

WI Light

The Voice of Wisconsin's LGBT Community

Jan 13-26, 1999



History of
Gay Hollywood
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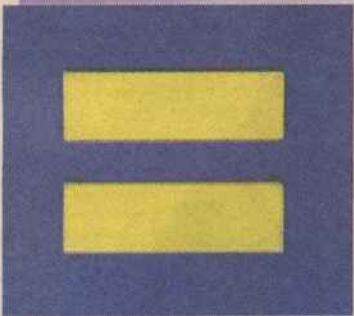
CONGRESSWOMAN TAMMY BALDWIN

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Her First LGBT Interview



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Tammy Baldwin

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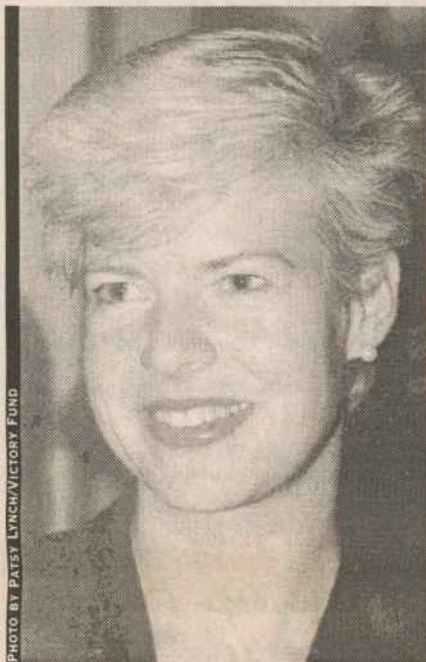
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Congresswoman Baldwin: The Interview

by Bill Meunier

The last time I sat alone with Tammy Baldwin in her office, she told me that she was preparing to run for Congress in Wisconsin's Second District. Nearly two years and a hard campaign later, I am again in Tammy Baldwin's office, but it is not the State Capitol office of a State Representative. It is Room 1020 of the Longworth House Office Building, the office of America's first openly Lesbian Congresswoman. It is the day after she was sworn in as the Congresswoman from Wisconsin's Second Congressional District.



WI Light How do you feel about the history you've made?

Tammy Baldwin It's hard to express. It's other people who demonstrate to me how important it is to them. Sometimes watching a tear well up in the corner of someone's eye or seeing outright expressions of joy. I feel thrilled, especially because I feel that it touches so many other people. I was moved by the presence of a wide range of people here. Some I hadn't seen in years. Having my partner and mother here plus college friends and high school friends was very special to me.

WI Light Did you always believe you would get here?

Tammy Baldwin I never doubted that I could win but I certainly doubted that I would win. You're trying to do everything right and not make mistakes and missteps. While you can't control all of that, you can control some of it. I think we did a very effective job. The magnificence of the campaign had a lot to do with the youth movement. The headline the day after the primary was "Youth Quake."

WI Light Some students waited in line for two hours after the polls closed so they could vote for you. How did you feel about that?

Tammy Baldwin I felt great. I wanted to yell from the mountaintops, "Don't ever ignore the students again."

WI Light After the election was over, Governor Thompson credited you with re-electing Russ Feingold to the U.S. Senate. He said Russ should take you to lunch every week. So has he?

Tammy Baldwin We had a lovely lunch after the election. Russ and I con-

sulted and we figured that we ought to go out to lunch with Tommy because we got about a third of his vote. We should just go to dinner and split the bill. (Laughter)

WI Light Have you found a place to stay yet?

Tammy Baldwin I have a temporary place to stay. Every time I come to Washington D.C., two times since the election, I have a goal of finding a permanent place, but my time gets swallowed up. Tomorrow, I am taking most of the day to keep looking until I find something. I have a month-to-month rental right now.

WI Light Is the workflow what you expected?

Tammy Baldwin There is so much coming. It is dramatic to see the bundle of mail come every day to this office and think about how our day-to-day workload is going to be quite intensive. Yesterday was my first day of floor sessions. It was fabulous to have that sense of history when I walk into the chamber and think about who've I read about, who's been there before.

WI Light You are the first openly Gay person to win a first term in Congress. Are you concerned that some LGBT people are going to expect too much from you?

Tammy Baldwin No, I look at the progression of the Gay and Lesbian civil rights movement. I think we are a much more sophisticated movement by now. Certainly there will be some who would like me to use this position in a way other than the way that I plan on using it.

It's not so much a question of floor speeches as it is a question of national accessibility. As I have said a number of times since the election, I have to develop and strengthen the relationship I have with the people of the Second District. I was happy to win the election but I didn't win in a landslide victory. I have to make sure that first and foremost I represent well the people who sent me here.

I think my presence in Congress will impact Gay and Lesbian civil rights in three important ways. One is the powerful symbolism of it. It will have a sort of transforming effect. Young Gays and Lesbians feel like doors are closed. They can learn or read about me and feel, well maybe, they aren't closed. There's an extremely powerful symbolic impact.

Then there's the substantive impact. There will be legislation that impacts Gay and Lesbian people, hopefully ENDA and Hate Crimes legislation. There will be anti-Gay legislation that will come to the floor and I will participate in those debates.

Finally what I view as the most important impact of all is that I can touch the hearts and change the minds of mainstream America. If people can see me as a hard and effective worker on health care reform or social security reform and know that I happen to be a Lesbian; that will do more to change the hearts and minds of people. They will know that a Gay person worked really hard for them on an issue that affects their everyday life.

WI Light Wisconsin Congressman Tom Petri may be one of those whose mind you can change. Here's a conservative Republican who has said he wanted to outlaw homosexuality. Were you surprised to see him at your reception yesterday?

Tammy Baldwin I was delighted to have him stop by and greet me. I never met him before. We are going to be part of the delegation representing Wisconsin. I thought this was a marvelous gesture on his part to welcome me to this new role.

WI Light You had a six-year tenure in the State Legislature. What are you most proud of doing there?

Tammy Baldwin Several things, some are actual passing of legislation, sometimes it's fighting back against legislation successfully. In other respects, it's the relationships I was able to develop.

In the last session we passed the first piece of campaign reform legislation in four years. We did it at a time when everyone was talking about it but nothing was getting through. It was because the partisan divisions on that issue are so strong. I worked with a fellow by the name of Scott Walker, a Republican, to really craft something that was an important first step on campaign finance reform and detailed electronic filing.

What goes hand in hand with that is campaign finance records being accessible via the Internet.

The importance of that is for folks who truly understand what's happening. Other reforms will come later. Now they will be able to find out who's getting the money, how it's being spent and who's trying to influence the elections.

I was also very proud of getting protections for nursing

home workers passed. My Grandmother is in a nursing home. That's very important to me. Those who report elder abuse should not be fired from their jobs for making waves. They should be encouraged.

WI Light You have been given assignments on the Budget and the Judiciary Committees. People say that's pretty impressive for a freshman. Was this a sign of respect from the leadership?

Tammy Baldwin The committee appointments are made by a 44-member committee. When I finished the campaign, and the results were in, let me tell you, I was a little shocked to learn that I had to wage another campaign to get on the committees I wanted to serve on.

WI Light Are those the committees you wanted?

Tammy Baldwin Let me explain. There are a few committees called exclusive committees such as Appropriations, Ways and Means and Commerce, that by and large, freshmen never get on. Everybody in the freshman class listed one of those committees as their first choice, as did I, because you want to be recognized as seeking them.

Continued on pg. 9

Baldwin at a Glance

1980 - Baldwin graduates from Madison High School, where she was elected to the Homecoming court.

1984 - Tammy Baldwin graduates from the prestigious Smith College with a double major, mathematics and political science.

April, 1986 - Baldwin rolls up 92% of the votes and is elected to the Dane County Board of Supervisors. She will be easily re-elected to three more two-year terms.

November, 1992 - Baldwin becomes the first ever openly LGBT person and the youngest woman ever to win a seat in the Wisconsin State Legislature. Baldwin fights off a strong challenge in the Democratic primary and then cruises to a landslide victory in the general election. She is re-elected to two-year terms in 1994 and 1996.

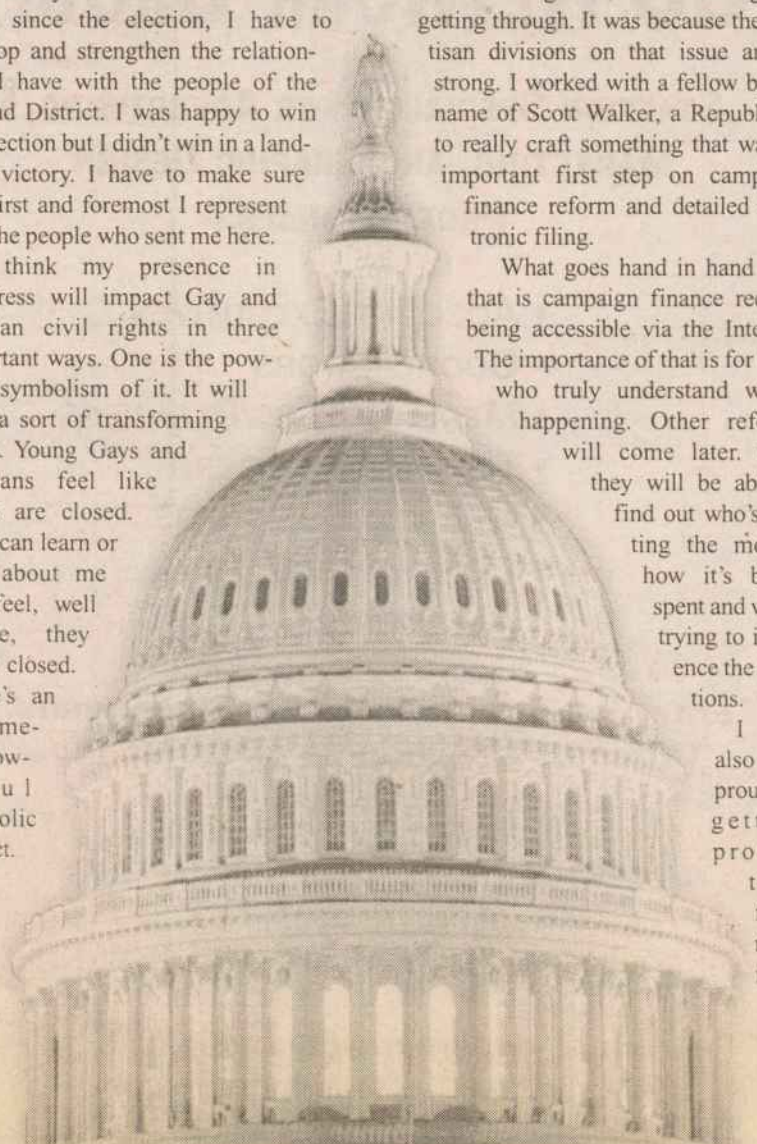
March, 1997 - Baldwin tells *Wisconsin Light* that she is considering a campaign for Congress. The front-page story helps to generate excitement in Wisconsin's LGBT community. "Run Tammy Run" buttons begin appearing everywhere in Madison.

June, 1998 - Baldwin officially announces her candidacy with a call to the voters to ignore the special interests. "We are Americans," she says. "In America the people decide what is possible."

September 8, 1998 - Baldwin wins the Democratic nomination to Congress by a narrow margin. Her opponents, former Dane County Executive Rick Phelps and State Senator Joe Weinecke, immediately endorse her.

November 3, 1998 - Baldwin makes history becoming the first Wisconsin woman and the first open Lesbian ever elected to Congress. She defeats Republican Josephine Musser by a margin of 54% to 46%.

January 6, 1998 - Baldwin is sworn in as the Congresswoman from Wisconsin's Second District.



Inaugural Highlights

by Bill Meunier

The Parties

Tammy Baldwin held a swearing in party at the Rayburn House Office Building, where supporters watched the ceremony. It was not her only "inaugural event." Over 200 of Washington's LGBT political elite and supporters attended the Victory Fund fundraiser, held in Baldwin's honor, at the elegant D.C. mansion of general contractor Bruce Johnson. The minimum donation was \$40. The event sold out.

On the evening of January 6th, an invitation only party was held at the Union Station Capitol City Brewery. A packed house was on hand for that as well. (For more on the Baldwin parties see *Dusty After Dark*.)

Surprise Guests

Two of the guests attending the Baldwin swearing in party were somewhat of a surprise. Conservative Republican Congressman Tom Petri (R-WI) came and brought Republican moderate Congressman Steve Horn (R-CA) with him. Just a few years ago, Petri told a national student group that he would like to outlaw homosexuality. In 1996, Gay activist Rick Zbur opposed Horn in his bid for re-election.



Congressman Tom Petri

Jon Nichols, editor of Madison's *Capitol Times*, told *Wisconsin Light* he felt Petri's presence was a good sign. He said Baldwin's election would make it more difficult for Petri to vote against pro-gay civil rights legislation.

Privately, several moderate Republicans asked if Baldwin would be receptive to working with them. For some, their concern stemmed from the Gay Log Cabin Club's opposition to Baldwin's election. Baldwin has a reputation for working with members of the opposition party.

Home Boys and Girls

Madison Mayor Susan Baumann came to D.C. for Baldwin's inauguration. The Mayor, a former schoolteacher, taught eighth grade Algebra to the future Congresswoman. Baumann is very popular among Madison's LGBT community. Her support of Baldwin is likely to strengthen the affection that LGBTs have for her.



Mayor Susan Baumann

Dane County Executive Kathleen Falk also received substantial LGBT support in her campaign but was not in D.C. for the festivities.

When asked about this, a Dane County politician would only say, "Mayor Baumann is very attentive to her constituencies." Falk endorsed Baldwin opponent Rick Phelps in the Democratic primary.

Other politicians on hand included Wisconsin's Democratic Congressmen Tom Barrett, Gerald Kleczka, Ron Kind, David Obey and newly elected State Senator Tom Erpenbach.

Kleczka told *Light* that Baldwin's election was historic because she is the first woman sent to Congress by Wisconsin. When reminded that she is also the first open Lesbian in Congressional history, he nodded and said that was important too. Kleczka also said he was impressed with Baldwin's committee assignments. "She is on two very important committees, Budget and Judiciary. A lot of people wait for years to get on the Budget committee," he said.



Congressman Gerald Kleczka

First Vote

Tammy Baldwin cast her first vote in the House even before she was sworn in. She voted for Richard Gephardt (D-MO), the Democratic House leader, in the election of a new Speaker of the House. The vote is taken prior to swearing in of the new Congress.

As the roll was called, the Baldwin party got quieter as those in attendance waited for her name to be called. When it was announced, Baldwin stood up and said "Gephardt" to the cheers of those at her Swearing In Party. The majority Republicans successfully elected Congressman Dennis Hasser (R-IL) Speaker.

Bipartisanship?

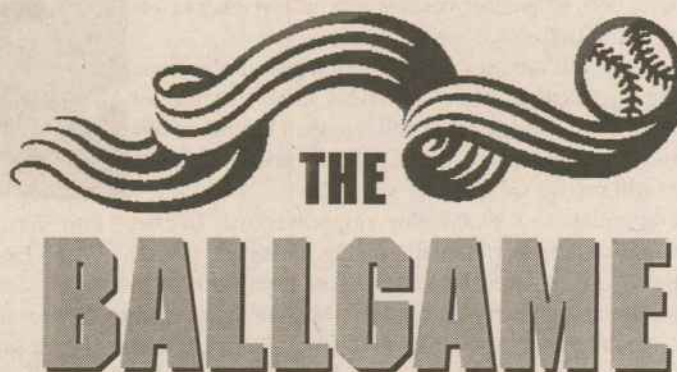
Following Hasser's election as Speaker, and due to the intense rancor of the House impeachment debate, both Gephardt and Hasser appealed for bipartisanship. The good feelings were, however, short-lived. In one of its first votes, the new House considered a motion to send managers to the Senate with articles of impeachment against the President. Nearly every Republican voted yes and nearly every Democrat, including Baldwin, voted no.

Security Tight

Security is tight in Washington, especially in congressional buildings. Following the bombing of Iraq last month, a wall with paintings of trees and grass was erected alongside part of the Capitol Building. It prevents cars from getting too close.

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Governor Barrett?

Conventional wisdom has it that Wisconsin Governor Tommy Thompson will not run for a fifth four-year term. Speculation about who might succeed him in the 2002 election started even before the vote counting in November's election was completed.

Wisconsin will almost certainly lose a seat in Congress after the next census. Many observers think that one of Milwaukee's two Congressmen will lose their seat when this happens. Naturally enough, many politicians assume that one of them will run for Governor.

The speculation is that highly respected Fifth District Congressman Tom Barrett will run for the State House. Barrett has a 100% rating on LGBT issues from the Human Rights Campaign. When asked about the possibility of running for Governor, Barrett didn't confirm or deny that he is considering making the race. He did say that whatever move he makes will be done after he has consulted with his family.



