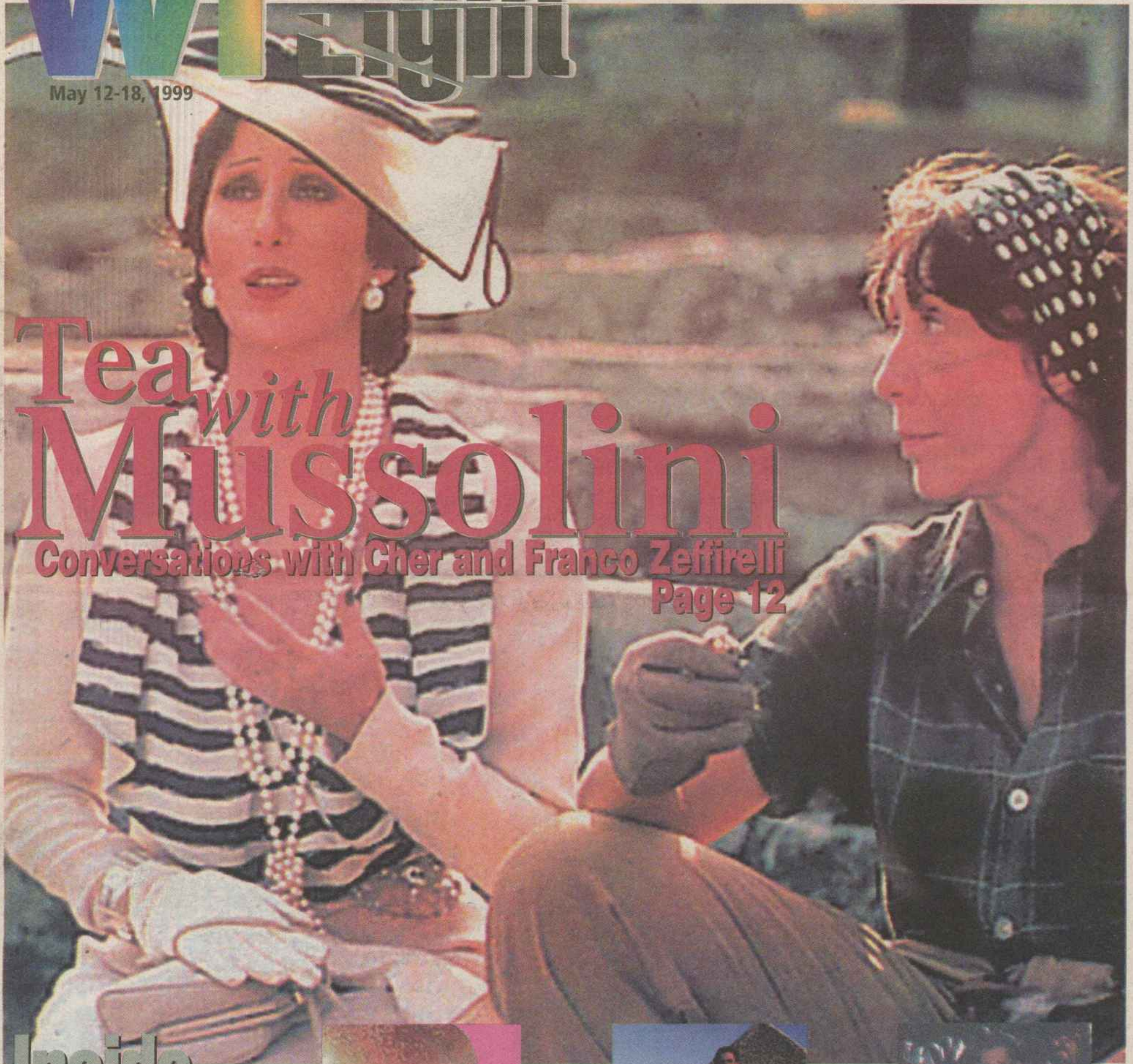


The Weekly Voice of Wisconsin's LGBT Community

WI Light

May 12-18, 1999



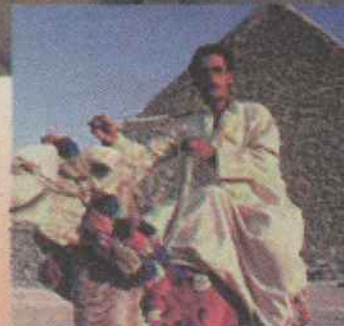
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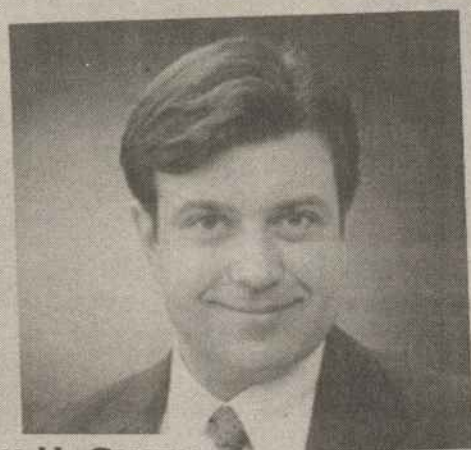
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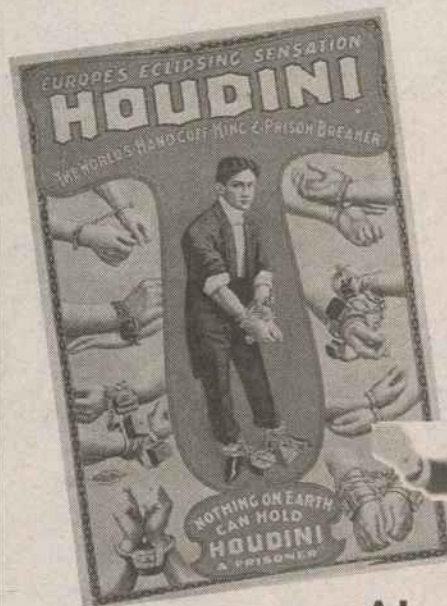
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WILight

May 12-18, 1999

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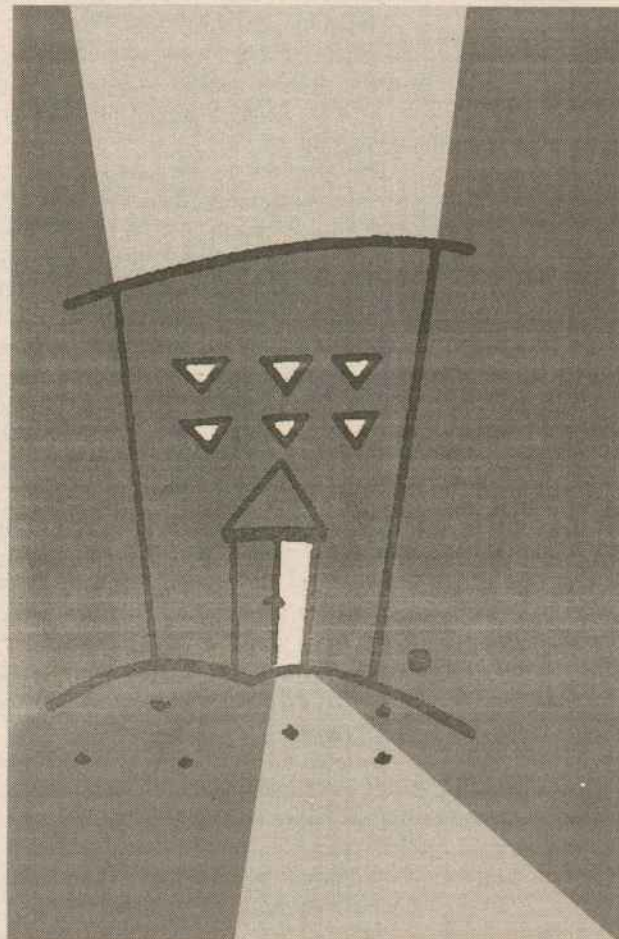
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AROUND THE STATE

Committee Keeps Mazo Beach Plan

Madison – By a vote of 14 to 2, the Joint Finance Committee rejected a proposal to throw a monkey wrench into plans to deal with problems at a beach that is popular with Gays and Lesbians. Mazo Beach along the Wisconsin River has been a source of controversy for several months.

At the request of State Representative DuWayne Jonsrud (R-Eastman), State Representative Sheryl Albers (R-Loganville) introduced a budget amendment related to the controversy. Albers' amendment would have shut down the Lower Wisconsin State Riverway Board until the legislature came up with a plan for dealing with the beach.

Although the Albers proposal was defeated, trouble for those using the beach may lie ahead. The beach, which is used by nude sunbathers, attracts large crowds during the warm weather months. Residents living near the beach and others have complained about the litter and traffic it generates, sexual activity that occurs in the area, and the nude sunbathing. Initially there were indications that the DNR would close down the road leading to the beach and ban overnight camping.

