, love and the absolute preciousness of freedom. On September 18, 19 and 20 Dale Gutzman Productions presented the Wisconsin premiere of this musical play with the potent message at Centennial Hall of the Central Library in downtown Milwaukee.

Two men, cellmates in a Latin American prison, have lost their freedom for widely different reasons, yet they end up in the same place, sharing the same fate. Valentin (Robert Hirschi) at the beginning of Act One is thrown into prison simply for being an avowed Marxist. He shares the cell of Molina (David Flores), an openly Gay man who was entrapped by the police and imprisoned simply for being Gay. Both men have the misfortune of living in an authoritarian nation bent on the repression of any and all of society's "outsiders."

Kander & Ebb's Tony Award-winning *Kiss of the Spider Woman* teaches the lesson that, where political freedom is squelched, sexual freedom often shares the same fate. Valentin and Molina personify this unfortunate truth.

Flores was perfectly cast as Molina. He manages to elicit every ounce of humor, camp and sympathy that his character possesses. Hirschi's performance as Valentin was dramatic and evocative. He doesn't have a traditionally beautiful singing voice. Yet its rougher edges actually brought more depth to his musical numbers, in particular "Marta," Valentin's Act One love song to the woman of his heart (Sarah Sokolovic) that lives somewhere "Over the Wall."

The two men were even physically well matched: the smaller, softer Molina to the bearded, tougher revolutionary, Valentin.

The title character was performed by the strong-voiced, raven-haired Marilyn White. The vicious, despicable prison warden was powerfully performed by Gutzman Company veteran Lawrence J. Lukasavage. The supporting cast, which provided backup to several musical numbers and well-choreographed dance rou-

tines, portrayed fellow prisoners and guards.

They did a fine job, except for some of the occasional, unsuccessful forays into solo singing.

Finally, Monica Degnan Hobler was terrific as Molina's mother, appearing to him mostly in dream sequences but also in one final meeting as Act Two nears its finale. Director Gutzman clearly provided this latest production with some excellent singers and actors, all obviously well rehearsed. The entire cast was, on the whole, up to the task of this ambitious musical.

The excellent musical accompaniment was provided by a duo of on-stage keyboardists (Ernest Brusubardis, Jack Forbes Wilson) and a percussionist (Ted Brusubardis). As Gutzman often does, the band was on stage along with the rest of the action.

This amounts to a bit of a gamble that some in the audience might find distracting. I've found this to only be the case when the actual acting and singing are failing to steal my entire attention. The compelling, powerful performances in this production meant that the on-stage band wasn't the least bit distracting.

Finally, I have to compliment the creative use of props (Carol Hirschi) and sets (Tom Wellcenbach).

The set consisted of a variety of both spider as well as prison-themed elements.

Bars, cages, spider webbing, scaffolding - all in gray or black and variously lit in reds or yellows. Combined with an effective use of lighting, the stage elements were some of the best I've seen in a small theater company production. Indeed, I wouldn't have been surprised to have seen the same set design in a major "professional" theater company production with a bigger budget.

Gutzman's *Kiss of the Spider Woman* was a delight to behold. His fine group provided an evening full of superior voices and acting, taking place amidst a superb set, telling a tale of great importance to us all.

Upcoming Gutzman Company productions include a Gay-themed show entitled *Celebration*, to be performed in October at the Circle Stage Theatre. There will also be a George and Ira Gershwin review in November at Centennial Hall. For more information call (414) 466-4049 (*Celebration*) and (414) 327-3552 (*Gutzman Goes Gershwin*).



Suzanne Westenhoefer Comes to Madison with an All-New Show!

by Virginia Harrison

Nationally known comedienne Suzanne Westenhoefer has all-new material, and soon she'll be bringing it to Wisconsin! *Wisconsin Light* caught up with her at home in Ohio. She began the phone conversation by explaining how she and her girlfriend had been watching *Ellen* reruns. That answered one question: is she available?

SW: Yes, I'm one of those pathetic Lesbians. I've been with my girlfriend for six years. I've never dated. The first relationship lasted ten years, and now this one.

WL: That's great to hear! I thought if you were single, perhaps your Wisconsin fans could be given something to hope for as they line up at the stage door after the show.

SW: Women don't line up at the stage door. I don't get that! Straight men still come on to me, though.

WL: Is it the make-up and the hair?

SW: Oh, I'm too femme to be a Lesbian...? Actually, the world has opened up to the idea of Lesbians not just looking like the stereotype: Ellen, Ann Heche, k.d. lang. Well, k.d. looks the stereotype, but I don't think she cares.

WL: True. And it's become trendy to be a Lesbian. I have several friends on the fence that I'm just waiting to see fall onto our side.

SW: Those women on the fence should be pushed off onto the other side. We don't want them on this side, then have them reform and on go on TV or something and make us all look bad.

WL: Speaking of people looking bad, have you used the Clinton/Lewinsky scandal in your shows recently?

SW: I talked about it a lot when the scandal was really breaking in mid-August. Now, it's really passed being funny. It's so horrible. It's like O.J. It got to a point where O.J. wasn't funny anymore. It's like, "Oh, my God, what else is going to come out?" At some point, what more can you say? It's all been said before.

WL: If someone were to have a fantasy they told about you, what do you think it would be?

SW: Probably, "Let me do her make-up. I want to pluck her eyebrows!" I don't have major eyebrows. I color them in. I color my roots a few shades lighter, but I don't do the bleach thing. Yuck!

WL: Do you find unique audience personalities across regions of the country?

SW: Absolutely! In D.C. they get every single joke. They know all the political references. In NY they're

jaded; they sit back and say, "Make me f---ing laugh." In southern states there's "hang time;" I tell a joke, then wait while they get it. In San Francisco they get the joke, but they have to pause before they laugh to check out if it would be politically correct. In L.A. they laugh if it's about themselves. My favorite place to do a show is in the central area of the country, where they're truly excited you're there. They're a giving audience.

WL: Our readers will be glad to see that!

SW: Oh, yeah! I love Milwaukee and Madison! It's a hip area, but with small town people, as in friendly and open, not as in *Deliverance*.

WL: There's been talk you're thinking about doing a sitcom.

SW: Yes, but unfortunately things aren't going right now. What happened to *Ellen* stopped our plans dead in their tracks. But, this is show BUSINESS, and they have to sell advertising. They can't just run a show because it's good, unfortunately.

WL: Would you write your material, or just star in a show of your own?

SW: I'd like to find my own Larry David [Seinfeld] who would write with and for me. Someone who could do writing based on how well they know me and my humor. That's what we're in search of right now. Everyone thought Lily Tomlin was doing her own stuff, but she has writer, Jane Wagner. I need a Jane Wagner.

WL: What would your show center around?

SW: It would be family-oriented - about family, like sisters and parents. I'm tied closely to my family.

WL: As a role model for Lesbians and Gays, how do you respond to the expectations?

SW: I have respect for that expectation. I like to think and I hope that I am representing the Gay community well. I couldn't possibly represent every single individual - no one could. I hope that the Gay community sees me and thinks my material is a good thing; that they're proud of it.

WL: Where did you get inspiration for your new show material?

SW: I've drawn from some big events that have gone on this year. But I'm not going to talk about that here. You'll have to see the show!

Suzanne Westenhoefer will perform her all-new show in Wisconsin. She will also perform in Madison with special guest Mary Waitrovich on Saturday, October 3 at the Barrymore Theater. Tickets are \$16 in advance, \$18 at the door. For more information, contact the Barrymore Box Office at (608) 241-8633.



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Dear Ruthie

Dear Ruthie,

I have fantasies about being a men's locker room attendant. I think about this frequently and wonder if I think about it too much. Is this just a fetish? I only fantasize. Am I all right?

- Grope On My Soap Rope

Dear Soap,

This reminds me of the time Pearl and I got locked inside the Dallas Cowboy locker room. You see, I was

living in Texas at the time — in a little RV park called Happy Trailers To You — and Pearl came down for a visit.

