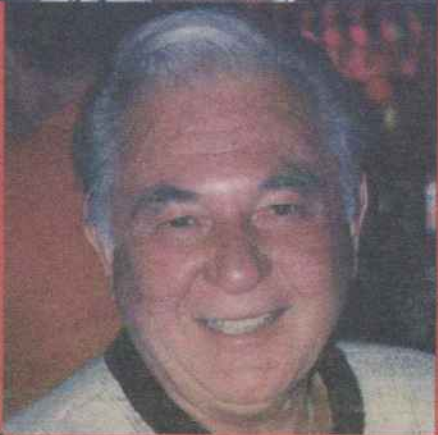


# WI Light

May 5-11, 1999

# Our Village Elders

## Looking Ahead Through The Past



They have lived through and helped foster one of the most remarkable social revolutions in America's history. The age of Gay liberation is largely a product of their efforts.



**H**aving laid the foundation of our current Gay culture, older Gays and Lesbians often find themselves ignored by it. Nevertheless, for the most part, Gay seniors lead happy, fulfilling lives.

Many societies treat their older members with reverence. In those cultures the word "elder" is a mark of respect. An elder is someone you consult and learn from. An elder is someone who is recognized for their past contributions. Our throw away, "I want it now," society races past those who have preceded us.

The result is that many Americans, especially those who are Gay or Lesbian, fear growing older. Studies on AIDS/HIV prevention have even shown that some young people don't practice safe sex because they don't want to grow old. In an Internet post, a young Gay man wrote that if he lived to be 35, he would kill himself because life as a Gay man would no longer be worth living.

How wrong that is. The vast majority of LGBT seniors continue to contribute, be productive and enjoy life. Like all seniors they face the problems associated with aging, some of which are worsened by the stigma of being Gay or Lesbian.

Yet, our elders are used to dealing with that stigma. Within them there is a pride at having

survived in a society that was far more homophobic than present day America is. In countless



ways they have passed that pride onto younger generations.

During May, Older American Month, *Wisconsin Light* salutes our LGBT Wisconsin seniors with a series of profiles telling their life stories. These profiles begin on page 6 in this issue.

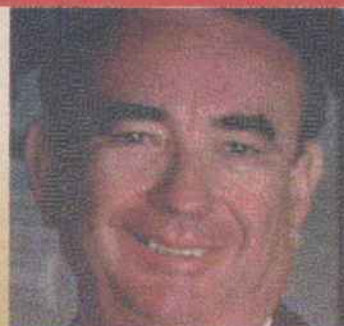
We believe that younger Gays and Lesbians have much to learn from those who have blazed a trail for them. Our LGBT seniors are a part of our family and we are a part of theirs. They are our history, they are role models. They are our Village Elders.

Profiles begin on page 7

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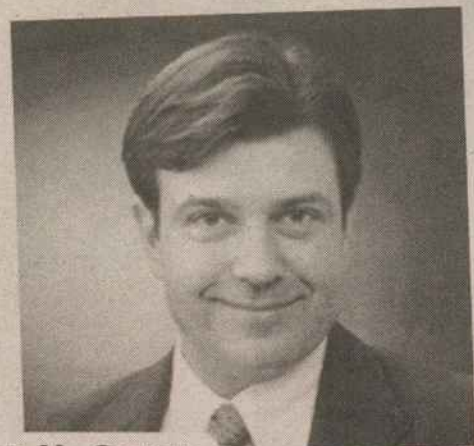
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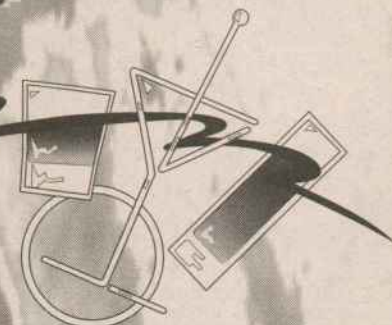
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# WILight

May 5-11, 1999

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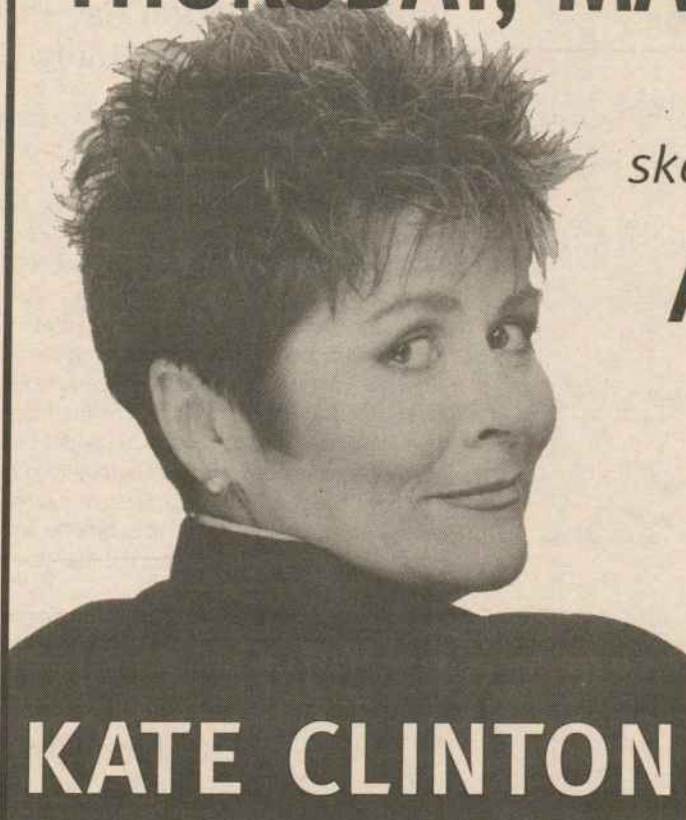
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**AP** Associated Press

# THURSDAY, MAY 20, 1999 • 8pm



**KATE CLINTON**

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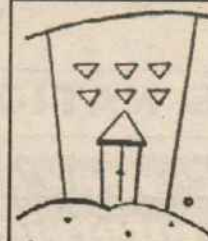
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## Tea with Mussolini

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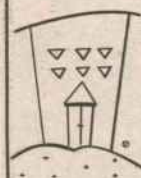


A FRANCO ZEFFRELLI FILM STARRING (IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER) CHER, JUDI DENCH, JOAN PLOWRIGHT, MAGGIE SMITH, LILY TOMLIN, AND INTRODUCING CHARLIE LUCAS AND BAIRD WALLACE. "TEA WITH MUSSOLINI" WITH MASSIMO GHINI, PAOLO SEGANTI AND MICHAEL WILLIAMS. COSTUME DESIGNER JENNY BEAVAN, ANNA ANNI AND ALBERTO SPIAZZI. MUSIC BY CARLO CENTOLAVIGNA AND GIOIA FIORELLA MARIANI. EDITOR ALESSIO VLAD AND STEFANO ARNALDI. PRODUCTION DESIGNER PIPPO PISCOTTI. EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS MARCO CHINIZI AND TARIQ ANWAR. DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY DAVID WATKIN. EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS JOHN MORTIMER AND FRANCO ZEFFRELLI. PRODUCED BY RICCARDO TOZZI, GIOVANNELLA ZAVONDI AND CLIVE PARSONS. WRITTEN BY FRANCO ZEFFRELLI. DIRECTED BY FRANCO ZEFFRELLI. DISTRIBUTED BY MGM DISTRIBUTION CO.

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an interview with Cher*

## AROUND THE WORLD

### Update on London Gay Pub Bombing

#### As the Toll Rises, A Suspect Arrested And Royals Speak Out

**London** — A third person died from injuries he received when a nail bomb exploded at the Admiral Duncan, a London Gay pub. The pub, one of London's most popular Gay clubs, was packed when the bomb went off on Friday, April 30. Two people died at the scene. Another 73 people were injured. As of press time, six of them remain in critical condition.

The blast was the third bombing of a target frequented by minorities during the month of April. Other blasts targeted Bengaldeshis and London's Afro-Caribbean community.

Acting on a tip from the public, London police arrested a 22 year old engineer, David Copeland. The suspect is charged with three counts of murder and three counts of causing an explosion. Police said Copeland acted alone for motives they had not yet determined. He was seen on video taken by cameras at an earlier blast.

"There appeared, and still appears, to be no trigger event or specific date that has sparked these attacks, which clearly were the responsibility of the same person," said David Veness, assistant commissioner of the Metropolitan Police. Authorities say Copeland is not connected to any of the groups who've claimed responsibility for the previous blasts.

Prince Charles made an appearance at the site of the bombing. The heir to the British Throne said he was there to show a "little bit of concern and solidarity." The Prince added, "The important thing is to realize that these are not just attacks on particular communities, but on all of us really."

## AROUND THE NATION

### NH Repeals Gay Adoption Ban

**Concord, NH** — The New Hampshire State Senate sent Governor Jeanne Shaheen a bill that would repeal the state's ban on LGBT adoptions. The bill, HB90, passed the House in March. The Senate voted 18 to 6 in favor of ending the ban.

Brendan Denhey of Out and Equal, a New Hampshire LGBT civil rights group, said, "The Senate knew this bill was about supporting the best interests of children seeking adoptive or foster parents." Kerry Lobel, Executive Director of the National Gay Lesbian Task Force also praised the action commenting, "The real winners today are the overwhelming number of children waiting to be adopted into loving, caring families. The best interests of the children should always triumph over bigotry."

Florida is now the only state that bans LGBT adoption.

### Texas Judge Rules MCC Unacceptable in Custody Case

**Dallas, TX** — In a ruling that shocked many legal observers, Texas Judge Keith Nelson said that the daughter of a Lesbian could not attend Sunday school classes at the Metropolitan Community Church. The ruling came as part of a custody case.

The judge wrote, "The primary issue is where the child would attend Sunday school and church... the intent was for mainline churches to be utilized in the religious training of the daughter. This would include the Catholic Church, and church in the Protestant faith such as Presbyterian, Methodist, Baptist, Christian and Episcopalian, which are considered to be the standard religious institutions in the Protestant field. The Metropolitan Community Church does not fall within this category."

The woman said she had tried to take her child to other churches listed in the Judge's order, but her daughter insisted on going back to MCC.

"This is a violation of the First Amendment protections to freedom of religion," said Troy Perry, who heads the 300,000 member Protestant Denomination. "This is not only shocking, it's an attack on LGBT families and people of faith. What in God's name will it take to get the government out of our lives — or from attempting to control our LGBT families?"

Perry said that an appeal of the Judge's decision was filed on Friday, April 23.

### Columbine Killer's Were Gay Says Right Wing

**Denver, CO** — Datalounge reports that while the rest of the country searches for answers to the Columbine High School murders, the right wing is charging that the killers were Gay. On Tuesday, April 20, Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold entered the school, set off bombs and fatally shot 12 other students and a teacher before killing themselves.

Some Columbine students told the media that the killers were taunted by athletes, who called them "faggots." That prompted some conservatives to make an issue out of the alleged sexual orientation of the killers. While on CNBC's *Geraldo Show*, Jerry Falwell told the viewing audience that the killers were Gay. He repeated that statement during an interview on NBC's *Today Show*. Robert Novack, a conservative columnist, pressed Attorney General Janet Reno about the sexual orientation of the killers during his *Crossfire* show on CNN.

The Family Research Council issued a press release titled "What Are the Media Hiding?" In it the group says, "No American news outlet has reported that bisexuality could have played a part in the tragedy."

GLAAD spokesman Ben Stulp said, "Lesbian and Gay organizations, along with our straight allies, are carefully monitoring right wing extremist attempts to exploit this national tragedy for their political and financial gain by scapegoating the Gay community and perpetuating unfounded rumors."

# CommUNITY

## Youth Coalition Hosts Midwest Regional Conference

**Minneapolis** - The National Youth Advocacy Coalition (NYAC) invites LGBT youth, service providers, teachers, counselors, parents, friends and other allies to attend the Second Midwest Regional Conference June 4-6 in Minneapolis. The conference is expected to draw over 200 people. It's sponsored by NYAC, District 202, and the Minneapolis Youth Diversion Program.

NYAC hopes to advance the field of LGBT youth advocacy, services and resources. The group organizes regional conferences so LGBT youth and adult allies from designated regions of the country can come together to share expertise, network, gain skills and organize around the range of issues affecting their lives. Conference planners hope participants will return to their communities empowered to create change.

Costs for NYAC youth members is \$25 (adults over 25, \$50); and for non-member youth \$40 (adults \$75). For more information, contact: NYAC, 1711 Connecticut Ave., NW, Suite 206, Washington, D.C. 20009. Call (202) 319-7596; fax (202) 319-7365; e-mail: [nyac@nyacyouth.org](mailto:nyac@nyacyouth.org).

## PrideFest Seeks Groups for Open Forums

**Milwaukee** - Every year at PrideFest, an open forum activity tent is available to organizations to sponsor a variety of speakers and programs. To add more variety to this year's line-up, PrideFest is inviting organizations from across Wisconsin to host a "Get to know us" presentation — an opportunity to share your message and promote your services.

The Stonewall Tent has hosted authors, activists, elected officials, organization meetings, radio interviews, business leaders and more. Organizations provide a speaker, and PrideFest will provide the space, a sound system, and a table to display literature. All this is provided at no cost to groups.

A PrideFest survey indicated that the community is looking for presentations on topics ranging from Gay marriage, financial planning, adoption, acceptance of diversity, religion and civil rights to Transgenderism.

Anyone with expertise on these and other topics should contact PrideFest. Organizations who wish to host a presentation will be acknowledged as the sponsor of the session. Each session lasts 45 to 50 minutes.