In April, the DNR issued a plan that it hopes will satisfy everyone. That plan calls for the construction of a second parking lot for the beach. It also will provide additional portable toilet facilities, and a place for bikers to lock up their cycles. Attendants will staff the parking lots, which will hold up to 300 cars. Parking on the access road will be banned.

The agency also said that overnight camping would be prohibited at least for this year. Wisconsin's only openly Gay State Representative, Mark Pocan (D-Madison) said the DNR has indicated it will develop a plan that will allow camping to return next year.

Whether the Legislature will decide to take further action on the issue is open to question. The Co-Chair of the Joint Finance Committee, John Gard (R-Peshtigo), said that he and his 7-year-old son canoed past the beach. His son questioned what was going on. Gard said he felt that Jonsrud was making a good point, but that the Budget bill was the wrong way to make it.

Those advocating fewer restrictions on Mazo's use have mixed reactions about the DNR plan. While they are happy that the beach will not be closed down, they want to see fewer restrictions on the beach. They also would like to see camping privileges returned to the area.

Pocan and others are urging caution in approaching the issue. They believe that an aggressive attack on the DNR will result in additional restrictions. Pocan's office told *Wisconsin Light* that it would continue to monitor the situation.

AIDS Action Wisconsin Issues Alert

Madison – AIDS Action Wisconsin has issued an alert to gain support for increasing AIDS/HIV money in the proposed state budget. The legislature's Joint Finance Committee voted to increase AIDS/HIV service and prevention money by \$400,000, but AIDS activists say the increase is not enough. Half of the increase will be used for services and half for prevention programs.

The state has not increased the amount of money it provides for AIDS prevention since 1989. In the wake of figures showing infections on the rise in Wisconsin, the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin (ARCW) put a priority on gaining more prevention money.

On March 25, AIDS Action Wisconsin brought 167 volunteers to the State Capitol to meet with their legislators and request support for additional funds. ARCW Deputy Director Mike Gifford has devoted much of his time to that effort.

Gifford expressed gratitude to State Senator Mary Panzer (R-West Bend) and State Representative Antonio Riley (D-Milwaukee) for the "leadership roles they played" in convincing the committee to approve the increase. Nonetheless, he said the increase fell short of what is needed.

"It's important for the state to do even more than this. We have seen a 31% increase in new HIV infections over the last four years," said Gifford. "That's far outpaced the State's prevention funding. Wisconsin must do more to prevent the spread of HIV."

AIDS Action Wisconsin is hoping to put on a full court press to gain additional money. Members of the Republican and Democratic caucuses will be asked to support adding \$500,000 to the budget in addition to the \$400,000 increase. "It's important to remember that this is a two-year budget," said Gifford. "That's only \$250,000 a year over and above what Joint Finance is recommending. We need to reassert Wisconsin's leadership in the fight against HIV."

Half of the additional increase will be used for patient services; half would go to prevention programs.

Gifford and others say that with the increase in new infections and lower death rates caseloads are expanding more rapidly than state funding has. "With the increase in new infections and the lower death rates, caseloads are expanding more rapidly than public services," said Gifford.

"We need the community to weigh in for more money," said Gifford. "We need people to contact their State Representative."

AIDS Action Wisconsin urges those wishing to help to call Laurie Marx (414) 225-1547 or (800) 359-9272 ext. 297.

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AROUND THE NATION

Reaction to Jenny Jones Verdict

Detroit, MI – A jury verdict awarded \$25 million to the family of Scott Amedure in its wrongful death suit against talk show hostess Jenny Jones and Warner Brothers. Jon Smitz gunned down Scott Amedure after the two appeared together on *The Jenny Jones show*. During that appearance, Amedure revealed his secret crush on Smitz.

Lawyers for the family claimed the Jones show fooled Smitz into thinking he had a secret female admirer in order to get him to appear. Jones and Warner Brothers, the show's distributor, denied the charges.

Gay leaders were critical of the decision. Jeffery Montgomery of Michigan's Triangle foundation called it a "shameful verdict." He said that "shifting of blame from the actual, admitted killer and trying to establish some mitigating factor — in this case a TV show — is rooted in homophobia..."

Joan Gerry, the Executive Director of GLAAD, said the media should be held accountable "in that sense, at least, this ruling is encouraging. But let's temper that with the knowledge that Scott Amedure lost his life at the hands of Jon Smitz: not *The Jenny Jones Show*."

LA Partners Registry Opens

Los Angeles, CA – Datalounge reports that a large crowd was on hand for the opening of the new Los Angeles Domestic

Partners Registry. A Lesbian city council member, Jackie Goldberg called the registry "an important milestone" for the Gay community.

"This day is about more than a framed certificate for Sharon and me," said Goldberg. "We are making a public declaration about our lives and our hearts, which I hope will bolster public recognition of Lesbian and Gay families like ours."

Sex Claim Creates Furor in Police Brutality Case

New York, NY – A defense lawyer for one of four police officers charged with violating the civil rights of a Haitian immigrant caused an outcry due to his opening remarks at the officer's trial.

Federal prosecutors say that Officer Justin A. Volpe shoved part of a broken broom handle into Abner Louima following Louima's arrest.

Volpe's attorney, Marvyn M. Kornberg, told the jury that having anal sex could have caused Louima's injuries. Four Police officers, who mistakenly thought he punched one of them during a melee, arrested Louima. The four took him to their station house, where Louima says they brutally attacked him.

Following his arrest, Louima spent three months in the hospital. Among his injuries were a torn rectum and a punctured bladder.

Gay and Lesbian leaders were quick to

condemn Volpe's comments, calling them "a vile fantasy" and "shameful."

HIV, Racial Discrimination Suit Settled

Chicago, IL – The ACLU and the Glen Ellyn Clinic settled an invasion of privacy suit that involved an HIV test and charges of racial discrimination. The suit was filed after an African American mother felt compelled to allow an HIV test for her child by a Day Care Center. The Center allegedly demanded the test because the child used a snorkel mask that belonged to a white child.

The incident occurred in July 1996 while the 9-year-old boy in the suit, named as Jimmy Doe, was enrolled in a summer day school at Outreach Community Center. The ACLU said that Outreach coerced Jimmy's mother into agreeing to the test so it could accommodate the racial prejudice of the white child's parent. The ACLU said the boy's mother was "faced with the prospect of losing the day care program she relied on."

While agreeing to allow the test, Jimmy's mother insisted that the results remain confidential. Nevertheless, the Clinic revealed them to the white child's mother.

"Playing together at the pool with other kids should be a fun thing for kids to do, not a chance for discrimination," said Mary Doe, the mother. "The reason we asked ACLU to file the lawsuit was to make sure that nobody else's child has to go through what mine did."

Under the settlement agreement, the defendants did not admit liability. They agreed to allow the ACLU to review their policies and paid a monetary settlement to

the Does. "We're very happy with the settlement, which will let our family go on with our lives," said Ms. Doe.

Hate Crime Law Defeated in SC

Charleston, SC – The State Assembly's Judiciary Committee killed any hope of passing a hate crimes law in South Carolina this year. The Committee voted 14 to 8 to kill the measure without holding a public hearing or even allowing discussion on it.

The vote was largely along party lines. All six of the Committee's Democratic members voted for the bill, 14 of its 16 Republicans voted against it. The bill, which would have extended protection against crimes motivated by the victim's race, religion or sexual orientation, passed the State Senate earlier this year.

DuPont Gives \$1 Million to AIDS Prevention

San Francisco, CA – According to *The Bay Area Reporter*, the DuPont Pharmaceutical corporation has given \$1 million to a San Francisco AIDS/HIV prevention program. The grant announced by Mayor Willie Brown will be given over a five-year period.

Nicholas Teti, President of DuPont, called on other companies to contribute as well. Teti said he hopes \$5 million will be raised for the program.

According to Department of Health figures, there are 8,132 people living with AIDS in San Francisco. An additional 15,000 are believed to be living with HIV.

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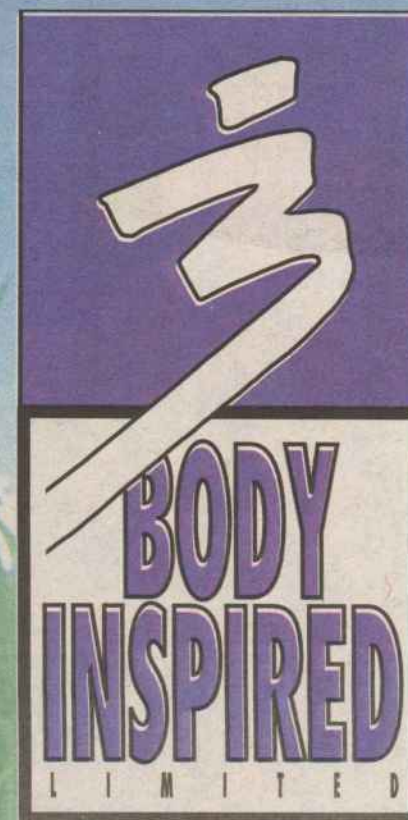
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Which Burger is LGBT Friendly?

by Gip Plaster

If you're trying to decide which brand of burger to shell out for, the decision could be a difficult one, regardless of whether you are buying a \$4 combo meal or a hundred shares of the company's stock. None of the top three burger chains — McDonald's, Burger King and Wendy's — have policies that fully support their Gay and Lesbian employees.