Rep. Tom Barrett & the First Lady

Ryan Says Probably Not

Before the election, *Wisconsin Light* tried to get Paul Ryan's campaign to tell us how he stood on LGBT issues. We never got a response. As he came out of the House chamber following his swearing in, we were there to ask him if he would support ENDA, the Employment Non-Discrimination Act. Ryan succeeds Congressman Mark Neumann, who had a 0 record of support on LGBT issues, according to the Human Rights Campaign.

At first Ryan said he wasn't sure if he would support the bill or not. When told what the bill would do he responded, "I probably won't vote for that." Some think Ryan, who has been described as a "Neumann clone without the harsh edges," will run for the U.S. Senate in six years.

Hate Crimes Lobby Day a Bust

Grass roots activists called for a "Hate Crimes Bill Lobby Day" to be held on January 6, the same day that the House of Representatives was sworn in. Several national organizations endorsed the idea but not without reluctance.

Privately some national staff people said they could have and would have offered more support had the "lobby day," been scheduled for a better time. Most of Congress was busy with swearing in ceremonies, parties, and the impeachment process.

Another problem was the organizer's insistence on calling the Hate Crimes Act the "Matthew Shepard Hate Crimes Act." The Human Rights Campaign has been hard at work lining up the support of other civil rights groups for the bill, some of whom may be offended by what could be viewed as a Gay attempt to co-opt their bill.

One staffer said that he resented the lobby day organizers "just coming in and telling us to drop everything, rearrange our schedules and plans, and help them."

The one Wisconsin man who came to participate in the Lobby Day, Dale Schuster of Kenosha, said he wasn't even told about the HRC training sessions held to help the novice lobbyists. Schuster said the lack of response in Wisconsin, and the lack of organization in Washington, disappointed him.

He did get to talk to Baldwin and Congressman Barrett (D-WI) about the hate crimes bill during a Baldwin party. Both immediately said they would support it. When told that Schuster may be one of the few, who came for the Lobby Day, to actually get support lined up, Barrett, who is a co-sponsor the act, said "Tell them I was a tough sell," generating laughter all around.

Poor Newt?

Light asked Candace Gingrich how her brother, former House Speaker Newt Gingrich, was doing after his stepping down as Speaker of the House. She said he was disappointed but doing okay and added, "When you are going to get \$50,000 a speech, how unhappy can you be?" Newt can make more money than he made in a year as a Congressman with just three speeches.

She blamed the religious right for her brother's ouster but said he did the right thing by stepping down before he was forced out.



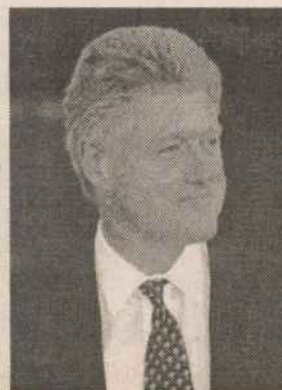
Candace Gingrich

The Impeachment

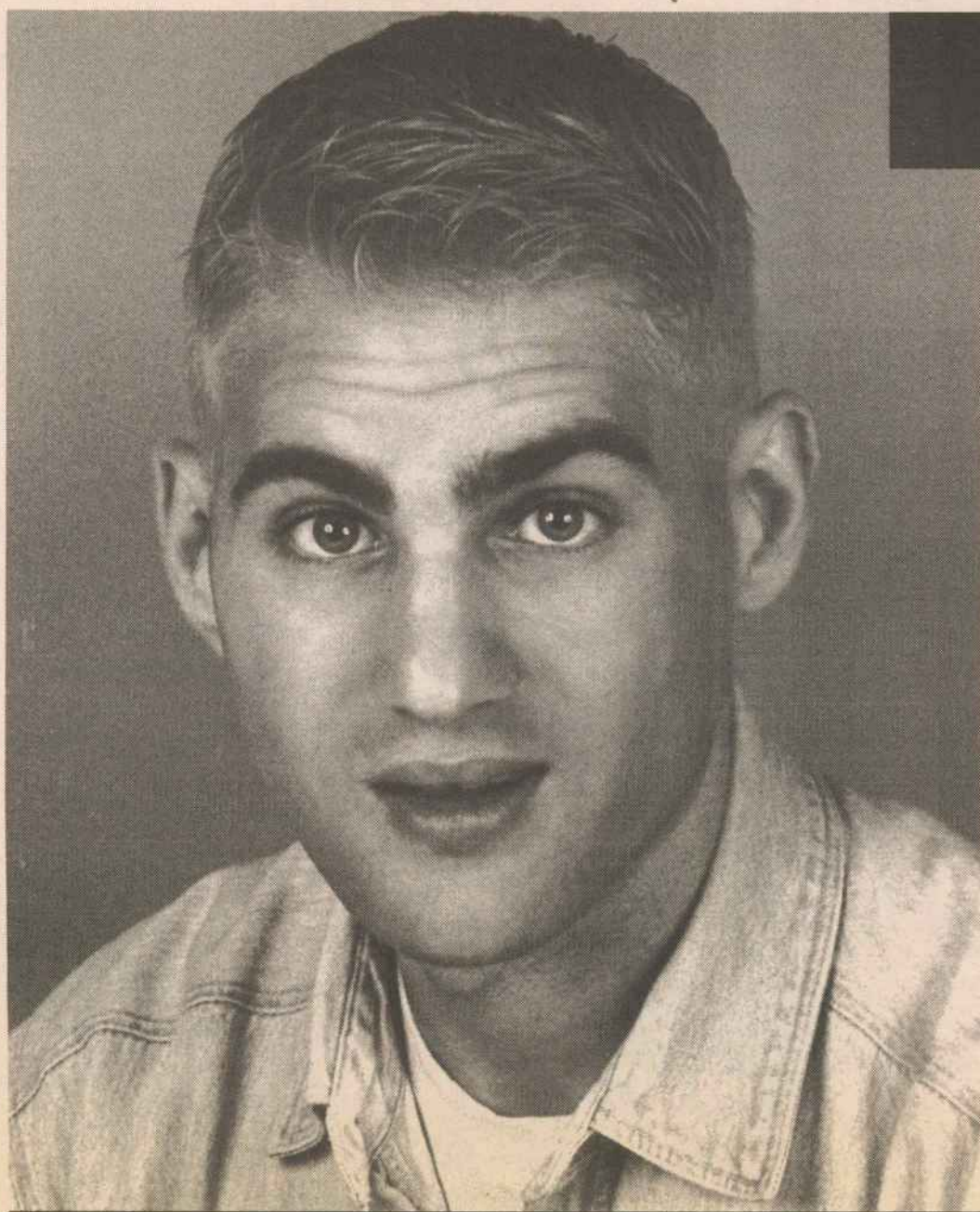
The pail of the impeachment proceedings hung over the Capitol. The Senate met in a rare closed session in the old Senate chamber - which has no television cameras. Capitol Hill Police blocked off most of the Capitol's second floor leaving a small area for the press. Needless to say, most Senators stayed away from that area as they tried to negotiate an agreement on how to hold the trial.

People in D.C. seemed more interested in the latest scandal. This one concerns whether or not Clinton, while he was Governor of Arkansas, fathered a daughter by having sex with a prostitute. The unnamed woman's brother insists the child is Clinton's. Word on the streets was that Ken Starr was going to use the results of a DNA test run on the infamous Monica Lewinsky dress to see if paternity could be proved.

Some may find the timing of this latest scandal to be suspicious. It erupted just as the Senate was considering whether or not to hold a brief impeachment trial without witnesses.



President Clinton



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AROUND THE STATE

HRC Issues Scorecards for 105th Congress

Milwaukee — Wisconsin's congressional delegation as a whole gets only a 50% rating from the Human Rights Campaign's 105th Congress scorecard.

Wisconsin's five Democratic representatives fared far better on the HRC rating system than its Republican ones did. Led by Milwaukee's Tom Barrett, who was rated 100% on LGBT issues, the cumulative score for Wisconsin's Democrats was 82.5%. The most highly rated Republican, Madison's Scott Klug, scored 25%. The cumulative rating for Wisconsin's four Republican Congressmen was 15%. Two Republicans, Petri and Neumann, received 0 ratings from HRC.

The Scorecard:

1. Co-sponsorship of the Employment Non-Discrimination Act

All 435 members of the House were asked to co-sponsor legislation prohibiting anti-Gay discrimination in the workplace. Introduced on June 10, 1997, H.R. 1858 has 157 cosponsors including Wisconsin's Representatives Kind, Barrett and Johnson.

2. Co-sponsorship of the Hate Crimes Act

All 435 members of the House were asked to co-sponsor legislation extending federal jurisdiction over serious, violent hate crimes committed against LGBT Americans. Introduced on November 13, 1997, H.R. 3081 has 163 cosponsors including Wisconsin's Kind, Klezcka, Barrett and Johnson.

3. Non-discrimination Office Policy

Representatives were asked to voluntarily adopt a written policy for their congressional offices indicating that sexual orientation is not a factor in their employment decisions. A total of 249 representatives have adopted this policy including all of Wisconsin's Congressmen except for Petri and Neumann.

4. Funding Ban for Needle Exchange Programs

Rep. Gerald Solomon, R-N.Y., introduced a bill that would permanently ban federal funding for local needle exchange programs. On April 29, 1998, the House passed H.R. 3717 by a vote of 287 to 140. HRC opposed passage. Wisconsin Congressmen Neumann, Klug, Kind, Klezcka, Petri, Johnson and Sensenbrenner supported the ban; Barrett and Obey did not.

5. Domestic Partnership Benefits

HRC opposed the Riggs amendment to the Veterans Affairs, Housing and Urban Development appropriations bill. Riggs would have prohibited any federal housing funds from being used to implement a San Francisco ordinance requiring private companies doing business with the City to provide health care benefits to unmarried domestic partners of their workers. Riggs passed on July 29, 1998 by 214 to 212. Eight representatives did not vote. Wisconsin Congressmen Neumann, Klug, Petri and Sensenbrenner supported Riggs; Kind, Klezcka, Barrett, Johnson and Obey voted against it.

6. AIDS Housing Funds

Rep. Van Hilleary, R-Tenn., introduced an amendment to the Veterans Affairs, Housing and Urban Development appropriations bill to take \$21 million from the Housing Opportunities for People With AIDS (HOPWA) program. This amendment passed the House July 29, 1998 by a vote of 231 to 200. Three representatives did not vote. HRC opposed this amendment. Congressmen Neumann, Klug, Petri, Johnson and Sensenbrenner supported it. Congressman Kind, Klezcka, Barrett and Obey were opposed.

7. Federal Job Discrimination

Rep. Joel Hefley, R-Colo., introduced a measure to gut President Clinton's executive order prohibiting discrimination based on sexual orientation in federal employment. The amendment was defeated August 5, 1998, by a vote of 176 to 252. Six representatives did not vote. HRC opposed this amendment. Congressmen Neumann, Petri and Sensenbrenner voted in favor, while Klug, Kind, Klezcka, Barrett, Obey and Johnson were opposed.

8. Gay Adoptions in D.C.

Rep. Steve Largent, R-Okla., introduced an amendment to the District of Columbia appropriations Bill to deny couples in the District of Columbia not related

by blood or marriage from jointly adopting a child. This amendment passed August 7, 1998 by 227 to 192. Fifteen representatives did not vote. Congressmen Neumann, Klug, Petri and Sensenbrenner supported the ban; Kind, Klezcka, Barrett, Obey and Johnson opposed it.

The HRC Scorecard

Representative	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Score
Mark Neumann (R)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Scott Klug (R)	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	25%
Ron Kind (D)	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	88%
Gerald Klezcka (D)	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	75%
Thomas Barrett (D)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	100%
Thomas Petri (R)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
David Obey (D)	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	75%
Jay Johnson (D)	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	75%
F James Sensenbrenner (R)	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	12%



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A \$50 entry fee, check or money order payable to Pageant Productions must accompany this entry form. Official Pageant rules will be mailed to all contestants. All entry forms must be mailed, postmarked and received on or before January 29, 1999. You must be a Wisconsin resident as of August 1, 1998. You must be at least 18 years of age. Maximum 10 Mr. contestants/Maximum 10 Miss contestants allowed. You will receive an entry pass at the rehearsal on Sunday morning, February 14.

PENALTIES: You will lose 10 points for any deviation from the above instructions or Official Pageant rules: Non-mailed entry - 10 points; Late for rehearsal - 10 points; No tape at rehearsal (unless performing live) - 10 points.

AROUND THE NATION

Passages on Gay Holocaust Deleted from Book

Atlanta - As reported in the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, The Georgia Commission on the Holocaust deleted two paragraphs describing the Nazi persecution of Gays from the 92 page Holocaust guide it distributes to high school and middle school teachers around the state.

The Commission's decision to remove the paragraphs caused a firestorm of criticism from at least some of the businesses and individuals that fund its work. The law firm of Holland & Knight, which sponsored the publication in three states, objected so strongly that it's paying \$14,000 in plate charges so the material can be included in later press runs.

Sylvia Wygoda, Director and Chairperson of the Commission defended the decision. She said that the deleted content was not necessary to the book and that "it is not our place to put sexually graphic material into the schools."

Wygoda points out that the Nazi persecution of Gays and Lesbians was mentioned in four other places in the guide.

Others disagree. Henry Knox of the Georgia Equality Project said, "The language is horrifying but everything about the Holocaust should horrify us. Erasing persecution of Gays from the history of the Holocaust repeats the tragic silence of most Germans in the Nazi years."

The deleted paragraphs, which appeared on two different pages of the text, read as follows: "German male homosexuals were targeted and arrested because they would not breed the master race: they were an affront to the Nazi macho image."

"The doors of the third [cattle] car open and the homosexuals spill forth, males only, because as Himmler concluded, 'Lesbians can give birth.' The taunting jeers and blows of the guards stun the men. They will stay a night and then be rerouted to Sachsenhausen and Buchenwald to be with their kind. The pink triangle they will soon wear is a result of a judgment that they have broken Article 175A, by sexual act, by kissing, by embracing, by fantasy and thought. Some will be given an opportunity to recant by successfully completing sexual activity with a woman in the camp brothel. Most others will find themselves tormented from all sides as they struggle to avoid being assaulted, raped, worked, and beaten to death."

Domestic Partners Law Winning Support

Honolulu - The *Honolulu Star-Bulletin* reports that some proponents and opponents of same sex marriage have found they agree on Governor Ben Cayetano's proposal to give LGBT couples benefits similar to those enjoyed by legally married couples.

The plan does not include the right to adopt or parent children. Jack Hoag who helped to lead the successful effort to pass a constitutional ban on same sex marriages, after it appeared that Hawaiian courts would rule them legal, said that he supports the proposal. Hoag said the majority of Hawaiians would object to the plan if it included the right to adopt.

On the other side, civil rights attorney Dan Foley, who represents the same sex couples suing for the right to marry, also supports the Cayetano proposal. "I can't have everything I want when I want it. I'm a big boy. I know that," said Foley, who contends that there is no legal or factual basis to withhold adoption and parental rights from Gay couples.

"We're still pursuing full equal rights in the courts; you can't bet anything on what the courts would do," Foley added. "But the governor's bill would be a major step forward. If it is adopted by the Legislature, it would move the state forward in treating Gays and Lesbians equally."

Cayetano's bill would replace the reciprocal benefits law passed in 1997. That law gave unprecedented rights to same sex couples, but also included any two people who were living together even siblings, friends and blood relatives.

Not everyone is pleased with the proposal. Mike Gabbard, another foe of same sex marriage, says he sees domestic partnerships as another name for Gay marriages. "Let's get down to the main business at hand and fix the economy and get off of this stuff," said Gabbard.

Arkansas Vote to Ban Gay Foster Care

Little Rock - The Child Welfare Agency Review Board has voted to ban Gays and Lesbians from becoming foster parents. The vote makes Arkansas only the second state to take such an action.

The vote was held without allowing dozens of people who opposed the ban an opportunity to testify. Board member Robin Woodruff, who introduced the proposal in June, said hearing from the public was unnecessary because the board has held open meetings on the issue in the past few months and has received extensive written information.

In order for the new policy to become official, the agency must hold hearings and take comments from the public for at least 30 days. It will then submit the policy to the Arkansas Legislative Council, which can hold another hearing before the new rule is implemented.

New Hampshire is the only state to forbid Gay foster parents. Earlier this month, a bill to repeal that ban was introduced in the New Hampshire State Legislature.

Bishops Win Suit against Anti-Gay Group

Newark NJ - A conservative Episcopal group that was using the church's name to promote an anti-Gay agenda has agreed to stop the practice after a group of liberal bishops filed suit. The group headed by Wisconsin Bishop William C.