Tent activities will be promoted in PrideFest public relations material, so groups are encouraged to apply for a slot as soon as possible to allow for publicity. The schedule will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis.

Stonewall Tent presentation proposals can be mailed to PrideFest at PO Box 511763, Milw., WI 53203-0301. For more information, contact the PrideFest office at (414) 272-FEST or e-mail [pridemilw@aol.com](mailto:pridemilw@aol.com).

## Rainbow Heights Yard Sale

**Milwaukee** - The Rainbow Heights Association will be holding its 3rd annual Yard Sale on Saturday, June 12 from 8am-3pm at 1722 N. 52nd St., just north of Washington Blvd.

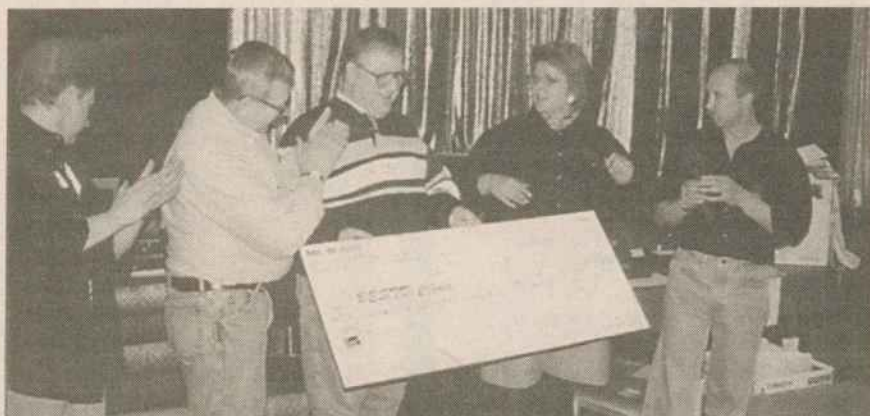
Oddly enough, the Washington Heights Neighborhood Assoc. has scheduled that very same day to hold a giant garage sale throughout the entire neighborhood. Do not miss this incredible trash to treasure transformation day, and follow the rainbow signs for "the best of all possible bargains."

For more information, call (414) 778-1269. At the end of the day, all unsold items will be donated to Survival Revival.

## BESTD Thanks Donors

**Milwaukee** - Three more fundraisers were held on behalf of the Brady East STD (BESTD) Clinic.

Saturday, April 17, the Mil-M-AIDS bowling tournament gave BESTD a \$1,500 check. The tournament bowlers split their proceeds between BESTD and Camp Heartland. Clinic representatives Ross Walker and Erv Uecker thanked the sponsors and the bowlers for their "ongoing and consistent support" of the clinic over the years. The tournament "proves that people can have fun and also provide support for worthwhile causes." Special words of appreciation were also offered to Cindy, Debi, Rick and Bob for their "long term leadership in events like this."



(L to R) HIT organizers present a \$1,500 check to Ross and Erv from the BESTD Clinic.

Also during the middle of April, Rob Bruckner, owner of the Triangle Bar presented the clinic with \$184 in "bunny money." The bar raised the money during a fundraiser held as part of its Easter celebration.

Finally, for the second time in two weeks, Mr. Gay Wisconsin Dan E. Dance designated money from his show at Club 219 to the clinic. Dan presented the clinic with \$160. The donation brings Dan's total of money raised for the Clinic to \$372.

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## AROUND THE STATE

### Large Crowd at Town Hall Meeting

**Milwaukee** – Over 100 people turned out for a Town Hall Meeting to discuss a proposed Milwaukee Domestic Partners registry. The meeting, held at the LGBT Community Center, included discussions on the proposal, strategy on getting it passed and breakout sessions where specific ideas on building support were discussed.

Alderman Mike D'Amato, the principal sponsor of the proposal, told the group that everyone must work hard to convince the Common Council to approve the registry. Aldermen Paul Henningsen and George Butler, co-sponsors of the Partnership proposal agreed with D'Amato.

During the breakout sessions, volunteers discussed mobilizing the community, dealing with the mainstream media and general strategy. Organizers said they were encouraged by the turnout and by the number of people who volunteered to help with the effort.

### Religious Right Attacks Governor Thompson Over Gay Conference Letter

**Madison** – Ralph Ovadahl, head of Wisconsin Christians United is making an issue over a letter Governor Tommy Thompson signed to welcome LGBT students to a Madison conference. The letter was included in a packet given to attendees at the Midwest Lesbian Bisexual, Gay, Transgendered College Conference. The conference was held February 19-21 at Madison's Convention and Civic Center. It attracted a record 1,200 students from 20 states.

According to Ovadahl, the Governor's office received numerous telephone calls protesting the letter. He also claimed the Governor's office told him the letter was a forgery.

Not so said Jason Rasmussen, who chaired the conference. Rasmussen told *Wisconsin Light* that Madison's Convention and Visitor's Bureau had arranged for the letter. "It was a form letter," said Rasmussen, who added that the letter encouraged conferees to visit other attractions, such as the Madison zoo, while they were in Madison.

Rasmussen said there was nothing "pro-Gay" in the letter. He added, "The Governor has issued letters like this for other conferences. They are used to generate more tourist dollars. I don't understand why anyone would have a problem with this. It was a totally appropriate thing for the Governor to do."

Governor Thompson's press office was not able to provide a comment on the matter before the *Light* went to press.

### Classic Logo Wins Contest

**Milwaukee** – The Milwaukee Classic may be a few weeks away but the 19th annual softball tournament is already a winner. This year's logo won second place in a national Office Max competition for best use of a paper clip.

The promotional contest attracted entries at each of the hundreds of Office Max stores. Rodney Stockel designed the logo. Dan Beebe used his computer to produce the finished product. An enthusiastic supporter of the League entered it in the Contest.

Stockel said he came up with the design while playing with a paper clip. I was trying to save embroidery costs so I decided to keep it simple and clean", said Stockel. "I knew I had a winner when our shirts began selling so well this year". The League has already ordered additional T-shirts, although the event is still three weeks away.

T-shirts, sweats and other items bearing the prizewinner in various colors are available for purchase in Milwaukee at The Ball Game and Designing Men.



### SAGE Hosts Annual Meeting

**Milwaukee** – Senior Action in a Gay Environment (SAGE-Milwaukee) held its annual meeting and luncheon at the Astor Street Restaurant on Sunday, April 25. Over 50 individuals attended the event that featured the release of the 1998 Annual Report.

The annual report covered SAGE-Milwaukee's 5th year, which was another year of solid progress for the group. During 1998, SAGE held most of its events at rented space at Lake Park Lutheran Church but in January of this year moved to Milwaukee's LGBT Community Center. The move appears to be a good one. "Attendance at events is already beginning to pick up and we expect to continue to grow using the facilities of a center devoted exclusively to our community," said SAGE – Milwaukee Founder and Chair Eldon E. Murray.

During 1998, SAGE sponsored 59 events, which the report calls, "the longest and most impressive yearly list of accomplishments since our beginning."

In '98 \$5,845 came into the organization from various sources, and a total of \$6,051 was spent (nearly 39% for rent alone), leaving a deficit of just \$207. Total assets as of the end of '98 were a healthy \$7,695.

SAGE hosts events at Milwaukee's LGBT Community Center every Friday evening. The Center is located at 170 S. Second Street. SAGE events are open to the public.



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Village Elders continued from cover

## Chris and Mavis

Mavis and Chris remind you of your favorite aunt, the one that never married. They're quick with a joke, but full of good advice, too.

There weren't any "Lipstick Lesbians" when they met. Lesbians classified themselves as "fems" and "butches." Chris, 52, is the fem. Mavis, 62, is the butch. She is also a bit of a rouge. If not for Chris, Mavis, who says, "I feel like I'm 20," would probably still be on the prowl at the bars.



It was November 23, 1968. "I was looking for love," says Chris. "I was looking for fun," chuckles Mavis. "She said she was innocent, but those stories I heard from her friends. No, I don't believe that," laughs Chris.

Two weeks and a Thanksgiving weekend trip to meet Mavis' approving parents in Green Bay later, Chris moved in with Mavis. "I couldn't get rid of her," wisecracks Mavis. Not, of course, that she wanted to. The romance that blossomed continues more than 30 years later.

What's their secret? "Friendship first" says Chris. "Then romance, trust and respect." Mavis agrees adding that monogamy is very important to them as well.

Mavis is a cancer survivor. She underwent a mastectomy and lost a kidney 12 years ago. She is currently in a two-year remission from bone cancer. Her health problems have left her body weakened, but her spirit is undaunted.

"I don't know what I would have done without Chris," she said. "Chris, the Lord and our dog got me through." Mavis would come home from work and lay down on the bed. Meanwhile Chris would fix dinner.

She still does all of the cooking at their near South Side home. Well, maybe not all of the cooking. "Once a month or so, I can get her to make grilled cheese sandwiches and tomato soup," laughs Chris. "She was supposed to do that tonight, which is probably why she suggested we do this interview."

Chris also cooks over an open fire at their trailer in Campbellsport. "Chris is a great cook,"

says Mavis. In addition to camping, and romantic evenings at home, Chris and Mavis enjoy nights out at Kathy's Nut Hut.

Chris hails from Ontonagon, Michigan. The region's economy forced her to move from the Upper Peninsula. "Back in those days there wasn't a lot of industry up there. We had copper mining, but women weren't allowed to work there," said Chris. "Women had a choice of being a waitress or getting married — to a man."

She made her way to Milwaukee. Since coming here, Chris has held a variety of factory jobs. For a time, she was a big rig truck driver for Schneider Transportation. "I was one of their top producers," said Chris with pride. "The money was good, but they wanted me to work three week shifts. I didn't want to be away from home that long."

Chris wants to retire early. She started a web page design and advertising business, CM Marketing, in order to supplement her income. Mavis beams saying, "Chris can do anything she wants to do. She's very talented."

Mavis retired from the Postal Service two years ago.

During her last 12 years on the job,

Mavis gave out zip codes over the

phone.

Like

*Our Elders*  
*Village*

many Gays and Lesbians their age, Chris and Mavis were not overtly involved in the politics of Gay liberation. That does not mean that they didn't contribute to that cause. Both came out to their families. At work, they didn't make an issue of being Lesbian, but they didn't hide it either.

Chris took Mavis to a company Christmas party last year. "The party is supposed to be just for the workers and their husbands or wives," she said. "I took Mavis. They know."

Both ladies are deeply spiritual, but for years, they shunned organized religion. They resent the anti-Gay attitudes of most churches. "They just want to control us," says Chris. "God didn't make us to be controlled." Mavis agrees adding, "We have a right to love God, too."

Drawn by its weekly local cable TV show, Mavis and Chris joined Milwaukee's Metropolitan Community Church last October. Mavis calls its pastor Reverend Lew Broyles "a gift from God."

Mavis and Chris want to be legally married. About 20 years ago, they looked for a church where they could have a commitment ceremony, but were unable to find one. Last summer, they participated in the mass wedding at PrideFest.

Whether the state recognizes it or not, they consider themselves to be married. Looking forward to 30 more years of life together, Mavis says, the butch and fem thing doesn't matter anymore. "Now we are just one."