Recent Mclmprovements

Oak Brook, Illinois-based Big Mac-maker, McDonald's Corporation, is the top fast food chain in the U.S. and in the world. It operates 23,000 restaurants worldwide, of which 12,400 are in the U.S. Almost 80% of the restaurants are franchises. Interestingly, restaurants outside the U.S. account for about 60% of the chain's sales.

In December, McDonald's was one of seven companies cited for its commitment to urban investment and economic opportunity for minori-

ties. Their "best practices" were



noted in the U.S. Treasury's *BusinessLINC* report, a comprehensive blueprint for companies interested in fostering small business development, especially in economically disadvantaged communities.

The report highlighted McDonald's for its expertise in franchising and training, its commitment to minority outreach and for the success of its minority supplier development program. The report, however, did not deal with Gay and Lesbian issues.

Recently, some news outlets reported that Joseph Nichols, an applicant at the Killingly, Connecticut McDonald's, was refused employment because he is Gay. Despite good recommendations from a McDonald's in West Boylston, Massachusetts where he had previously worked, he was told that he would not be hired because he is Gay, according to Associated Press reports.

Bill Whitman, a spokesperson for McDonald's, would not comment on that situation except to say that the situation "has been settled."

In a separate incident in July 1997, an organization called Valuable Families, a group of Lesbian, Gay and bisexual parents, was invited to a community fundraising event at a Northampton, Massachusetts McDonald's restaurant. The group was denied permission to participate once the store found out the nature of the organization.

Whitman did not have much good news to report about McDonald's policies toward Gay and Lesbian employees. While he said Gay and Lesbian issues are addressed in the company's diversity training, the company does not offer domestic partner benefits or have a Gay and Lesbian employee group.

However, there is a bit of good news. McDonald's was facing a shareholder resolution that would have brought before the company's stockholders an opportunity to add "sexual orientation" to the company's nondiscrimination policy. The company agreed to add the phrase without a shareholder vote. A spokesperson said the company was "heading in that direction" even before the shareholder resolution forced their hand.

A Stout Whopper

Burger King Corporation, maker of the Whopper, is the number two fast food chain in the world. It controls about 20% of the U.S. fast food market. The company is a subsidiary of Diageo, a company name that is not as famous as the brands it makes.

The merger of Grand Metropolitan and Guinness, makers of the famous stout and other beverages, formed the London-based Company in 1997. Diageo also runs Pillsbury, which makes Haagen-Dazs, Green Giant and other brands.

A pastor threatened a boycott against Burger King in 1990 because the company sponsored

the television series *Thirtysomething* and the miniseries *People Like Us*. According to the pastor, the shows "portrayed homosexual lovers as caring, sensitive, rational men." He called off the boycott when the company ran a half-page ad in hundreds of newspapers in November 1990 saying in part, "Burger King wishes to go on record as supporting traditional American values on television."

In 1996, two Gay men reported that they were verbally abused and refused service at a Denver Burger King. The employees who refused to serve the men were violating Denver's anti-discrimination ordinance. On December 6, 1996, the men said their complaint was resolved "to their complete and total satisfaction" and that they wished that "no further harm should come" to Burger King.

The company is based in Miami-Dade County, Florida, which recently passed a nondiscrimination ordinance. Burger King has a company-wide nondiscrimination policy that includes sexual orientation, but that's all they have. The company does not discuss Gay and Lesbian issues in its diversity training nor does it have a Gay and Lesbian employee group.

Burger King does not offer Domestic partner benefits. "Benefits only apply to spouses, unmarried children to age 18 and unmarried children to age 25 that are students," spokesperson Charles Nicolas said.



Dave's Daughter's Place

The number three fast food chain is Wendy's International. The company is known for its square meat patties and novelties like chili and baked potatoes. It operates 5,200 restaurants worldwide — nearly 4,600 of which are in the U.S. If their arteries are not clogged enough by Wendy's burgers, its customers can flee north of the border. Since 1995, Wendy's has owned Tim Hortons, Canada's largest doughnut chain.

Wendy's current advertising spokesman, Dave Thomas, founded the chain in 1969. Thomas named the place after one of his daughters. Stories about disgruntled applicants and customers don't come to the surface when you take a look at Wendy's relationship with the Gay community, but some of the actions of Thomas do.

Thomas, who was adopted and advocates for adoption in many forums, has made several appearances on the *700 Club*. That's the television program of conservative religious and political commentator Pat Robertson. In the eyes of many, sitting with Robertson is a slap in the face of the Gay community, which Robertson often speaks against. Thomas also praises Robertson in his book *Well Done*.

Wendy's spokesperson, Denny Lynch, said nothing should be read into Thomas' appearances with Robertson, noting that Thomas has appeared with Larry King, for example, but may not support all of King's opinions.



"We don't take a position on social issues. We try to serve customers," Lynch said. "Dave Thomas was invited to the White House [and went]. Does that mean he supports cheating on his wife?"

Lynch added that Thomas also appeared with the late Norman Vincent Peale, a pastor respected by some liberal Christians, and served on the board of Peale's *Guideposts* publication.

Sexual orientation is not included in the company's nondiscrimination policy, domestic partner benefits are not offered, a Gay and Lesbian employees group does not exist, but Gay and Lesbian issues are discussed in their diversity training, according to Lynch.

"Judge Wendy's on its actions or if we do a good job at the restaurant," he said.

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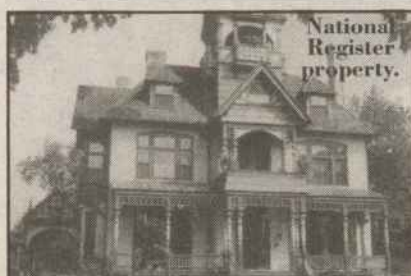
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CommUNITY

Activist Jane Vanderbosch Loses Battle With Cancer

Madison – Jane Vanderbosch, an exceptional and inspirational woman, quietly passed from this life, her long battle with cancer over, early in the morning of April 29.

In addition to her tenure as Administrative Coordinator/Executive Director of The United (now OutReach) for nearly three years, she was an author, poet, bibliophile, mentor and inspiration. She was unhesitating in her courageous outspokenness in advocating for the equal rights and fair treatment of the Madison and Wisconsin LGBT communities.

Friend Lindsay Williams commented, "As a volunteer for seven years at The United and as a member of its Board of Directors for three years, I was proud to work with her. I will always be proud of the fact that I was on the board that selected her."

"I mourn the loss of a great lady and unsung community leader and mentor to those whose lives she touched. I think a fitting tribute to her would be a donation to the Earl Greely Memorial Library (housed at OutReach) earmarked for the purchase of Lesbian-themed books and periodicals, as I intend to do," Williams continued.

A.B.A. to Publish Business Guide

Milwaukee – *Out and About*, the newly named business guide to be published by Milwaukee's LGBT oriented Alternative Business Association, is looking for a photo or design to appear on the front cover. Tim Marshall, A.B.A. President, commented, "The most exciting part of this guide is the use of a local designer or photographers work instead of stock photos."

The selected artist's work will appear on the front cover of the publication which will be distributed around the State of Wisconsin, win a \$100 prize, and credit/bio in the guide. Deadline for submission is June 1. All submissions will be returned if a self addressed stamped envelope is included.

A.B.A. is also looking to meet with prospective layout designers for advertising layout for the 10,000 copy 64-page guide. The guide will include sections for businesses, organizations, outside of SE Wisconsin, and maps/entertainment. Layout professionals and printers are invited to contact A.B.A. at its enhanced hotline, (414) 299-9271 ext. 2.

Holiday Invitational Tournament Hosts Brewers Game

Milwaukee – H.I.T. will be hosting a Milwaukee Brewers Tailgate Party on Monday, July 19. Cost is \$15 per person. That includes a pre-game tailgate party with beer, soda, food and a lower grandstand ticket for the Milwaukee Brewers vs. Chicago White Sox game, which begins at 7:05pm.

Join the H.I.T. Board members in cheering on the Brewers against their over the border rival on this "Turn Back The Clock" night. This is a fundraiser for the H.I.T. bowling tournament that is held over the Thanksgiving weekend.

For further information or to reserve your ticket, call Rick or Doug at (414) 463-9849.