Well, that weekend some of the Cowboys appeared on The Love Boat, and Pearl demanded we get tickets to see them in person. So, the next day we packed up a cooler, threw on our star spangled hot pants — yours were on inside out Pearl — and headed off to the stadium.

Well, sitting in that hot sun slamming beers all day can do a number on a gal. Soon Pearl and I were

yelling things like, "When the hell is the coach gonna let Gopher play?" and "Is Charro doing the half time show?" We were almost kicked out when Pearl asked an usher if he ever saw Doc's wiener.

By half time Pearl and I could barely see the game. Pearl wanted to find out if EVERYTHING was bigger in Texas. Before I knew it, we were off to the locker room to see if we could sneak in.

We tried everything to get past the guard at the door. Pearl pretended she was blind to see if she could walk in by accident. We wrote the word PRESS on a feminine napkin and stuck it to the side of my rain bonnet trying

to convince the guard I was a reporter. We tried to seduce him, kiss him, kiss each other — nothing worked.

After pretending I was the blind one, the guard grabbed my arm and attempted to throw me out. Pearl dropped to the ground in front of him yelling, "Ruthie — go limp. Go limp!" Just like my third husband Lenny on our wedding night, I went limp. I dropped to the floor like a sack of wet cement.

Suddenly, the locker room doors flung open and dozens of Dallas Cowboy football players began leaping over us and out onto the playing field. Pearl and I were able to crawl into the locker room, but the poor guard was trampled and had to be taken to a hospital.

Waiting for the players to return, we decided to take a dip in the locker room's whirlpool and share the flask of vodka Pearl kept under her left breast. Well, in her drunken state, Pearl forgot to take her pantyhose off, and a few minutes after being in that whirlpool, her hose blew up to nearly five times their size.

"Look!" she started yelling. "Dear God! I've got that Elizabeth Taylor disease The Enquirer was talking about." Before I knew it, the pantyhose were so big that her bottom half had begun to float to the top of the water, and she had to hold on to the sides of the whirlpool to keep from falling out. I grabbed her legs and squeezed them to get the swelling down.

In doing this, however, the air shot up to her rear making her keester look like two beach balls under a potato sack. "This is it!" she cried. "Stand back, Ruthie — my ass is gonna blow!" Pearl was screaming at this point, "Oh dear God, open those heavenly gates cause I'm gonna be shootin' up there at warp speed!"

Suddenly, Pearl's legs slipped outside the whirlpool with the current of overflowing water. She laid on the locker room floor looking like an alcoholic whale. "So, this is how it ends," she whispered. "Give Harriet my Wayne Newton records," she instructed, "and don't sleep with my ex-husbands."

With that we heard a rip, and water began rushing out of her pantyhose. "Oh God," she moaned. "Your water breaks when you're dying, too — no one ever told me that." All the commotion got the attention of some guards, and after sobering up a bit, we were escorted from the stadium.

So, how does this relate to your problem? Well, everyone's got a fantasy or two, or thirty-seven. I believe that most people's fantasies involve Fabio, but I understand that some don't — and that's okay. As long as you aren't putting yourself or others at risk, or letting the fantasy rule your life, I think you're okay.

Don't be like Pearl and let your locker room fantasy get you in trouble. Now, I gotta go. Pearl and I are still working on our lawsuits against the Dallas Cowboys and Leggs Inc.

You can write Ruthie, c/o **Wisconsin Light**, 225 S. Second St., Milwaukee, WI 53204. You can also email her via www.wilight.com or wilight@aol.com.

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THE FUNNIES

Dykes To Watch Out For by Alison Bechdel



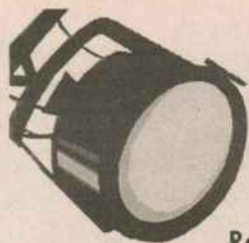
Biff 'n Bunky by Keith Anderson



MURPHY'S MANOR

by Kurt Erichsen





The Night Light

Recaps... Well, they tell me that summer is over now. Darn - and I was finally getting a tan too! But it was a fun summer, don't you think? Among the highlights...

On the bar scene... **La Cage** reopened its Dance Dance Dance section to rave reviews. The owners of the **1100 Club** purchased **Walker's Point Café** and renamed it **The Annex Cafe**. Sharon Dixon, owner of **Fannies**, was arrested for arson, but by the end of summer had managed to reopen her bar. Sharon had to go through mounds of red tape to do it. Bill and Jimmy celebrated their grand opening at **Fluid**. Chuck bought **Club 219**, **Manoeuvres** closed at its old location and reopened as **Club 5** in Madison's old Bombay Bicycle Club. Green Bay's **Guernsey** contest garnered a record total. The **Kloset** opened in Beloit, but **Just Us** closed in Milwaukee.

Special events... Special festivals that did well were in abundance. Milwaukee's **PrideFest** drew record crowds for both its festival and its parade. **Madison's Pride Weekend** was a big success, despite or perhaps because of Ralph Ovadahl's anti-Gay billboards. The Harley Riders coming

to HarleyFest made a lot of noise and added a huge dose of butchness to Milwaukee. The annual **ROW Pride Picnic** for the first time included those who were not of drinking age and drew a record crowd. The annual **Milwaukee Classic** softball tournament went off without a hitch. The **1998 AIDS Walk Wisconsin** went off without a hitch, too.

In the world of sports, Milwaukee's **SSBL** won a Gay World Series - yay - but had its title taken away unfairly - boo. We also had **McGuire** and **Sosa** - yay - and **Reggie** - boo.

In other news... **Wisconsin Light** was sold. **Tammy Baldwin** won her bid to be Democratic nominee for Congress. **Ralph Ovadahl** put up hateful billboards around Madison. Local **PFLAG** chapters put up much nicer ones in Milwaukee and Appleton. The **LGBT Community Center** found a new home. Hey, who said nothing ever happens around here? Have they been paying any attention at all?

Recaps... Well I have been very busy checking things out to keep you informed on what is happening. I was there at the grand opening of **Club 5**. Well, actually I missed the private

party that occurred the night before, which is just as well since they didn't have their liquor license yet. But the next evening, I was there, and so were a lot of other fine folks.

The new digs are very nice. Tony has a fine new sound system. The dance floor offers lots more space. The gift shop is a nice touch, and the restaurant - which is of this writing not yet open - promises to offer great food in a nice atmosphere. Overall, I think this place is going to be a big hit.

I also checked out what was happening in Milwaukee. I found **Sage La Rue** serving up great food at the **Glass Menagerie - M&M's restaurant**. He wants everyone to come and say hi.

Over at the **Ball Game** I ran into a friendly bunch of dart players. **Dish** continues to be a hopping, happening place for women and men.

The **Packer parties at In Between** are starting to pick up steam. A large crowd was on hand to cheer the Pack onto victory over Cincinnati. The week before, someone won \$50 in the half time football toss.

La Cage continues to pack them in, especially on Saturday nights. The **La Cage** showcase continues to wow its patrons.

Over at **Fluid**, **Bill W.** celebrated his birthday. Many happy returns **Bill!** A lot of people showed up to congratulate him.

Meanwhile, over at the **Triangle** there is a cute bar back. The **Boot Camp** was overrun with Bears! The two legged type. Where is **Davey Crockett** when we need him?

The **Milwaukee Eagle** had a nice fundraiser for the AIDS Walk. They raised \$500, which was pretty good for an event that was just thrown together at the last minute. They had a special deal. Pay \$10 and you got all the raffle tickets that would line up between the floors and your crotch.

Speaking of the AIDS Walk, over 7,500 people showed up for the event. The music at the rest stops was great. I was especially moved by the little girl who read her own poem about having AIDS. It takes courage for someone that age to get up in front of all those people. As of right now, I don't know who won the bar team competition, but congrats to everyone who participated.

Well, that's it for now. Hope to see you out and about soon. Meanwhile, stay safe and be proud!