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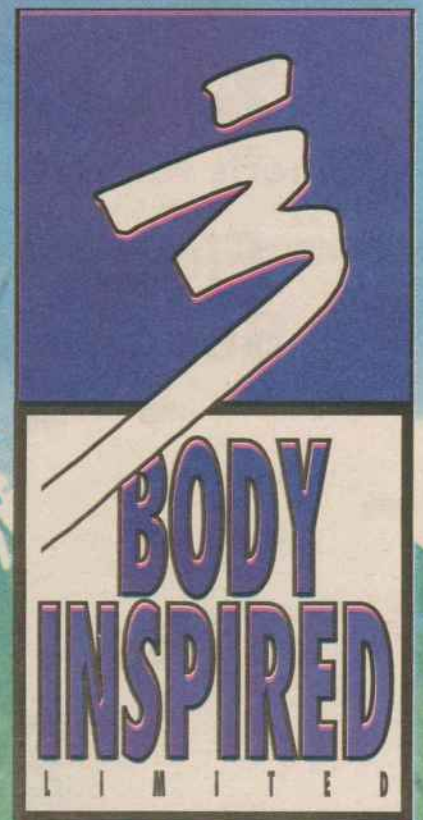
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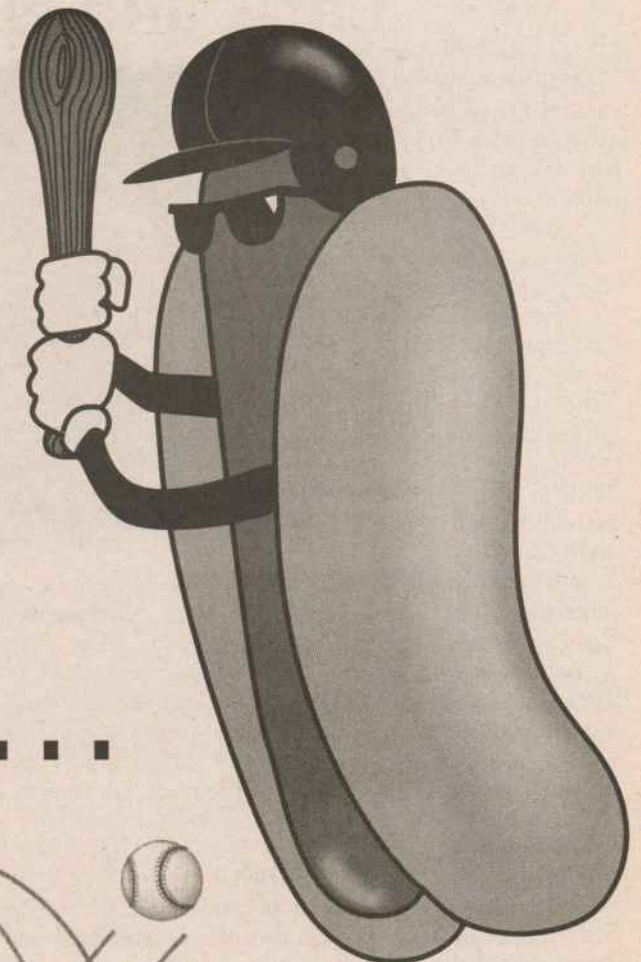
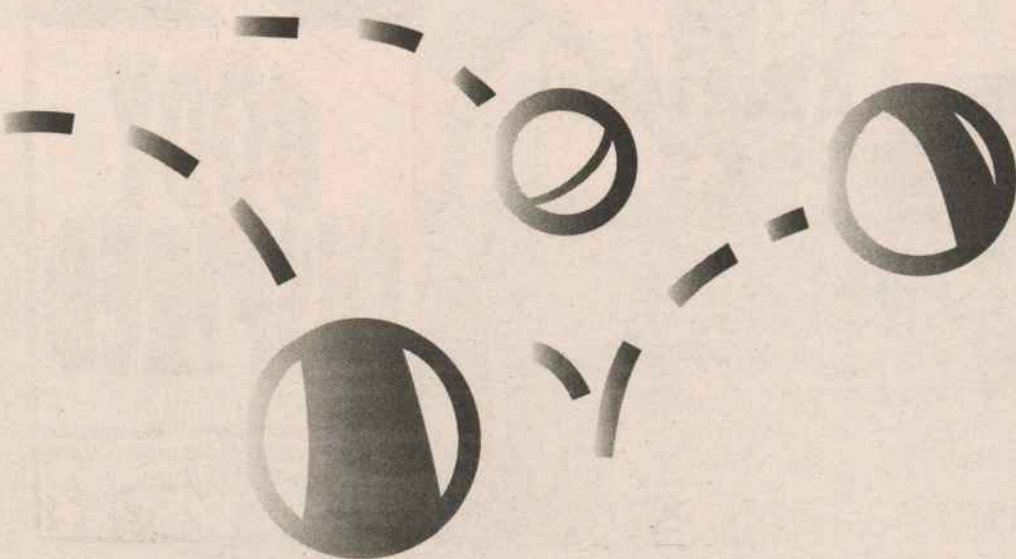
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# From the **RIGHT**

by James McFarland

## Saving Social Security — The Right Way

The Republicans in Congress have lost their way. After spending months doing the right thing in pursuing the impeachment and removal of President Clinton, polls show that they are extremely unpopular. As a result, they have been casting about trying to find a message that will regain their popularity.

One has to wonder what drugs the Republicans are using. It seems that up until now they have settled on tax cuts as their salvation. Poll after poll has shown that the vast majority of Americans do not care about tax cuts. The voters are just too fat and happy for that approach. They would rather use the surplus to shore up Social Security, which continues to be the number one issue for Americans.

It is time for Republicans to seize upon a new message and unite around it. This new message should be: "Save Social Security — The Right Way!" Behind this simple statement would be a proposal not only to retain the Social Security surplus for Social Security, but also to convert Social Security into an Individual Retirement Account program.

Not only will this proposal score big points with the voters; it is good policy. It is simply not enough to call for using the budget surplus to buttress Social Security. That will not be enough to save it. Even if the entire budget surplus is dedicated to saving Social Security, it will still go bankrupt soon after the baby boomers reach retirement age. There are not enough younger workers to keep that Ponzi scheme going.

In addition, Clinton's Social Security plan, which would have the government invest a portion of its trust fund in stocks and corporate bonds, is an extremely dangerous one. It's bad enough that we have so many government pension funds investing in the private sector and trying to impose ridiculous social engineering reforms on the companies in which they invest — such as affirmative action quotas and "socially responsible" investment requirements.

Clinton's proposal would put a huge percentage of stocks in the hands of the Federal government. That would give it immense power to direct the policies of private companies and impose those ridiculous social policies. (Or, depending on who is control, the social policies of the fundamentalist Christians — e.g. forcing companies to require their employees to take abstinence-only oaths or forcing them to fire all Lesbians and Gays.) In short, Clinton's plan amounts to a stealth nationalization of our nation's private companies. It is no wonder that Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan so vociferously condemned it.

Clearly, the right way, the only way to save Social Security is to convert it into a program of Individual Retirement Accounts as Chile has done so successfully. This would allow each worker to decide how his or her Social Security taxes are invested. The government could hold a certain percentage of these taxes to pay for a minimal guaranteed amount of Social Security benefits regardless of the performance of the investments chosen by the worker. The balance of the benefits received by retirees would directly correspond to the performance of the investments chosen by them.

This proposal combines the advantage of the higher rates of return, which are available in the stock market, with the advantage of allowing individuals to decide how their tax money is invested. The higher rates of return will ensure that the baby boomers and those who come after have something to show for their Social Security taxes when they retire. It will also ensure that they actually have a much larger retirement nest egg than they would have under the current Social Security formula.

For Republicans, "Save Social Security — The Right Way" is a win-win situation. Republicans will be making the centerpiece of their campaign the only policy proposal — other than huge tax increases — which can actually save Social Security from bankruptcy. They will also be advancing a proposal which will be popular, not only because it will save Social Security, but also because it will give individual workers the power to invest their own Social Security taxes. Polls have shown that an overwhelming majority of voters supports allowing workers to direct the investment of their Social Security taxes.

It is time for the Republican leadership in both the House and the Senate, and all of the Republican Presidential candidates, to unite behind this one simple message. They must unite behind one issue if they are to change the perception of the voters that Republicans stand for nothing other than impeaching Clinton. In addition, most of the issues, which have been bandied about, are losers with the middle of the road voters. Only "Saving Social Security — The Right Way" can save the Republican Party from an untimely demise.

## PUBLISHERS NOTES

### Why Should We Care?

Last months school board elections have left Wisconsin's largest school district solidly in the control of business backed "reform minded" elements within the Milwaukee education community. It is right to expect more of the district. What was once, not so very long ago, a jewel within America's public school systems, is now a typically troubled urban district with far too many underachieving students.

Besides the enormous tax dollars involved, our own personal security is at stake. The politics of hate may be complex, and while there does seem to be a new menace within wealthy and bored youth, the educated are not generally fertile ground for advocates of hate and violence. The well educated do not, in great numbers, jeopardize their futures with stupid, irrational and painful acts that have terrorized certain communities, including ours, for centuries. Hitler's appeal, not so different from today, was to the angry, young undereducated and underemployed.

And for those who chose to see a racial component to crime, I suggest uneven educational opportunity is more to the heart of the matter. Preparing citizens for a quality future is a much better bargain than the jails, courts and a very expensive police presence.

This new school board has some difficult questions to answer. Just how does allowing the flow of monies to private schools help those that remain in public schools? How are current MPS students helped by esoteric arguments that competition from private institutions will force the schools to get better? And, while parents may have the right to instill their own sense of morality, should public dollars go to institutions that teach intolerance?

MPS does already have mammoth resources but it is also true that they must educate a large and disadvantaged population with thousands less, per year per student, than their suburban counterparts. And, if money doesn't matter, why do suburbanites spend the extra dollars?

Personally, I would trade spending for education over the costs of crime and welfare any day but not for bloated, centralized bureaucracies that intercept resources before they reach the classroom.

The economics of education should be of concern to all. However, the concerns of the LGBT community are also personal and individual. We too, are sisters, brothers, aunts, uncles, parents and grandparents. We too, have children whom we love, involved in our lives. And who, if not us, will speak for the thousands of LGBT students, who with their own special needs and qualities, represent our future generation. We, as an active part of a greater community, must also bear this responsibility. Protecting children is in everyone's best interest.

Reform is surely needed but simplistic remedies that do not deal with the needs of today's students cannot be the whole answer. We should wish the new Board and the new Superintendent of Milwaukee Public Schools the best of success but we also should be watching them — very carefully.

— Greg Quindel  
Publisher

## LETTERS

### Dear Editor:

Vic Eliason and Pastor Sam Jones were on the WVCY "In Focus" program recently trying to orchestrate another telephone barrage for the Common Council against Alderman D'Amato's proposed Domestic Partners registry.

As usual, Eliason told viewers that although this is a Milwaukee issue, it was appropriate for people living outside Milwaukee to express their opinions to the Common Council. Eliason said that merely "doing business" in Milwaukee, or simply holding a job there, ought to be reasonable enough.

So, if the telephones ring off the hook, as they no doubt will, Common Council members should know where the response is coming from.

It's to be hoped that these "verbal anthrax" attacks of telephone terrorism will eventually build up immunity in the victims at City Hall and alderpersons will begin to resist them. Time will tell whether that happens.

Yours,  
Al Geirsbach

PS: Eliason and Jones are also trying to pack the May 11th Common Council meeting at which Alderman D'Amato plans to introduce his resolution. Viewers were advised that although they will not be allowed to speak, they can still "pack" the chamber and bring signs to demonstrate their opposition.



Lesbian car dealership



# Spotlight

## New LGBT Video Releases

by John Jahn

Recent films such as *The Birdcage*, *In and Out* and *As Good As It Gets* have shown that LGBT themes are increasingly finding a niche in "mainstream" cinema.

Heightened demand and visibility have also reached the video tape business, and suppliers have begun to tap into the LGBT market there as well. Columbia Tristar recently released *Wilde*, a film about Gay playwright Oscar Wilde, as well as *Serving in Silence: The Margarethe*

*Cammermeyer Story*.

"Gay and Lesbian films have broken into mainstream acceptance," states Fritz Friedman, Vice President of Columbia Tristar publicity. Trash like *Cruising* can once and for all be a forgotten relic of the past.

This spring, several new video releases of interest to the LGBT community from different companies show that a positive trend is indeed emerging. "Today it is not uncommon to have a Gay character as part of a story line," says Kathy Wolfe, President of Wolfe Video. Her company has a catalog of some 500 LGBT-related titles. Back in 1985, Wolfe Video couldn't find a distributor for its LGBT-oriented products. How times have changed!

I recently had the chance to view several new video releases, listed below. They exemplify the ever-growing LGBT niche in the film industry. They span the gamut from comedy to drama, star-filled and professional to gritty amateurish. Just the few titles here — available starting May, 1999 — show that the diversity of our community is fully reflected by the diversity of LGBT-oriented film today.

For further information about these or other videos, contact your favorite video store. If they are not available there you can also contact

the following companies: First Run Features (212) 243-0600; Wolfe Video (408) 268-6782 ([www.wolfevideo.com](http://www.wolfevideo.com)); Culture Q Connection (520) 888-5421 ([www.cultureqconnection.com](http://www.cultureqconnection.com)); and Orion Home Entertainment (310) 449-3000 ([www.mgm.com/video](http://www.mgm.com/video)).

### Bent

Orion Home Entertainment Video, 105 minutes

Max (Clive Owen) is a handsome, devil-may-care young man who lives for the decadent nightlife of Berlin while the Nazi threat unfolds around him. Thrown into a concentration camp, Max quickly learns that survival depends upon hiding his homosexuality.

While there, he bonds with an openly Gay prisoner, Horst (Lothaire Bluteau) and learns a life-altering lesson: without love, life is not worth living.

*Bent* also features famed Gay actor Ian McKellan (*Gods and Monsters*) and even rock legend Mick Jagger!

Based upon Martin Sherman's groundbreaking play, *Bent* powerfully explores Nazi persecution of Gays during World War II.

### Didn't Do It For Love

First Run Features Video, 80 minutes

This one-of-a-kind documentary profiles Eva Norvind, the infamous New York dominatrix-turned-therapist. German Writer/Director Monika Treut, a highly visible leader in contemporary Lesbian filmmaking, traces Norvind's life from her birth in Norway to her

years as a star in Mexican cinema — until she was threatened with deportation for advocating birth control and "free love."

The film then follows her stints as a photographer, journalist, NYU film student and, most notoriously, owner of an S&M dungeon. Today she counsels sex offenders in prison. Norvind is revealed as a cultural chameleon, at ease with S&M clients as well as Hillary Clinton (whom she sat next to at the Beijing Women's Conference). *Didn't Do It For Love* is thoroughly engrossing, a fascinating look at a modern sexual revolutionary.

### Lilies

Wolfe Video, 96 minutes

An official selection at *Sundance*, *Lilies* is an emotionally intense, suspense-laden tale of first love, jealous betrayal and well-honed revenge. Director John Greyson's epic won four of Canada's Genie Awards (Oscar equivalents), including Best Picture.

The action moves seamlessly between actual events taking place in 1912, namely a hostage taking, and 1952, in which a dying prisoner confesses the tale to a visiting Catholic Bishop. The Bishop finds himself taken captive as the events of some 40 years earlier are reenacted.

### Lucy Lawless in Peach & A Bitter Song

First Run Features Video, 40 minutes

Before she became a TV icon as *Xena: Warrior Princess*, Lucy Lawless starred in the New Zealand film *Peach* as a sexy tow truck driver who seduces a young Maori woman. This steamy Lesbian fantasy is startlingly intimate — just watching it will make you want to mop your brow.

In *A Bitter Song* — Lucy's very first film role — she portrays a young nurse who helps a troubled girl recuperate in the hospital. *Xena* fans can see how the world was first intro-

duced to the charm and power of Lawless, a beguiling young actress, in two of her earliest roles: one angelic, the other sensuous.