Boulder Summit to Launch Gay Men's Health Movement

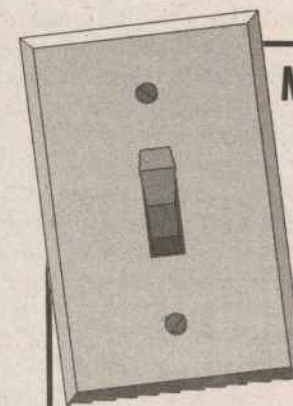
"We are a group of people eager to see the development of a strong, visible, politicized Gay men's health movement in the United States," commented Eric Rofes. He is one of the organizers for a July 29-August 1 launching of a multi-issue, multicultural Gay men's health movement. The summit will include speakers, workshops, and organizing meetings on a range of topics.

"Some of us have been working in AIDS or Gay men's health for several decades and are interested in creating a stronger, more visible grassroots movement among Gay men focused on a range of health concerns. While HIV/AIDS remains a central focus... we maintain other central concerns such as substance use among Gay men, other sexually transmitted diseases and mental health issues," said Rofes.

He continued, "We hope to re-energize Gay men in our communities to be actively engaged in political activism, volunteerism, community life, and health promotion efforts. We want to spend a few days of intense focus on the health of our communities with colleagues from all over the nation who confront similar challenges and draw on similar community strengths.

The summit is a grassroots organizing effort with no big-money sponsors or large organizations leading the effort. Concerned men and women in various parts of the country are handling logistics, program planning, publicity and housing.

Anyone who is motivated to improve the well being of Gay male communities are welcomed to attend. However, plans are to limit attendance to the first 250 registrants, so register now to avoid disappointment. For registration and housing information, download materials from the Boulder Co. AIDS Project web site at www.bcap.org or contact Mark Beyer at (303) 444-6121 or e-mail: summit@bcap.org. For information regarding programming and workshops for the summit, contact Eric Rofes at (415) 255-6210 or erofes@aol.com.



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TIDBITS FROM TITLETOWN

by Mike Fitzpatrick

Pocan Takes a Closer Look: Wisconsin's openly-Gay Assembly representative Marc Pocan (D-Madison) was the featured speaker at "A Closer Look" legislative update April 26 at the University of Wisconsin — Sheboygan. 15 campus and community members, including several conservative Christians, attended the 90-minute presentation and discussion sponsored by the recently revitalized 10% Society at UW-Sheboygan.

Pocan went over two proposed LGBT-friendly bills. One would allow non-married couples to adopt children. The other would recognize and legitimize domestic partnerships. He pointed out that same sex couples were only one of many groups who would benefit from the changes provided by the bills.

Because of the ongoing biennial budget process, progress on both bills is at a stand still. The domestic partnership bill remains in its initial rough draft form, missing essential major elements. The budget debate was cited as the primary reason that no anti-Gay legislation has been introduced to date.

Pocan also spent several minutes providing his assessment of anti-Gay activist Ralph Ovadal, branding the Monroe dairy farmer and part-time Televangelist as a "merchant of hate."

Out on Campus: In addition to UW-Sheboygan, LGBT student groups have been resurrected on two other northeastern campuses as well. Students at Lawrence University in Appleton replaced the defunct BGLASS with a new group known simply as Pride. For more information on Pride, contact the group's faculty advisor, Assistant Dean Timothy Gibson, Jr. at (920) 832-7695 or by email at timothy.gibson@lawrence.edu.

At UW-Oshkosh H.O.P.E. has replaced Silent Legacy as the LGBT group on campus. For more information on the group's weekly meetings, email Brian at babbib47@uwosh.edu.

Not only are students organizing, but faculty is as well. A Gay-straight faculty alliance is now in its second semester of existence at UW-Green Bay. For more information contact Brian at (920) 465-0343.

That brings to seven the number of LGBT campus groups, which have either begun or been reborn in northeast Wisconsin since last October. The impetus for all this campus organizing? Every group has cited the same reason: the murder of Matthew Shepard.

Green Bay Youth Group Organizes: After more than six years of missteps and false starts, Green Bay is finally going to have an LGBT youth group. A coalition of ministers, educators, mental health professionals, HIV prevention specialists and young adults have announced the charter meeting of the Green Bay GLBT Youth Partnership. It will take place on May 16 at 6:30pm at the Angels of Hope MCC Church. The meeting is open to enrolled LGBT youth and their families. For more information, contact Patti at Renaissance Healing Arts Center at (920) 437-4325.

GLBT Roundtable Meets: Gay and Gay-friendly organizations from six northeast Wisconsin counties held their semi-annual GLBT Roundtable meeting in Green Bay on April 27. The group reviewed the expanded *GLBT Resources in NE Wisconsin* guide and heard updates from representatives from the dozen and a half local, regional and statewide groups in attendance.

While in Madison, last February, Larry Kramer compared the LGBT political landscape in major cities around the United States to the political climate in the Balkans. It is refreshing to point out that groups like northeast Wisconsin's GLBT Roundtable has continued to work to build community networks for more than two years.

Moreover, Milwaukee's LGBT Community Center is also the product of people putting mutual interest ahead of the service of self-gain. Statewide, Action Wisconsin's redoubled efforts over the last year to connect the political dots on the LGBT map have yielded coalitions, which have already benefited the quality of life in the Gay community. As we once did with LGBT civil rights, could Wisconsin again be providing by example the leadership needed to reintegrate the national Gay community?

Angelic Voice: Born again Lesbian singer/songwriter and evangelist Marsha Stevens graced northeast Wisconsin Christians of all affectional orientations with two marvelous concerts in Green Bay and Appleton on May 9. Miss Stevens, best known for composing the now-standard Christian hymn *For Those Tears I Died (Come to the Water)*, performed songs of praise largely collected from the last two of her six albums of sacred music. Among the most emotional pieces performed were the deeply personal *The Body of Christ Has AIDS, No Matter What Way* and *I will Not Behave Like Prey*.

Rumor Control: Yes, there was an apparent Gay-bashing in Green Bay in the early hours of April 26 near a popular Gay night club. Yes, the Green Bay Police Department is involved and is treating the incident as a hate crime. Yes, the individual involved is doing okay and does not wish any further media attention.

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CAPITOL REPORT

by State Representative *Mark Pocan*

Overview:

As summer approaches, the legislature is busy working on the Governor's budget. If all goes as planned, we should send the budget back to the governor by the end of July. The budget process begins when the Governor introduces his proposed budget; it then goes to the Joint Finance Committee.

The committee consists of eight Democrats and eight Republicans. Joint Finance holds public hearings on the budget and then votes on specific items to be included in it.

The budget then goes to the Assembly and on to the Senate (this alternates with each budget cycle). It is then likely to go to a conference committee to work out the differences. Both the Senate and Assembly must approve the conference committee's report. Then the budget goes back to the Governor. He can sign it, veto it entirely or use a line-item veto to remove or change certain items.

If you have specific concerns or you support certain areas of the budget, now is the time to share your opinion with your Legislator.

\$400,000 increase in AIDS/HIV Funding:

In late April, the Joint Finance Committee approved a two-year, \$400,000 HIV/AIDS program. Half of the appropriation will fund HIV life care through AIDS service organizations. The other \$200,000 will pay for HIV prevention activities.

Outreach in Sheboygan:

On Wednesday, April 27th I had the pleasure of meeting with the 10% Society of U.W. Center in Sheboygan. The re-formed 10% Society did a great job of publicizing the meeting in an effort to build a broad-based coalition.

The meeting was much like the Town hall session that we held in Madison earlier this year. We discussed upcoming legislation, and I had an opportunity to listen to comments and concerns regarding LGBT issues. If there are any other organizations that are interested in hosting one of these meetings, please give my office a call to see if we can work out a schedule.

A few of the participants were "religious conservatives." I appreciated the opportunity to talk with them and open a dialogue relating to LGBT issues. It was refreshing to talk with them, as there was an atmosphere of mutual respect.

They had heartfelt beliefs, unlike Ralph Ovadal, whom I believe uses Gay and Lesbian rights issues simply for personal monetary gain. Once again, Ralph — open your books if you have nothing to hide.

A Milwaukee Domestic Partnership Registry?

The LGBT community and its allies are working to establish a same sex couples registry in Milwaukee. Although the registry will not grant legal rights, it will provide verification for schools and hospitals. Partners would be acknowledged as family members in visitation rights at hospitals and in releasing children from school.

It is an important step that we need to take. Thanks to all the individuals involved in the process for their hard work on this issue. They need everyone's support to make it happen.

Democrats Gain One in Special Election:

In January, Republican Assemblyman Tom Ourada resigned his seat in the 35th district, which includes the Tomahawk, Merrill and Antigo area of Wisconsin. Rep. Ourada was the only Republican to vote against last year's anti-Gay marriage bill, AB 104.