Gotcha!



Photo by Jerry Johnson
Scott Stewart has his inseam measured by Gary Kopydlavski while Russ Reiter observes. The number of raffle tickets you received for \$10 at the Milwaukee Eagle's AIDS Walk Benefit depended on the measurement.

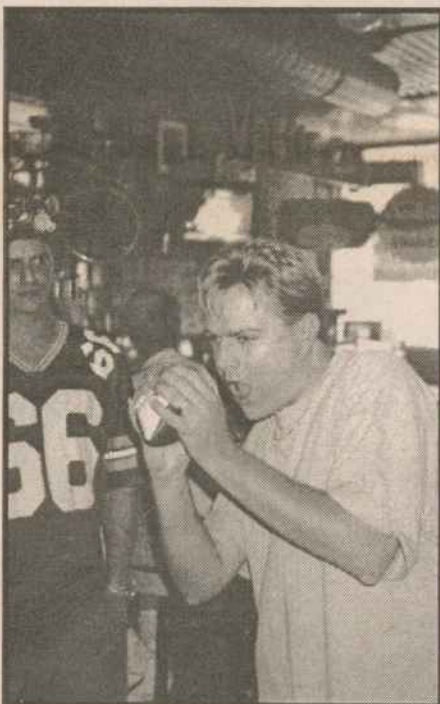


Photo by Bill Meunier
Curt Peck (left) urges a Packer half-time winner to aim the football carefully at In Between. Obviously, the young man is not Brett Favre.



Photo by Bill Meunier
Darts anyone? Dart leagues have started and we caught these guys at The Ballgame.



Photo by Jerry Johnson
Left to right: Russ Reiter, Gary Copydlavski, Cory Sterling and a ticket buyer at the Milwaukee Eagle's AIDS Walk Benefit.



Photo by Bill Meunier
Friendly faces festively fill fabulous Fluid.

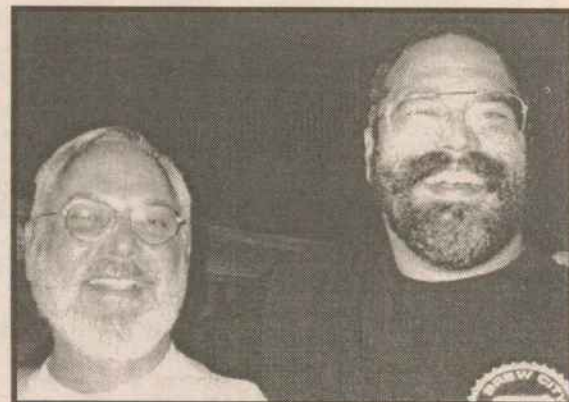


Photo by Bill Meunier
Bears overtook the Boot Camp during the Brew City Bears run.

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Night's Out

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25
M&M Club (Milwaukee), Live entertainment with Amy Armstrong & Freddy Allen.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26
M&M Club (Milwaukee), Live vocal styling with Singsational.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27
Club 5's Planet Q (Madison), Miss Gay Great Lakes At Large USA, Celeste Olds, will be hosting an evening of entertainment with special guest Duwanna Moore, showtime 10:30pm.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1
BESTD Traveling HIV Testing Clinics (Milwaukee), 10pm-1am, La Cage, 801 South 2nd Street.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2
Fannies (Milwaukee), 16th Anniversary Party. Envelope night, win cash & prizes, special raffles.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3
1100 Club (Milwaukee), 10pm-1am, Castaways MC & Chicago's Rodeo Riders Club Night and Beer Bust.
Fannies (Milwaukee), 16th Anniversary Party continues. Free Tap beer and soda, 6-9pm, guest DJ,

dancers at 10pm, Dance Contest 11pm, Raffles

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4
Club 5's Planet Q (Madison), Miss Gay Capital City Ginger Vitis' Birthday show with Ms. Caroline Klein hosting, showtime 10:30pm.
Fannies (Milwaukee), 16th Anniversary Party continues.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10
Kathy's Nut Hut (Milwaukee), 2:30pm, 1st annual Shopping Cart Race. All proceeds to AIDS Fund. Fun, great prizes, challenging. Call or see bartender for details.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14
BESTD Traveling HIV Testing Clinics (Milwaukee), 10pm-1am, Boot Camp Saloon, 209 East National Avenue.

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WI Light GOING OUT GUIDE

APPLETON (920)			
Rascal's Bar & Grill	MW, F	702 E. Wisconsin, 54991	954-9262
BELOIT (608)			
Kloset	MW, DJ	232 Shirland Ave, 53511	363-8764
CENTRAL WISCONSIN (715)			
Oz	MW, DJ	320 Washington, Wausau, 54401	842-3225
Platwood Club	G/S, MW, DJ	1730 Hwy 10W, Stevens Point, 54481	341-8862
EAU CLAIRE (715)			
Scooters	Wm	411 Galloway St., 54703	835-9959
Wolf's Den	MW, G/S	302 E. Madison, 54703	832-9237
GREEN BAY (920)			
Brandy's II	Mw	1126 Main St., 54304	437-3917
Buddies	MW	1264 Main St, 54304	437-9256
Napalese Lounge	MW, DJ	515 S. Broadway, 54303	432-9646
Sass	WM, S	840 S. Broadway, 54304	437-7277
Za's/Java'	MW, DJ, E, F, V	1106 Main St., 54301	435-5476
RESTAURANTS			
Cafe Bourbon		1106 Main St., Upper, 54301	435-5476
LA CROSSE (608)			
Cavalier Lounge	Mw	114 N. 5th St., 54601	782-9061
Players	G/S, MW	218 Main St., 54601	782-9279
LAKE MILLS (608)			
Cross Roads	G/S, MW	W6642 Hwy. B, 53551	648-8457
MADISON (608)			
Club 5	MW, F	5 Applegate Ct., 53713	277-9700
Geraldine's	WM, DJ	3054 E. Washington, 53704	241-9335
Kirby's Klub	MW, DJ, S, E	121 W. Main St., 53703	251-5838
Planet Q	MW, V, DJ, E	5 Applegate Ct., 53713	277-9700
Shamrock	MW, F	117 W. Main St., 53703	255-5029
The Barracks	M, L/L	5 Applegate Ct., 53713	277-8700
RESTAURANTS			
Club 5	Fine Dining	5 Applegate Ct., 53713	277-9700
MILWAUKEE (414)			
1100 Club	M, L/L, Food	1100 S. 1st St., 53204	647-9950
Ball Game	M, S	196 S. 2nd St., 53204	273-7474
Boot Camp	M, L/L	209 E. National Ave., 53204	643-6900
C'est La Vie	M, D, E	231 S. 2nd St., 53204	291-9600
Club 219	Mw, DJ, E, V	219 S. 2nd St., 53204	271-3732
D's Place	Wm, DJ	4025 N. Port Washington, 53212	962-9487
Dish	W, DJ	235 S. 2nd St., 53204	273-DISH
Emeralds Lounge	MW	801 E. Hadley St., 53212	265-7325
Fannies	Wm, DJ, E	200 E. Washington St., 53204	649-9003
Fluid	MW	819 S. 2nd St., 53204	645-8330
In Between	Mw, S	625 S. 2nd St., 53204	273-2693
Kathy's Nut Hut	Wm, S	1500 W. Scott St., 53204	647-2673
La Cage	Mw, DJ, E, V	801 S. 2nd St., 53204	383-8330
M&M Club	MW, E, F	124 N. Water St., 53202	347-1962
Mama Roux	Mw, F	1875 N. Humboldt, 53202	347-0344
Milwaukee Eagle	M, L/L, DJ, D	300 W. Juneau, 53203	273-6900
Renez Co-Z Corner II	MW, DJ, E, F	3500 W. Park Hill, 53208	933-RENE
Shaft Bar	M, L/L	300 West Juneau	273-6900
<i>(Open Fri & Sat, 10pm-Close, Dress Code)</i>			
South Water St. Docks	M, L/L	354 E. National Ave., 53204	225-9676
Station 2	Wm, S	1534 W. Grant, 53204	383-5755
This Is It	Mw	418 E. Wells St., 53202	278-9192
Triangle	M	135 E. National Ave., 53204	383-9412
Woody's	M	1579 S. 2nd St., 53204	672-0806
RESTAURANTS			
Annex Cafe	Late Nite	1106 S. 1st St., 53204	384-7999
Glass Menagerie	Fine Dining	124 N. Water St., 53202	347-1962
RACINE/KENOSHA (414)			
Club 94	MW, DJ, E	9001 120th Ave., Kenosha, 53140	857-9958
Filling Station	MW, Food, DJ	6325 120th Ave., Kenosha, 53140	857-3744
JoDee's	MW, DJ	2139 Racine St., Racine, 53403	634-9804
What About Me?	MW	600 6th St., Racine, 53403	632-0171
SHEBOYGAN (414)			
Blue Lite	MW	1029 N. 8th St., 53081	457-1636
SUPERIOR (715)			
JT's Bar & Grill	MW, DJ	1506 N. 3rd St, 55880	394-2580
Main Club	MW	1217 Tower Ave., 55880	392-1756
Trio	Wm	820 Tower Ave., 55880	392-5373