### Sexus

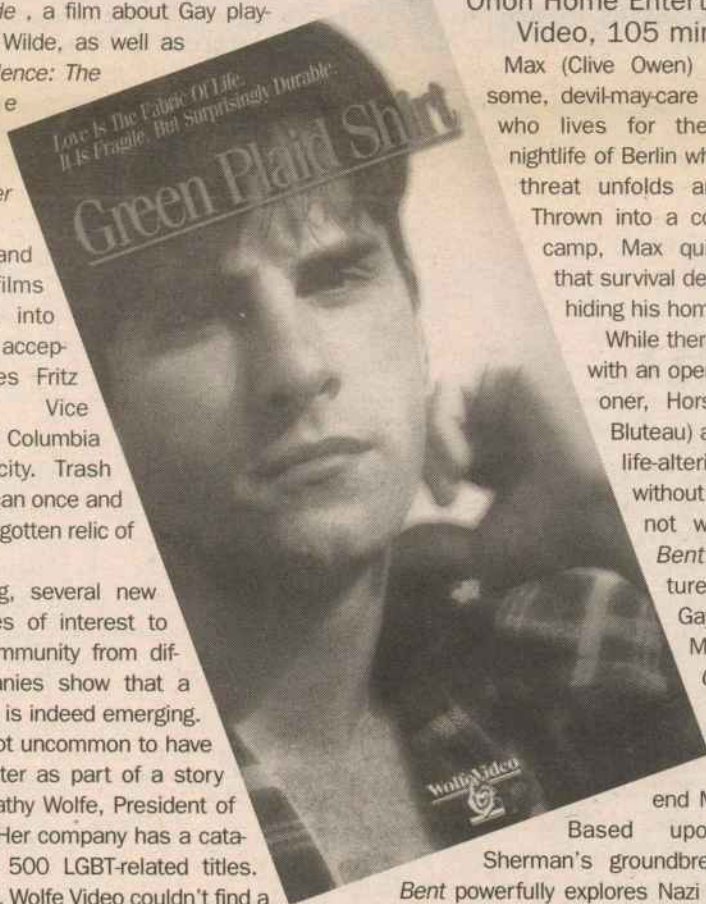
First Run Features Video, 88 minutes

Shot in 1960, *Sexus* shows French Director Jose Benazeraf's feel for making erotic films, his degenerate streak, as well as his impeccable taste. This black and white movie, filmed in the notorious Lesbian nightclub "Elle et Lui," tells the story of a beautiful young woman who, while kidnapped, provokes rages of jealousy and passion amongst her captors. Chet Baker's jazzy musical score helps shape this film into an erotic gem and sexploitation classic.

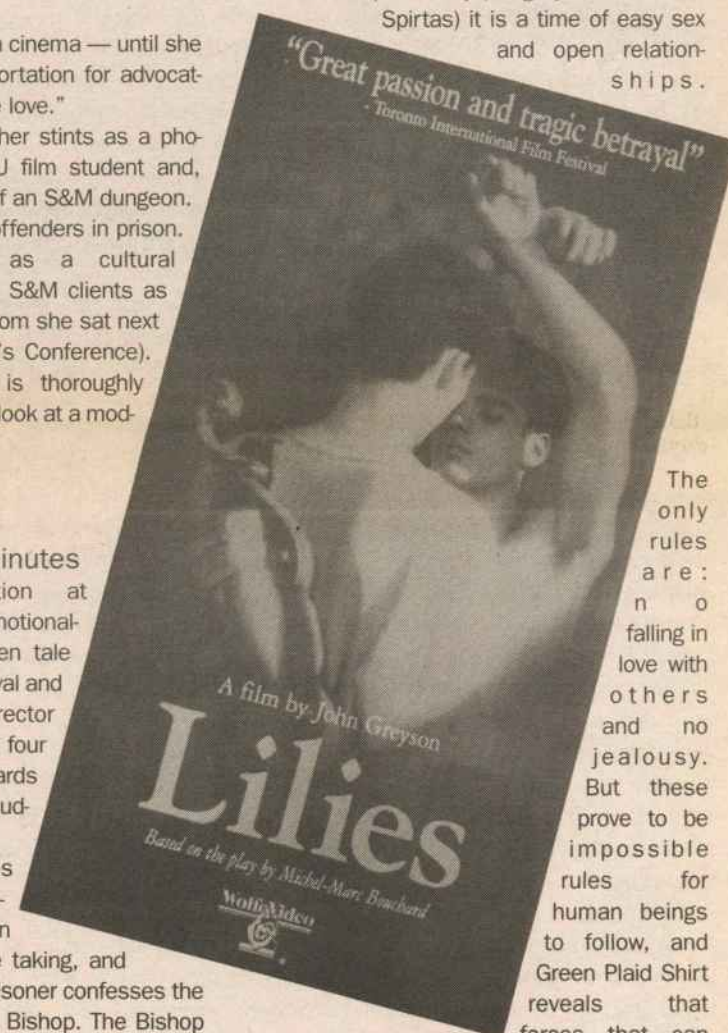
### Green Plaid Shirt

Wolfe Video, 96 minutes

For Philip and Guy (Gregory Phelan, Kevin Spirtas) it is a time of easy sex and open relationships.



Love is The Fabric Of Life. It is Fragile. But Surprisingly Durable.  
**Green Plaid Shirt**



"Great passion and tragic betrayal"  
— Toronto International Film Festival

A film by John Greyson  
**Lilies**  
Based on the play by Michel-Marc Bouchard

The only rules are: no falling in love with others and no jealousy. But these prove to be impossible rules for human beings to follow, and *Green Plaid Shirt* reveals that forces that can

tear people apart can ultimately keep them together. Like fabric, love is fragile, yet resilient.

### Some Prefer Cake

Wolfe Video, 95 minutes

This comedy follows best friends Sydney and Kira along intertwining paths of sex, food and relationships. Kira (Kathleen Fontaine), an aspiring Lesbian comic, spends most of her time and energy on the dating circuit. Her straight pal Sydney (Tara Howley), a restaurant critic, asserts that the average woman, given a choice between chocolate cake and sex will always go for the nice piece of... cake!

*Some Prefer Cake* effectively combines romance, drama, intrigue and comedy.

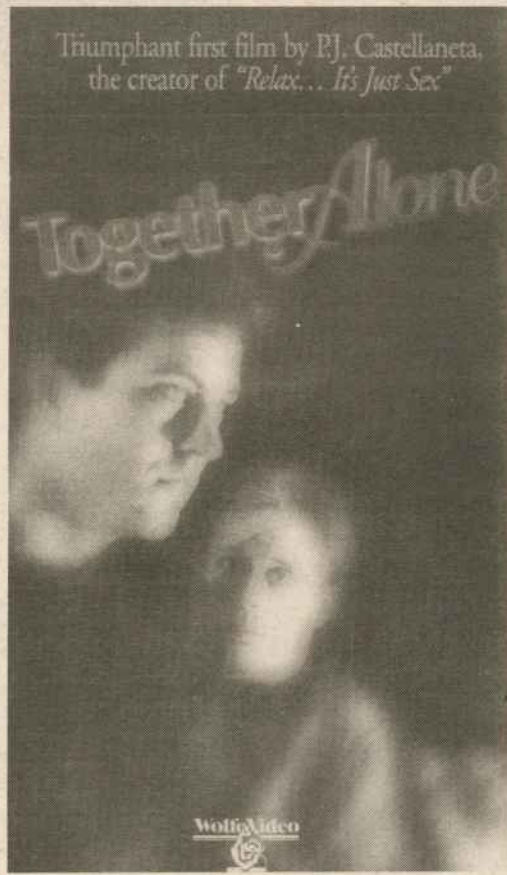
Videos continued from page 10

**Together Alone**

Wolfe Video, 87 minutes

With humor, sensitivity and brilliant awareness, *Together Alone* captures a moment in time that feels like eavesdropping. For two men, a one-night stand turns into a one-room journey of revelation and discovery as they actually talk rather than just say goodbye. Together, they uncover hidden truths by digging through partial lies, sharing more with each other — and us — than they ever intended to in a manner both dynamic and believable.

Triumphant first film by P.J. Castellana, the creator of "Relax... It's Just Sex"



an old college chum, Grace (Teresa Garrett), she finally realizes what makes her different.

Together, they really give the homophobic townspeople something to gossip about! Maybe the town's drinking water is to blame?

**Thin Ice**

Wolfe Video, 88 minutes

This romantic comedy features actual footage from last year's Gay Games in New York, and follows two aspiring journalists, Steffi and Greg (Sabra Williams, James Dreyfus) as they try to break into the mainstream press. A story they

are writing about Steffi and her skating partner, Lisa, goes awry when the two women break up.

Steffi then meets Natalie, a seemingly straight woman, and attempts to have her fill Lisa's skates. Natalie finds herself in a confusing situation, and she has to confront her past, future and sexuality.

**Butch Camp**

Culture Q Connection Video, 85 minutes

This farcical, very un-PC romantic comedy turns the tables on sexual politics. Bashed by a straight and narrow society for the last time, Matt Grabowski (Paul Denniston) runs screaming into Commandant Samantha Rottweiler's (Judy Tenuta) *Butch Camp*.

Clad in her finest neo-Fascist garb, she has these doggies begging to kiss her feet and chew her gum. Watch them go from bitch to butch!

**Dame Edna's Neighborhood Watch**

Culture Q Connection Video Three Volumes, 60 minutes each

What would the average English housewife do for a grand prize of an all expenses paid trip to Paris? Welcome to the "Dame Show That's a Game Show," as one lucky "possum" has her life bared to the world. Madge, Dame Edna's trusty assistant, and cameraman Trevor discover every drawer and cabinet in every room. Nothing is too sacred or private.

Add Edna's biting, witty commentary and an embarrassing time is had by all!

**The Hanging Garden**

Orion Home Entertainment Video, 90 minutes

*The Hanging Garden* uncovers deep family secrets as William (Chris Leavins), a young man, seeks final closure to his first forbidden love. After a ten-year absence, William comes face to face with old ghosts and emotions while his family has remained remarkably unchanged. His visit conjures up unpleasant memories of a past he thought he had buried, but when a startling secret is unearthed at last, William's life is changed forever.

**Men in Shorts 2**

Culture Q Connection Video, 79 minutes, Release Date: April 24, 1999

This is Culture Q and OutSpoken Production's second in a series of videos comprising a half dozen or so LGBT-related short subjects. This volume starts with a brief animated feature by Eugene Salandra entitled *Faerie Film*. The second segment is a bit of historical footage: the opening day ceremonies of San Francisco's Metropolitan Community Church, directed by Pat Rocco, and filmed in 1970. Next, there are two Gay-themed music videos, *Spill Your Seed* and *No Sign of Life*. An amusing if amateurish comedy skit follows. *Scrub Me Mama* involves a young Gay man's trials and tribulations with his overbearing, neat freak mom. The most highly polished segment is the music video *GO!* featuring Pussy Tourett from the movie *Butch Camp*. The video concludes poignantly with *Spokes*, containing various film clips emphasizing a message of tolerance and acceptance.

**It's In The Water**

Wolfe Video, 100 minutes

This comedy follows Alex Stratton (Keri Jo Chapman), a wealthy woman married to "Mr. Right," but who feels somewhat ill-at-ease in her straight and narrow town of Azalea Springs. When Alex starts spending time with

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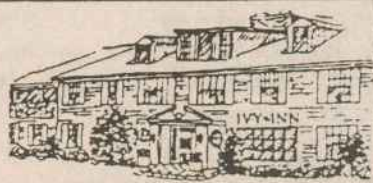
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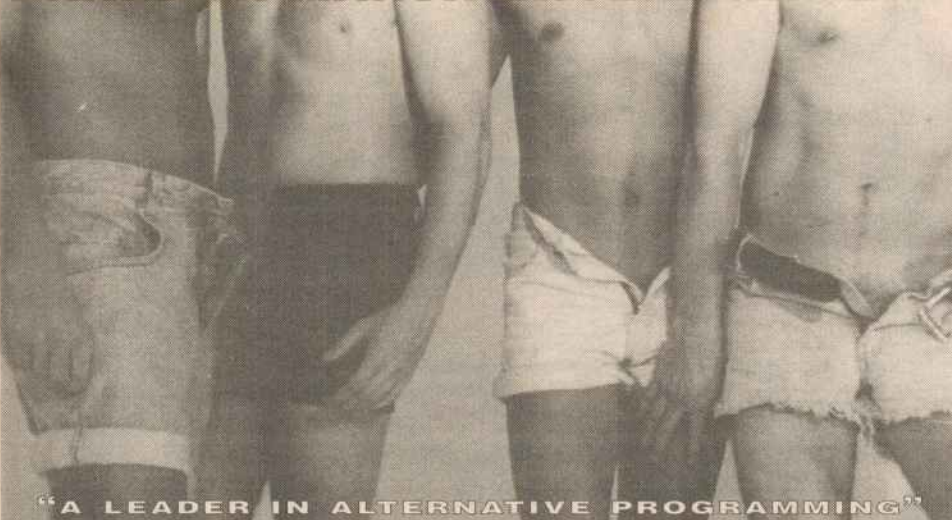
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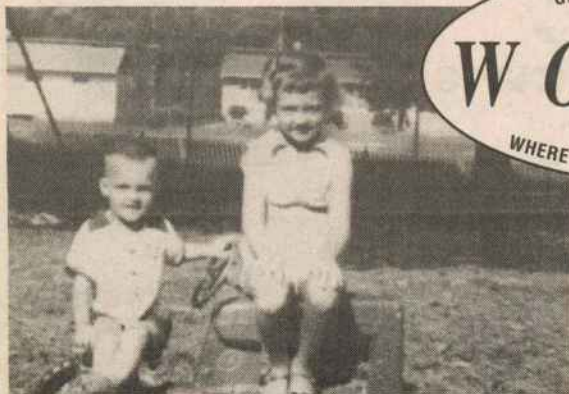
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# OUT ON FILM

## Entrapment

Reviewed by John Jahn

Does ruggedly handsome Sean Connery still have what it takes to headline big-budget action films? Last year, he went down in flames with *The Avengers*, but for four decades Connery has been one of Hollywood's favorite leading men. Now, from Director John Amiel (*Copycat*) comes *Entrapment*, a much-publicized caper movie pairing Connery with Catherine Zeta-Jones (*The Mask of Zorro*). The result is distinctly lackluster.