Wantland used the name Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America on its web site.

Wantland helped lead an effort to ex-communicate retired Bishop Walter Righter because he ordained an openly Gay man. Wantlands' group also opposes the ordination of women.

Shepard Suspect's Mother Dies

Laramie WY – The mother of Russell Henderson, one of the two men accused of murdering Gay University of Wyoming student Matthew Shepard, was found dead of hypothermia. Mrs. Cindy Dixon was found lying alongside a two-lane highway dressed in a shirt, jeans and windbreaker after a night when the wind chill factor dipped to 30 below.

Media reports say that Mrs. Dixon was last seen staggering from a Laramie bar. Although there were no signs of bodily injury, Laramie police say they are investigating the death as a homicide. Police believe that Dixon was driven about 12 miles out of town by an unidentified man. They say she tried to make it back to Laramie but was unable to do so.

Suspicious are focusing on Dixon's husband, Charles. He has been charged with beating his wife on three separate occasions, the most recent being November 4 of last year.

Late last year, prosecutors announced that they would seek the death penalty against Henderson and James McKinney in the Shepard murder case.

The Party's Over

New York – The Gay Men's Health Crisis, GMHC, has announced that it is pulling out of the controversial Fire Island Morning Party. The party, which last year raised nearly \$500,000 for the group, has raised concerns because of illegal drug use and unsafe sex practices by many of those in attendance.

Last year, over 5,000 men paid at least \$100 each to be at the event. Twenty-one of them, including the GMHC staff member in charge of efforts to keep the party drug free, were arrested for illegal drug use. The decision comes at a time when GMHC is facing declining revenues. Fund raising revenues dropped from \$31 million in 1997 to \$23 million in 1998.

Baldwin continued from pg. 4
Next time, I will be able to make an argument "Well you passed me over last term." So I did that. I chose Commerce because that is a committee where you can do a tremendous amount of work on health care reform. I am delighted with the assignments I got. I had to lobby quite a few people to get them pushing for me.

WI Light Your inauguration was an historic event but not the only one going on here. Had you been there in the last Congress, would you have supported the articles of impeachment against the President?

Tammy Baldwin I probably would have voted against the articles of impeachment. That's based on my experience as an attorney more than anything else. I look at this as a very serious matter. We have constitutional responsibilities to figure out what is the right thing to do.

I also recognize that the founders of the constitution gave Congress, not a grand jury or a judicial branch, the responsibility of passing articles of impeachment. I think Barney Frank actually talked about this right before the vote.

You know that was done for a reason because Congress is a political organization. We do represent the views and the hopes and dreams of people. There was a political aspect to that vote as well as a factual judicial process. I would have voted against the articles of impeachment. Yesterday I voted against sending the House managers to the Senate.

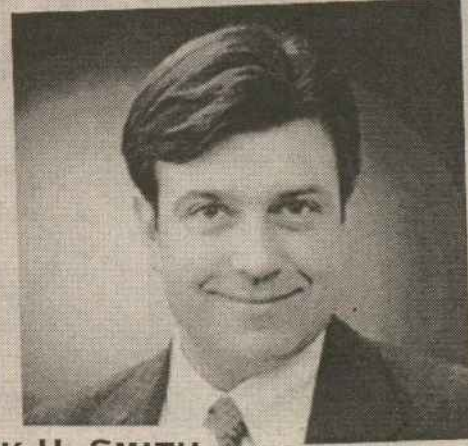
My time is up but I ask if there is anything Congresswoman Baldwin wants to say to Wisconsin's LGBT community. There is. "Thank you for working so hard and for your extraordinary support," she says. "Thank you for believing it was possible."

As I walk down the long corridor to the front door of building, I think about the how hard it was for Tammy Baldwin to get elected. Then I realize that for Tammy Baldwin, the really hard work is just beginning.

Nonetheless, the group says it can longer tolerate the negative publicity associated with the event.

Critics of circuit parties say they hope the GMHC move signals an end to their use as fund raising vehicles. Others, however, say that it will have no effect.

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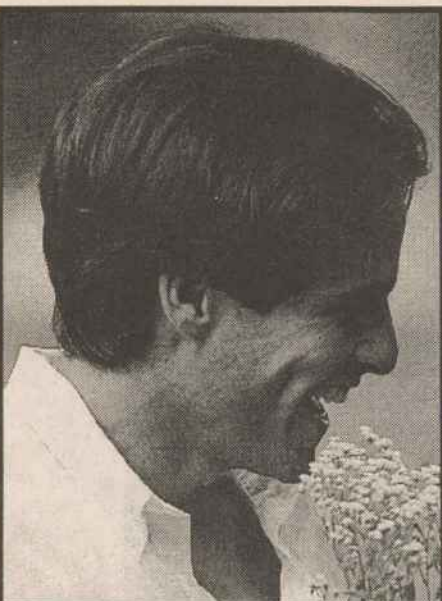
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COMMUNITY

SAGE Signs Lease at Center, Announces Meetings

Milwaukee — SAGE/Milwaukee (Senior Action in a Gay Environment) announced it has signed a sublease for a office cubical space at the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center effective the 1st of the year. SAGE has also arranged, as a tenant, to use the Center's small meeting room every Friday evening and has announced meetings through the end of the month.

SAGE/Milwaukee serves older Gays and Lesbians with educational, recreational and individual services.

Fridays Jan. 15 and 29 will feature the Men's Discussion Group at 6:30pm with the 15th being an open topic discussion group, and the 29th a discussion of the documentary, *The Question of Equality*.

The film *The Picture of Dorian Gray* will be screened on Friday the 22nd, at 7pm. The film, based on the Oscar Wilde's book, will help to prepare for the Florentine Opera Company's premiere of the same work in opera form on Feb. 3.

PrideFest Logo Contest Announced

Milwaukee — PrideFest is holding a Logo contest, searching for "That Look" that captures the essence of the 1999 slogan, "Courage to Build Bridges". The winning logo will appear on PrideFest '99 products and promotional materials, while the designer receives a \$250 prize.

The artwork must be limited to computer design with no more than 6 colors, including black. Designs should be submitted on hard copy no larger than 8 by 11 paper. The artists are reminded to put their name and phone number on the back of all entries.

There is no limit to the number of logos a single designer may submit for consideration. The designer of the winning piece will need to be able to provide the entry on disk, with all specs, including fonts, PMT Colors and computer program.

Designs must be submitted by Friday, January 22, and can be mailed to: PrideFest Logo Contest, PO Box 511763, Milwaukee, WI 53203. For more information, contact the PrideFest office (414) 272-3378 or e-mail: pridemil@aol.com

Leather Events to Heat Up Winter

Milwaukee — The organizers of the Mr. Wisconsin Leather Man (MWL) Contest will join the Great Lakes Harley Riders for the 3rd Annual Leather Swap Meet on Saturday, January 30 at 7pm at Woody's. Pizza and a beer bust will also be held throughout the evening to help raise funds for the MWL contest.

The swap meet brings together those wanting to sell no longer needed leather, fetish items, materials, gear and related magazines. Table space will be available on a first come, first served basis for a nominal fee and may be reserved through the contact information, below.

The Mr. Wisconsin Leather man Contest will be held Saturday, February 20 starting at 9pm at the Milwaukee Eagle. Contestants will compete for cash and prizes or \$1500 and the right to represent Wisconsin at International Mr. Leather, Memorial Day Weekend in Chicago.

For more information regarding the swap meet, calendar and or contest, contact Larry or Joe at (414) 931-9760; write: PO Box 342873, Milwaukee, WI 53234, or email: mrwilthrmn@aol.com

Holiday Invitational Tournament Thanks All

Milwaukee — The 20th Annual HIT, the longest running Gay and Lesbian bowling tournament, completed another successful run over the Thanksgiving weekend with over 350 bowlers and over \$26,000 in cash and prize awards. This tournament could not have such successful results without the sponsorship of Miller Brewing Co., the Cream City Foundation, and all of their other sponsors.

The Board of Directors would like to thank those sponsors as well as the local bars for their support, the club members for their donations, advertisers, the many volunteers and friends of HIT, and to everyone that had a part in producing one of the best events in the country. "Your support year after year is appreciated immensely and you are a large part of our continued success," said a spokesman. Preparations are already being made for the 21st annual tournament, "HIT Me!" Nov., 25-29, 1999. For more information, or to become involved in the tournament, call the HIT Line at (414) 332-7142.

Community Center to Hold 2nd Annual Meeting

Milwaukee — The Board of Directors of the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center are pleased to announce its annual membership meeting will be held January 24 from 3-6pm and for the first time it meets in the Center's new home at 170 South 2nd Street, Milwaukee.

The board will seek membership approval of the Center's 1999 budget, amendments to the Center's bylaws and the election of board members," said Neil Albrecht, Center co-president.

"Membership attendance at this meeting is very important. The Center's bylaws determine that only Center members can vote. However, the community at large is invited to attend," Albrecht added. For more information, call (414) 483-4710.

Sherman Park Rainbow Association

Milwaukee — The Sherman Park Rainbow Association elected new officers at their annual meeting in November. Kevin Quader was elected President, Cindy Van Vreede became Vice-President, Dale Linsmeyer became Secretary, and Scott Gunkel was elected Treasurer.

The new officers took over in January. Their first order of business was to set the meeting dates for the organization for the 1999 calendar year. The Sherman Park Rainbow Association will have general membership meetings in March, June, and September. All meetings are on the third Thursday of the month at Good Shepherd Church.

Besides the three general meetings, the Sherman Park Rainbow Association will have its anniversary party in July. The Social Committee of the organization will plan fun events to fill out the year. For updates on SPRA events or for membership information, please call the answering service at (414) 777-3986.

POSITIVE HEALTH OUTLOOK

Confronting Today's Mental Health Services Problem

By Dr. Ted Friedman

All my professional career has been a wonderful experience, and I had planned that with increasing experience I would live in a world where everyone could, if needed, get help at any time they felt they needed it. Well, the reverse has happened; today only the affluent and a few with really good health insurance can get what they need provided by professionals with good training, experience and a humanistic approach.

The Health Maintenance Organizations (HMOs), along with most of the other insurance companies, have gone for the bottom line to the max; profit is everything, so that getting sufficient help by the right kind of professional health care provider is less and less possible. What follows, then, is honest — but due to these difficult times, unfortunately too negative.

Most people in this country expect at least fairly good medical care (not, of course, the 43 million or so who have no health insurance) and, as we so often hear via the media, we live in a place where medical care is the best in the world. Well, if the lack of good mental health care is included, forget the U.S. having anywhere near the best care of all. It is just not so.

As today in physical medicine, mental health coverage today is mostly: Take a number; wait in line; and all your records are computer-available. (Privacy in organized health care is a thing of the past, and sexual discussions can and are accessed by anyone who knows the right numbers to punch!)

One of the most significant problems relates to the inability of many mental health professionals to treat people with "alternative lifestyles," i.e. LesBiGay-Trans. Many professionals in this country treat straights, but with the reduction in patient referrals, lots of these same professionals now will attempt to treat individuals with problems they have never treated before and, sometimes at least, are not themselves emotionally too well suited to handle.

While all individuals seeking professional help should check into the qualifications and expertise of those they call to discuss making an appointment, if you aren't straight, the problem is more complex. I recommend shopping around on the telephone and getting a brief free face-to-face introductory session. Such a session can be very helpful in avoiding unnecessary expense and unproductive help.

Many persons seeking help with emotional problems suffer from some form of post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) that requires very complex treatment needs. Some PTSD stems from being

raised in a dysfunctional family and/or early traumatic community interactions. But some individuals are affected by serious stress later in life.

One man I recently saw was on the verge of a break down when he came for counseling. He did not know why he often cried or felt very tense, but he was convinced he was suffering from some serious disorder, perhaps a brain tumor or the beginning of a psychotic episode. At 31, even with an excellent professional education and a very good job, he was almost at a point of no return. He was given a chance to tell his story but still took several sessions before out popped the, until then, repressed issue.

A year prior he was raped by three men who apparently were escaped convicts. (He lived within a few miles of a minimum-security prison.) He lived in an apartment complex in the far north suburbs of Chicago; it was located adjacent to a farm field, and the apartment dumpsters were located a distance from his apartment. He took out some trash one night and was pulled by these men into the field where they beat and sexually assaulted him. He went through the usual self-blame of rape victims and then, as often is the case, tried to "just forget it."

Treatment was successful and he learned and used methods for dealing with the trauma. Not all sexual issues are easy to deal with, but sex is a vital factor in our lives and associated problems can be buried, as in this man's situation, only to surface later in terms of difficult symptoms. He should have found someone to talk to about the experience immediately but was told by his boyfriend that the inflicted damage (a few cuts and anal bleeding) would go away, did not require hospital care, and to "get over it."

Of course, rape is one of the most traumatic experiences one can face, and PTSD is almost always the end result. Some people are more prone to deny the event if not physically injured too badly, but the emotional pain and suffering will just not go away. Immediate counseling is required in order to avoid serious problems later.

For really significant emotional problems, good professional help is essential but, at least for many, very hard to find. Lots of things can help in dealing with emotional stress. Many people can get help from a wise and empathic friend, self-help groups, self-help books, non-profit counseling centers or the Internet. If you feel you need help with your problems, keep trying because you will likely find it if you know more of how to find and use it.

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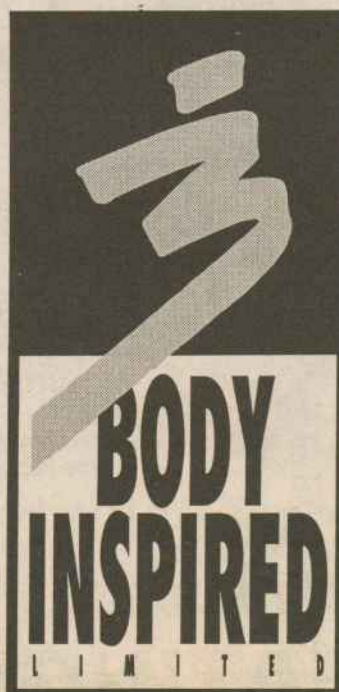
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Tineality

by Tina Lee

Tina of the Sea

No day is ever normal. Kendal arrived from New York as scheduled on New Years Eve. He brought with him a friend, who I'll call Tarot. Tarot spoke in a Philly accent, had a handlebar mustache, and stood roughly 5'6". He, like Kendal, didn't walk, but swaggered as only a New York queer can and between the two of them the expression "Mama" was delivered with relentless vigor, evidently as an declaration of both affection and admiration.

Mind you, these two weren't lovers; buddies would more accurately describe their relationship. That being stated, the adventure began with the three of us first going to West Towne Mall to procure a dress for me.

We labored from the airport on Madison's far East Side through the frozen streets of downtown Madison, "the scenic route," to the far West Side. The temperature was ludicrously cold and my old Chevy emitted mysterious clacks and clicks from within the dash the entire way. Those sounds were so loud they could have frightened the tick out of tickle, but I bravely bore my fear

in silence. On first seeing my car, Tarot deliriously squealed "ah, it's so Midwestern!" Yes.

Eventually we arrived at the mall, and through it we wandered. Having inspected every square inch of that suburban nightmare, we finally arrived at the entrance to Younkers.

We had to consult one another before entering. Kendal would only refer to the establishment in its spelled out form. He painfully and almost inaudibly suggested, "Well, I guess we could try Y.O.U.N.K.E.R.S?" To this we moaned a chorus of agreement and entered. Why I moaned, I don't know. I'm not a New York snob,

yet when in the company of them, I feel like one. Whenever Kendal is in town, I select only my silkiest undies for my commonplace ass; no floral briefs are worn when there is attitude to sport.

In the woman's dress department of Y.O.U.N.K.E.R.S. (see, there I go again), the sales staff was wonderfully

helpful and cooperative, especially in light of both boys wandering nonchalantly in and out of the



women's fitting room to assess every step of the dress trying-on process. Of course I was surprised when Kendal brought the aqua green, spaghetti strapped, sequined dress to me.

I stammered "oh, oh my" when he

thrust it toward me in a tangle with two leopard striped gowns. I thought "Suck Tina, suck, lest either of those skinny bastards see your bulging midriff; the very place you love to rest your beers upon." I quickly jumped into the oceanic wonder.

It was no contest. With that dress clinging tightly to me, I truly felt I could be called Tina of the Sea. I was Ariel. I determined that come hell or high water, I would wear that dress, that night, New Years! Well, you can imagine my horror, when I read the tag and realized the price was just shy of \$200.00.

I don't know about other people, but on New Years, I fully expect to have at least one full cocktail spilled somewhere on my person before I blow my New Years horn. That fact realized, I couldn't in good conscience justify spending anything over \$30.00 on my costume. What would I do?