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M	Men	E	Entertainment
W	Women	F	Food
L/L	Levi/Leather	S	Sports Bar
D	Dancing	V	Video
DJ	Disc Jockey	G/S	Gay/Straight

DEEP INSIDE HOLLYWOOD

by Romeo San Vicente

Show Me the Manuscript!

The tabloid headlines sounded a warning bell a few weeks ago. But there's no Tom Cruise outing in the works. David Ehrenstein's forthcoming book, *Open Secret: Gay Hollywood 1928-1998*, features a chapter titled "Tom Cruise," which fueled a story in the *National Enquirer* speculating that the very married mega-star was about to be exposed as Gay. But instead of rehashing rumors about the star's sexuality, the book, due in October, uses Cruise as a metaphor to discuss our fascination with the bedroom habits of celebrities.

Blank and Bobby McGee

Melissa Etheridge won't be Janis Joplin after all. The lesbian rocker has long dreamed of playing the legendary soul singer, but word has it she just doesn't have the acting chops to pull off the role. However, Melissa's partner, Julie Cypher, will remain as a producer of *Piece of My Heart*, which she also co-wrote.

Gay on Broadway

Openly Gay actor Anthony Rapp (*Rent*) will star as the title character in the Broadway revival of *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*. B.D. Wong, who made a convincing woman in *M. Butterfly*, co-stars as Linus.

Meanwhile, Terrence McNally's upcoming play promises loads of controversy, with the conservative Catholic League planning to bus in true believers for opening night protests when *Corpus Christi* premieres October 13th. In the play, Jesus is depicted as "a Gay man." Expect to hear a lot more about this one, including word of a vocal counter-demonstration organized by Gay playwrights Craig Lucas (*Prelude to a Kiss*) and Tony Kushner (*Angels in America*).

Dreamgals

Comebacks are all the rage in Hollywood, so Diana Ross's return should come as no surprise. Besides, all these pseudo divas like Mariah Carey need to see a real queen in action. Kenneth "Babyface" Edmonds and his wife Tracy are developing an untitled feature film for Fox 2000, set to star Miss Ross along with L.A. Law alum Blair Underwood.

Ten Best... and One Worst

Everyone else is doing it, so why not me? What follows is my opinion of the ten best queer-themed films of all time, along with the one worst.

10. *The Birdcage*: The film isn't great, but Nathan Lane's performance is. He and writer Elaine May were a match made in celluloid heaven.

9. *Longtime Companion*: No movie better captures the dawn of the AIDS epidemic. Everything else about it is

solid too, from the acting (especially Bruce Davison) to the writing to the directing.

8. *Mommie Dearest*: Some say it ruined her career, but Faye Dunaway's portrayal of Joan Crawford captured just the right note in this hilariously over-the-top take on the private life of the movie queen.

7. *Tootsie*: Dustin Hoffman may not have made an attractive gal, but this crowd-pleaser was a throwback to studio classics while remaining very contemporary.

6. *Whatever Happened to Baby Jane?*: You couldn't have a queer top 10 list and not consider camp classics like this one, starring battling bitches Crawford and Bette Davis, whose eerie and hilarious performance of *I've Written a Letter to Daddy* served as inspiration for frumpy drag queens everywhere.

5. *Dog Day Afternoon*: Back when Al Pacino was subtle, he acted the hell out of great material like this. Director Sidney Lumet was also at the top of his form in this strangely moving story of a man robbing a bank in order to pay for his lover's sex change.

4. *The Wizard of Oz*: We've all traveled long roads looking for men who never turn out as advertised.

3. *My Own Private Idaho*: How things have changed since 1991. River Phoenix was still alive, Keanu Reeves was still desirable and Gay director Gus Van Sant was still making singularly original films like this one.

2. *Some Like It Hot*: The first studio film to highlight men in drag is also the movie that made Marilyn Monroe a star. I think those are pretty clear criteria for the list, not to mention the film is funny as hell.

1. *Midnight Cowboy*: Everyone was talking about Gay director John Schlesinger's X-rated masterpiece, which starred Jon Voight as a small-town male hustler out of place in New York City. More than that, it's a great non-sexual love story between two men, wonderfully played by Voight and Dustin Hoffman.

And now, the worst, which was much easier to pick than the ten best. It's hard to figure out what's more awful in this film: the acting (save for Stockard Channing) or the writing (more than 100 cliches, I counted). But there's no doubting that *To Wong Foo, Thanks for Everything, Julie Newmar* was an embarrassment on all counts. Thanks for nothing!

Romeo San Vicente, who is always looking to break "homerun" records, can be reached care of this publication or at RSVicente@aol.com. For more *Deep Inside Hollywood*, visit www.gay.net.

BOOKS

Eye Contact

by Michael Craft

Reviewed by Glenn Bishop

It is with sleep-blurred eyes and a desperate craving for caffeine that Glenn finds himself at the word processor this morning. Why? One might reasonably ask. Why, indeed!

Quite simply the blame lies within the pages of Michael Craft's latest Mark Manning Mystery, *Eye Contact*. After a hard day at the office and perhaps a cocktail too many with Glenn's dearest friend in the whole world, Lois de Mille, Glenn found himself attempting to unwind with a little reading before bed. Wrong. Wrong, wrong, wrong.

At about half way through the book, Glenn should have known that a page-turner such as *Eye Contact* would keep him up well into the wee hours of the morning absolutely frantic to find the solution to this compelling murder mystery.

And anyone who knows Glenn also knows what a mistake it is for Glenn to lose even an hour of oh-so important beauty sleep!

Fans of Michael Craft's popular first mystery, *Flight Dreams*, will remember that Mark Manning is a hot, humpy investigative reporter for a Chicago daily who denied his sexual orientation for the first 39 years of his life. That is until he met and fell in love with handsome architect Neil Waite.

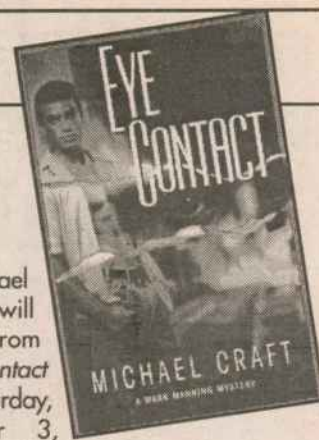
Eye Contact finds Mark and Neil two years later. Both men are still truly, madly, deeply in love and are putting the finishing touches on their fabulous Lake Shore Drive loft. As the story begins, Mark has rather curiously been assigned a science story. A Professor Zarnik claims to have discovered a tiny tenth planet in our Solar system. The story should have gone to the Science Editor, but he has disappeared mysteriously.