Part of the reason for *Entrapment's* failure is Connery's unenergetic performance. He's still likable and charismatic, but now he seems no longer capable of that *James Bond* spunk that once defined his screen personality. It's not just a matter of age. He's saddled with a script that is inconsistent, laughably implausible and riddled with gaping flaws. While Zeta-Jones' beauty enhances the screen, she hasn't much to do, except tag along behind Connery and look sexy. Heck, I could've done that!

The film takes place during the final two weeks of 1999, focusing on the pursuit of master thief Robert MacDougal (Connery) by insurance investigator Gin Baker (Zeta-Jones). Her scam to reel him in involves baiting him with overcoming the impressive security system at Bedford Palace to steal a \$40 million ancient Chinese mask.

*Entrapment* stubbornly remains devoid of conflict. Most of the movie features "Mac" and Gin planning and executing various capers, which is fun the first time but tedious thereafter. All of the action and excitement comes in the final 20 minutes, but by that point there have been so many twists, contrivances and implausibilities that the effort is wasted.

What about romantic chemistry? Unfortunately, with the exception of a few fitful sparks here and there, Connery and Zeta-Jones never click. There's minimal sexual tension, often seeming more like father and daughter than would-be lovers. *Entrapment* demands some heat from Mac and Gin's relationship and its absence further weakens an already chilly motion picture.

Connery's opportunities to play the handsome leading man are fast running out, so it's particularly unfortunate that his talents were wasted on this poorly written, dull, over long, unromantic film. *Entrapment* is a snare for all those lured to theaters by Connery's name, Zeta-Jones' beauty, and the false promise of an exciting caper film.

1 1/2 STARS

## Life

Reviewed by John Jahn

Life is full of surprises. Eddie Murphy managing a comeback after *Holy Man*, for instance, or the manic Martin Lawrence revealing an unsuspected gift for understatement. Or for that matter, a movie starring both of them that's so bittersweet and balanced you forget they were in *Boomerang*.

While *Life* is certainly no treatise on race, crime or the misfortune of being black and in Mississippi in 1932, it never forgets the plausibility of its story. The focus of the camp itself turns from hard labor to baseball games and barbecues. There's a terrific fantasy sequence in which Ray Gibson (Murphy) imagines the nightclub he's going to open in New York. His bunkmates join in, including the often irritating Claude Banks (Lawrence). But there's always an underlying sense of loss and an awareness that men like Claude and Ray could easily have been forgotten inside Mississippi's legalized plantation system.

As one might expect, the jokes are often crude. The ones involving imminent sodomy and same-sex relationships within prison walls have an uncomfortable air of homophobia about them. This is a film some members of the LGBT community might find offensive for that reason. But if you manage to overcome thoughts of being laughed at, you may find yourself laughing along with the characters instead. It is possible in *Life* to overlook flaws of insensitivity.

The passage of time is poignantly marked by the gradual vanishing of Ray's and Claude's prisonmates, intercut with a roll call of history — the history they've missed: Jackie Robinson, Martin Luther King Jr., Malcolm X, the moonwalk. Murphy and Lawrence are funny, of course, but *Life* is also ennobled by the sense that injustices do occur in this country.

*Life* is a very funny, surprisingly poignant story of two unjustly imprisoned convicts and their life on a Mississippi work camp. Classy teamwork by Eddie Murphy and Martin Lawrence means that — this spring at least — don't judge a movie by its poster, or even the rap sheets of its stars.

3 STARS

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# Events CALENDAR

## WEDNESDAY, MAY 5

**Boulevard Ensemble Studio Theatre** (Milwaukee), The Milwaukee premiere of the 17th century comedy, *The Double Infidelity*. Through May 16, at the Blvd. Theatre, 2252 S. Kinnickinnic Avenue. Tickets range from \$10-15. Reservations highly recommended, call (414) 744-5757.

**Kate Gingress Gallery** (Milwaukee), Pastel group exhibition featuring Wisconsin artists' exquisite pastel landscapes. In addition, a basket artist will be showing her work. Through June 30. FMI call (414) 289-0855.

**Milw. Symphony Orchestra** (Milwaukee), Youth Concert - *Kaleidoscope, Branching Out With Song*. Andrews Sill, conductor. 10:30am. 291-6010 for tickets. Uihlein Hall.

**Walker's Point Center for the Arts** (Milwaukee), *Dear Camera*. Diary Film and Video Festival. 8pm, 907 W. National Ave. Tonight: videos by artists with a Milwaukee Connection. Films by Simon Dorfman, videos by Aretha Stricklin. Live music by Quince at 9:30pm.

## THURSDAY, MAY 6

**Inova, Institute of Visual Arts** (Milwaukee), Through May 16 Gallery One & Four, 3253 N. Downer Avenue, (414) 229-6516. Kevin Brand exhibition.

**Pride Marching Band** (Milwaukee), Organizational meeting for those interested in playing in a marching band for Chicago and Milwaukee's pride parades. 7pm, Metro Milwaukee Community Church, 1239 W. Mineral. Anyone interested can call (414) 933-3743 or email: [Rickfinger@aol.com](mailto:Rickfinger@aol.com).

**Walker's Point Center for the Arts** (Milwaukee), *Dear Camera*. Diary Film and Video Festival. 8pm, 907 W. National Ave. Tonight: Autobiographical film and video by Jerry Fortier, 8pm. Live music by Quince at 9:30pm.

**Wild Space Dance Company** (Milwaukee), *Fish Smell, Dancers Stink*. A celebration of physical comedy, at the Stiemke Theater through May 8. A collaborative performance event featuring Wild Space and the Milwaukee based comedy improvisation troupe, the Dead Alewives. Tickets \$15 adults, \$13 students and seniors, at the Milw. Rep. Box Office, 224-9490. FMI (414) 271-0307.

## FRIDAY, MAY 7

**Bliss Studio and Gallery** (Milwaukee), Multi media exhibition featuring the works of four artists. Music by DJ B23B & Friends. 8pm-12am, 3178 N. Fratney, upper loft, FMI (414) 507-7510.

**Milw. Symphony Orchestra** (Milwaukee), *Bravo Broadway!* Andrews Sill, conductor, 8pm showtime. Continues through May 9. Tickets \$15-45, call (414) 291-7605 or 273-7206. Uihlein Hall.

**Walker's Point Center for the Arts** (Milwaukee), *Dear Camera*. Diary Film and Video Festival. 8pm, 907 W. National Ave. Tonight: Recent diary videos by George Kuchar, 8pm. Live music by Quince at 9:30pm.

## SATURDAY, MAY 8

**Dairyland Cowgirls and Cowboys** (Madison), Sapphire Ballroom, 1133 N. Sherman. Lessons at 8pm, followed by general dancing, 9pm-close. Ron C is DJ, \$3 donation and cash bar, everyone welcome.

**Gay Men's Singles Club** (Madison), Monthly parties for men seeking long term relationships. Potluck dinner, plan Summer activities. 7pm, (608) 244-8675 (eves.).

**Gemini Gender Group** (Milwaukee), Meets at Unitarian Universalist West, Brookfield, 7pm, FMI call (414) 297-9328.

**Milw. LGBT Community Center** (Milwaukee), Volunteer orientation session, 10am-noon, everyone interested, please feel free to drop by. 170 S. 2nd St. FMI call (414) 271-2656.

**Saturday Softball League** (SSBL) (Milwaukee), Beginning of SSBL league play, Sijan Fields, South Kinnickinnic.

**Woodland Pattern Book Center** (Milwaukee), 720 E. Locust St., FMI (414) 263-5001. Readings by Anthony Bukoski and R.M. Ryan., 8pm. Tickets are \$6.

## SUNDAY, MAY 9

**Boulevard Ensemble Studio Theatre** (Milwaukee), Wisconsin Playwrights' Festival, show continues tomorrow night. 7:30pm curtain, tickets \$10. Theater located at 2252 S. Kinnickinnic Ave. This weekend presents Michele Van Loon's historical drama *Imagination's Music: The Life and Times of Phillis Wheatley*.

## MONDAY, MAY 10

**Afterwords Bookstore** (Milwaukee), Reading group discusses Steven Zeeland's *The Masculine Marine: Homoeroticism in the Marine Corps*. 7:30pm, anyone interested in the military is invited to join in.

## TUESDAY, MAY 11

**Milw. Symphony Orchestra** (Milwaukee), Youth Concert - *Kaleidoscope, Branching Out With Song*. Andrews Sill, conductor. 10:30am. 291-6010 for tickets. Uihlein Hall.

**Spring HIT League** (Milwaukee), Organizational meeting for Tuesday evening Summer bowling league. 7pm, Landmark Lanes, 2220 N. Farwell. 3 Free games of bowling included with meeting.

## WEDNESDAY, MAY 12

**Dairyland Cowgirls and Cowboys** (Madison), Sapphire Ballroom, 1133 N. Sherman. 7pm lessons for advanced Line Dance lessons by Ron and 8pm lessons on Folk Dance by Dee M. Open dancing follows lessons. \$3 donation and cash bar, everyone welcome.

## FRIDAY, MAY 14

**Art Elements Gallery** (Mequon), Christian Henri Thirion, *Light Waves*, new works in glass. Thirion will be present tonight and tomorrow night for an opening reception from 11am-5pm. Show runs until June 26.

**Gallery Night** (Madison), 22 exhibition places showcase Madison's vibrant visual arts scene, with hours from 5-9pm.

**Madison Art Center** (Madison), 211 State Street, (608) 257-0158: Gallery Night. Extended viewing hours at 18 area art galleries & museums. The showcase for Madison's visual arts scene.

**Milw. Ballet School** (Milwaukee), *MB II* Inaugural Performance, 7pm, Helfaer Theater, Marquette University, 525 N. 13th. This full length repertory evening will feature four works by four different choreographers. Tickets are \$12 for adults, \$8 children under 14. FMI (414) 649-4077.

**Milw. Symphony Orchestra** (Milwaukee), *Soaring Songs*, Andreas Delfs, conductor, 8pm showtime. Continues through May 15th (7:30pm). Tickets \$16-48, call (414) 291-7605 or 273-7206. Uihlein Hall.

## SATURDAY, MAY 15

**Artist Series at the Pabst** (Milwaukee), The Hal Leonard Jazz Series presents *The Heath Brothers*, 8pm For ticket information contact the Box Office, 144 E. Wells, (414) 286-3663.

**Wisconsin Ameritech Chorus** (Milwaukee), Spring Concert, *A Musical Collage*, 8pm, First Lutheran Church, 7400 W. Lapham. Admission is \$5, available at the door. Refreshments served by chorus members in the Fellowship Hall on the lower level after the concert.

## SUNDAY, MAY 16

**Boulevard Ensemble Studio Theatre** (Milwaukee), Wisconsin Playwrights' Festival, show continues tomorrow night. 7:30pm curtain, tickets \$10. FMI (414) 744-5757. Theater located at 2252 S. Kinnickinnic Ave. Nick Stanton's original musical *Bob: A Musical for the Common Man*.

**Milw. Metro Tennis Club** (Milwaukee), Kick off of weekend tennis matches. To get in on the action, call (414) 543-9643. Men and women of all skill levels welcome. Singles and doubles, Lake Park courts.

**Milw. Symphony Orchestra** (Oshkosh), *Run - Out, Soaring Songs*, Andreas Delfs, conductor. Civic Auditorium, 2pm. Call (920) 233-7510 for tickets.

## EVERY TUESDAY,

**Gay By God's Will** (Milwaukee), Milwaukee's MCC on Warner Cable channel 47, live, 8pm.

**WYOU Cable Channel 4** (Madison), *Nothing To Hide* at 4pm, *Living With HIV/AIDS* at 6pm.

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

## EVERY SATURDAY

**GAMMA** (Milwaukee), Social Volleyball, every Saturday from 1-3pm at UWM Engleman Gym, 2033 E. Hartford. \$2 for GAMMA members, \$3 for non-members. FMI John (414) 540-1202.

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# DEEP INSIDE HOLLYWOOD

by Romeo San Vicente

## A Major Leaguer of Our Own

Comic powerhouse Director, **Betty Thomas**, who counts *Doctor Doolittle* and *Private Parts* among her credits, has teamed up with New Line Cinema to bring **Peter Lefcourt's** Gay novel *The Dreyfus Affair: A Love Story* to the big screen. The comedic tale tells the story of Randy Dreyfus, a 28-year-old Major League shortstop and family man. He's living the American dream until he falls in love with his team's hunky African-American second baseman, D.J. Pickett, who turns out to be Gay.