The boys were relentless and mandated I at least have the ticket scanned to see if there was a sale price. Their airs had fallen by the wayside like towels in a bathhouse. Fortune had an interest in me, for when the clerk scanned that tag, she couldn't help bellowing out over the hum of the fluorescent lights above, "Oh my god, I can't believe it! It's only \$19.99!" We all gasped. I clasped my hands to my mouth. I thought, "1999. New Years. \$19.99. Destiny embraces me."

Once home I corrected some of the dresses flaws: sequins were coming undone and the thread was unraveling in areas. No problem, for \$19.99, what harm would a little super glue do? I also figured that the fumes from the glue couldn't hurt me any worse than those lingering above the cocktail Kendal had whipped up for me. Our party began when the sun set, and that was when I put the dress on.

We danced in our apartment until at last we could go to the Pink Party. When we came swishing into the Starlight Room at Madison's Civic Center, and when I heard the beautiful music produced by Reptile Palace Orchestra, with their sensual chanting, gentle cries and mystical rhythms, I knew all was well.

It also didn't hurt that the fabulously sexy lead singer announced her jealousy of my gown within minutes of my entering her line of sight. For a moment I was queen.

Loyal wife. Notorious husband.



Madame de Sade

by Yukio Mishima
translated by Donald Keene

directed by Montgomery Davis

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View From Brewers Hill

By Terry Boughner

It was early in the morning after the New Year's blizzard of 1999. I went to the front window to take a look. The plow had been by on Palmer Street, piling snow high on the edges, hemming in the cars. All was quiet. No one was about.

As I watched, two boys came trudging up the hill. Guys in their late teens, I judged. One was blond, the other's hair was dark. Each was carrying a shovel on his shoulder.

Near the top of the hill, they began to dig out a car. I didn't recognize it. It had been left there, I guessed, from the night before. They worked with a will, laughing and talking and soon their job was through.

The blond picked up a handful of snow and threw it playfully at his companion. The other tossed some back. This battle lasted until the brunette went to his friend and began gently brushing the snow away from his collar. Finished, he quickly kissed him on the cheek.

The kiss was returned. Quickly, they looked around. No one was about and they didn't see me. They got into their car and drove off leaving me with a warm, good, fuzzy feeling with which to begin the new year. I needed that after Christmas Day.

One of the people who came to our house for desert on Christmas Day was a young man named Jason. 1998 had not been a good year, he said. Among other things he mentioned was the anti-Gay ravings of the Far Right religionists. Their words, we both agreed, were in large part responsible for the execution of Matthew Shepherd. There were other things as well.

For the next week, I thought about what Jason had said. He was right. It really had not been a good year for us. That's why seeing the two young men out on Palmer Street exchanging a kiss made me feel so good. All was not so bleak.

Similarly, watching Rudy Galindo skate on TV raises my morale by 1,000%. Rudy is the only male athlete to have come out, not after he's retired, but at the height of his career — and he's going strong. I watched as he performed in the Mannheim Steamroller's *Christmas Angel*, skating with such grace and beauty. I thought how much I admire him. Unlike a half a dozen people in the performing arts I could name, he had the courage to come out.

(Rudy Galindo will be coming to Milwaukee to perform on Sunday, May 2nd at 3:00 p.m. at the Bradley Center in the John Hancock Champions On Ice. We should all be there to cheer him and show him our support.)

The two young men on Palmer Street and Rudy Galindo are only two reasons for the hope I have for the millenium. Let me turn prophet for a moment, remembering that a prophet is only someone who sees what's current and extrapolates from that to construct a vision of the future.

In no particular order, I am confident that there will be found a cure and a prevention for AIDS. My wonderment is what will the post-AIDS era be like for us.

I am confident that same-sex marriage will become an actuality. I think the next generation will look back and wonder what all the fuss was about.

I think that in the "social war" now going on, we are at Gettysburg. The Far Right is marching in a Picketts' Charge. For a moment, their flag will flutter on the stone wall among the copse of trees and then they will be driven back. The battles will rage on, but in the end, they will be swept into the dustbin of history. Cal Thomas will wail that the American people are not good enough for he and his like—as he's doing now.

I think that America will become a nation. It is forming now. There's not space here to discuss its characteristics, what will be "this American, this new man," to quote the Frenchman's words, but I think the nation as it will finally be will be made up of Hispanics, African-Americans and Asians. LBGT's will be part of it without a second thought.

Human kind will go into space. That's a given. Gay people, married to each other, will go to colonize "strange new worlds" that exist now only in our imaginations.

Other beings? Aliens? I won't go anywhere near that.

Anyway, happy 1999. And Jason, I agree with you. 1998 was a hard year. But I think there's reason for optimism. Things have gotten better and will continue. In my mind's eye now, I see a snowy morning and the two young men on Palmer Street.

www.wilight.com

lood Light

by Margaret Flood

I met Reggie White in 1993. I shook his hand. It was large and warm. His handshake was sincere. I saw him in some of his quiet time, before his interview with Mike Gousha on the Sunday Night show when I worked at Channel 4. I was impressed with his size, his warmth. He is a good-looking man. He sat on the set and made some phone calls as we readied the cameras and put the props in place.

I saw Reggie White from the football field as I wielded a parabolic microphone aimed to pick up the crash of the helmets, the quarterback talk and the ambient field noise for CBS sports in the fall of 1993. A man serious about his business, welcomed in Wisconsin for what he could bring to the Green Bay Packers, Reggie White had become a symbol of hope for the inner city. He autographed a card for me, addressed to my stepbrother, and signed with his standard "Corinthians 1:13". Love is the greatest of all.

The LGBT community has been on the defensive since White and his wife Sara have taken up the cause that homosexuality is a sin. Our community, referred to as "The Sodomite Community" by Sara White, wasn't happy about White's outrageous remarks before the Wisconsin State legislature in the spring of '98 when he said the largest sin is homosexuality. Minister and Mrs. White felt the backlash promised in the Bible: "Judge not..."

The issue of the comparison between the struggle the African American has faced in this country and what homosexuals have faced over time is highly debatable. For 300 years African slaves forcibly toiled for bare subsistence while building plantations and fueling this nation. They have only the inheritance of grief for their trouble.

I, for one, am for retribution of some kind accompanied by long and loud apologies for the atrocious behavior of those who would enslave and profit from other human beings. Sadly, 100 years after slavery some still treat African Americans as separate and unequal.

Japanese Americans who were interred during four years of WWII received retribution. How does four years compare to 300 years in your mind? There is no equivalent outrage to homosexuals, not in my mind. (Women's slavery to man comes to mind, but we won't get into that.)

Yes, there is a history of repression to homosexuals, and who knows the toll incurred from the secrecy that 'in the closet' homosexuals have suffered? All that repression, all those secrets. If we look at the consequences for homosexuals who are found out, we get into some serious comparisons. Death, taunting, torture. Harvey Milk, Matthew Shephard, the Lesbians on the Appalachian trail and in Oregon, the German death camps, the mental institutions, Miriam Ben Shalom and those barred from Military service to *our country*. We too have our martyrs. The psychic anguish is there in large doses.

I am not sure it is useful to try to *compare* the suffering most of us have faced. What can we do to right the wrongs we can do something about? Let's face the racism that divides this country. Let's do something about the fear that causes "whites" to move out of neighborhoods simply because "blacks" are moving in. Let's integrate each other's neighborhoods. Let's work for prison reform. Let's notice that others have suffered as much or more than we have. And let's have the courage to change.

We all know that we can't change the fundamental person that we are or the people we fall in love with. But we can do something to make the world better for our fellow sufferers and ultimately for ourselves. I'm with Reggie White on at least this one thing: Corinthians 1:13, *Love is the greatest of all*. Happy New Year!

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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Dear Readers,

Two issues ago, we announced that we had reorganized our staff in preparation for going weekly. In this issue you see some of the results of that reorganization. With my time freed up to do more news gathering and writing, I was able to make a trip to Washington DC, so that we could provide you with on-the-scene coverage of Tammy Baldwin's historic inauguration into Congress. In future editions you will see more results of that trip.

As I write this, I am winding up my visit. I'm not looking forward to feeling those blasts of cold air when my plane arrives in Chicago tomorrow, especially since those of us who are from Wisconsin received a warm reception here this week. Everywhere I went people were talking about what we accomplished in electing Tammy Baldwin.

Yet I felt a sense of sadness yesterday morning as I looked at the Capitol Building. I remember my first trip to Washington. I was in the Eighth grade. Back then I was eager to see that white dome, the Washington monument, and the Jefferson memorial. I have returned here several times since then. Each time I've come back the thrill has lessened, until now it is hardly there at all.

I don't know why but somewhere along the way I lost the wide-eyed wonder I once felt. Perhaps it's the many scandals, the cheap manipulation of the voters, or the media's penchant to tear down those who rise to claim true affection among the American people. Maybe it's the knowledge that most of those in the Congress say I cannot get married, am not deserving of civil rights protection and should not be covered by the hate crimes act. Probably it's all of the above.

Still I feel a measure of pride and awe at the majesty of my surroundings. Over the years I may have lost my idealistic view of our government but I have not lost my faith in the hope and promise that it holds.

Yesterday afternoon, I walked through the Capitol Building on my way to interview a Congressman, drinking in its history as I passed by statues, paintings and the ornate, gilded walls. I waited right outside the House chamber watching as the newly sworn in representatives flooded into the anteroom.

There I stood, the middle son of a blue-collar family, as 435 of the most powerful people on earth walked by. I asked a quick question of Wisconsin Congressman Paul Ryan. I didn't like his answer but the fact is that no one could have, or wanted to, stop me from asking.

I thought about the great debates that have taken place in the room, which I now stood outside of. It took 90 years to convince the government that slavery was an evil that must be ended. It was another 100 years before the government gave some measure of dignity to the descendants of those it helped to keep in bondage. Our struggle is much more recent as it began in earnest only three decades ago.

As Tammy Baldwin's election shows, we have made great progress in that time. We don't have full equality yet but we will achieve it. That will happen because of our determination. It will happen because of the many talented people working on our behalf. Most of all it will happen because our system of government allows us to demand that it does.

We will win because, just as no one could stop me from questioning Congressman Ryan, no one can stop us from speaking out and making our case. In the end, what matters are not the individuals in government or the buildings they work in - it's what we do to make use of them.

In 1978 I came to Washington for our first national march. I left Milwaukee a homosexual. I came back Gay. Twenty years later I've returned as a Gay journalist. This time, I wasn't transformed but I was reminded of the opportunity, and responsibility, that we all have to promote change. I go back to Wisconsin; my faith a little renewed, my hope strengthened.

To my friends at the Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund, who allowed me to use their office as a temporary *Wisconsin Light* Washington Bureau I wish to express my appreciation. I would especially like to thank Kathleen DeBold and her partner, author Barbara Johnson, who shared their home and part of their lives with me. I dedicate this issue to you. I will never be able to repay your kindness, except to keep hoping and believing.

Enjoy The Light!

Bill Meunier

Bill Meunier

The Staff of
WI Light
would like to express our sincere
condolences to founder
Jerry Johnson
on the loss of his mother



LETTERS

To Everyone at Wisconsin Light,

Thank you for naming me your *Wisconsin Light* Woman of the Year.

When Bill called to tell me that you had awarded that recognition to me, I was so overwhelmed by the honor that I was speechless. I can't tell you how deeply this award has touched me.

I also want to extend my thanks to everyone with whom I have worked over the past three years at the United, and now, OutReach. Board members, staff and volunteers: I have had the incredible fortune to be surrounded by outstanding people, who have made all the hard work a joy, and are partners in any recognition that I receive.

In particular, I want to share this honor with Richard Kilmer, the past President of The United. Richard is a man whose dedication to community and commitment to The United's Executive Director/Board President partnership continues to inspire me. You are amazing, my friend.

The work that we at OutReach have achieved over the past few years is entirely due to teamwork, trust and cooperation. We have shared a dream, and worked together to make it a reality. Any reward I receive for that work is as much a team honor as it is mine, and I am one lucky woman to be so blessed.

Thank you again,
—De Ette Tomlinson

Executive Director, OutReach, Inc.

To the Editor,

Congratulations on all the success and positive developments occurring at the *Light*. I was pleased to see that you included Ben Johnson's death as one of the newsworthy events of 1998. He would have been honored to know that his contributions to the community were considered to be of such note.

As you know, Ben and I have been tireless advocates for Persons with AIDS and HIV disease. While there is certainly no shame in one dying of complications of AIDS and HIV disease, it should be noted that Ben did in fact die of metastatic cancer of the colorectal cancer, and not complications of AIDS.

It is important that we recognize that members of our community are dying of other illnesses, such as colorectal cancer, which if detected early enough are survivable. The incidence of this type of cancer in the African American community is staggering; early detection is the key.

As with HIV disease, it is critical that members of the LGBT community obtain regular medical check ups and testing to detect illnesses as early as possible. We must continue to fight for some form of guaranteed health care for all persons of this country. On a day to day basis, we must continue to encourage those we love to take proper care of their health.

We must not forget that AIDS, cancer and other such diseases have claimed far too many of our brothers and sisters. We have proven beyond all doubt, that the LGBT community has the capacity to respond above and beyond all expectations in times of crisis. Remember that we and our friends were the first (and for a long time the only) responders to the AIDS epidemic when it first surfaced in the 1980's.

Thank you to the *Wisconsin Light* for all you provide to this community.

Sincerely,
—Steve Byers
Milwaukee

Dear Editor,

In a recent column, language guru, William Safire says that President Clinton, "in his sworn civil deposition claimed never to have touched Ms. Lewinsky intimately and before the grand jury stuck to that absurd tale of total passivity."

I searched the Internet for Mr. Clinton's deposition in the Paula Jones case, which is presumably what Mr. Safire refers to. I found a purported text, which I can't verify as being true.

In this purported deposition, I don't find "touch" used in connection with Monica Lewinsky. It is used a number of times, but in connection with Kathleen Willey and "Jane Doe 2," and specifically used in a question about touching a breast.

I don't find any other language in the text could be construed as referring to physical touching of Ms. Lewinsky. I find only a question asking Mr. Clinton if he had a "sexual affair," with Ms. Lewinsky, which was immediately clarified by the examining attorney to "sexual relations" as defined for the deposition and modified by the Judge.

It could be that Mr. Safire has a more accurate text of the President's deposition than I do. In that case perhaps he would be so kind as to include in a future column, the "touching" denial to which he refers.

Perhaps Mr. Safire is drawing an inference from the court definition of "sexual relations" in the Jones case — that denying sexual relations is also a denial of touching. I've seen (*New York Times* 9/14/98), touching would be covered by sexual relations only if with the intent of arousing or gratifying the person touched.

If the issue is restricted to Mr. Clinton's claim that he didn't have "sexual relations" with Ms. Lewinsky, it is dubious to construe this as a denial of having "touched" her. What he could have been denying indirectly is having touched her with the intent to arouse or gratify, or with the intent to arouse or gratify himself. (which seems the motive of most men in such situations) and truthfully said what he said.

I would think that someone writing a weekly column on correct use of language for a national newspaper would be more precise is his own usage.

—Al Geiersbach
Milwaukee

Editor's Note: Mr. Safire is a nationally syndicated columnist. His articles appear in a number of mainstream publications.



Spotlight



Errol Flynn

HISTORY OF GAY HOLLYWOOD

by Steve Stavron

PART 1

In the closed circuit Gay world of Hollywood, more often meant less. The most prominent film celebrities were shielded according to their degree of indispensability and had less to fear, having only carefully programmed public contact. The Gay upper echelon was guarded from vulnerable exposure by an insular industry sporting an elitist, talented, homosexual underground.

Studios were vigilant. Movie stars in the '30s and '40s were parahuman symbols whose erotic gambits were regarded as inevitable and unavoidable consequences of their sublime appeal — onscreen. There were limits, of course.

20th Century

Fox's handsome Tyrone Power's affair with Lana Turner added extra zing to his image, but his alleged (according to *Hollywood Babylon*) sexual encounters with Warner's *Robin Hood* (Errol Flynn) provoked drastic warning signals from both studios. Power was known as a submissive. There was no real cause for alarm. No one would have believed the story. Homosexuality did not exist in the popular lexicon. Acknowledgment would have been as contaminating as the sin itself.

Garbo and Dietrich might wear



Marlene Dietrich

men's clothes (*Morocco*, *Queen Christina*) and playfully kiss ladies on the lips, Garbo declaring onscreen, "I shall die a bachelor." But these were the exotic gambols of celluloid divinities, not to be taken seriously.

Cary Grant and Randolph Scott may have been intermittent "roommates" between wives, but stardom required exclusive "friendships" Audiences lived vicariously, preferring not to speculate about overt "sexual perversion"



Cary Grant

Still, the danger was minimal. The homosexual community in Hollywood was large enough to give venue to its famous members who were, in turn, shrouded in secrecy not only by the studio, but by the isolation of their celebrity. They moved largely in closed circles.