This doesn't seem like much of a story until Mark begins to suspect that Professor Zarnik may not be who he says he is. Then Mark discovers the lifeless body of Cliff Nolan, the now late Science Editor. Further digging by Mark reveals that Cliff was very naughty, keeping a file on many of their journalist colleagues, perhaps already extorting money from them.

Mark and Neil's life is further complicated by the appearance of cute-as-a-button and buff besides, David Bosch, a cub reporter assigned to assist Mark on the Zarnik story. David is a sexy little scamp obviously trying to seduce Mark.

When Mark learns that David's nipples are pierced, even Glenn knew Mark was in over his head. Is Professor Zarnik really Professor Zarnik? Has a tenth planet really been discovered lurking beyond Pluto? Will Mark succumb to David's ample physical attributes? And what role does the evil homophobic Christian Family Crusade play in this conspiracy?

Guess you'll just have to read Michael Craft's *Eye Contact*...



Michael Craft will read from *Eye Contact* on Saturday, October 3, 7pm at Afterwords Bookstore, 2710 N. Murray Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53211.

New on the Shelf:

Fiction:

Past Due

by Clare McNab
Naiad Pb \$11.95

Detective Inspector Carol Ashton is back in *Past Due*, the tenth installment in Claire McNab's riveting lesbian mystery series. In her latest case, Carol Ashton must track down the murder of reproductive specialist Dr. Brin Halstead. His body has been found mutilated, bludgeoned and burnt beyond recognition. But had Halstead really been the charismatic, visionary doctor as portrayed by the press or a dangerous fanatic who played with patients' lives? And who had wanted him very, very dead?

Blind Items: A (Love) Story

by Matthew Rettenmund
St. Martin's Press HC \$22.95

From the author of the delightful *Boy Culture* comes another wickedly funny romantic comedy, *Blind Items*. Struggling New York writer David Greer's life turns topsy-turvy when he meets and falls in love with closeted TV hunk Alan Dillinger. Their foible-filled courtship makes for a delightful read as Rettenmund explores gay love and sex in the '90s.

Non-Fiction:

The Best Little Boy in the World Grows Up

by Andrew Tobias
Random House HC \$23.95

The classic coming out title, *The Best Little Boy in the World* was a primer for a generation of Gay men. Now 25 years later, Andrew Tobias sheds the pseudonym John Reid in order to tell the rest of his story in *The Best Little Boy in the World Grows Up*. Not the story of his financial achievements, here Tobias relates his personal tales, from heartbreaking relationships to coming out to the President of the United States!

Family Outing

by Chastity Bono with Billie Fitzpatrick Little, Brown HC \$24.00

In 1990 the supermarket tabloid *Star* outed Chastity Bono. Although she had come out to family (Sonny was supportive, Cher was shocked and angered) and friends, Chastity hastily retreated back in the closet. It would be five years before she would come out publicly on her own terms, on the cover of *The Advocate*. In *Family Outing*, Chastity weaves her own dramatic story with practical advice for those thinking about coming out.

Tineality by Tina Lee

Determining One's Value by Tina Lee

My father raised me to believe that my character and my value as a human on this planet were directly connected to the perceived status of my chosen profession. The more high ranking the job, the more prestige it commanded, the more worthwhile the person. Boiled down: Boss good. Plebeian bad.

My mother, conversely, instilled the notion of charity in me; actually, she intended for me to be a good Christian. Every Sunday I sat restlessly fidgeting through a portion of a Presbyterian sermon, from where I was whisked away with all the other tiny tots to Sunday school.

In the summer I attended church camp. As a matter of regular afternoon life, I trudged behind my mother as she gathered with community women, most wearing skirts or bell-bottoms, in this living room or that backyard. They congregated mostly to gossip, but also to study the Bible.

Back in those days, I had a Dorothy Hamel haircut. I also had enough of the holy influence in my pre-pubescent life to impress permanently on my mind the value of human compassion, charity and the importance of volunteering, as well as the knowledge that Christianity would never be for me.

Despite my naiveté, I extracted from the whole of these events, and the seemingly endless preaching, a recipe for determining ones self worth: 2 cans of tuna fish, 1 cup mayonnaise, 1 chopped onion... oh sorry, (couldn't resist) that was the recipe for the tuna casserole we used to bring to Bible study. Actually, I came to believe that my value was directly proportionate to the degree to which I was a giving, loving person who aspired for nothing selfish and acted for the common good.

For obvious reasons, I'm not a Christian now. I'm way too selfish, and it was way too stressful. So was being a corporate suck-up, which used to be my job. This leads me then to the issue at hand, or the dilemma, whichever you prefer:

If a person's value is determined by their deeds in and out of work, what is the value of a human whose work is nothing more than a deep, black abyss, utterly void of gratification, and whose idea of community outreach is a Wednesday night spent at the local titty bar drinking jack and cokes? — I'm making direct references to personal experience here.

For instance, I have had countless status-free jobs in my 28 years. I've cleaned toilets, made Manhattans, typed manuscripts, hung hosiery,

forged references, painted walls, trimmed hedges, sheltered children, bagged lunches, managed telemarketers, wiped butts, marketed merchandise, and even shown skin; all this to make a buck. Throughout, I never knew my value.

I always thought I was a failure. I had a double undergraduate from U.W. Madison, plus lots of continuing education, yet I wasn't the boss, I never really brought home the big money, and I certainly wasn't, in most of my positions, required to wear a power suit.

It wasn't long before I realized that a pattern was emerging in my life. I never stayed anywhere for any time, and my private life became as distended with volunteering ventures and selfless acts as a hot air balloon, turgid, seams taught and nearly at the point of rupturing.

Being only human, I had limited energy. Between work and volunteering, I hardly had the strength to floss. And in the deepest crevasses between my teeth, that stress still shows.

Fun became an obsession, because I desperately needed it. Volunteering became my only way to justify my existence. My father's teaching had been flawed, since any particular job is nothing more than a screw or bolt in a huge machine designed to produce wicker-appearing, plastic picture frames. My mother's teaching, though charitable, hadn't provided for the necessity of selfishness.

As I see it, humans require a few conditions to be met in order for them to feel valuable and to perceive their existence as having some worth. I like to illustrate these conditions in the form of a triangle balanced delicately on one of its points.

The top left point represents Self; the top right point represents some notion of Spirituality (Yuck. I hate that word.); the bottom most point represents Community.

Self entails meeting one's daily requirements in health and hygiene. Brush, floss, eat nourishing foods, and don't smoke too much and always protect yourself from diseases. If you're ill, rest and recuperate.

Spirituality entails nature walks, all time spent petting animals, reading, and meditation and/or prayer — if that's your bag, baby.

Community is the key of the three. Since people are not unbiased judges of themselves, we all need feedback, which is easy to come by if you volunteer your services. Volunteering in teaching literacy, assisting with parade preparations, writing a column for LGBT newspapers — these activities make me a member of the community. Community is family.

These three conditions, basic as they are, are endlessly challenging. It takes effort to be good to yourself and to other people. The reward for me is having you people as part of my family. That makes everything worthwhile, including me.

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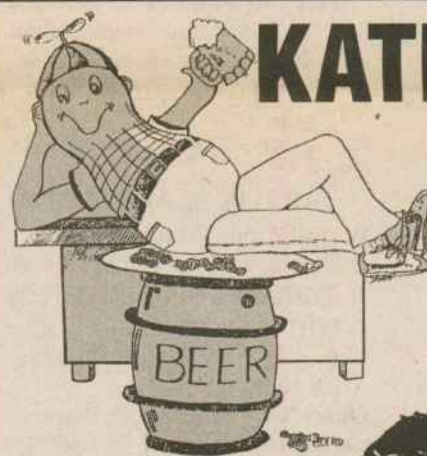


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Events Calendar

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

Madison Art Center (Madison), 211 State Street, *Ray Yoshida - A Retrospective 1968-1998* through November 15. And, *Surreal Wisconsin - Surrealism and Its Legacy in Wisconsin Art* through November 15.