The Governor called a special election for the seat, which had never been held by a Democrat. With a lot of hard work by the candidate, Sarah Waukau, and a team of volunteers, the Democrats captured the seat by only 214 votes.

This is an important step in the democrats taking back control of the Assembly, which will make it a friendlier place for all of us.

Mazo Beach Update:

First let me say that it is important that users of the beach not fall into the trap that has been set. Some people still want to close the beach completely. The more confrontational approaches on the camping issue, if used, could result in closure of the beach.

After several months of negotiations with legislators, the DNR made its decision on Mazo beach. The road is open; there is parking for bikes, the parking lot will stay open and a new lot is being constructed (together they will hold up to 300 cars), more Porta Potties and more staff.

Although the issue of overnight camping was not completely resolved, the DNR indicated that they were developing a plan for camping that will be implemented next year. The plan is to have a certain number of campsites within each "sector" of the Lower Wisconsin River way. Therefore, although there is no camping this year, we expect limited camping will return to Mazo Beach next summer.

Last week Representative DuWayne Johnsrud (R-Eastman), the Chair of the Natural Resources Committee, went public with his desire to close the beach altogether. So the fight is not over.

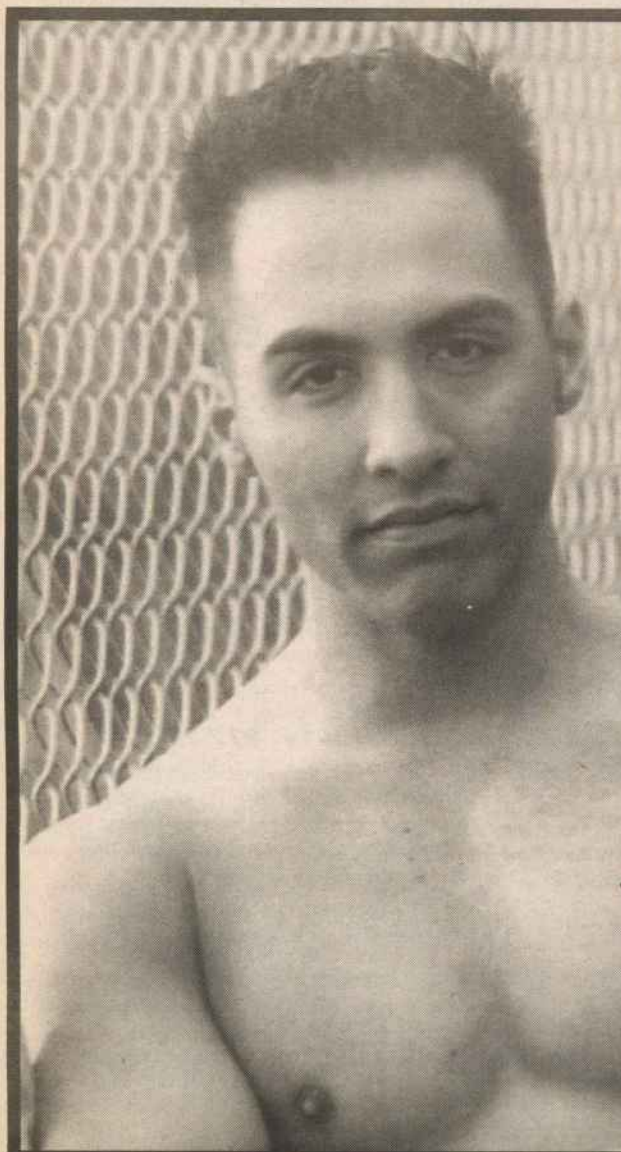
Please keep in mind that it is important for Mazo Beach users to "self-police" it this summer. Be aware of the rules and regulations. If you see someone who is not respecting the beach or surrounding environment, explain to them that their actions could result in closure of the beach.

Time to Build Coalitions

Bill of the Month: Labor History Bill

Assembly Bill 130 (AB 130) requires that every school board's instructional program in state, national and world history include information on the history of organized labor in America and the collective bargaining process.

Show your support for labor issues by supporting this bill. Call the Legislative Hotline at 1-800-362-9472 and ask them to tell your legislator to support this bill.



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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

On Images

Dear Readers,

Over the last few weeks, my email has provided me with a reminder of how powerful an image can be.

About ten days ago, I began receiving a deluge of emails urging me to call a special hotline to let Budweiser know that it was okay to run an ad in a LGBT paper. The ad in question shows an image of two men holding hands. Actually you don't see the men, just their hands and part of their legs. It has a tag line about being yourself. It was run in one Gay paper, *EXP* in St. Louis to promote an image of Bud as a Gay friendly company that supports the St. Louis PrideFest celebration.

A savvy PR firm involved in promoting that event orchestrated an email campaign. It sent out messages saying that Bud was getting calls protesting the ad. Why that would happen for this ad and not for the other ads Bud has run in Gay papers is anyone's guess. The messages pointed out — quite correctly — that this is the first time, Bud has run an ad showing actual physical contact between real live homosexuals.

The emails urged everyone to call a Budweiser hotline to show support for the ad. They also encouraged those receiving them to pass the messages to others so they would call too. Later the messages were subtly changed. Many started out with the line "Support Bud Light," some even said that in the subject line. Several LGBT groups like GLAAD passed the emails on to the thousands, who are on their mailing lists so they would call too.

I was not among those doing the calling or the sending.

It's a nice ad. I just don't want to spend my time thanking a company for doing what it should have been doing all along. Like most of corporate America, Bud regularly uses heterosexual coupling to sell its products. Why should I — or anyone else — get excited because for once they decided to depict a Gay couple in an ad run in a Gay paper?

If some people or groups like the religious right want to take that ad as a sign of approval of Gay relationships that's fine with me. I could care less if Bud or anyone else thinks it's okay for me to hold another man's hand.

I am disturbed because I have never seen an equivalent amount of attention for the Miller Brewing Company. Miller has given far more to our community than Budweiser has. One of the emails said Bud will give \$250,000 to LGBT events this year. That's nice and I am happy they are doing that.

Miller and its affiliated companies will give over \$1 million for the fight against AIDS alone. That's not even mentioning donations to other LGBT causes. Does anyone think the religious right doesn't protest their largess in the LGBT community?

Nevertheless the image of two male hands locked together combined with smart marketing has gotten tens of thousands of emails circulating around the net urging support for Budweiser. Is that sign of corporate approval — given to sell beer — more important to us than the larger contributions made by one of Bud's competitors?

In thinking about this, I imagine the possibility of a different image. One that is far removed from the image projected in the Bud ad. I think someone in Bud's Gay marketing or agency — assuming they have one — could very well be chortling heartily right now.

"Those dumb guys at Miller," he laughs. "They have actually contributed tons of money to the Gay community, much more than we have and for much longer period of time. We put out a few hundred bucks for an ad in a local Gay paper and viola! Thousands of people call to support our brand. Best of all, most of them are out there right now selling Bud for us for free."

Thinking about that possibility makes me wonder what kind of image WE are projecting of ourselves and our community with all those emails and phone calls.

Enjoy the *Light*

Bill Meunier
Editor



The "Village Elders" photo exhibit was the reason for a celebration at the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center, 170 S. Second Street. The exhibit is being shown for only the second time outside of New York. It's Milwaukee showing is sponsored by SAGE Milwaukee, Wisconsin Light, The Milwaukee County Council on Aging, the Cream City Foundation, and the LGBT Center. Shown above are L-R Neil Albrecht, the LGBT Center's Executive Director, SAGE-Milwaukee founder Eldon Murray and Downtown Alderman Paul Henningsen.

Ross and Erv

by Bill Meunier

When Ross Walker, 61, and Erv Uecker, 67, decided to settle in Milwaukee, its LGBT community gained more than two additional residents, it gained two community leaders.

They met in June, 1957 through a mutual friend. It wasn't love at first sight. "We were friends at first sight," said Erv. They say "we are still friends" 42 years later.

Perhaps that's the key to a relationship, which has taken them from a Lutheran parsonage in Chicago to a horse breeding farm and finally to Milwaukee, where they are instrumental in keeping the BESTD Clinic operating. That's a lot of scenery for one couple and perhaps that's part of their secret, too.

"I am stubborn," says Ross. "We're both stubborn," adds Erv. "It isn't something we planned. It just unfolded. At this point in our lives, we wouldn't have it any other way. We're friends, we compliment each other."

Erv said he is a "recovering Lutheran." He was ordained as a Lutheran Minister in 1968. For ten years, he was the Pastor at Chicago's St. Luke's Lutheran Church where he directed a staff of four associate pastors.

Although the church was in a middle class, blue-collar neighborhood, the couple lived together in the parsonage. "Everybody did what they had to do to deal with it," said Erv. Ross added, "Some people thought we were brothers until both of our mothers showed up at church one day."

There was a confrontation with the Church council over a Gay issue. "We challenged them to look at what they were doing," said Erv. "A group in Chicago wanted to have a Gay dance. The church was a community center but most people were squeamish about that." The dance was held at the church.