Fame afforded its own protection. Furthermore, gossip columns were not as avaricious as they are today, and the

immensely popular movie magazines of the period thrived on the good will of stars and studios. A source as reliable as David Shipman in his comprehensive survey of *The Great Movie Stars* (pub. 1970) mentions the homosexuality of Charles Laughton and reveals that silent star Rudolf Valentino and Errol Flynn had engaged in homosexual hustling to lighten the road to success.

Early career hustling was also true and more widely known of James Dean in a later, more cynical era, but it only added piquancy to the "Dean Myth." Major stars were to a degree exempt from standards of "normalcy" if they kept silent. The press refrained from open disclosures, surprisingly adhering to an unspoken "gentlemen's agreement" Even those dredging dragon ladies of gossip, Louella Parsons and Hedda Hopper, limited their columns to departures from niceties or romantic gossip.

Cross-dressing and casual shows of Gay affection were illegal and strictly enforced by the Los Angeles Police Dept., but newspapers depended on access to the city's most prominent industry as a positive news source. Studio public relations agents could prevent publication of explosive news, often by

substituting a lesser scandal for a major one. This method worked even for the more threatening *Confidential* years later.

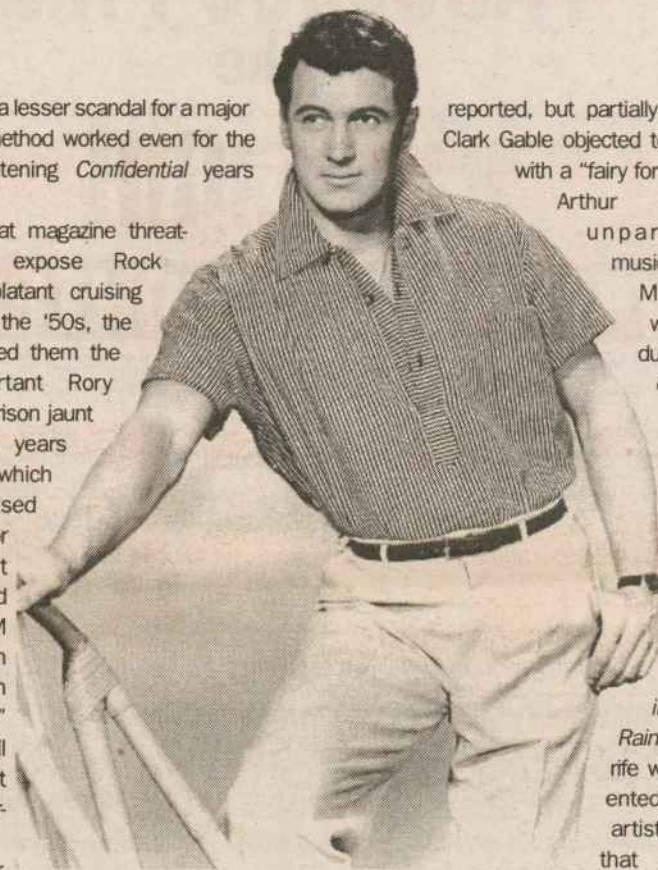
When that magazine threatened to expose Rock Hudson's blatant cruising activities in the '50s, the studio offered them the less important Rory Calhoun's prison jaunt for robbery years earlier — which only aroused sympathy for Calhoun. It was reported that MGM even had an "abortion consultant" on the payroll for a different type of emergency.

Even after the appearance of more vituperative publications than *Confidential*, homosexuality slurs were subject to lawsuits. The now discredited disclosure that Rock Hudson had engaged in a "wedding ceremony" with TV star Jim Nabors did little to rock Rock's career, although it had long been known in Hollywood that Hudson had been broadly promiscuous since his arrival. The story was treated as a royal jest. Rock began a new TV series.

Such was the nature of the public's blind spot towards their favorites — for a time.

But there was real trouble in paradise. Charles Laughton had been arrested in London in the early '30s for soliciting a male prostitute, according to loyal wife Elsa Lanchester who tried to discourage his secret quests for young men. The great MGM director George Cukor (*Camille*, *Philadelphia Story*), usually discrete even at his all-male pool parties, was arrested in 1939 on a morals charge. Both men were far too valuable to the studio. No scandal ensued.

But there was other friction within the ranks. George Cukor was dismissed from completing *Gone With the Wind* due to differences with Selznik as had been



Rock Hudson

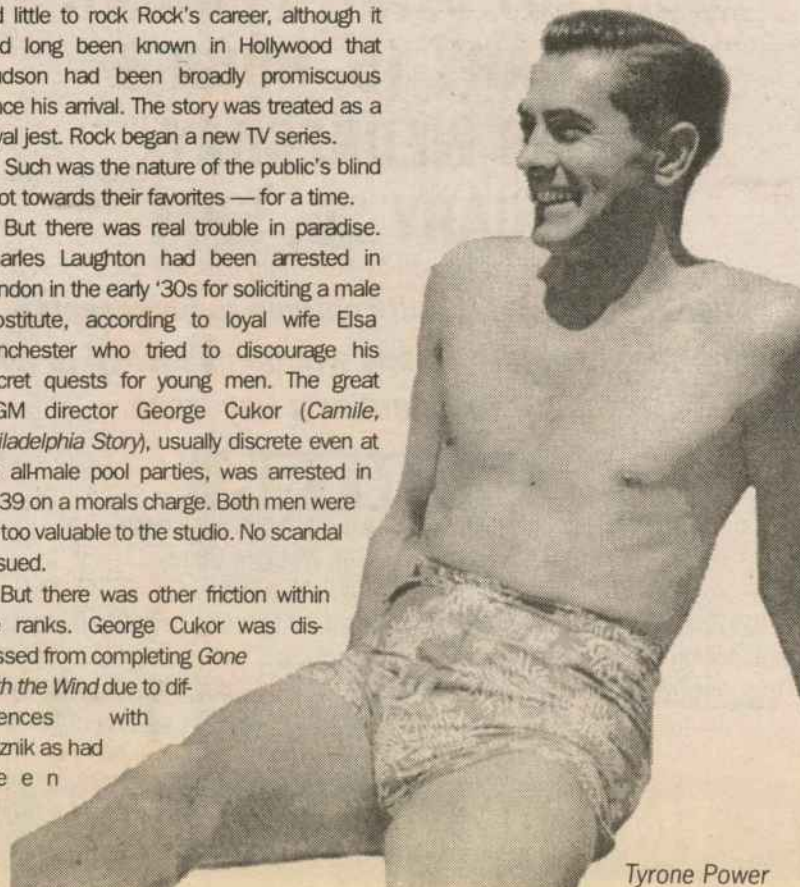
reported, but partially because Clark Gable objected to working with a "fairy for director."

Arthur Freed's unparalleled musical unit at M G M , which produced such classics as *Meet Me in St. Louis* and

Singing in the Rain, was so rife with a talented Gay artistic crew, that it was termed "Freed's Fairies." Freed

himself was straight, but contempt is never reasonable.

Parts 2 & 3 coming in future issues.



Tyrone Power

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- 2) 2 Dinner/Show tickets to The Pageant being held in Milwaukee at the Hilton on Valentine's Day. (\$100 Value)
- 3) Dinner for 2 at a local Milwaukee Restaurant. (\$50 Value)
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OUT in the Theatre

Execution of Justice

by Chris Fallek

My high school never put on a play like this. But then, my high school never had Colleen Kellogg as a teacher.

Over fifty people braved snow and ice to see the Malcolm Shabazz high school production of *Execution of Justice*, directed by Shabazz drama teacher, Colleen Kellogg. The play depicts the trial of Dan White, the former San Francisco Supervisor convicted of assassinating fellow Supervisor Harvey Milk and San Francisco Mayor George Moscone in 1978.

Dialogue taken from the trial intertwines with fictional reflections, as the play explores how prejudice and bigotry influence justice. Harvey Milk, who was one of the first out Gay officials elected in the country, becomes the focus of a subtle game of politics surrounding White's resignation from the San Francisco Board of Supervisors.

While a Supervisor, White represented a primarily white, working class district. Later, he asked Mayor Moscone to reappoint him to his post. When Moscone refused, White shot him. White then reloaded his gun and went to Milk's office, where he shot Milk. White admitted to both murders but maintained they were not politically motivated.

Ultimately, White was convicted of manslaughter instead of first degree murder. His attorneys argued that junk food had clouded his judgement.

The play explores evidence presented at White's trial and how a working and middle class, white, Catholic jury interpreted his actions. A large cast plays multiple parts (over 40 characters), in a complex menage of opinion, speculation, forensic evidence and political intrigue. This is not a play to be staged lightly.

Kellogg and her Shabazz students don't take it lightly. More than twenty students not only play multiple characters but also run lights, created the promotional materials, built the set and set up a power point computer presentation that flashes images and stage directions on a large screen behind the actors.

Apart from some to-be-expected amateur production problems, like projection, pacing and self-consciousness (how well many of us remember those feelings!), the students do an outstanding job of dealing with a very complex play. Spotlights leap from one character to another, leading the audience through the maze of facts, fiction and motive. The infamous "Twinkie" defense doesn't evoke giggles but disbelief. Several characters, most notably Jody Fleury as the defense attorney, capture the emotional intensity of the trial in its manipulative, bigoted glory.

As the Sapphire Ballroom's mirrored disco ball provided a bridge from the 1970's, it was interesting to see a political trial from that time in the light of current political events. The passion behind the events portrayed in *Execution of Justice* seems ironic: the era that produced Watergate is seen in the light of our present impeachment-mania, with the disco ball emphasizing our country's current fascination with the political as simply, entertainment.

There are no other public performances

of *Execution of Justice* planned at this time but the show will go on. The Shabazz students will perform the play for several schools with discussions between the cast and student audiences planned.

Dinner & A Play - Madame de Sade

The staff of Wisconsin Light and Dear Ruthie invite you to warm up your dreary winter nights and join us for "Dinner & A Play" on Wednesday, February 3, 1999.

The night will begin with cocktails (cash bar) at the Broadway Bar & Grill at 5:30pm. Dinner, at 6pm, will be 3-courses, and will include a glass of wine and dessert (your choice of 3 entrees). The Play will be the 7:30pm Milwaukee Chamber Theatre performance of *Madame de Sade* featuring Mary MacDonald Kerr, Sarah Day, Ruth Schudson, Jane Hannemann and Eunice Peppiatt.

Following the play, you're invited for Buy 1 Get 1 Free Cocktails at Fluid, with your *Madame de Sade* ticket stub.

We guarantee you'll enjoy the Wisconsin premiere of *Madame de Sade*, by Yukio Mishima (translated by Donald Keene). The faithful wife of the notorious Marquis engages in an endless battle for her husband's release from prison. She must contend with her domineering mother; and a sister and a neighbor who have both enjoyed de Sade's "favors." Is it love, compassion or hatred that drives her? *Madame de Sade* is an exotic blend of East and West literary traditions which reveals the consequence of absolute freedom. Note: language and situations; intended for mature audiences only.

You can charge your tickets by calling the Wisconsin Light offices at 414/226-0075. The cost of Dinner & A Play is \$45 per person.

Murder and Mayhem at This Is It

Milwaukee — This Is It and Dale Gutzman Productions are joining forces for a murder mystery party titled *The Case of the Calvin Klein Crimes*, or *Death is a Drag*.

The show will begin at the This Is It bar, 418 E. Wells St., where audience members gather to have a drink (included in the ticket price) and meet the cast of characters. From there, the cast and audience move to the Circlestage Theater, 783 N. Jefferson St., where the audience will be invited to question the suspects and explore the crime scene, trying to solve the murder.

The show's Creator and Director, Dale Gutzman, is known for experimental and on-the-edge theatrical productions. "It's the very first traveling murder mystery party," Gutzman says, "and the killer could be the guy next to you at the bar or a bum you meet on the street on the way to the theater." Audience participation will be needed to solve the murder. The production will take on an improvisational tone, accompanied by the usual Gutzman Company shenanigans.

The cast is comprised of Gutzman Company regulars. This will be its first Gay-themed murder mystery.

The Case of the Calvin Klein Crimes will be performed on Friday and Saturday, January 22, 23, 29 and 30. The show begins at This Is It at 8:00pm. To reserve tickets, call (414) 466-4049.

OUT ON FILM

Ten Highlights From the Otherwise Mediocre Movies of 1998

by John Jahn

As a movie critic in the late 1990s, coming up with an annual "top ten list" is a difficult task. Not, most assuredly, because there are just so many excellent movies each year that it's hard to winnow them down to the best ten, but rather because it's hard to come up with ten that I'm content to put on my list at all! Yet again, 1998 was not a stellar year for the big screen.

Gone were the mega-blockbusters of 1997 like *Titanic*, *As Good As It Gets* and *Good Will Hunting*. Instead, we had busts like *Godzilla* and *The Avengers*. Only one movie made more than \$200 million, the loudly hyped *Armageddon*, with *Saving Private Ryan* a close call. Americans simply didn't flock to any of last year's movies, mostly for good reasons.

Like most years, many of the best of the 80-odd movies I saw this year were produced at small, independent studios - the so-called "art house" films.

Mainstream Hollywood did come through with some good films, too. Indeed, my list this year is a combination of both. Actually, this is my top thirteen list. I threw in, for free, numbers eleven (*Deep Impact*), twelve (*Buffalo '66*) and thirteen (*The Horse Whisperer*), respectively, just

to get a few "honorable mentions" in. So, without further ado, here were the best ten movies of 1998 according to this ever-vigilant reviewer.



1. SAVING PRIVATE RYAN

Though nothing in the remaining hours of this film quite matches up to the first half-hour — a brilliant depiction of the Allied D-Day landings — *Saving Private Ryan* is far and away the best film of 1998. A very strongly acted, emotionally taut, anti-war film, it belongs right next to Spielberg's other WWII epic, *Schindler's List*. *Saving Private Ryan* is only one of a handful of war movies produced in recent years. It succeeds in being one of the best of the entire genre.

2. LIFE IS BEAUTIFUL

Another powerful film, that matches *Schindler's List* in many ways, is the Italian Holocaust-themed film, *Life is Beautiful*. It superbly combines comedy and pathos into a magnificent historical drama with significant emotional impact.

3. GODS AND MONSTERS

The last few months of legendary, Gay, horror film Director James Whale's life are retold by the exceptionally talented, openly Gay, Shakespearean actor Ian McKellan. *Gods and Monsters* is also blessed by Brendan Frasier's well-muscled body and lots of "inside" Gay humor.

4. HAPPINESS

Happiness is a remarkable film that centers on a small group of interconnected people who have one thing in common:

a severe lack of happiness. It's the one thing they all seek but are at a loss to find. Uncomfortable themes (pedophilia, murder, loneliness, masturbation) are examined through the blackest of comedy.

5. ELIZABETH

In *Elizabeth*, the first few years of Queen Elizabeth's remarkable reign are revealed to be full of plotting, deceit, lies and sex. *Elizabeth* succeeds because of Cate Blanchet's superb title-role performance, a great supporting cast (Richard Attenborough, Geoffrey Rush) and a detailed and accurate period sensibility.

6. AMERICAN HISTORY X

The viciousness and perpetuation of racism are unflinchingly examined in the alternating black-and-white and color *American History X*. The film is deadly serious and quite violent, but brings home the message of racism's corrosive power like few (if any) films before.

7. THE TRUMAN SHOW

Our modern-day anxieties about the overbearing gaze of the camera lens — be they media or government operated — are brought to full boil by this serious-themed yet comic tale. *The Truman Show* is memorable for one thing in particular: it shows at long last that Jim Carrey can actually act, and doing so without mugging around stupidly in every scene.

8. THE BIG LEBOWSKI

Joel and Ethan Coen may not have quite matched their combined brilliance in *The Big Lebowski* which they evinced in *Fargo*, but nevertheless they succeed in providing us with the year's most outlandish comedy, filled with bizarre characters performed by a great cast (Jeff Bridges, John Goodman, Steve Buscemi and John Turturro).

9. SHAKESPEARE IN LOVE

Shakespeare in Love superficially

has much in common with the superior *Elizabeth*, including gorgeous Joseph Fiennes, Geoffrey Rush and an Elizabethan setting, but that's where the similarities end. This film comically and fancifully explores the Bard's early struggles to find success as well as his "muse"; the latter performed excellently by radiant Gwyneth Paltrow.

10. A BUG'S LIFE

The Disney animated bug movie, *A Bug's Life*, proves to be superior on every level than its somewhat darker, more boring counterpart, *Antz*. But, it also withstands scrutiny on its own. *A Bug's Life* is a lighter-than-air, exceptionally entertaining movie that frequently shows comic brilliance, in addition to its superlative visual effects at the hands of computer graphics wizards.