Thomas plans to get the cameras rolling on the project later this year or early next year. *Dreyfus* may be the project to bring us what

Gay men have been fantasizing about — locker-room scenes with nude jocks played by the likes of **Taye Diggs**, **Matt Damon**, and **Ben Stiller**.



## Stranger Than Fiction?

Documentaries don't usually generate much heat in Hollywood, but a few projects have recently caught Romeo's eye.



"Confirmed bachelors" **Siegfried & Roy** are the subject of a new IMAX 3D flick, *Siegfried & Roy: The Magic Box*. The German-born illusionists are commuting from their nightly performances at Las Vegas's Mirage Hotel and Casino to a soundstage in Van Nuys, Calif., to supervise scenes involving youngsters portraying them in their pre-sequins-and-codpiece days.

The film will track the duo's journey from their early days in the Fatherland to their meeting on a Trans-Atlantic ship where their animal act was conceived, and then to massive success in Vegas. Almost senior citizens these days,

**Siegfried**, 59, and **Roy**, 54 have a personal collection of 53 white tigers and 116 white lions, many of which are used in their act. They are planning a July premiere for the film at New York's Lincoln Center. It'll be curious to see how these lion-tamers deal with the New York critics.

Just when you thought disco was dead, we find out that director **Tim Smyth** and writer/producer **Jay Blotcher** are working on *Mighty Real*, a documentary about the tragic tale of late '70s disco fixture Sylvester. The film will include interview segments with **Aretha Franklin** and Gay director **John Waters**.

On a more contemporary note, Miramax recently acquired *Get Bruce!*, a documentary about openly gay Emmy-winning Oscar cast writer and *Hollywood Squares* fixture **Bruce Vilanch**. The film, which was screened at the Sundance Festival, follows Bruce behind the scenes at glamorous Hollywood events features appearances by comics **Robin Williams**, **Bette Midler**, **Lily Tomlin** and **Rosie O'Donnell**.

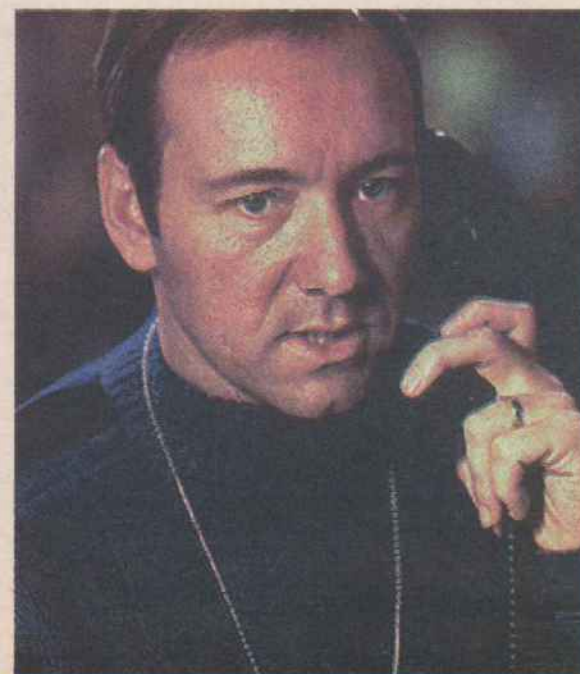
## The Iceman Cometh to the Big Screen

**Kevin Spacey** would like to bring his Tony-nominated turn in *The Iceman Cometh* to a movie theater near you. The Academy Award-winning actor has snapped up the film and television rights to **Eugene O'Neill's** classic opus, originally written in 1939.

Even with a talent like Spacey aboard, the project isn't a no-brainer. The play runs a whopping four hours and 15 minutes. It takes place entirely

in the confines of Harry Hope's bar, a run-down gin mill in New York City. Spacey is currently starring in the play on Broadway in the role of Hickey, a big spending salesman who gathers with a motley crew of alcoholics to celebrate his birthday. Briton **Howard Davies**, who's directing the Broadway production, is expected to helm the film version.

Romeo San Vicente has no desire to take **Bruce Vilanch** for a spin on the disco floor. You can contact Romeo care of this publication or e-mail **RomeoDeep@aol.com**. For more Deep Inside Hollywood, visit **www.gay.com** or **www.popcorn.com**.



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# Prayer Warriors:

## A Gay Man's Battle For His Soul

by Scott Seomin

As Christian groups such as Focus On The Family and the Center for Reclaiming America take out full-page newspaper advertisements that claim lesbians and gay men can be "cured" of their sexual orientation through reparative therapy, it is apparent that some factions of Christianity are in a battle to eliminate homosexuality.

How such battles can manifest real consequences of pain and loss in real people's lives is superbly illustrated in Stuart Howell Miller's *Prayer Warriors: The True Story of a Gay Son*,



Stuart Howell Miller

*His Fundamentalist Christian Family, and Their Battle for His Soul* (Alyson Publications, 224 pages, \$13.95). This author's diary of mental anguish and grief offers as hard evidence the products of bigotry, homophobia and intolerance. At the same time, *Warriors* provides inspiration of hope as Miller comes to terms with his life, his family and his God.

That major Gay right of passage — coming out to one's parents — is never an easy task, so Miller was particularly methodical when he outted himself in 1992. During a visit to his hometown of Nashville, he first told his brother and sister-in-law, in what he calls the "preliminary round."

Armed with literature for parents of gay children, Miller, then 26, told his parents, "I'm gay. I've known it for a long time and I wanted you to know." Since he had dropped hints over the years (once telling his mother never to ask him about dating women), Miller was unprepared for his parents' surprise reaction. Yet, the real surprise for him was not their intoler-

ance or refusal accept the truth — it was their "solution."

"God is going to take care of this," Miller's father calmly told his son. "The first thing we need to do is to acknowledge the fact that you're homosexual. And then we can begin the process of change." A stunned Miller maintains his composure as he explains that his sexual orientation is innate. His parents are steadfast as they refer to their son's "lifestyle choice" and begin a psychological war on his heart and mind.

Soon after his return to Los Angeles and his job at the Gay & Lesbian Center, the author learns that his favorite aunt has disowned him. "You... went back to your sweet little lifestyle and left the rest of us to wallow in your sin," she writes her nephew. "Did you really expect us to have compassion on you? I'm not Jesus!"

Again, however, it is Miller's parents — his father in particular, who pack the biggest wallop in what Miller calls "a self-righteous, eight-page, typed, single-spaced rant." A self-appointed theologian, the author's father offers his own interpretation of the Bible as Divine Truth and tells his son he is fighting for his salvation.

Miller's father explains that he has assembled 27 "prayer warriors" who have a collective mission: to "petition the Father to rescue" Miller from himself. Through chilling and obsessive prose, the mind-set of a fundamentalist with delusions of grandeur is revealed.

"This will not be stealthy jungle warfare but battle out in the open, exposing the forces of evil for who and what they are," he says, words reminiscent of dialogue from *The Exorcist*. "The Lord views men lying together as abominable and worthy of death. Since we don't live under a Theocracy we are not obliged to carry out the sentence."

Thankfully, Miller had nurtured solid friendships, often with co-workers, both in Los Angeles and in Nashville. But as the strain of his parents' war continued to haunt him and his friends couldn't empathize, Miller felt hollow and alone. "They didn't know that a fundamentalist Christian will cut off his arm if he believes its God will," he reveals in a spiral of depression, anger and self-doubt. "And that's the situation I felt I was in. I had become an appendage, a rotting limb to be healed or amputated."

As the prayer warriors continued their letter-writing campaign they enlist the pen of Miller's 12-year-old sister, Abby, who tells her brother that God "can either change you or kill you." While every letter from each warrior conveyed the same message of hatred, it was Abby's note that devastated Miller. Writes the author: "If my father's letters hurt and my mother's letters hurt, Abby's nearly killed me."

Instead of anger, however, Miller finds peace and forgiveness through the teachings of the book *A Course In Miracles*, new age guru Marianne Williamson and his own private prayers. In the process, the young author becomes a better man. "God, help me to forgive," he writes. "Teach me what forgiveness means. Show me how to love again."

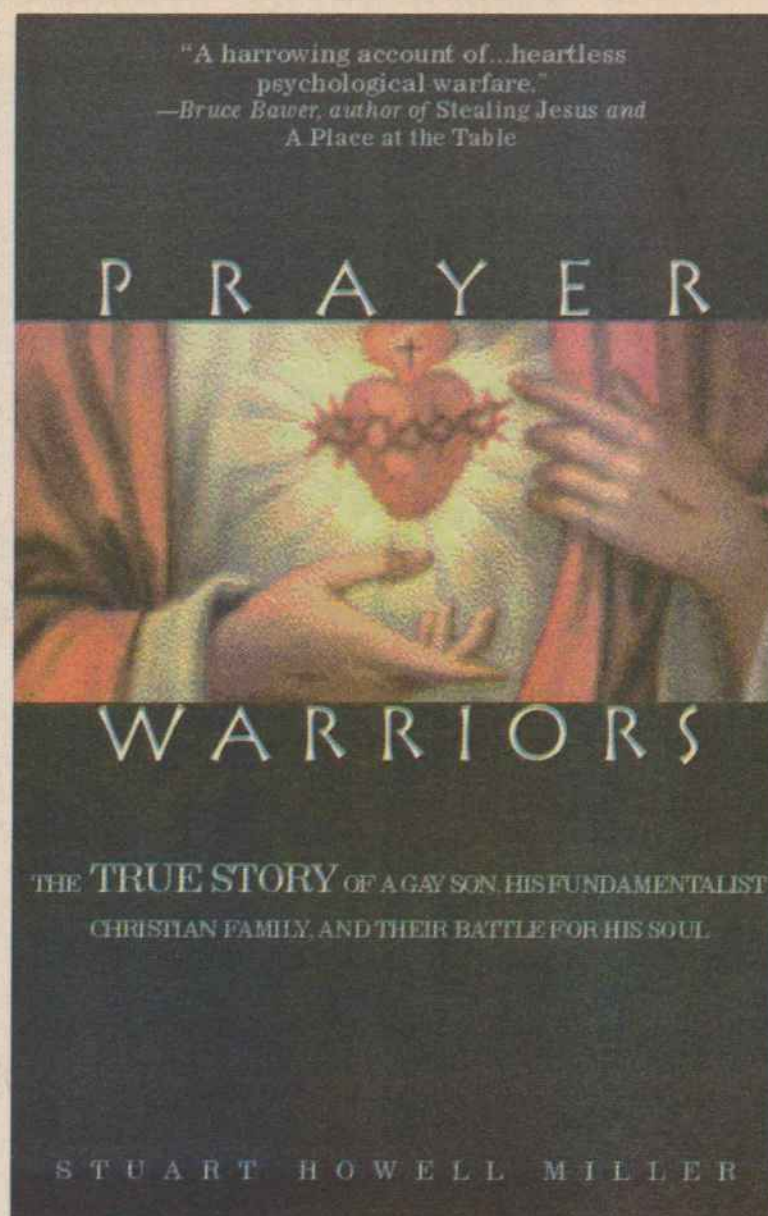
Miller's lessons were hard earned as he accepts his insecurities as well as total responsibility for how he views himself. The revelations should strike a cord with lesbian and gay readers who are estranged from their families. "The most frightening thing about letting your family go," Miller writes, "is that suddenly you have no one to blame."

*Prayer Warriors* is non-fiction; hence, there is no happy ending in the traditional sense. The last chapter does not end with Miller enjoying Thanksgiving dinner with his parents, lover in tow. As it chronicles the frightening odyssey of the author, *Warriors* reveals the emotional damage that can be inflicted on loving individuals by those who profess to love them the most.

"I realized I would probably never have a close relationship with my family again," Miller writes in the final chapter. "But I was blessed with incredible, loving friends, and I let them become the family I longed for."

Scott Seomin is the entertainment media director for The Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD). He can be contacted at [seomin@glaad.org](mailto:seomin@glaad.org)

LifeStyle



# POSITIVE HEALTH OUTLOOK

The AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin (ARCW) coordinates and sponsors support groups, spiritual healing and relaxation classes statewide. The following are support groups, spiritual resources and relaxation and social opportunities for both people infected and affected by HIV/AIDS throughout Wisconsin. All groups are sponsored or coordinated by ARCW unless otherwise noted.

## Milwaukee

Mental health services for ARCW clients including consultations and supervision by a psychotherapist and medication checks and reviews by a psychiatrist. Call case manager.

Wednesday morning support group, 10am. Clients are invited to attend. Drop in.

HIV support for clients, women and men, Wednesday nights, 7-8:30pm at 820 N.

Plankinton Ave. (414) 225-1571.

Spiritual support volunteers provide individual, private spiritual support for ARCW clients. Call case manager or call Paul Salsini (414) 225-1565.

Social opportunities for women with HIV, call (414) 225-1574.

Support group for people infected and affected by HIV, coordinated by St. Camillus HIV/AIDS Ministry, meets from 7-9pm fourth Tuesday of month, 600 N. 103rd St., Wauwatosa. (414) 259-4695.

## Kenosha

ARCW Support Group for people living with HIV/AIDS every Wednesday from 3:30-5pm, meets in Kenosha area. Call Ted at (414) 657-6644.

## La Crosse

ARCW Support Group for men and women liv-

ing with HIV. Meets 2nd and 4th Tuesday monthly. (800) 947-3353.

ARCW Support Group for women living with HIV. Meets 1st Tuesday and 3rd Sunday monthly. (800) 947-3353.

## Ashland

Out up North, a support group of Gays and Lesbians in the north woods, weekly gatherings at the Black Cat Coffee House, 211 Chapple St. (715) 682-2890. Loosely affiliated with ARCW's Superior office.