Lakeshore Gallery (Milwaukee), 4401 N. Oakland Avenue, display of Linda and Jerry Maples, 6-8pm thru October 18. FMI (414)964-2540.

Arts Element Gallery (Milwaukee), 10050 N. Port Washington Road, Mequon. Joan Kritchman-Knutson Paper Sculpture exhibit continues through October 3. FMI (414)241-7040.

Art Elements Gallery (Milwaukee), 10050 N. Port Washington Road, Mequon. Interiors featuring 32 artists works with furniture, lighting, screens, home accessories continues through November 21. FMI (414)241-7040.

DeRicci Gallery, Edgewood College (Madison), *Fragments of Time* rich textural machine embellished fiber surfaced art by Patricia Kroth. 855 Woodrow St. Through Oct. 16.

UW Madison School of Dance (Madison), Lathrop Hall Redication Concerts featuring the works by the faculty., 8pm, Lathrop Hall, UW. Continues on 25th and 26th.

Wisconsin Research Center (Madison), In conjunction with the South Central Chapter of Americans United for Separation of Church and State (AUSCS) presents the Natl. Exec. Dir of AUSCS, Barry W. Lynn, to speak on *Religiously Right, Radically Wrong*, Dessert Reception to follow 7pm lecture, free admission, Unitarian Meeting House, 900 University Bay Drive.

Madison Symphony Orchestra (Madison), League Fall Fashion Show, Edgewater Hotel, 666 Wisconsin Avenue, 11am (608)271-3499.

Gallery H2O (Milwaukee), *Below the Surface* contemporary steel sculptures and paintings by Barbara Paterson, through Oct. 2. 221 N. Water St. (414)271-8032.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

Wisconsin Council of Churches (Statewide), Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Members in God's Family, through mid-afternoon Saturday, September 26 at St. Benedict Center, Middleton, WI. Call (608) 837-3108 FMI or e-mail wcc@ecunet.org.

Oberon's ACORN XI (Statewide), Under Construction weekend in Milwaukee. Headquartered at the Wisconsin Hotel. Planned events include the IMAX Dome Theater, a Walking Enduro and a Leather Swap & Sale. Register today. FMI (414)265-8587.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

Ko-Thi Dance Company (Milwaukee), Studio/Community Classes, every Saturday at the Milwaukee High School of the Arts, African American dance for ages 5-105. (414)273-0676.

Metro Cafe (Milwaukee), Hotel Metro, 411 East Mason. John Schneider and Dean Leo performs every Saturday at 9:30pm.

Frontiers (Madison), Old World Wisconsin Trip, 9:15am. Ride share from the Park & Ride at Broadway & Stoughton Rd. (608)244-3351 FMI.

Bi Definition (Milwaukee), An evening of theatre and dancing in Chicago, car pooling. Members to see *The Edwardian Mysteries: A Fantasmagoria*. Bi's and friends invited to participate. FMI call Nikki at (414)774-5055.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

Madison's Faith Communities (Madison), *Coming Out Coming Together* in worship., 7pm, Lake Edge Lutheran, 4032 Monona Drive, invites and welcomes all LGBT's to worship and celebrate. Speaker Rev. Bill Johnson, Natl. Minister of LGBT Minority Concerns of the UCC. Music by The Living Stones.

Cream City Squares (Milwaukee), Lake Park Lutheran Church, Church Hall, 2647 N. Stowell, (414) 643-5597. 1-4pm, Free Square Dance Social. Socialize and get an introductory lesson. Partner not needed for either.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

WYOU Cable (Madison), Independent Gay Cinema, 10:30pm.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

WYOU Cable (Madison), Living With AIDS/HIV, presented by the AIDS Network

Queer TV (Milwaukee), Warner Cable/MATA channel 47, 7pm.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

Zeidler Park (Milwaukee), 11:45am-1:45pm. Great Music: Marty Shadd Duo.

WYOU Cable (Madison), Nothing to Hide, progressive rainbow issues.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3

Madison Symphony Orchestra (Madison), Fall Youth Concerto Competition. MATC Downtown Campus, 8am, \$20 application with form, Wisconsin students 8-14. (608)257-3734.

Barrymore Theatre (Madison), 2090 Atwood Ave., 8pm. Comedy comes out of

the closet. Suzanne Westenhofer in an all-new show, with special guest Mary Waitrovich. \$16.50 advance, \$18.50 door. A Full Moon Production. Box Office charge by phone (608) 241-8633.

Bi Definition (Milwaukee), 7pm, Social/discussion. Topic: *Coming Out as Bisexual*. BestD Clinic, 1240 E. Brady St. FMI call Steve at (414)483-5046. Meetings held first Saturday and third Tuesday of each month.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4

Solidarity Sunday (Madison), 4th annual event, co-sponsored by Integrity/Dignity. All area churches invited to participate in some way surrounding the issue of verbal, physical and other types of hate crimes directed against our community. Join I/D at 6pm, St. Francis House, 1001 University Avenue.

Cream City Squares (Milwaukee), Lake Park Lutheran Church, Church Hall, 2647 N. Stowell, (414) 643-5597. 1-3pm, Basic Square Dance Lessons Begin.

Monthly Discussion Group for LGBT Catholics (Milwaukee), Holy Trinity Guadalupe School, 613 S. 4th Street, 10:30am-Noon. Guest speaker David Schimmel, author of *Passion: Christian Spirituality from a Gay Perspective*. FMI Fred at (414) 481-8543.

Bi Youth Milwaukee, First drop-in group, 7pm, at the BestD Clinic, 1240 E. Brady St. Regular meetings will continue on the first and third Sunday of each month. Bi and questioning youth from 13-25 are invited to stop in for pizza, peer talk, information, and just to chat. FMI call Fred (414)329-2684

MONDAY, OCTOBER 5

WYOU Cable (Madison), Independent Gay Cinema. **NCOD Events (Statewide)**, See page 13.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6

WYOU Cable (Madison), Living with HIV/AIDS, presented by the AIDS Network.

Queer TV (Milwaukee), Warner Cable/MATA channel 47, 7pm. **NCOD Events (Statewide)**, See page 13.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7

Zeidler Park (Milwaukee), 11:45am-1:45pm. Great Music: Mike Lorenz Quartet.

WYOU Cable (Madison), Nothing to Hide, progressive rainbow issues. **NCOD Events (Statewide)**, See page 13.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8

Milwaukee Art Museum (Milwaukee), 8pm, 750 N. Lincoln Memorial Drive. Preview Party with all 125 Auction works displayed. First opportunity for silent bidding on 90 items ranging in price from \$250 to \$10,000. Free with museum admission.

NCOD Events (Statewide), See NCOD Schedule, page 13.

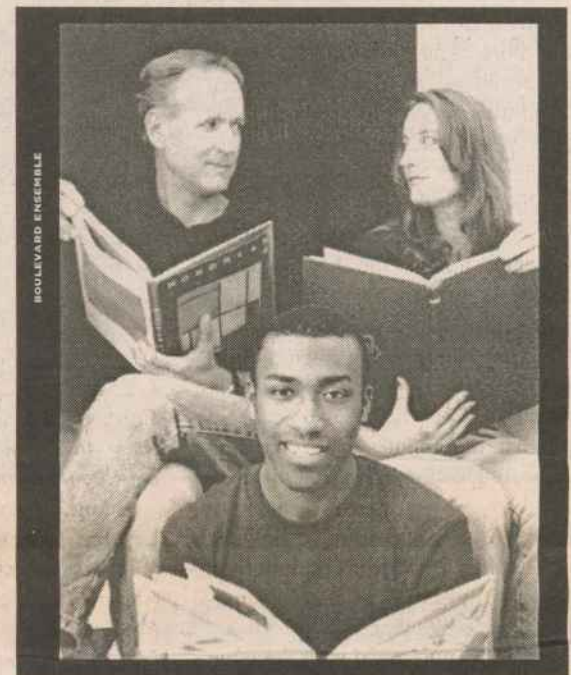
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9

Alverno College (Milwaukee), Dan Hurlin The Shoulder with Dan Moses Schreier, 8pm, Pitman Theatre, \$14-16. An original chamber opera about a man's trip on a riding lawn mower across the state of Iowa. (\$14)382-6044.