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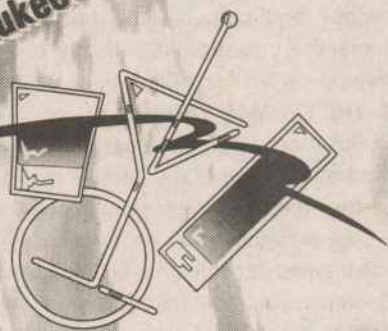
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OUT ON TV.

by Terry Boughner

On Sunday, January 24, 1999, expect a very Gay-oriented 56th Annual Golden Globe Awards. The Golden Globe is a star-studded event, third in award ratings to the Oscars and Grammys. This year there will be more than a nod toward Gays in TV.

Miniseries or Made-for-TV movie: *Gia*
Actress, Miniseries or Made-for-TV Movie: Angelina Jolie, *Gia*.

Supporting Actress, Miniseries or Made-for-TV movie: Faye Dunaway, *Gia*.

Will & Grace

Will & Grace is going strong. The new time slot on Tuesdays seems to agree with it because the show's ratings are on the rise. From 79th, it's now at 26 place.

The spring season will see a parade of guest stars on the show. By the time you read this, Rudy Galindo will have appeared, according to *TV Guide*. The openly Gay champion skater will have appeared on the January 12th segment.

According to the *Guide*, Rudy will be followed by Debbie Reynolds. Reynolds will be playing Grace's (Debra Messing) critical, over the top, poker-playing mama, Bobbie Adler. The show will be titled (no big surprise) *The Unsinkable Bobbie Adler*. The Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD) reports that at the taping of the segment in December, the studio audience was in "a down right frenzy" when Reynolds goosed Jack.

Reynolds' appearance on the show may be nearly unique. On a show where all four characters want men, you probably won't see too many female guest stars.

GLAAD reports that after the taping, there was a "lengthy" discussion by Jack (Sean Hayes), Will (Eric McCormick) and Grace about whether *Star Wars* robot C3-PO is Gay.

Despite the show's title, the strong performances by Hayes and Megan Mullally (Karen) show just how important a strong supporting cast is to the success of a show. In up-coming episodes look for them to play bigger, more fleshed out roles.

So what about Will's love life. As I reported early, McCormick (who is very straight) said that Will has to date. Otherwise he won't be credible. That's coming — and, *The Advocate* reports, so is "the big kiss." Look for it around Valentine's day, the magazine says. (Wouldn't it be great if Will and Rudy Galindo got together?)

In the meantime, look for scripts that are a "lot more aggressive" about Will's sexuality. Will is to be true to his Gay identity, be sure about that.

Ironically, critics say that there's more sexual tension between Jack and Karen, Grace's straight assistant.

In The Life

In The Life, the LGBT bimonthly TV news magazine has been getting some rave reviews. The *Los Angeles Times* crit-

ic, Howard Rosenberg, says there is "nothing else like it on the air." Rosenberg calls the show a "smart, vibrant, extremely informative hour that isn't also for heterosexuals." It's for everyone, he writes, "wanting to witness the full panorama of society."

Rosenberg says the who is "opinionated without being shrill or preachy while celebrating diversity in a way you'll not find on any other newsmagazine." Now that's praise several "straight" news shows I can think of would like to hear.

Katherine Linton

Speaking of *In The Life*, the show's host, Katherine Linton and Kate Davis are co-producing an hour-long TV documentary on anti-Gay violence. The program will air as part of A&E's *Investigative Reports* series.

The film, Linton says, will take a serious look into the rise of hate crimes against Gay people nationwide, a trend which is little known or understood by the general public.

The problem is, that while Linton and Davis have found many cases of violence against Gay men, they have not found one against Lesbians. They ask that if anyone knows of a case and is willing to speak on camera, please email her at katherinelinton@hotmail.com and let her know.

On The Lighter Side

In this age where no one's private life is above Congressional inquiry, it has come to this: A Teletubby has been outed.

Tinky Winky, the bag-toting member of PBS' kiddie-show creatures, was denoted as "the Gay Teletubby" in the New Year's Day edition of the *Washington Post*. The mention came in the



Post's annual in/out list.

A U.S. spokesman for the Brit-born 'Tubbies initially declined comment on the report—except to confirm Tinky Winky's gender. (It...er...he is a boy.)

Later, Steve Rice, of the itsy bitsy Entertainment Co., seemed to dismiss the notion that Tinky Winky (not to mention colleagues Dipsy, Laa-Laa and Po) could be Gay...or straight. "The Teletubbies haven't even hit puberty yet," Rice said.

Among the quartet of babble-talking 'Tubbies, Tinky Winky attracted attention for his color (purple—like the gay-pride symbol?), his antenna (triangle-shaped—again, like the gay-pride symbol?) and his "purse" (technically, a "magic bag.")

DEEP INSIDE HOLLYWOOD

by Romeo San Vicente

Rah Rah for Lesbians

Busty beauty Natasha Lyonne, who charmed the critics last year with her winsome performance as a buxom-but-tormented teen in *The Slums of Beverly Hills*,

will be strutting her pom-poms once again. The talented thespian is starring as a budding Lesbian in the black comedy *But I'm a Cheerleader*, currently in production in Los Angeles.



In this independent film, Lyonne will play a teenager whose parents, suspecting she's Gay, send her to a "homosexual rehab center" to set her straight (as if!). Instead, in not-so-classic girl-meets-girl fashion, she hooks up with another adolescent Dyke, played by *The Faculty*'s Clea Duvall. Thankfully, romance ensues. Campy co-stars include RuPaul and John Waters' regular Mink Stole.

Kiss Me, Guido. I'm a Television Star!

Paramount Network TV and the producers of the 1997 popular Gay film *Kiss Me, Guido* are hoping to make a television series based on the comedy about a Bronx pizza-maker-come-actor and his GWM

roomie. Paramount acquired the film at the 1997 Sundance Film Festival and is talking to original screenwriter Tony Vitale about working on the pilot.

The Gayest Guy on "Dawson's Creek"

Teen heartthrob Joshua Jackson, who plays teacher-bedding ladies man Pacey on the WB's *Dawson's Creek* is going to show his nelly side in his next film. *Cruel Intentions*, which is set to open in early March, is a modern-day retelling of *Les Liaisons Dangereuses*. Jackson, who already bared his buns in the notorious locker room scene of last year's *Apt Pupil*, will play a Gay drug dealer in the \$11 million movie.

If that's not a queer enough reason to go see this flick, keep in mind that "Buffy" star Sarah Michelle Gellar will be getting some Sapphic



action in the drama. If that cast isn't aesthetically pleasing enough to lure you to the theater, note that also co-starring in the teen flick are real-life couple Reese Witherspoon and hottie Ryan Phillippe.

Battle of the Cross-Dressers

The latest must-have item in Hollywood is a project on cross-dressing virgin martyr Joan of Arc. Supermodel-turned-actress Milla Jovovich (*The Fifth Element*) is starring in a \$55 million version directed by her husband, Luc Besson, about the young French woman who led an army to drive English forces out of France (while sporting men's clothes). Dustin Hoffman, John Malkovich and Faye Dunaway co-star in this Sony release, which is slated for November 1999.

Amen for Showtime

Director/poet extraordinaire Maya Angelou (*Down in the Delta*) is teaming up with Showtime Networks to make a film adaptation of Gay writer James Baldwin's 1964 play *The Amen Corner*. The story centers on a charismatic female preacher in Harlem whose roguish jazz musician husband returns home to die, putting her church standing in jeopardy. Angelou hopes to start production early this year. *To Wong Foo*'s Wesley Snipes is producing the project.

Beverly Hills Cock

Gay British pop star George Michael recently revealed that the Beverly Hills cop who busted him for lewd conduct in April was "quite tasty." He told *Q* magazine, "They don't send Karl Malden in there. We're not talking Columbo with his dick out." Wham! Bam! Take it like a man, George.

Drew Cares about Gays

Drew Carey, whose eponymous ABC sitcom features a recurring Transvestite character, has championed yet another Gay cause. He recently lent a helping hand to raise money for the Trevor Line, a suicide-

prevention line for Gay teens. Noticeably absent from the event was fellow Trevor Line booster and former Gay teen herself, Ellen DeGeneres (not to mention her other half, Anne Heche).

The reason? Most likely Ms. DeGeneres knew Drew would be there, and after dissing him in her recent *Los Angeles Times Magazine* interview, talking about what a pain-in-the-derriere Mr. Carey is, Ellen most likely decided to lay low for a while. During the event's auction, Drew purchased a Victorian formal gown. This doesn't mean he's a trannie-in-training, as the dress was a diminutive size six.

Cumming on the Big Screen

Cabaret star and Tony winner Alan Cumming has been commuting from the Kit Kat Klub to work on some feature films. First up is *Urban Folk Tales*, a black comedy about a man and his lover who are assaulted and seek revenge on the perpetrator of the hate crime. *Object of My Affection*'s Tim Daly and Josh Hamilton co-star.

There's Something about Mary Jane

What hetero Hollywood hunk took time off from location scouting for his latest picture to smoke some of the local grown (I'm not talking about tobacco) with a Lesbian journalist? 'Tis a shame she wasn't a photographer.

Romeo San Vicente, who thinks all cheerleaders ought to be Lesbians, can be reached care of *Wisconsin Light* or at RomeoDeep@aol.com. For more Deep Inside Hollywood, visit www.Gay.net or www.popcomq.com



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OUT ON CD

by John Jahn

Bathroom Betty Bette Midler

In her first new album since 1995's *Bette of Roses*, Bette Midler's *Bathroom Betty* proves that she still has what it takes to be considered a pop music Diva. The dozen tracks span the gamut of emotions, fulfilling Midler's own self-description. "My specialty is to make people laugh, really, really hard," she says of her new album, "and then turn around and make them cry. That's what I do." This new Warner Brothers release unmistakably evokes her musical roots.



And it's what she does, in her own inimitable style, on *Bathroom Betty*. The album is a resonant, wide-ranging, entertaining collection of songs, reflecting Midler's return to the campy, cross-cultural and enormously influential New York City music scene of the early 1970s. It has moments of great vulgarity, but also moments of great yearning and spirituality.

From the hilarious audacity of *I'm Beautiful* and *I'm Hip* to the traditional pop craftsmanship of *Lullaby in Blue* and *My One True Friend*, and from the vintage vamping of *I Sold My Heart to the Junkman* and *One Monkey Don't Stop No Show* to the eclectic charms of *Boxing* and *Song of Bernadette*, *Bathroom Betty* proves that the Divine Miss M still possesses a strong voice, unique style and considerable gravitas as a pop music Diva.

Little Voice - Motion Picture Soundtrack Various Artists

Little Voice, a new Miramax film which has yet to open anywhere in Wisconsin, is receiving quite positive reviews from film critics who have seen it. It has been billed as "an endearing comic drama with a big heart," telling the story of an incredibly shy young girl who expresses herself through uncanny renditions of famous songs.

Despite the film and soundtrack album's title, however, the music features anything but little voices. Indeed, some of the biggest voices — and biggest stars — to ever belt out a knock 'em dead showstopper are contained on

this 11-track Capitol Records album.

The film centers on British actress Jane Horrocks, recognizable to many from her stint as Bubbles on the sitcom *Absolutely Fabulous*. Despite the fact that, in the movie, Horrocks mimics the voices of famous singers, the soundtrack album only contains two songs by her, *I Wanna Be Loved By You* and *Get Happy*. True, she has a pop singer's voice, but next to her album competition — Judy Garland, Billie Holiday, Shirley Bassey and Ethel Merman — she just doesn't quite match up.

The strength of the *Little Voice* album is the fine assemblage of historic singing talent that it contains. Garland fans will be especially pleased, given her three appearances (*That's Entertainment*, *The Man That Got Away*, and *Come Rain Or Come Shine*). The album is a nice collection of classic pop standards, but these are readily available elsewhere. For uniqueness' sake this reviewer would have actually preferred to listen to an album entirely sung by Horrocks than to these same old tracks that have been around for three or more decades.

LITTLE VOICE

Little Voice is a collection of classic pop standards, including songs from Judy Garland, Shirley Bassey, Billie Holiday, Ethel Merman, and more.



Still, *Little Voice* is notable for one thing: an unlisted, bilious rendition of *It's Over* by British actor (and no time singer) Michael Caine. This one track is almost worth buying the whole record; Caine's over-the-top performance represents screw-you show biz at its most show-bizarre.

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Dear Ruthie



a hunky farmer, a sexy Madison college stud, or a silver-fox who owns a successful cheese factory. Yes, I too had dreams of becoming Wisconsin's Cheese Queen, cheer leading an able bodied Badger player to victory, or making love to a farm-hand in a cozy hayloft.

To date I've made it with a guy who drives a beer truck, a handful of cab drivers, and a Taco Bell employee of the month. Oh — and one time I dated the guy who stocks cheese curds at the Piggly Wiggly. Needless to say, there wasn't a Monterey Jack tiara in my future.

Throw-in a couple of ex-husbands, some drunk pool-boys, the guy who does my nails, and an overweight cable installer and you've got my sex life. Actually, that's not bad is it? Hmm... maybe I could give you a few of my extras? Do you have cable?

When I first moved here, Pearl was still married and tried desperately to fix me up with someone. She had me doing everything from taking wine tasting classes to reading to prisoners. I got kicked out of the wine class because I love wine and... well... I guess the rest is obvious. I got kicked out of the prisoner program because... well... I guess that's obvious too.

A few months later, the FBI tracked down Pearl's husband. She divorced him shortly after that and joined my hunt to

find a man. We tried everything from church picnics to listing ourselves in the personals.

Hey — here's a few tips for you guys calling those personals: "Swimmer build" = out of shape. "Late twenties" = Early to mid thirties. "Looking to hook-up" = Slut. "Meet at your place" = Running from the law. "No Phone" = Incarcerated. Trust me on these. Have you ever met a guy from one of those personals, who turned out to be so ugly that when he showed-up you pretended to be someone else? "No English, sir. A Mrs. Ruthie — she no live in trailer. She live down block."

Once Pearl and I cooled it with our man-hunt, however, we actually met a couple of guys. Once she and I stopped putting so much pressure on ourselves, we found Wisconsin men to be wonderful!

You see, I don't think Milwaukee is the issue. I truly love Wisconsin and don't plan on parking my trailer anywhere else for quite awhile. You just haven't met the right person yet. This is okay. Don't beat yourself up over it. When the time is right you'll find that special person.

In the mean-time, get yourself drunk and rent a porno flick. KIDDING! Don't worry about finding a partner. Concentrate on making friends... your job... your education. You're more likely to meet a dreamboat when you're not out at sea looking for one.

Go relax with some buddies. Do some volunteer work. I've said it a zillion times — volunteering is the best way to feel good about yourself and you meet great people in the process! Boy, do I get the letters from single boys and girls just trying to meet someone nice! I've gotten two

of these letters in the last week alone! The second was from a very funny woman — I'll run her letter later — so you single gals keep reading!

You know what I'm gonna do? I'm gonna have a party and invite all you single people over to meet one another. We could call it "Ruthie's Lonely Hearts Club." We'd meet every other month at a different bar. We'd drink martinis till we meet Mr. or Ms. Right, or until the martini ran out. Would you be interested?

Okay — all you interested single people, drop me a note care of the address below, or e-mail me care of *Wisconsin Light*, 225 S. Second Street, Milwaukee, WI 53204 or care of editor@willight.com, and tell me if you'd go to a Ruthie singles party some night in Milwaukee. If enough of you are interested, we'll see if we can't set something up. Till then, have a great week everyone!

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Dear Ruthie,

I need a little advice about dating for the new year. (This is where the violins start playing). I am so tired of being single in Milwaukee. I moved here for two reasons and they were for my job and a larger social scene. What a disappointment on both. Milwaukee is too unsocial (in my opinion). Shed a little light unto me to make this a better year and if all goes well, I'll make you the Maid of Honor at the wedding.

—Whining in the Beer Capital

Dear Whining,

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FRIDAY, JAN 15

Latino Arts Friday Night Peñas (Milwaukee), From 5:30-8:30pm, every Friday, Cafe El Sol, located at the United Community Center, 1028 S. 9th St., this week featuring: Canciones Soci-politicas de Latino America; Tony Baez.

SATURDAY, JAN 16

Chamber Theatre (Milwaukee), Yukio Mishima's *Madame de Sade*, through Feb. 7 in the Broadway Theatre Center's Studio Theatre, 158 N. Broadway. Hours vary, prices range from \$25 for Thursday and Sunday to \$28 for Friday and Saturday performances. Tickets by phone 291-7800.

Anti-Klan Demonstration (Madison), Starts at Lake and State Streets (UW Madison) Library Mall with a speak out followed by a march to the Capitol.