## Green Bay

Support Group sponsored by ARCW for anyone living with or affected by HIV/AIDS, 7:30-9pm, every 1st and 3rd Wednesday, Renaissance Healing Arts Center, 311 S. Jefferson, Green Bay. (800) 675-9400.

ARCW's Women's Listening Group, meets monthly. (800) 675-9400.

## Oshkosh

Support Group sponsored by ARCW for anyone living with or affected by HIV/AIDS, 7-8:30pm, every 2nd & 4th Tuesday, Place 2 B, 1965 Oshkosh Ave., Building C, Oshkosh. (800) 773-2068.

## Sheboygan

Support Group sponsored by ARCW for anyone infected with or affected by HIV/AIDS, meets every 3rd Tuesday. For more information call (920) 457-7272.

## Eau Claire

ARCW Support Groups for people living with HIV/AIDS. (800) 750-2437.

**Stevens Point**  
ARCW Harm Reduction Support Group for Gays and Lesbians. Call Steven at (800) 551-3311.  
For more information about support groups in areas not specifically mentioned above, please call the nearest ARCW office or 1-800-359-9272 x 271 for more information.

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## Dykes To Watch Out For by Alison Bechdel

**a just war? or just a war?**

312

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UH... DIDN'T YOU HEAR THE LATEST? US JETS MASSACRED A CONVOY OF REFUGEES WITH CLUSTER BOMBS BY MISTAKE. IT'S ALL OVER THE NEWS.

AT LUNCH... HAVEN'T WE LEARNED? YOU CAN'T STOP VIOLENCE WITH MORE VIOLENCE! SO FAR, ALL THE BOMBING HAS DONE IS KILL MORE PEOPLE AND ESCALATE THE SERBS' ATROCITIES!

SO WHAT DO YOU SUGGEST? THAT WE SEND A SQUADRON OF QUAKERS OVER THERE? FACE IT, LEFTIST CLICHES AREN'T GONNA KEEP PEOPLE FROM BEING RAPED AND SHOT AND DRAGGED FROM THEIR HOMES.

BACK AT WORK... I MEAN, THIS IS GENOCIDE! WE SHOULD USE WHATEVER FORCE IS NECESSARY TO STOP IT!

"ETHNIC CLEANSING" IS A TERRIBLE THING, BUT IT'S NOT THE SAME AS GENOCIDE. AND WHEN OFFICIALS TOSS THAT WORD AROUND FOR SPIN CONTROL, IT'S AN INSULT TO VICTIMS OF THE NAZIS, TO NATIVE AMERICANS, TO THE TUTSIS...

I THINK IT'S AN INSULT NOT TO CALL THIS GENOCIDE AS A KID I ASKED MY GRANDPARENTS WHY THEY DIDN'T DO ANYTHING AFTER THEY FOUND OUT ABOUT THE HOLOCAUST. IT'D BE A HYPOCRITE NOT TO SUPPORT GROUND TROOP MIA.

AT THE Y... AREN'T WE MORALLY OBLIGATED TO INTERVENE?

HONEY, IF YOU THINK WE'RE IN THIS WAR TO PROTECT THE ETHNIC ALBANIANS, I HAVE A BRIDGE IN JUST YOUR COLOR. THERE'S STUFF JUST AS BAD HAPPENING IN LOTS OF OTHER COUNTRIES, AND WE'RE EITHER IGNORING IT, OR PAYING FOR IT.

OVER DINNER WITH LOIS & GINGER... BOMBING YUGOSLAVIA IS IMMORAL! NATO DOESN'T GIVE A SHIT ABOUT THE ETHNIC ALBANIANS OR HUMAN RIGHTS. IT'S JUST WORRIED ABOUT "GEOPOLITICAL STABILITY," WHICH IS NEWSPEAK FOR "WAL-MART."

BUT WHO CARES WHAT NATO'S MOTIVATION IS IF IT STOPS MILOSEVIC? WE'RE ON THE VICTIM'S SIDE FOR ONCE. LET'S KICK FASCIST BUTT!

GOOD IDEA, LOIS. DECIMATING THE COUNTRY SHOULD BE A BIG BOOST TO THE MOVEMENT FOR DEMOCRACY.

AND BACK AT HOME... Y'KNOW, YOU WERE TOTALLY RIGHT. I DON'T KNOW WHAT I WAS THINKING, BUT I'VE COME BACK TO MY PACIFIST SENSES.

GOD! SOMEONE'S GOTTA TAKE THIS GUY OUT!

EVIDENCE IN BRIGAD OF MASS GRAVES

## BIFF 'N BUNKY

by KEITH N ANDERSON

VAL AND HER FIANCÉ WILL BE HERE SOON.

DOES YOUR FUTURE SON-IN-LAW KNOW ABOUT ME? DOES HE KNOW YOU'RE GAY?

NO. SHE WANTS HIM TO GET TO KNOW ME FIRST. THEN SHE SAID SHE'D TELL HIM.

MIKE, THIS IS MY DAD AND THIS IS... UH... DADDY'S ROOMMATE?

© Anderson 1998



# NIGHTS OUT

## Dusty Goes Country

**News...** YEEEEHAAAAHHH! I am still all excited about all those rootin tootin straight shooting (okay maybe they don't shoot straight) country western fans that descended on Milwaukee for the annual Shoreline Round Up.

The weekend started with a boots and boxer ball at **La Cage**. When they say boxers, they ain't talking about the Mike Tyson type. Nope these were the silk and/or polka dotted variety. I haven't seen that many hairy legs in one place since last summer.

In the middle of the Ball, they had a contest. Prizes were awarded for the most muscular legs, the smoothest legs, and the hair-

too!  
My personal favorites were singers Doug Graf and his sidekick Chris. Doug is the International Mr. Gay Rodeo. He is quite the hunk and a really nice guy too! Doug is originally from Milwaukee but he lives out in Santa Barbara now. He was kind enough to fly here, at his own expense, to help raise money for this year's round up charities — Camp Heartland and the Cream City Foundation. Chris did the same thing, except he's from Detroit.

Doug told me he won his title in a heated competition — now that I would have liked to have seen! Remind me to ask the Editor what my travel budget is. Contestants are judged on their ability to ride — hmmm — western attire, an interview question and talent.

I don't know about

the riding part but I can attest to Doug's talent. He has a very nice voice. Chris had a great voice too. They were hits at the party after but we won't talk about that here. They were both wonderful.

The whole shebang wound up with brunch and ballroom dance lessons at

**Fannies.** Fannies owner Sharon Dixon, rustled up some of her favorite creations. About 40 people were there. After the brunch, many of them worked off those calories with some ballroom dancing lessons.

It was quite the week. At the end I realized that I had gone from the Daddy Boy pageants, where people wore dead cow hide, to the Round Up where people dressed like they rode and roped cows. It just shows that there may be more diversity in our community than you thought.

**In other News...** The last call for alcohol will be sounded at **In Between** on Sunday, May 9. Since my article in our last issue, many people have told me they are sad to see **In Between** close. I am sad too. It just proves the old adage that you don't know what you have till it's gone.

I hope you will join me in giving Curt, Doug and their staff a proper send off. But puleeze, shed no tears for Curt. He's fine and says the closing is "a good thing," for him. A simple thanks for all the great times will do quite nicely.

Well folks, that's a wrap for this week. Hope to see you out and about soon. Meanwhile stay safe, be fierce and be proud!



est legs — that was my personal favorite! They had great prizes including tickets to the symphony, the Repertory Theatre, the Milwaukee Ballet and a nice certificate to Harold's Restaurant.

The big event was at the lakefront Art Center. Almost 300 people came out dressed in their best Western duds. There were lots of performances. Shoreline warmed up for its appearance at the International Gay and Lesbian Country Western Dance Association's annual convention in Toronto with an original routine it will perform there.

The Rainbow Cloggers from Minnesota were fabulous. I don't think most of us could move ANY part of our bodies as fast as they move their feet. There was also a sexy couple doing the West Coast Swing — that's a dance for the ballroom impaired. They did a cha-cha



## Going Out

### WEDNESDAY, MAY 5

**Fluid** (Milwaukee), Cinco de Mayo celebration. Giveaways and DJ John Murges spinning various Latin styles.

### FRIDAY, MAY 7

**1100 Club** (Milwaukee), Wisconsin Mr. Drummer reception, 8pm.

**Fannies** (Milwaukee), Ronnie Nyles performs from 9pm-on.

### SATURDAY, MAY 8

**Ballgame** (Milwaukee), Mr. SSBL Contest, judge your favorite players chests, legs and muscles. League fund-raiser at The Ballgame, after the SSBL games, 5pm.

**Fannies** (Milwaukee), Becky's Big 30th Party.

### SATURDAY, MAY 8

**Milwaukee Eagle** (Milwaukee), Oberons Club Night; Mr. Wisconsin Drummer/Boy Contest, 9pm; BESTD Clinic offers free, anonymous HIV testing and counseling from 10pm-1am.

**Woody's** (Milwaukee), Mr. Wisconsin Drummer judging, 4pm.

### SUNDAY, MAY 9

**In Between** (Milwaukee), Last Call, Closing Night Party! Free pool and darts, drink specials, 3pm-close, food surprises in the In Between tradition.

**South Water St. Docks** (Milwaukee), Mr. Wisconsin Drummer Victory Party, reception, 3pm.

### MONDAY, MAY 10

**M&M Club** (Milwaukee), Shoreline check presentation to Camp Heartland, 7pm.

### WEDNESDAY, MAY 12

**Fannie's** (Milwaukee), Karaoke at Fannies, hosted by Marlene.

**La Cage** (Milwaukee), Possum Queen House Party, 10pm. Guest DJ John Murges. Special Raffles. \$3 Cover. Benefits ARCW & Cancer Foundation.

### SATURDAY, MAY 15

**C'est La Vie** (Milwaukee), BESTD Clinic offers free, anonymous HIV testing and counseling. 9pm-midnight.

**Napalese** (Green Bay), Turn-Around Nite.

**Za's** (Green Bay), Mr. Gay Wisconsin-USofA finals.

### LIVE WEEKLY ENTERTAINMENT

**C'est La Vie** (Milwaukee), Female Impersonators on Sat. & Sun., 10:30pm.

**Club 5** (Madison), Female Impersonators on Sun., 10pm.

**Club 219** (Milwaukee), Female Impersonators on Thurs. & Sun., 11:30pm. Strippers every Wed., Fri. & Sat., 11pm.

**Fannies** (Milwaukee), Karaoke hosted by Marlene. First Sunday and second and fourth Wednesdays of the month.

**Kathy's Nut Hut** (Milwaukee), Lingerie and Bikini Revue, every Wed., 4:30-6:30pm.

**Kirby's Klub** (Madison), Female Impersonators on Sat., 10pm.

**La Cage** (Milwaukee), La Cage Showcase every Fri. & Sun. at 11pm.

**Shoreline** (Milwaukee), Practices at La Cage, 8-11pm plus Free Lessons.

**This is It!** (Milwaukee), Sylvain appears live every Sun. night at 8pm.

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## BELOIT (608)

Kloset MW, DJ 232 Shirland Ave, 53511 363-8764

## CENTRAL WISCONSIN (715)

Oz MW, DJ 320 Washington, Wausau, 54401 842-3225

Platwood Club G/S, MW, DJ 1730 Hwy 10W, Stevens Point, 54481 341-8862

## EAU CLAIRE (715)

Scooters Wm 411 Galloway St., 54703 835-9959

Wolf's Den MW, G/S 302 E. Madison, 54703 832-9237

## GREEN BAY (920)

Brandy's II Mw 1126 Main St., 54304 437-3917

Buddies MW 1264 Main St, 54304 437-9256

Napalese Lounge MW, DJ 515 S. Broadway, 54303 432-9646

Sass WM, S 840 S. Broadway, 54304 437-7277

Za's/Java' MW, DJ, E, F, V 1106 Main St., 54301 435-5476

## RESTAURANTS

Cafe Bourbon 1106 Main St., Upper, 54301 435-5476

## LA CROSSE (608)

Cavalier Lounge Mw 114 N. 5th St., 54601 782-9061

Players G/S, MW 218 Main St., 54601 782-9279

## MADISON (608)

CE's W,m 2415 Winnebago St. 53704 241-5042

Club 5 MW, F 5 Applegate Ct., 53713 277-9700

Kirby's Klub MW, DJ, S, E 121 W. Main St., 53703 251-5838

Mens Room M, L/L 3054 E. Washington, 53704 241-9335

Planet Q MW, V, DJ, E 5 Applegate Ct., 53713 277-9700

Ray's Bar & Grill Mw, DJ, F 3054 E. Washington, 53704 241-9335

Shamrock MW, F 117 W. Main St., 53703 255-5029

The Barracks M, L/L 5 Applegate Ct., 53713 277-8700

## RESTAURANTS

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Fyfe's Corner Bistro Fine Dining 1344 E. Washington 251-8700

## MILWAUKEE (414)

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Ball Game M, S 196 S. 2nd St., 53204 273-7474

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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

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

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## RESTAURANTS

Annex Cafe Late Nite 1106 S. 1st St., 53204 384-7999

Glass Menagerie Fine Dining 124 N. Water St., 53202 347-1962

## RACINE/KENOSHA (414)

Club 94 MW, DJ, E 9001 120th Ave., Kenosha, 53140 857-9958

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)