A few year's ago, St. Luke's voted to be an "affirming congregation" that welcomes Gays and Lesbians. "There was a same-sex couple that left the congregation because of that vote," said Erv. "They didn't like being labeled."

Erv makes it clear he doesn't like labels, either. "I think people get to know you as a friend, a co-worker. Then when they realize, you do whatever you have to do to deal with it," said Erv.

Ross was a special education teacher in the Chicago Public System. "I did that until it was no longer fun," he said. He started the system's Environmental Education program.

The two also bought a horse-breeding farm here in Oxford, Wisconsin. They bred horses there for about 12 years before selling it. We had 60 head of horses at one time and 5, if you pardon the expression, studs," said Erv. "It was not our idea of retirement. Who wants to shovel horse dung all day?" asks Ross.

In 1983, the couple stopped in Milwaukee on their way to sell a property. "We were going to retire at Marco Island in Florida," said Ross. "We met some friends in Milwaukee. We decided we didn't need Florida."

That fateful decision was Milwaukee's gain. Ross and Erv got very involved in the BESTD Clinic. They were instrumental in the founding of its new Milwaukee LGBT Community Center.

Ross and Erv work full time — without pay — for the Clinic. Ross said, "I can see some direct results of my efforts." He also likes "helping people get connected to a system that's going to work for them." Erv said he likes the structure of BESTD. "Everybody works. Our board consists of active volunteers."

Ross and Erv helped fulfill the dream of an LGBT community center in Milwaukee. They provided the initial money and the impetus for the Center. Although they are no longer involved with the Center, both can take pride in what they brought about. "They did a splendid job in converting the space," said Erv. He praises Brian O'Malley, who supervised the remodeling.

Ross says, "The Center will be successful if people get involved and make it successful. I think it will be what the community wants it to be."

So what do these two whirlwinds of energy do for fun? "We have romantic candlelit dinners at home," said Erv. He laughed adding, "In fact we had one just last night."

"We have no need to travel. We've been there, done that," said Ross. "We're just very comfortable being at home and sharing with a few friends." They do take day trips partly to satisfy their newfound interest in genealogy. "We make a lot of stops at cemeteries," laughs Ross.

A few years ago, Ross did some research on his parents but put it aside. Last year, he became interested in it again. The couple has amassed the names of 16,000 relatives. That figure doesn't include their adopted "family" in Milwaukee.

Despite their dislike of labels, the members of that family have a few to pin on Ross and Erv: caring, committed and deeply in love.



Our Village Elders



Spotlight

Tea with Mussolini

Conversations with Cher and Franco Zeffirelli

by Tim Nasson

NYC — Long before Leonardo DiCaprio was born, famed openly Gay director Franco Zeffirelli was reveling in adoration and winning awards for his big screen production of *Romeo and Juliet*.

That was 1968. Thirty years later, at the age of 77 (though he admits to being only 75) Franco Zeffirelli is back and better than ever with *Tea with Mussolini*, a filmed account of his childhood.

Starring Academy Award winning actresses

Dame Judi Dench (*Shakespeare in Love*), Cher (*Moonstruck*), Dame Maggie Smith (*A Room with a View*), Lily Tomlin, Mrs. Lawrence Olivier and Lady Joan Plowright, *Tea with Mussolini* puts Zeffirelli back in top form after a few disasters.

Granted Zeffirelli, an Italian Senator since 1960, helmed the successful 1990 Hollywood production of *Hamlet* starring Mel Gibson. He is also responsible for three of the biggest bombs in cinematic history, the most memorable being *Endless Love*, which incidentally was Tom Cruise's first film (and he can be thankful, not his last).

Zeffirelli also directed Elizabeth Taylor and James Spader in a 1988 film, *Young Toscanini*, allegedly so dreadful, that it was never released in the United States.

All can be forgiven however with *Tea with Mussolini*, his masterpiece that is destined to garner a slew of Academy Award nominations next year.

During our nearly 30 minutes together, Zeffirelli, who entered filmmaking as an assistant to some of the greatest European directors of his time — Michaelangelo Antonioni,

Roberto Rossellini and Luchino Visconti — was in no mood to talk about his sexuality or private life, rather only his newest film.

"Mr. Zeffirelli will not speak to you unless you agree to not bring up his sexual orientation or private life," were the words of his publicist. Zeffirelli's schizophrenic abilities as a director seem to mirror his personal affairs.

He outed himself in *The Advocate* saying, "I hate to call certain human beings 'Gay.' The moment you say 'Gay,' I already see a movement or a category or a ghetto. I don't like that at all." He signed four of the most revered actresses in the Gay community to *Tea...* and filmed the story of his life, which entailed being raised by the English *Golden Girls* — every Gay boy's dream.

How did you sign the dream team of actresses? I had to ask.

"It was simple. I was lucky. All of the women were heaven sent," says Zeffirelli, arriving an hour late for his interview.

From Rome (where he makes home and is regarded as a great stage director of operas) to NYC for three days to promote *Tea...*, Zeffirelli seemed happy, and deservedly so, to once again be at the center of the film world's attention.

"Joan Plowright was the pillar that brought everyone in this film together," says Franco. "We have been friends for years. She knew about my whole childhood and had read my biography when it came out. She knew that the first three chapters were going to be what *Tea with Mussolini* was about and gave me an ultimatum. "I will break our friendship," she said, "If you don't let me play Mary."

From as far back as 1951, Zeffirelli had wanted to make *Tea...* The idea was initially developed with close friend and journalist Donald Downs. However, *Tea with Mussolini* would not take its current form until after Zeffirelli published his memoirs, *Zeffirelli — An Autobiography*, in 1988.

"The setting for the film is, in essence, the unchanged Florence of the Middle Ages, which was nearing its final days," says Zeffirelli. "It

was a city which had resisted the worst excesses of modernization. It had preserved almost intact its character both as a medieval city and one which also embodied the splendors of the Renaissance."

Tea took only 11 weeks to film, yet 14 months to gel up," Zeffirelli informs. "Without Joan, though, it never would have happened."

How did Judi Dench and Cher get involved?

"Judi had just finished a play in London and was free. She is very friendly with Joan and had heard that I was to do the movie. She called me and asked if there was a role for her. I obliged her, of course, because I would have been a fool not to. She is one of the world's greatest living actors."

"As for Maggie? I wrote the part for her."

There was a lot of trouble, though, finding an American to play the role Cher ultimately won.

"Cher auditioned for the role and took it when it was offered to her, not only because she liked me," says Zeffirelli.

Earlier this year, I had the chance to speak with Cher while she was doing a promotional tour for her hit single *Believe*. No one, not even she, expected the CD or its subsequent singles to achieve the status they have. In any event, she had completed work on *Tea...* and was anticipating its release.

"I fell in love with the story and was determined to land a role in the film come hell or high water.

Of course, I love Franco, and hold many of his films dear to my heart. But, I could not pass up the challenge of playing opposite three of the best actresses to ever have graced the silver screen."

"She was definitely what I was looking for," says Zeffirelli, commenting on his choice to use Cher.

He later describes the 'Scorpion' — British expatriates living in Italy — as "ageless ladies who dressed as if nothing had changed since the end of the century. I remember vividly their arrival at certain hours, especially at teatime. They came in pairs or in small groups. In spring and summer they caused a sensation with their lace, cream and lilac colors, parasols and old-fashioned hats at their meeting place."

"I felt I had to tell this story," Zeffirelli adds. "Not just about the part I played in it, but also about these extraordinary women who tried to resist the madness of war that was sweeping across Europe. They simply did not see why Italy and England could not still be friends just because a bunch of idiots had decided to go to war."

It seems certain that *Tea...* is going to do wonders for Zeffirelli and for every actress involved. My bet is on Maggie Smith winning Best Supporting Actress at next year's Academy Awards. It is also certain to allow the film's distributor a well-deserved hit.

While everyone involved in *Tea...* rejoices over its imminent success, Zeffirelli is already at work on two new films. Not bad for a nearly 80-year-old, classy Italian who enjoys spending time in his "rose garden and with five beautiful dogs."

Tim Nasson's celebrity interviews can regularly be seen in *Wisconsin Light*. He can be reached at TimNasson1@aol.com.



OUT ON FILM

Tea with Mussolini

Reviewed by John Jahn

Tea with Mussolini, Franco Zeffirelli's film concerning his memory of youth, is a film you'd expect to be worthy and well meaning but also dull. However, it turns out to be a genuine surprise. The location is breathtaking, the period absorbing, the story heartwarming and the acting so fine you want to leap from your seat and dance around like Roberto Begnini. Okay, maybe that's a little bit of an exaggeration, but honestly not much of one.