FRIDAY, JAN 22

A Tribute to John Williams and the Movies (Milwaukee), Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra performs selection from a variety of films and artists. Tickets \$20-50, Marcus Box Office (414) 273-7206. Also tomorrow night.

Gay Murder Mystery Party (Milwaukee), Tonight and tomorrow night at 8pm, starting at This Is It, moves to Circle Stage Theatre a Dale Gutzman You Solve It - *The Calvin Klein Crime or Death is a Drag*. Call (414) 466-4049 for reservations. \$15 tickets includes a drink at TIT's.

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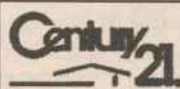
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NIGHTS OUT

The Trip From Hell...Well I

am back. Did you miss me? I went to Washington to cover the nightlife scene and all the festivities associated with the inauguration of my favorite Lesbian Congresswoman, Tammy Baldwin.

As far as traveling goes, this was the trip from hell. First of all the bad weather delayed our departure by two days. Then

We got to Chicago at 11:30 PM! Then we find out that our connection back to Milwaukee went out of service two hours earlier. We took a cab to the Grey Hound station. We were supposed to take the 1:15 AM bus back to Milwaukee, but it didn't arrive until 1:30 and didn't leave until 2:00 AM. We get finally get back to Milwaukee around 4:00 AM, almost 24 hours after we had said good bye

to our hosts in DC.

Despite the horrendous travel problems, I still had fun. I met a lot of nice people, unfortunately they weren't in the bars, but more on that later.

The Tammy Parties - Tammy had three great parties. The first was at a posh mansion in Washington. It was a fundraiser for the Victory Fund, one of my favorite groups. Lots of good food, hot men and an open bar made for a great time. Next was her swearing in party. Everyone was drool-

ing over the Acting House Clerk; a hot, young, buzz cut, gay blonde, as he called the House to order. He can gavel me down anytime.

The last and best party was at the Capitol City Brewing Company. It had great food, lots of folks from Wisconsin, an open bar and a very relaxed atmosphere.

The Washington Bar Scene - After that party, we hit the bars. You don't really appreciate how nice our bars are until you go someplace else. These places were full of attitude and unfriendly staff. I can't imagine anyone coming to any bar in Wisconsin and telling a bartender they are doing a story about our nightlife and not getting a warm reception.

In nearly every place we went to, no one seemed to care about anything but pushing drinks and collecting tips. That even included the bartender I had chatted with on the net who invited me to stop by his bar, the Fireplace. To make matters worse the attitude of the customers matched those of the bartenders.

The only person I could find to talk to was also from out of town. He said he was having the same experience. I talked to strangers in restaurants and on the street who were friendlier than this bunch was.

We went to the Dupont Circle area bars. These are all neighborhood bars. None of the six places we stopped at was very crowded. One wasn't even open. The other bar area in DC is in the Southeast corner of the City. It contains the biggest bars in DC. Unfortunately because no one seemed to want to tell us anything we didn't find that out until it was too late to take a 20 minute cab ride down there.

At least the hotel we stayed in that night, the Carlisle Suites, was very nice. It's an art deco place. The suites even include a kitchen, a table to eat at and a nice sitting area. It's affordable, and in the heart of the Dupont circle area. I definitely recommend it.

Needless to say, Dorothy was right. There is no place like home. Stay safe and be proud.

Dusty AFTER DARK

we missed our flight out of Midway, because the United Airport limo ran an hour and half late. We had to wait five hours for the next plane. Then when we got to DC's Dulles airport, the shuttle that was supposed to take us to the place we were staying at got lost.

We spent all day in a dingy airport terminal and riding in a shuttle driven by some fool who kept insisting that he could find anything even though it was going to take him four hours to complete what was supposed to be a 45 minute trip.

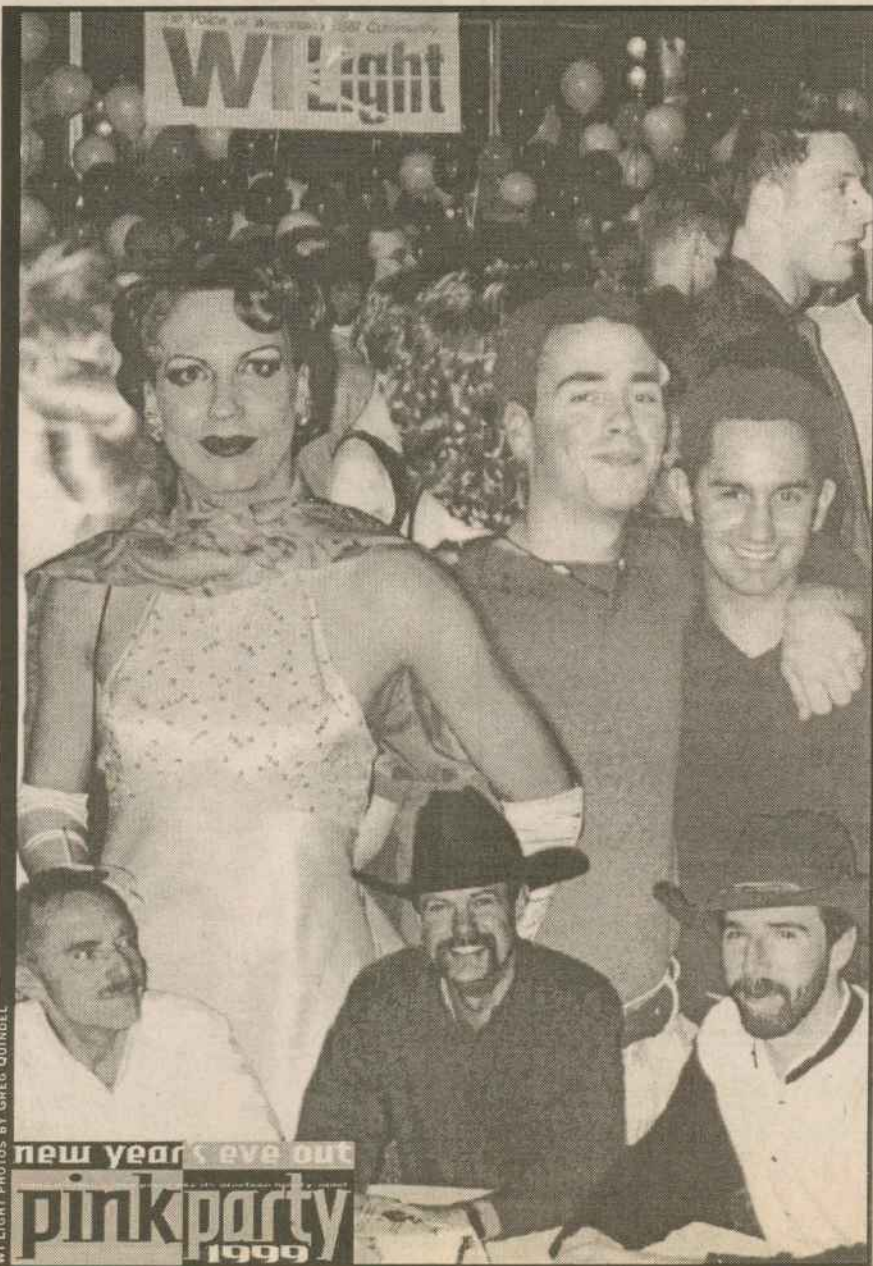
The trip back was even worse. The airport shuttle changed its pick up point the day before but didn't bother to tell its own info line. So we missed our 11:30 am plane back to Chicago. Actually it was still there when we raced up to the gate, but the folks at Air Tran (the former Value Jet) said they wouldn't reopen the door to let us and three other angry passengers on.

The plane for our 5:25PM flight didn't arrive at Dulles until 7:30. Then we sat on in the plane for over two hours waiting to take off. It didn't help any when the co-pilot came into the passenger cabin with a flashlight to check the wings to see if the plane needed to be deiced again.

Editor Bill Meunier - who has only taken one other trip by plane before - was nervous enough, but then he looked at the windows and noticed that they were covered with ice. So when the captain announced that the plane didn't need another deicing, he was ready to go up to the cabin and demand a bike so he could pedal back to Milwaukee.

It also didn't help when two friendly passengers told him that one of the attendants had informed them that the airline is so cheap that while the plane was in Boston, the co-pilot couldn't see the wings even with a flashlight so he took off the emergency exit door to check them for ice.

The plane took off - four hours late and one of the engines makes a loud noise as we get in the air. The captain announces that the noise "was probably caused by slush kicked up by the plane as it taxied down the runway getting caught in the engine." Bill wanted to know why we weren't turning around to make certain that "probably" was "really" what happened. I had to stop him from demanding a parachute.



WI LIGHT PHOTOS BY GREG QUINDLE

Going Out

SATURDAY, JAN 16

Fluid (Milwaukee), Buy 1, Get 1 Free with your ticket stub from Madame de Sade, any performance, through February 7.

SUNDAY, JAN 17

Dish (Milwaukee), fWEep, an alternative band appearing 8pm.

FRIDAY, JAN 22

Brady East (BESTD) STD Clinic (Milwaukee), Free anonymous HIV Testing, Milwaukee Eagle from 10pm-1am.

TUESDAY, JAN 26

Miss WI Continental Plus Pageant (Milwaukee), at Club 219.

SATURDAY, JAN 30

Mr. WI Leather Man & Great Lakes Harley Riders (Milwaukee), 3rd Annual Leather Swap Meet, 7pm at Woody's (1579 South 2nd). Pizza, beer bust plus swap meet. Table space available first come, first serve. Call Larry or Joe at (414) 931-9760 FMI.

WEDNESDAY, FEB 3

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THURSDAY, FEB 4

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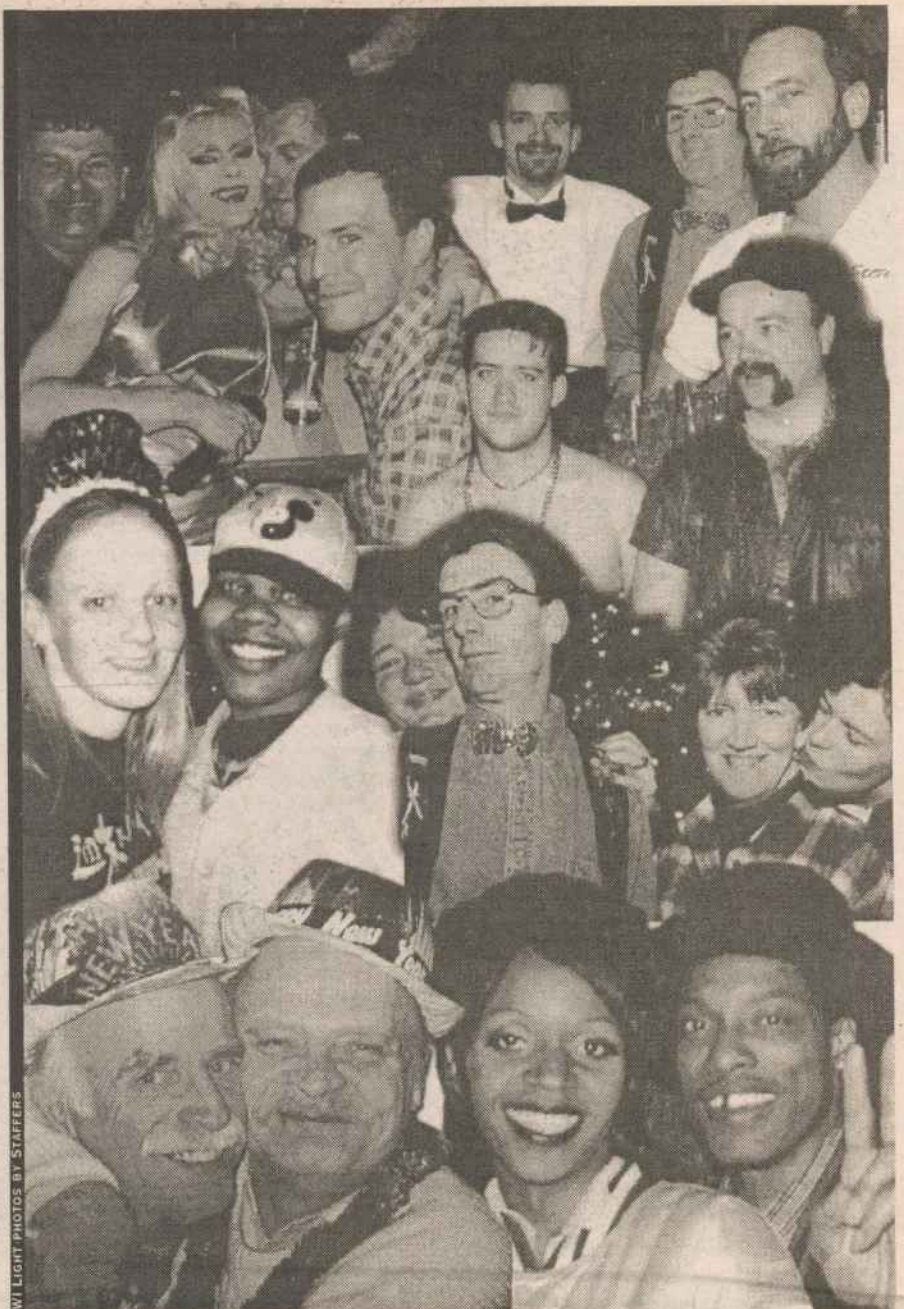
WI Light GOING OUT GUIDE

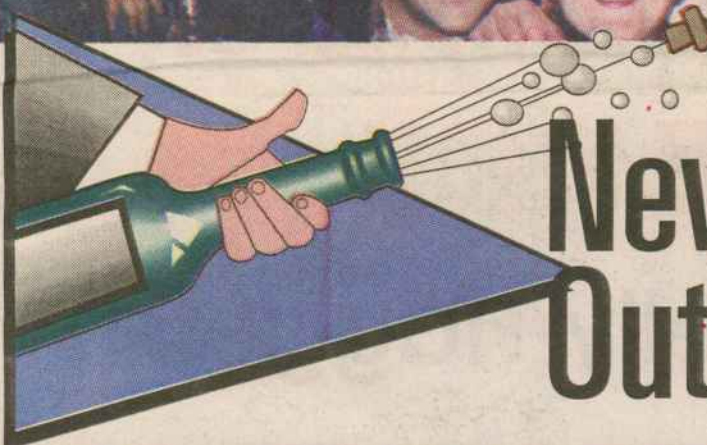
APPLETON (920)			
Rascal's Bar & Grill	MW, F	702 E. Wisconsin, 54991	954-9262
BELOIT (608)			
Kloset	MW, DJ	232 Shirland Ave, 53511	363-8764
CENTRAL WISCONSIN (715)			
Oz	MW, DJ	320 Washington, Wausau, 54401	842-3225
Platwood Club	G/S, MW, DJ	1730 Hwy 10W, Stevens Point, 54481	341-8862
EAU CLAIRE (715)			
Scoters	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
MADISON (608)			
CE's	W,m	2415 Winnebago St. 53704	241-5042
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
Fyfe's Corner Bistro	Fine Dining	1344 E. Washington	251-8700
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
Barbie Dolls Playhouse	MW, S	700 E. Meinecke, 53212	374-7441
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
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
Milwaukee Eagle	M, L/L, DJ, D	300 W. Juneau, 53203	273-6900
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
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Club 94	MW, DJ, E	9001 120th Ave., Kenosha, 53140	857-9958
Clubhouse Filling Station	MW, F, DJ, E	6325 120th Ave., Kenosha, 53140	857-3744
Capers/Illusions	MW, DJ, E	6305 120th Ave., Kenosha, 53140	857-3813
JoDee's	MW, DJ	2139 Racine St., Racine, 53403	634-9804
What About Me?	MW	600 6th St., Racine, 53403	632-0171
SHEBOYGAN (920)			
Blue Lite	MW	1029 N. 8th St., 53081	457-1636
SUPERIOR (715)			
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Main Club	MW	1217 Tower Ave., 55880	392-1756
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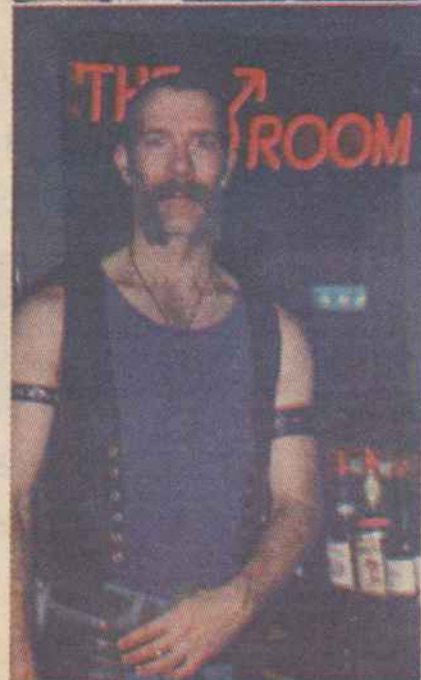
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WI Light

January 13-26, 1999

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The VIDEO BOOTH



Line Feed and Link 2 Link

by All Worlds Video,
Directed by Chi Chi La Rue
Reviewed by Sam Edwards

This review will cover two films, *Line Feed* and *Link 2 Link*, both by All Worlds Video and both directed by Chi Chi La Rue (a.k.a. Taylor Hudson). Both films are simply Gay sex films: no plot, no fancy sets, and certainly no costumes — just lots of unvarnished sex. This type of film usually features well known porn actors who are known as sex pigs — those who are exhibitionists, completely uninhibited and insatiable, and those who enjoy wallowing in sex and who are frequently willing to perform kinky things that the average porn star would find demeaning. A preference for group sex is quite common. After awhile many porn actors get very jaded and come to enjoy way out sex, often doing things too far out to be legally filmed.