NCOD Events (Statewide), See NCOD Schedule, page 13.

Absolut Benefit 3 (Milwaukee), The Firehouse, Historic Third Ward. Wisconsin AIDS Fund's annual Auction. Silent and Voice Auction of china plates, martini glasses and ceramic coasters all hand-painted or decorated by national celebrities and recognized artists. (414)272-5808.

UW-Whitewater BGBS Student Union (Impact) (Whitewater), UW-Whitewater Irvin L Young



Boulevard Ensemble Studio Theatre presents a production of John Guare's play - "Six Degrees of Separation." Featured are (left to right): Jim Gallagher as Flanders; Joseph Mays as Paul; Laura Neuser as Louisa.

Auditorium, 7:30pm. Romanovsky & Phillips, musical comedy duo. Charge tickets by phone at (414)472-2222.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10

Ko-Thi Dance Company (Milwaukee), Studio/Community Classes, every Saturday at the Milwaukee High School of the Arts, African American dance for ages 5-105. (414)273-0676.

Pabst Theatre (Milwaukee), Celebrate 150 years of Wisconsin statehood with the Lake Superior Big Top Chautauqua's *30th Star*, 8pm. A songwitness account describing the state with songs, dramatic readings, storytelling and photos. Box Office, 144 E Wells St., or Phonecharge at (414)286-3663.

NCOD Events (Statewide), See NCOD Schedule, page 13.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11

National Coming Out Day (Nationwide), Come out to someone you love!!!

NCOD Events (Statewide), See NCOD Schedule, page 13.



Dale Gutzman (left), Director with cast members of "Kiss of the Spider Woman": Lawrence Lukasavage (front center), Trung Tieu (back center) and David Caldwell (right).

So... What about the Wisconsin AIDS Walk and the honorary Chair, Ms. Chastity Bono? Needless to say, she's not an award-winning speaker, and after an interview, we found out she doesn't have much of a personality, either. Poor girl, with her background and upbringing, you'd think she could at least talk conversationally!

Maybe she lead a sheltered life, because her parents, Cher and Sonny, feared for her safety and exposure in the press... but I wonder.

I wonder how she got a job with the national Human Rights Campaign as a spokesperson and then moved onto the Gay and Lesbian Anti-Defamation (GLAD) League as a media consultant. Then again, perhaps her lack of communication skills is why she wasn't at either place for very long...

I heard her speak at the AIDS Walk Breakfast and was far from impressed or motivated. Methinks she should spend more time writing her second book and doing promotional tours that require little speaking. As far as a guest lecturer or speaker, lots of "you knows" and "Uhhmm's" aren't the trademarks of a polished speaker.

So... overall, the Walk was great with sunny, almost too hot, weather. Once again, the fundies had to make their presence felt, but they were far outnumbered by the Christians, religious groups and church school groups that were walking with us. It's also near sacrilege that the fundies were standing near the foundation work for the new Milwaukee Art Museum's Calatrava addition. After all, with all the Gay artists in the world, you'd think their signs would go up in smoke or something dramatic like that!

I was really impressed with the large number of young people, women and families involved this year. Loved the cheer leading squads scattered along the route, too. Nothing like a little rah-rah to get the people moving.

For the second year in a row, the total raised was less than the previous year, breaking the tradition of increased totals in previous years. Some blame the person selected as Chair, but I think it is mostly apathy and the misconception that the epidemic is over in this country.

Sure, a major personality like Rosie O'Donnell or Oprah would have been nice (and might have been able to express coherent thoughts), but "political niceties" prevented certain ones from being confirmed. "Opening Closets, Opening Minds" is the slogan for this year's **National Coming Out Day (NCOD)** events across the country. The traditional NCOD is October 11, but Milwaukee's Human Rights League for Lesbians and Gays and the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center have designed a weeklong series of events to celebrate. Madison also has a "Coming Out Series" that starts on Monday, October 5 and runs through Tuesday, October 15.

For more info on Coming Out Day activities in Madison call (608) 256-8361. In Milwaukee call the LGBT Community Center Hot Line at (414) 483-4710. You can also check out the schedule and article on page 13.

So... don't you find it kind of a twist of logic that President Clinton signed the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) because he had long opposed legal marriage for Gays and Lesbians? Was he pandering to the "family values" crowd? Did he think he was demonstrating moral leadership? If he thought same sex marriage by two committed adults would besmirch the institution of marriage, then why did he get caught with his pants down so often during his public career?

So... The Fall TV premiere season is upon us, and it is *So Gay!* Even with *Ellen* gone, there are plenty of other family types to take her place. The biggie promises to be *Will & Grace*, a sitcom starring a straight woman and a Gay man who are best friends. (Does this sound like a familiar plot line, or what?)

Will, who isn't *obviously* Gay, has a best friend, Jack, who is a flamer. Jack is played by Sean Hayes, the hero from *Billy's Hollywood Screen Kiss*. Advance publicity on the show has been heavy, and many reviewers have placed it on their "Best of New Season" lists.

Other shows, thanks to a breakdown in the September 15 *Advocate*, include 24 more Gay characters. New shows with Gay and Lesbian characters are: *The Brian Benben Show* (Billy Hernandez), *Fantasy Island* (Harry), *Linc's* (Rosalee Lincoln), *Living in Captivity* (unnamed security guard), *Rude Awakening* (Jackie), and *Sex and the City* (Stanford Blatch).

Returning shows and their Gay and Lesbian characters are: *Spin City* (Carter Heywood), *Chicago Hope* (Dennis Hancock), *ER* (Maggie Doyle), *Frasier* (Gil Chesterton), *Homicide: Life in the Street* (Tim Bayliss), *Friends* (Susan Bunch & Carol Willick), and *Suddenly Susan* (Hank & Pete), *Mad About You* (Debbie and Joan), *Nash Bridges* (Stacy & Pepe), *NYPD Blue* (John Irvin), *Profiler* (George Fraley), and *Veronica's Closet* (Josh). We can't forget the cartoon characters Mr. Garrison in *South Park*, and the closeted Waylon Smithers in *The Simpsons*.

So... I personally know three people in the Milwaukee area who have died from AIDS complications in the last month. That signals to me that the honeymoon may, indeed, be over.

The first Protease Inhibitors (PIs) were introduced in January of 1996, and within six months, the number of AIDS deaths dipped dramatically. For the past two years I've personally known only a handful of people who have succumbed. These recent deaths, in such a short period of time, are alarming to me in their significance for people with AIDS (PWAs).

So... what lies in the near future for the two thirds of us PWAs who no longer are benefiting from the PIs? Well, there are two new anti-retrovirals nearing approval. One of them is a Nucleoside Analog Reverse Transcriptase Inhibitor (nuke), such as AZT, ddI, ddC, etc.; its chemical name is Abacavir, and its brand name is Ziagen. The second is from an entirely new class of drugs, called Nucleotide RTIs. Its chemical name is Adefovir, aka bis-POM PMEA, brand name

Preveon. It has to be taken with daily dosages of carnitine, which it depletes from the body. Just approved by the FDA last Friday is a Non-Nucleoside RTI (Non-nuke) with the chemical name of Efavirenz, brand name Sustiva.

Another class of drugs called Ribonucleotide Reductase Inhibitors has one such proven drug on the market, Hydroxyurea (Hydrea). Hydrea is an old drug for specific cancers, and it targets an enzyme that the HIV virus needs, which is made by blood cells.