Bev's Jook Joint Wm 820 Tower Ave., 55880 392-5373

JT's Bar & Grill MW, DJ 1506 N. 3rd St, 55880 394-2580

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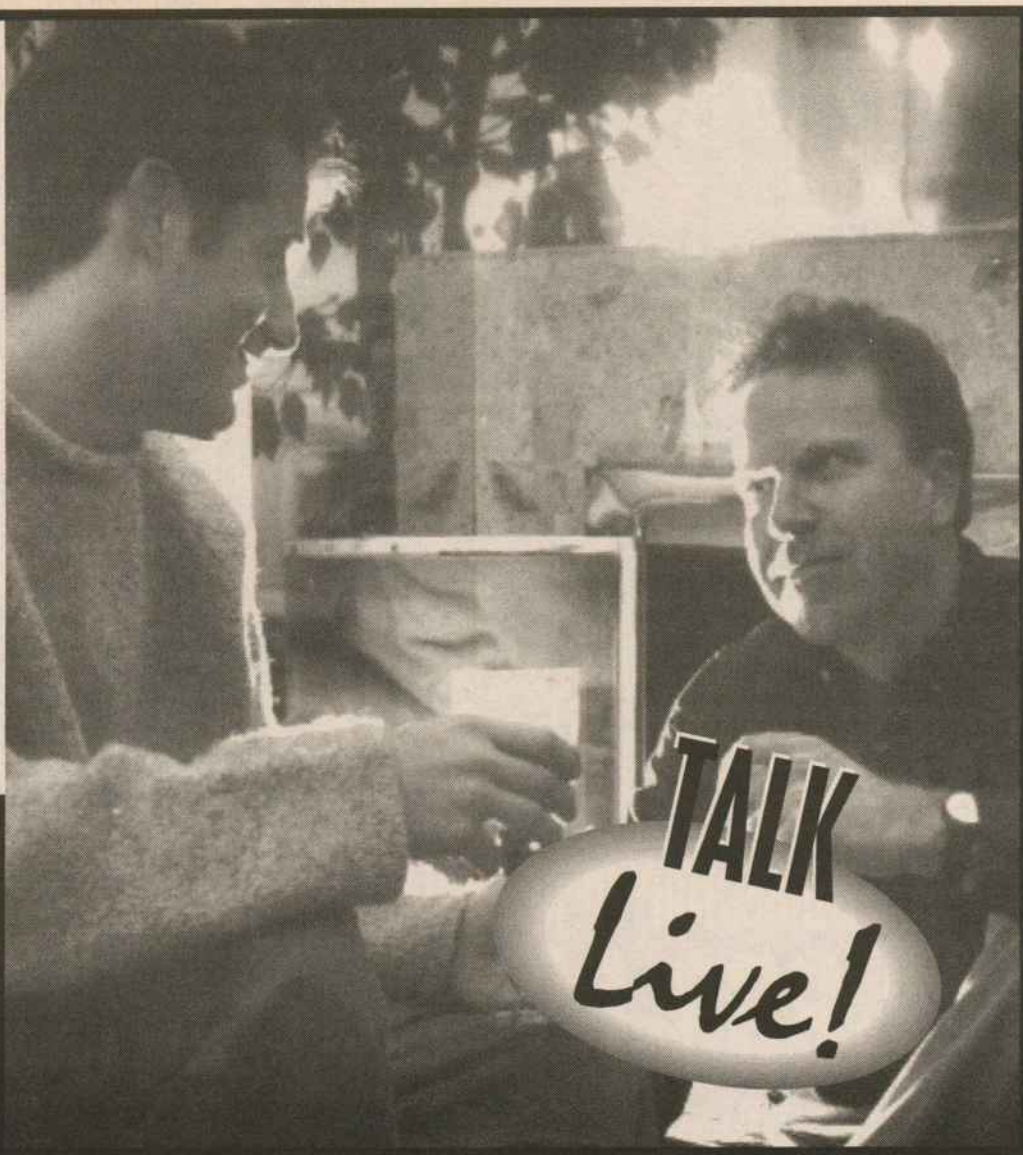
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# In BED with ED

So my loyal readers, I have no question to answer this week because I've just come back from holiday in Florida. I loved the weather, the sun, the surf and there's just something about those Florida boys.

Do you think it's the humidity that makes their cocks grow that big? Anyway, I spent some time hanging out with some fellas that are into some pretty kinky stuff. Up until that night, I never had an interest in what we talked about, but let me tell you, it certainly opened my eyes and mind to something that felt so good.

Picture it: four naked guys in a hot tub on a warm Florida night enjoying some Pina Colodas. Soon, arms are moving, legs are rubbing, heads are bobbin'. Two of the guys excuse themselves to their room leaving this other guy and me to enjoy the night. We continue kissing, touching, fondling, and then...he asks me if he can piss on me!

I was like, "What? Are you serious?" He

said he was and that the mood felt right to do it. We took a little time out to give him the chance to explain. I don't know why I really listened; it must have been the booze.

So he tells me that he's been into piss play for quite some time. It was always a curiosity for him, but just never felt comfortable talking about it, let alone letting his friends find out. He experimented first by pissing on himself in the shower and remarked it felt just as hot as the water.

He took it one step further the next time and pissed on himself in the tub...with no water in it. At this point most anyone else would be grossed out, but I was giving him the chance to talk. Since I know a lot about human sexuality, I know we don't give each other the chance to explain our fantasies and desires especially when it comes to sex.

I knew this was important to him as an expression of the kind of sex he likes to have with others. I think maybe that's why I was get-

ting turned on by how he explained himself; there's nothing sexier than a man with a mind.

He continued talking about it. He said that the first time someone pissed on him, it was the best feeling in the world. I said how? He asked me if I enjoy someone shooting their load on me. I answered, "Yes," and then he said that I would love the feeling then of having someone piss on me.

"It's just as hot, but a lot more of it," he said. He added that it's not as thick as cum (obviously or else there's a problem) and he also enjoys watching someone get hard as they are getting pissed on. He then got all Deepak (deep, philosophical) on me and said that he didn't understand how guys love getting cum on and even love swallowing the stuff, yet don't give piss a second thought. "Piss is the most sterile liquid that comes out of our bodies, and it's so much more less threatening than cum that could be infected with HIV."

He's got a point. HIV is not found in piss (if there is no blood present) and is sterile. Remember that episode of *Friends* when Joey had to piss on Monica's leg to neutralize the sting of the jellyfish? And to make his point clearer, he said, "It all comes out of the same hole anyway." True again.

What turns guys off to piss play is the smell that is usually associated with piss. My friend said that the usual suspect for foul smelling piss is asparagus. Poor asparagus... it gets a bad rap for everything. Beer seems to be the drink of choice for most pissers. Beer (alcohol) and coffee are both diuretics, meaning they make you piss a lot more than normal.

Water is the last choice for some piss players. It comes out clear and doesn't have the smell that the other liquids might produce. I asked, "Well, what does it taste like?" He made a simple analogy by saying it tastes like warm saltwater. That's not *that* bad really.

We spent the rest of the night kissing and holding each other and taking those occasional piss breaks... on each other.

So, get wet sometime and remember: If I want Shade, I'll sit under a tree.

**Sleep Well, Ed**

To write me, send your letters to "In Bed with Ed," PO Box 510498, Milwaukee, WI 53203, or email me at [InBedwthEd@aol.com](mailto:InBedwthEd@aol.com).

*In Bed with Ed is a look at real life issues for men and women in the age of AIDS and is coordinated by ARCW.*

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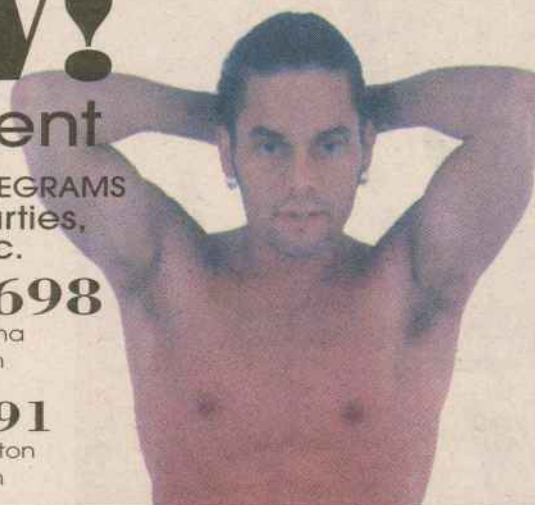
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BIO FOR THIS WI LIGHT PIN-UP:

## PAMELA

Age - 23 • 5'7" • 36D-24-35

TURN-ONS - Bright, perfect smiles, blue eyes with long eyelashes,  
blindfolds, short dresses and high heels.

TURN-OFFS - When someone gets *TOO* comfortable with you that  
they forget that you must have your needs met also.

SEXUAL POSITION - The list is too long.

# The VIDEO BOOTH



## Spiked

Produced by All Worlds Video,  
Executive Producer Dirk Yates,  
Directed by Chi Chi LaRue,  
Reviewed by Sam Edwards

If you like the preppie, All American, boy-next-door types, you will revel in this film. You will have to ignore a small tattoo here and there, but the good looking faces, very average bodies, and impressive endowments will remind you that a new crop of eager and handsome young men come of age regularly — sort of like sturdy flower plants coming up each spring! The plot is a little thin; just something to hang a lot of well photographed group sex on, but who cares when the actors are so eager and refreshing?

The first scene features four young college students who are studying group sex in their sociology class and decide to experiment by doing field research at the library by chowing down on each other in the rear stacks. The well-endowed Spike leads the way, wearing only a pair of horn-rimmed

glasses, which keep getting in the way of the action. He finally abandons them finding that he can feel his way around quite easily.

The four have gone through the combinations orally and have begun the anal study when three more young preppies come into the library. They are shocked for a couple of minutes at what they see, but are so turned on by it that they are soon involved in their own three way.

The next scene finds Spike asking Joey Hart if he can join Hart's sex club. Hart heartlessly turns him down calling him "four eyes" and a "dork" in the process. Spike leaves vowing revenge. Hart is upset by all of this and is consoled by a member of his sex club, whose more than adequate endowment soothes and offers succor to him.

The next scene finds Hart reading a letter from Spike insisting that they meet since Spike has "something important to show him." Hart agrees and turns the initiation of a new club member over to three buddies. This initiation is hot, hot, hot as the three work over the more than willing pledge in every way. Best scene in the flick!

In the last scene, Spike and two of his buddies initiate Hart into their newly formed sex club. Hart gets "Spiked" and agrees to merge the sex clubs.

This film is available at *Video Adventures*.

## Classic Video

# The Young and the Hung

Directed by William Higgins  
Reviewed by Andy James

During most of the late 1970's and early 1980's William Higgins reigned supreme in the realm of Gay porn. Although he has quite a few well-known titles to his credit, *The Young and the Hung* is considered by many critics and fans to be Higgins best work.

This is a video that has everything, sex in the woods, a hayloft orgy, T-room sex and even some kink with a watermelon. That, plus an attractive cast that stays rock hard throughout, explosive cum shots, great camera work and high production values, make this a must have for any collector.

The action starts with Chris Lance and "virgin" hitchhiker, Grant Fagan. Lance shows Fagan the ropes in a hot scene that takes place in a seat, and then the back, of a pick up truck. Great camera work captures a hot 69 between the two. The close ups of Fagan's thick totally stiff cock as it plows into Lance are standouts. After the two studs shoot their loads, they switch positions. Lance, the hunky blonde, gives Fagan's butt hole a real workout.

Poor Chris, twice is not enough for him. He heads to the local diner where after some interesting eye contact, he engages in some hot T-room sex with Brian Estevez. Lance sucks Estevez to perfection through a glory hole. The resulting cum shot is one of the hottest ever seen. Estevez does a hands free orgasm that splashes into the next stall.

The two head to a motel room for more action. Estevez does another hands free money shot as Lance fucks the hell out of him. It's worth the price of a rental — if not the price of purchase — just to see these two go at it.

The next scene is equally hot. Three

allegedly straight jocks, hunky Richard Gere (not the movie star), Ken Kearns and Tex Anthony meet up in a barn. After looking at some magazines, the horny boys decide to take out their sexual frustrations on a watermelon and then on each other. The action is fierce as all three have multiple orgasms. By the time they are through everyone has every hole explored. This is one hot scene.

Next, we see Richard Gere again. Gere kindly offers the cyclist, Troy Ramsey a place to sleep in the barn. Soon Gere is offering his dick as well. Ramsey accepts both with pleasure — and who can blame him.

The last scene is every bit as good as the rest. We find JT Denver out in the woods jerking off in his tent. Along comes two leather-clad friends, Cole Carpenter and Terry Evans. They frighten poor JT by taking a chain saw to his tent and haul his bare ass out into the woods.

JT quickly recovers enough to engage in a hot three way. Carpenter is particularly good in this scene as he fucks Denver, while Denver sucks on Evans' stiff rod. Next, it's Evans' turn to be fucked. While Denver works on his bubble butt, Terry gives some great head to Carpenter.

Higgins uses several elements not often seen in Gay porn in *Young and the Hung*. The sex is preceded by dialogue that is actually realistic. The actors in every scene have at least two orgasms. Rather than the usual let's get naked and fuck stuff, many of the actors are partially clothed while they get it on. This leads to a sense that they are so excited by each other that they didn't want to stop to remove everything.

You on the other hand are more than welcome to, and may very well want to, remove everything when you pop this one in the VCR.

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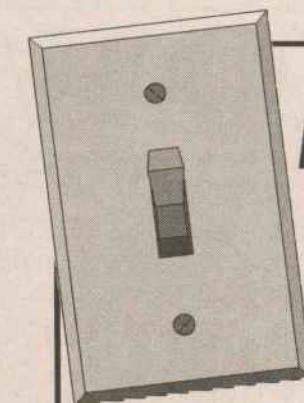
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