Based on the first three chapters of the famed director's autobiography, *Tea with Mussolini* tells of the illegitimate son of a cloth manufacturer who is adopted by a clique of highborn, artistic English ladies living in Florence during the late 1930s. It ends with liberation by Scottish soldiers as the Germans are pushed out of Italy.

Lady Hester (Maggie Smith) is the matriarch of the group, an ambassador's widow and fearless defender of tradition. She particularly dislikes Americans for what she sees as their unapologetic vulgarity and has more than a sneaking admiration for *Il Duce* — the Italian Dictator Benito Mussolini, that is. Arabella Delancey (Judi Dench) loves frescos, her dog, poetry and painting. If she appears a little dotty and emotional, it's nothing but the "winged spirit of her creative muse beating at the doors of perception," as she would describe it. Mary Wallace (Joan Plowright) works part time translating letters for the cloth manufacturer. His son, Luca, remains unacknowledged even after he has run away from an orphanage. Reluctantly, Mary takes responsibility for the boy, teaching him table manners, Shakespeare and introducing him to her friends.

Elsa Morganthall (Cher) is simply from another planet. She is fabulously wealthy, a former Ziegfeld girl who had the sense to marry rich, old men in the twilight of their gratitude. She comes to Florence because she simply adores the city, and to see her friend, Georgie (Lily Tomlin), an uninhibited, Lesbian archeologist.

Cleverly scripted by John Mortimer and Zeffirelli, the film covers the rise and fall of Italian Fascism, the World War II years when the ladies are interned, Elsa's personal tragedy and Luca's education in love, art and war. It would be unfair to single out individual performances from such an excellent film, but Michael Williams in a small but telling role is terrifically subtle, and Maggie Smith is wondrous.

Cher's performance, too, is first-rate. Not only does she look like a million dollars, but behaves as if

she owns as much — and more. It makes you wonder why she's been away from the silver screen for so long, conquering the hit parade and decorating houses, when her acting (*Mermaids*, *Moonstruck*) is so direct and charming.

Tea with Mussolini's superb, ensemble performances, fine writing and great sense of time and place will surely place it on many a critic's top ten list, likely mine included.

4 STARS



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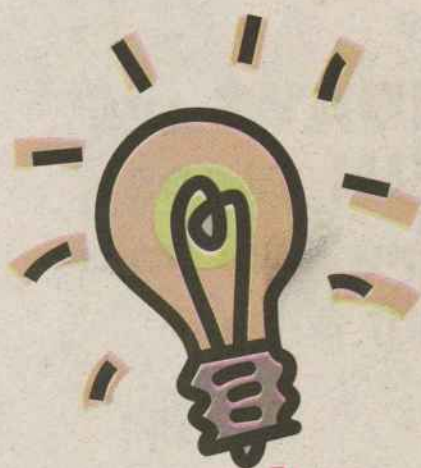
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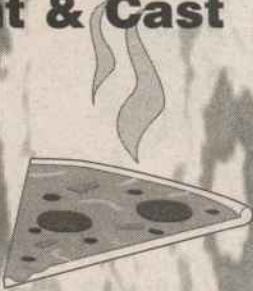
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OUT ON FILM

Election

Reviewed by John Jahn

Election is the latest arrival in the current glut of teen comedies. In the wake of *Can't Hardly Wait*, *She's All That*, *Never Been Kissed* and about a dozen others, *Election* perfectly captures the spirit (if not the particulars) of the high school years in general, and student council elections in particular. The film, written and directed by Alexander Payne, is smart, funny and possesses a razor-sharp edge. A quartet of solid performances only adds to the movie's strength.

For the most part, teen movies comprise stupid characters who are made to say and do stupid things. The audience is subjected to 90-odd minutes of mindless drivel. With *Election*, Payne assumes a high level of maturity from his audience, aiming the material at people who don't demand a happy ending at a prom or in a stadium. Breaking the mould, there are no big dances, games or sappy romances in *Election*.

Finally, Ferris Bueller has grown up. In fact, he's gone gray around the temples and joined the enemy's ranks. With *Election*, Matthew Broderick has finally crossed over. Here, he plays Jim McAllister, a teacher at Carver High School in suburban Omaha. His specialties are American History, Civics and Current Events. He's a caring educator, which ultimately gets him in trouble when he becomes enmeshed in the election for school president.

Tracy Flick (Reese Witherspoon) is a model student who is running unopposed for the highest student office. Witherspoon presents Tracy as all seemingly perfect students should be presented: superficially good-natured and

perky, but a real bitch underneath. McAllister doesn't like Tracy (she was the "victim" in a sex scandal that led to the firing of his best friend), so he decides to encourage another student to run against her in the election.

His choice is Paul Metzler (Chris Klein), one of the best-loved and most sincere students at Carver. He's a football star whose intelligence is on the level expected from a jock. Paul is popular, but totally inept politically. (His idea of addressing the student body is reading a speech as a single run-on sentence, delivered in a monotone.)

There's also a surprise entrant into the election: Paul's sister, Tammy (Jessica Campbell), an angry, out Lesbian whose view of student elections is that they're "pathetic charades." The race turns into a tight tug-of-war with Paul remaining completely honest, Tammy seeming not to care, and Tracy resorting to unethical stunts. McAllister, unable to remain a spectator, begins to harbor sexual fantasies about Tracy even as he works to orchestrate her downfall!

Election has the sharpest satire of any teen movie made in years. Like the best lampoons, it attacks by exaggerating reality and targeting a broad range of subjects. There are no cheap shots or grotesquely distorted performances. The characters, while representing specific types, are well developed and we care about them. They're more than just comic, cardboard cutouts of high school students. By the end, we have a rooting interest in the election, primarily because we've all known people like Paul, Tracy and Tammy. *Election* may not present the most flattering portrait of today's teenager, but there's a lot of truth in the picture it paints.

3 STARS

OUT in the Theatre

Safe Sex

Preview by John Jahn

Theatre-X's Late Night Series is presenting famed Gay actor and playwright Harvey Fierstein's *Safe Sex*, May 13 through the 29th. Harvey Fierstein, the Tony Award-winning author of *La Cage aux Folles* who is equally famous for *Torch Song Trilogy*, created this comic play concerning an argument between two male lovers about a decade ago.

It is a powerful play that, in Fierstein's words, "speaks to and for an audience which is often more afraid of intimacy than they are

interested in finding it." Touching and humorous, *Safe Sex* is a great piece of theatre, which can be appreciated by anyone who has ever been in love, Gay or Straight, male or female.

Performances of *Safe Sex* will take place at 10:30pm on the Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays between May 13th and 29th. Tickets are \$10, and may be purchased at the Broadway Theatre Box Office, Monday - Saturday, noon - 6pm, and by phone at (414) 291-7800. The Broadway Theatre Center is located at 158 N. Broadway in downtown Milwaukee.

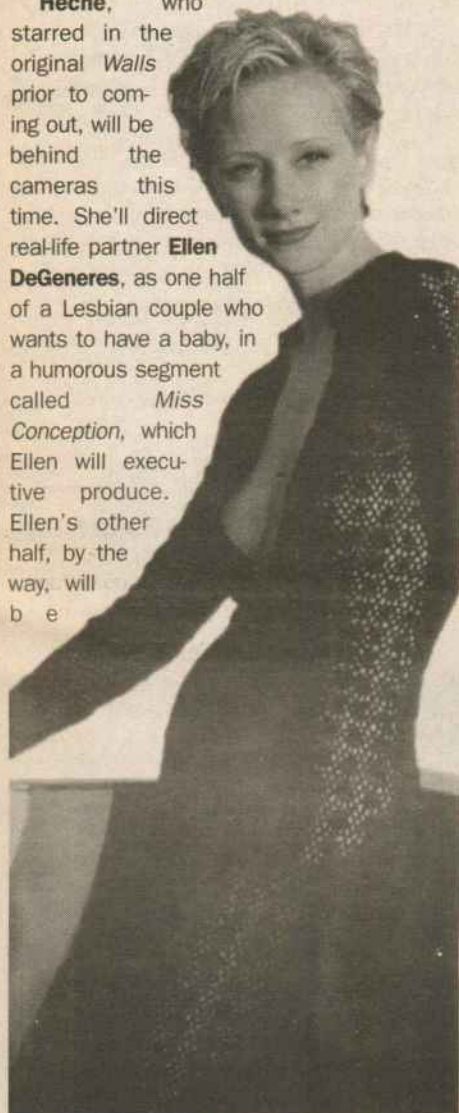
DEEP INSIDE HOLLYWOOD

by *Romeo San Vicente*

Lesbians Do It for HBO

HBO is bringing back its controversial *If These Walls Could Talk* series with a new trilogy of films — this time about Lesbianism. **Anne Heche** is coming out of what could be the briefest "retirement" in Hollywood history just for the occasion.