Some research has shown that these new drugs, in combination with some of the older meds, or with Hydrea, can be effective... the question remains, for how long? The HIV virus constantly mutates, and the drugs being used at the time of mutation, become ineffective. Because it attacks the virus in a different way, Hydrea is the sole drug that is not affected by mutation.

Other new drugs are in the more distant pipeline, including other PIs and RTIs and NN-RTIs, as well as entirely new types of drugs, which may be our best hope yet. Meanwhile, I predict we are going to see a steady increase in the number of people whose drugs have failed them. Notice how I said the drugs failed them... there is a percentage of PWAs who fail their drugs, too. In other words, they take them improperly, skip doses, or lead unhealthy lifestyles.

So... what's this mean? I wish I had the answer, and many researchers feel the same way. But here's *my* suggestion... If you are one of those PWAs whose current drug regimen works, don't switch meds until you see your viral load going over 50,000 or you see a precipitous drop in your CD4 cells. Even with a detectable viral load under 100,000, most people stay relatively free of opportunistic infections.

So... Remember, the more times you switch meds, you lower your chances of other drugs working down the road. One drug often negates the affect of another. And when you change one drug in your regimen, all of them *should* be changed at the same time.

For those of us on so-called "salvage therapy" because approved AIDS drugs no longer work for us, there is hope. Hydrea has benefited me, when added to my past regimen with the addition of ddI. However the ddI, which I had been on in the past, brought back increased neuropathy, which is why I stopped it in the first place. I'm now in the process of obtaining approval for two of the expanded access experimental drugs, Preveon and Ziagen.

Indications are that the two other expanded access drugs will receive FDA approval within the next several months.

The "Next Big Thing" that we need is an accurate, cheap and quick test that will indicate exactly which drugs your particular viral strain is immune to. Current genotypic testing is faulty, expensive and hard to access by most clinicians. This sort of test would be the most useful tool to come along since the advent of viral load testing.

So... keep your fingers crossed, pray, chant, whatever, and be a good patient.

OBITUARIES

In Loving Memory of My Friend Samuel F. Belnavis, Jr. 1961-1998

by Ron Geiman

I met Sam shortly after meeting my roommate Kim. Sam was another of those La Crosse to Milwaukee transplants I got to know through Kim, once he moved here.

Sam was attending school at UW-Stout, near La Crosse, but living in Milwaukee at that time in the '80s. He was always a special person — kind and giving, and even through his long struggle with multiple AIDS opportunistic infections, Sam never lost his sense of humor.

Sam always worked two jobs, and in between, it seems he spent most of his off time hospitalized. I lost count of how many times he had PCP or infections resulting from his IV line. Then there was the CMV Retinitis and other assorted "ickys" all suffered silently and with a total lack of self-pity.

He left behind his longtime partner Mark Pellowski, along with his large blood family, and huge Gay family. He was born June 24, 1961 (Gay Pride Week, how prophetic) in Copaigne, New York to Chris and Sam, Sr. In 1974 the family moved to Milwaukee.

Sam graduated from Dominican High School in Whitefish Bay in 1979. He then attended UW-Stout, where he eventually received a Bachelor of Arts in Hotel and Restaurant Management. Traveling back and forth to Milwaukee between part time school and at least one full time and a part time job, it took years for him to complete his education. (I get worn out just thinking about his lifestyle.)

Sam worked at Mader's for twenty-two years. A workaholic, he also put in ten years with Holiday Inns of America, at the same time. He was a highly valued employee at both establishments.

Victor Mader knelt at Sam's bedside in the hours before Sam's death was inevitable. Sam passed away at home surrounded by people he loved.

Besides Mark and his parents, Sam is survived by his sisters: Michelle Bledsoe, Stacey Dobbins and Cherise Rowsom; grandparents, Richard and Vanzorn Smith, Ashton and Lyra Belnavis; and many aunts, uncles and cousins... and a host of friends. (Sam, say "Hi" to Nel & Steph and the others, up there!)

A High Mass was held for Sam on September 15 at Our Lady of Good Hope Catholic Church, with entombment at Wisconsin Memorial Park.

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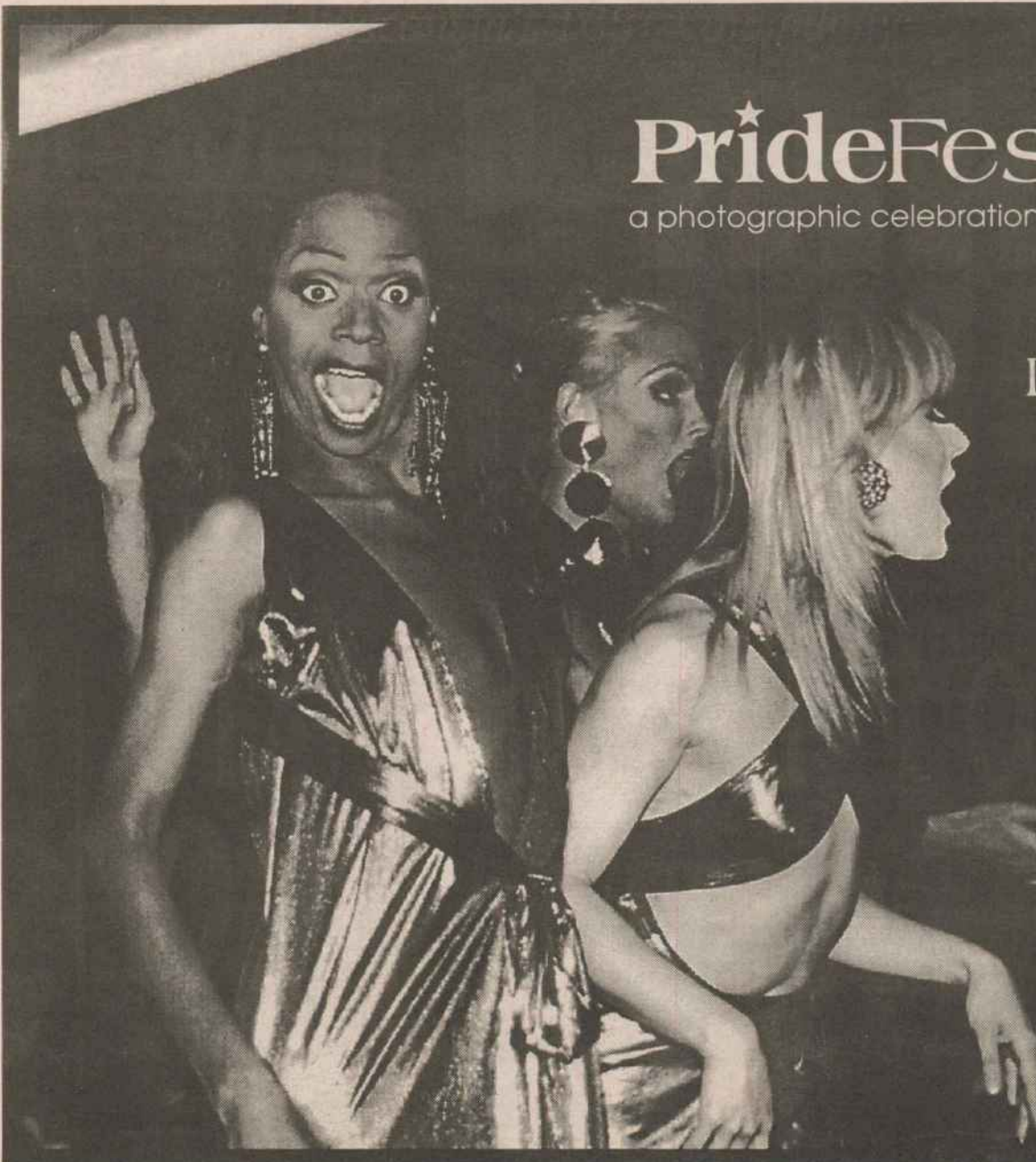
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