Line Feed has eight actors, all pigs

who perform in various combinations — all eight in the final scene. A couple of these actors are fairly well known, but most are not. The action is entirely oral — no anal sex here, just a little analinctus. The actors perform mechanically and without feeling — not

even a smile. No talking, no grunts — just slurp, slurp. The film, consequently, is unimaginative and not very erotic. As punishment Ms. La Rue, the director, was spanked and sent to bed without her dildo after the film was finished.

Taking the lesson to heart, she hired 24 (yes, 24) of the best and most handsome pigs in Hollywood for *Link 2 Link*. How she missed Paul Morgan, I'll never know, but you may have seen most of these pigs in other films. She must have been standing just behind the cameras yelling, "Do it! Do it!" All of these pigs go at it in various combinations as though this is the last time they will ever get to do wild sex. They encourage one another verbally as they let loose and enjoy exhibiting their wild passions for the camera.

The result is really quite erotic, because in their own way these guys, who are mostly very masculine, are relating to one another. Every man, top or bottom, is working very hard to please his partner(s). If you don't want to wade

through plot to get to wild sex, I can recommend *Link 2 Link*. Forget about *Line Feed*.

The Big Switch

Catalina Video
Directed by Paul Norman
Reviewed by Andy James

Once upon a time — in 1985 to be exact — all X rated videos were either Gay or straight. Then in 1985, Paul Norman came up with a great idea, a bisexual flick. Hence the first commercially successful Bi porno, *The Big Switch* was born. The wild success of this production started the whole bisexual porno genre.

That alone would be enough to add this tape to your collection, but there are other reasons as well. A hot cast, great production values, and steamy sex all make this flick a must for any serious collector.

The plot involves a reunion of high school friends, some of whom are Gay, some are straight and some swing both ways. Norman doesn't let the plot get in the way of plunging the viewer into hot sex though.

In scene one, Athena Starr smokes a joint in her bathtub and imagines herself involved in a three way with blondes Mike Miller and Mike Vincent. Both Mikes plow into Starr with reckless abandon. Miller also tops Vincent while the latter muff dives Starr's crotch. It is quite obvious that these three are really into each other. The handsome Miller has to struggle to get his thick hard on out of Starr's mouth. He does so just in time to give her a nice facial bath.

In the next scene, Brian Maxxon, who would later appear in some pretty hot Gay porn flicks, screws the hell out of Athena over a butcher-block kitchen table. Maxxon's grunts and groans and Starr's quivering make this a memorable tryst.

The following scene is also a delight. We find Starr and Beverly Glenn 69ing each other poolside. Along comes Vincent, who after watching for a time, grabs a dildo. Starr is more than happy to strap on the sex toy, which she uses to plow Vincent's ass, while he fucks Glenn.

Norman doesn't give you a chance to absorb all this hot action. He follows this with another three way. This one includes Maxxon, Vincent and Beverly Glenn. Maxxon sits in a barber's chair while Vincent goes down on his ample joystick, while Glenn licks his balls. But Glenn feels a little left out so she mounts Maxxon's meat and rides his thick pole, while Vincent pumps the barber chair up and down.

The final scene is the best of all. It's an orgy involve all six cast members. The action between opposite sex and same sex couplings is intense to say the least. Everything seems to happen more than once in this scene with the guys erupting for at least two loads. One of the highlights is Tex Anthony screwing Bunny Blue as he is screwed by both Miller and Vincent. At the end all four of the guys shoot their loads on Ms Blue. By the time they are done, she looks like she had just taken a milk bath.

You may look like that too after watching *Big Switch*. It's definitely a must see.

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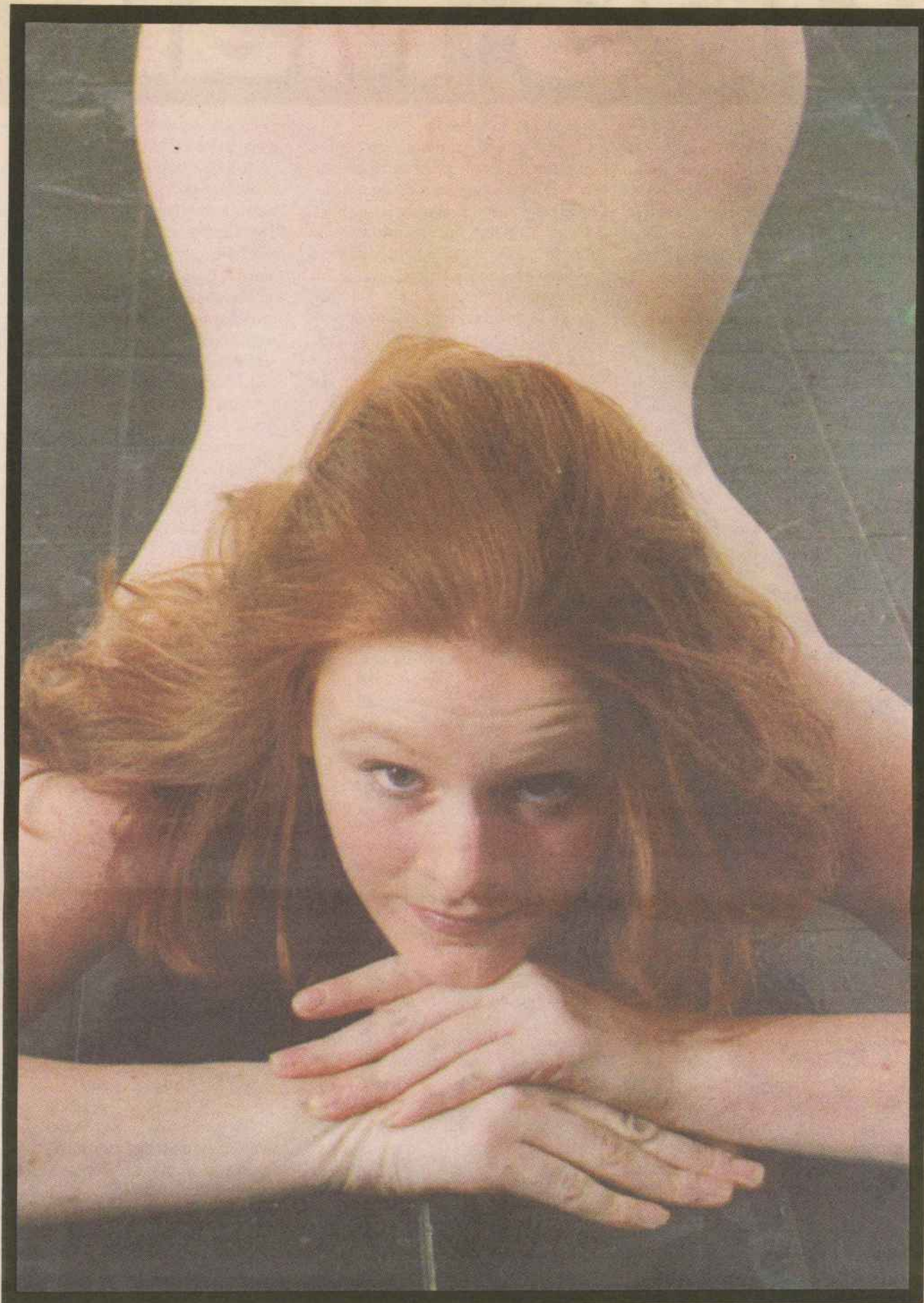
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BIO FOR THIS WILIGHT PIN-UP:

GINGER

(Not my real name, but close enough)

Age 20 • 5'8" 130 lbs

HOBBIES – Running, reading, bicycling & singing

QUOTE – "No, the carpeting doesn't match the curtains. It's shaved!"

ON DATING – "I believe there is absolutely nothing like going to bed with a good book. Or a friend who's read one."

The UPS Man

by Terry Boughner

It wasn't the day for it.

I run a small business from my country home. Since I operate mainly by computer, there's no staff to worry about, not much of anything really to complicate my life or disturb my rural solitude. I like it that way. I may be only 25 but I don't like cities or the bar scene with its crowds. I've never been much of a social butterfly. I'm pretty much of a loner. I love to walk my land on the first light of the day, to see the mountains all misty in the distance, to strip down and go for a swim in my lake, all while the crows set up their raucous cries. Afterwards, I love to lie stretched out naked in the sun, soaking up its heat.

But today, it was different. I was up early as usual, lifted some weights and took a shower before having my first cup of coffee. After that, I intended to go to my study and work. I'm a writer and I had a publisher clamoring at me to finish the last chapter of a book.

But I hadn't even gotten my coffee when the phone began to ring—and it didn't stop all morning. There was caller after caller. None of it was really important, just piddly stuff, but all the questions had to be addressed. Somewhere in the midst of all that, a gentle summer rain swept in off the mountains, enveloping everything in a misty fog. I like a rain like that. I like to walk in it. For some reason I find it sensual. The mist beading on my smooth, bare skin makes me horny, but this time I barely noticed what it was doing outside.

By noon, everyone who wanted to call seemed to have done so. Things quieted down so that I thought I could relax a bit. Maybe I could get some work done—and maybe, just maybe, I could squeeze in some time for a walk and a swim. But that thought vanished when I heard the crunch of tires in my drive and looking out the rain-streaked window, saw a car I didn't know. It was only then that I remembered.

About once every week or so, I have packages to ship out via UPS. It's never very much, some books, a manuscript now and then, not really much trouble, but I hate going off the place. So, when I learned that I could arrange for pick-up at the door, I called them to find out about it. The woman I talked to told me it was no big deal. All that was involved, she said, was filling out some forms and learning about the procedures. She said they'd send someone out about noon on Friday to set things up. Well, it was about noon and this was Friday, so, I guessed, that's who it was.

By the time I'd opened the front door, my visitor was already on the porch. He was of Asian descent and about my age, but shorter than I by about four inches, which would make him, as I judged, about 5'6" or so. He was dressed in a rumpled loose-fitting light tan suit.

"Hi, I'm Johnny Chang," he said with a smile. "You're Glenn Bishop?" One eyebrow was raised slightly toward his thick black hair that glistened with the rain like polished coal.

I acknowledged that that's who I was, while thanking the good fortune that had

brought him to my door.

Some men are handsome, some are cute. But in Johnny, nature had combined them both, giving him a strong, masculine beauty that was absolutely stunning. Yet, for all of that, there seemed to be no trace of vanity about him. Instead, there was about his almond-shaped eyes and at the dimpled corners of his full-lipped mouth, both a certain shyness along with an exquisite sensitivity that were as warm as the honey-brown tone of his skin.

Only a few seconds passed, but in that little time, I knew that I wanted him, in my bed and in my life as well. But was that possible? Was he Gay? That was important to me. Unlike a friend of mine named Rick, who liked to make it with straight men, I wanted a guy who knew he was Gay and was comfortable with that fact. And Johnny ...?

Some Gay men I know insist they're gifted with a kind of second sight — Gaydar, they call it — by which, they say, they can tell at a glance if a man is Gay or not. I've never had that talent or whatever you'd call it. I never know if a guy is Gay until he tells me, and desperately, with everything in me, I wanted Johnny to be Gay.

Ordinarily, I wear snug-fitting jeans and a sports shirt, even around my place. But today, I suddenly realized, was different. I'd been so busy that I hadn't changed out of my red nylon gym shorts with its slits up the sides and a tank top that was cut off up to my pecs, leaving my rippled belly bare. The only way he could have gotten a better view of me was if I'd been naked.

And he was looking me over. There was no doubt about that, and, I thought, he was enjoying the view. On that misty-gray day, his beautiful eyes seemed to glisten like a dark eastern forest full of stars.

Like I say, all this went on in only a few seconds. But that was long enough, I think, for us to take the measure of each other.

"It's so quiet here," he said. His voice was clear, with a kind of shy, boyish timbre to it that was charming. He put down the briefcase he'd been carrying and turned his head to glance around. "It's really beautiful." He turned back to me. "I saw a lake. Do you know it?"

"Yes. It's mine. It's not deep. I go swimming there sometimes." Then I added suggestively, "Like when it's warm and it rains like this." I couldn't believe I'd said that. Normally, I'm not that forward with someone, but my desire for him was powerful and growing—and there was a whole lot else in me going on for him that I didn't want to think about, not right then.

"I'd enjoy a swim if you have the time," he replied with a knowing look. "It would give my suit a chance to dry off. Do you have something I could wear?"

What I was tempted to tell him was that since there was no one for miles, we didn't have to wear anything at all. And maybe he'd have agreed, but I thought better of it. For some reason, it's always been a real turn-on for me to strip a guy

as I made love to him. Johnny would certainly be no exception to that rule.

There are two bedrooms on the first floor, one on either side of the living room. I took him to the back bedroom. This was my room. If he had any doubt that I was Gay, one look would have told him that I was. There were framed posters on the walls showing pictures of young men, Asians, Hispanics, dark young men with smoldering eyes whose naked bodies looked like they'd been sculpted by the gods. Johnny gave them an admiring once over, but otherwise paid no special attention to them.

I gave him a pair of worn denim cut-offs and a tanktop that I thought would fit him. Those and some clogs would complete his attire. Afterwards, though I longed to see him naked, so as not to appear too forward, I left him to go back into the living room to have a cigarette and wait.

He took longer to change than I expected, but I chalked that up to my own impatience. When he did come out, he had with him one of my gym bags, but I didn't pay much attention to that. I was too busy looking at him.

God almighty, I could do little more than stare. He had a gorgeously sculpted physique, not body-builder bulky, but one that was perfectly defined, absolutely symmetrical and in perfect proportion to his height. His golden-hued, marble smooth thighs looked like pillars that had been poured from molten bronze. His waist was narrow, his torso was a classic V with washboard abs and sculpted pecs. When he turned, to my no great surprise, I saw that his bubble butt gave a new and definitive meaning to the term. I was going to put my face into that ass of his, suck on his hole, drain him of juice. I promised myself that.

We left the house, going out into the misty gray afternoon. There was fog on the mountains like a roof over the world. All was hushed and very still, a silence broken only by our footfalls and the sound of raindrops dripping from the trees. Moisture beaded in dew drops on Johnny's smooth golden skin and made my shorts cling to my loins where coals of passion that always smoldered there were

glowing hot and sending tongues of flame lapping at my belly. Those flames were small now, but it wasn't going to take much at all before they grew into a torrent of fire that would burn me alive.

There was a narrow dirt road that skirted the base of a hill. A half mile or so along, there was a wood and beyond that, the lake. On the way, I asked him about himself, where he lived, did he like his work? I'm always curious about guys with whom I have sex or want to have sex. But with Johnny, I had to admit, wanting to know about him went way beyond that.

Not only was he physically beautiful, a drop-dead, knock out hunk of male, there was something else as well. I couldn't put my finger on it but there was something mysterious about him as insubstantial, elusive and ghost-like as the fog and mist around us. But rather than being put off by that, this mystery only served to increase his allure.

To all my inquiries, he made only vague replies—except to one. When I asked him if he was single, he answered that he was. When I voiced my surprise, saying I'd have thought he would have had a lot of guys on the string, he gave me the strangest look. "I have put men on strings, but never the perfect one," he said, giving me a sultry look and adding, "But I think that's over now." He smiled and one eyebrow arched toward his hair.

I wasn't at all sure what he was talking about. I guess I should have asked him to clarify himself, but I did not. I was too busy feeling the wonderful warmth surging all through me, starting in my belly and radiating up and over my chest. God in heaven, I wanted him. I wanted him all, physically, mentally, his heart and his soul, to have him, possess him. But just as importantly, I wanted to yield to him, give myself up to him in passionate abandonment, to offer him whatever it was that made up me.

We had reached the edge of the wood, when I stopped and turned to kiss him. Maybe some would say I was going a little too fast, but I couldn't help myself. There was nothing I could do.

To Be Continued

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