Heche, who starred in the original *Walls* prior to coming out, will be behind the cameras this time. She'll direct real-life partner **Ellen DeGeneres**, as one half of a Lesbian couple who wants to have a baby, in a humorous segment called *Miss Conception*, which Ellen will executive produce. Ellen's other half, by the way, will be



dishy **Sharon Stone**, the AmFAR spokesperson who launched her career by flashing her pubes in *Basic Instinct* as a Bisexual psychopath.

The trilogy will also include *The Widow*, by Lesbian director **Jane Anderson** (*How To Make An American Quilt*). Set in the '60s, the piece looks at how an older woman copes with the death of her longtime companion.

Rounding out *These Walls 2* will be an ode to the women's movement called *Women only*, directed by sisters **Alex** and **Sylvia Sichel** — the pair responsible for the Lesbian coming-out movie *All Over Me*. Their *Walls* segment is a love story about a Lesbian feminist co-ed, who falls for a proudly butch type.

The first *Walls*, which aired in October 1996, presented three tales of unwanted pregnancy. It garnered the highest ratings ever for any HBO original programming. Look for *Walls 2* to premiere next year.

Let Them Eat Streisand!

You'll have to be loaded if you want to ring in

the millennium with Barbra. Mrs. Brodin's New Year's gig at the MGM Grand in Las Vegas will have tickets going for — get this — \$1,000,000 a pair. Nosebleed seats for those too poor (or too afraid) to see La Streisand up close will go for a relative bargain at \$2,500 a pop.

For the fool that ponies up seven figures, MGM is planning a package deal that includes "mansion"-like accommodations, spa treatments and a gourmet meal. Reps for MGM say the contract isn't finalized yet, but Streisand's paycheck could be north of \$13 million for the gig.

For that much moolah, Romeo thinks Babs should throw in a few lap dances.

Spielberg Eyes Berg's Lindbergh

Gay author **A. Scott Berg's** Pulitzer Prize-winning biography *Lindbergh* is working its way to the big screen with none other than **Steven Spielberg** as its biggest champion. Spielberg snapped up the film rights to the book for his DreamWorks studio and has first dibs at directing the project.

Berg's 628-page opus is currently being adapted for the screen by *Quiz Show* writer **Paul Attanasio**. Spielberg won't commit to the project until he reads the finished script. The book, which took eight years to write, tells the

tale of flying ace and noted anti-Semite **Charles Lindbergh** — his humble beginnings in Minnesota, the historic Trans-Atlantic flight, the kidnapping of his baby son (a case that became a national obsession long before **O.J.** and **Jon Benet**) and his flirtation with the Third Reich.

No word yet on which segments of *Lucky Lindy's* life will make it into the screenplay. (Look for the paperback edition of the biography to be published by Berkley in September.)

Romeo San Vicente will be spending New Year's Eve 1999 singing Streisand tunes in a karaoke bar for free. You can contact Romeo care of Wisconsin Light or via e-mail to RomeoDeep@aol.com. For more Deep Inside Hollywood visit www.gay.com or www.pop.comq.com

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Events CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, MAY 12

Alternative Business Assoc. (Milwaukee), Monthly program and network meeting with special guest speaker, Alderman Paul Henningsen speaking on Milwaukee Economic Development. 7pm. M&M Club upstairs banquet room. FMI call (414) 299-9271.

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

Village Elders Photo Exhibit (Milwaukee), SAGE Milwaukee presents a nationally acclaimed exhibit of photos by Penny Coleman of our elders. On view through May 15 at the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center during normal business hours.

THURSDAY, MAY 13

Pink Ink Writer's Group (Milwaukee), Meets at 7pm at the Milw. LGBT Community Center, 170 S. 2nd St. New members always welcome. FMI call Cindy at (414) 444-0258.

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 H2O (Milwaukee), Lingua Franca Photography through June 27. Opening reception for artists from 6-10pm tonight. 221 N. Water St., 271-8032.

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

Milw. Ballet School (Milwaukee), *MB II* Inaugural Performance, 7pm, Helffer 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.

Plymouth Chorale (Milwaukee), Spring concert featuring *The Seven Last Words of Christ and Mass In G.* Plymouth United Church of Christ, 2717 E. Hampshire. \$10 adults/ \$8 students and seniors. Tonight at 8pm.

SAGE (Milwaukee), SAGE men and women come together to play cards and board games; sheephead lessons available. Milw. LGBT Community Center, small meeting room, 6:30pm.

Skylight Opera Theater (Milwaukee), *The World Goes 'Round*, a musical, opens at the Cabot Theater of the Broadway Theater Center running through May 30. FMI and tickets (\$5-44), call (414) 291-7800.

Theater X Late Night (Milwaukee), Opening night of *Safe Sex* by Harvey Fierstein. Runs through May 29. FMI & tickets (\$12) call (414) 291-7800.

Walker's Point Center for the Arts (Milwaukee), A performance opera conceived in cyberspace: Bosch tapped the gas pedal and the caprice moved forward; a contemporary electro-acoustical piece by Jeff Kowalkowski and Marko Ciciliani. 7:30pm tonight and tomorrow night. Tickets \$5/ \$3 students and seniors. 911 W. National Avenue.

Wisconsin Conservatory of Music (Milwaukee), Jazz musician Jimmy Heath will lead a master class from 3-4:30pm at the Conservatory, 1584 N. Prospect Avenue. Heath will work with one ensemble comprised of high school students and one of adult students. Admission \$5 per person. Reservations and payment in advance, call (414) 286-8777.

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. Theater located at 2252 S. Kinnickinnic Ave. This weekend presents 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.

St. James Episcopal Church (Milwaukee), A concert of French organ music with Karen Beaumont, organist and Paul Gmeinder, cellist. 3pm, 833 W. Wisconsin Avenue. Free (free will cash offering to benefit St. James Food Pantry).

Plymouth Chorale (Milwaukee), Spring concert featuring *The Seven Last Words of Christ and Mass In G.* Plymouth United Church of Christ, 2717 E. Hampshire. \$10 adults/ \$8 students and seniors. Today at 3pm. FMI, tickets: (414) 964-1513.

TUESDAY, MAY 18

Bi Definition (Milwaukee), Biweekly meeting, 7pm, Milwaukee LGBT Community Center, 170 S. 2nd St. Topic: Bisexuality and Ethics, Pt. 2.

Spring HIT League (Milwaukee), Season starts tonight, 7pm, bowling at Landmark Lanes. \$8 per person per week includes bowling, banquet, trophies. Fundraiser for HIT tourney. FMI call Kim W. (414) 797-4835.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 19

Dairyland Cowgirls and Cowboys (Madison), Sapphire Ballroom, 1133 N. Sherman. 7pm lessons for beginners Two Step by Gary; 8pm advanced Line Dance by Walt or Bill H. Open dancing follows lessons. \$3 donation and cash bar, everyone welcome.

Wisconsin Corporate Alliance (Milwaukee), This umbrella organization made up of and serving corporate LGBT employee groups in Wisconsin, holds their monthly meeting, 5:30pm, at the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center. All professionals welcome.

THURSDAY, MAY 20

Florentine Opera (Milwaukee), Chorus Auditions today through May 23 for '9900 season. Singers should prepare one to two

arias, one in a foreign language. The Florentine provides an accompanist. Interested? Call June at (414) 291-5700, ext. 10 to schedule.

FRIDAY, MAY 21

Adambomb Gallery (Milwaukee), Gallery night featuring sculptures and paintings by Michael Mercade, 6-10pm. (414) 276-2662.

Michael H. Lord Gallery (Milwaukee), Exhibition of recent paintings and drawings by Richard Knight. Continues through June 19. Opening reception for the artist tonight from 6-9pm. 420 E. Wisconsin Avenue.

SAGE (Milwaukee), Film screening: *A Chorus Line*. Milw. LGBT Community Center, small meeting room, 6:30pm.

SAGE (Milwaukee), Co-ed discussion group plus screening of the short film: *It's In The Water*. Milw. LGBT Community Center, small meeting room, 6:30pm.

Woodland Pattern Book Center (Milwaukee), 720 E. Locust St., FMI (414) 263-5001. As part of Urban Voices, the poetry writing group Sparks will perform, open mic for local writers. \$3, 7pm.

SATURDAY, MAY 22

Gay Video Club (Madison), *Pecker* by director John Waters and *Spitz/Leather* by Chi Chi LaRue. 8pm, (608) 244-8675 (eves.).

Empty Bowls Benefit Bowl-a-thon (Milwaukee), Raise public awareness of hunger in the community through art. Create a handmade ceramic bowl to benefit local food banks and meal programs. FMI (414) 332-8828, Murray Hill Pottery Works, 2458 N. Murray from 1am-4pm.

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.

EVERY SATURDAY

GAMMA (Milwaukee), Social Volleyball, From 1:30pm at UWM Engleman Gym, 2033 E. Hartford. \$2 for GAMMA members, \$3 for non-members. FMI John (414) 540-1202.

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

virtual CHAT

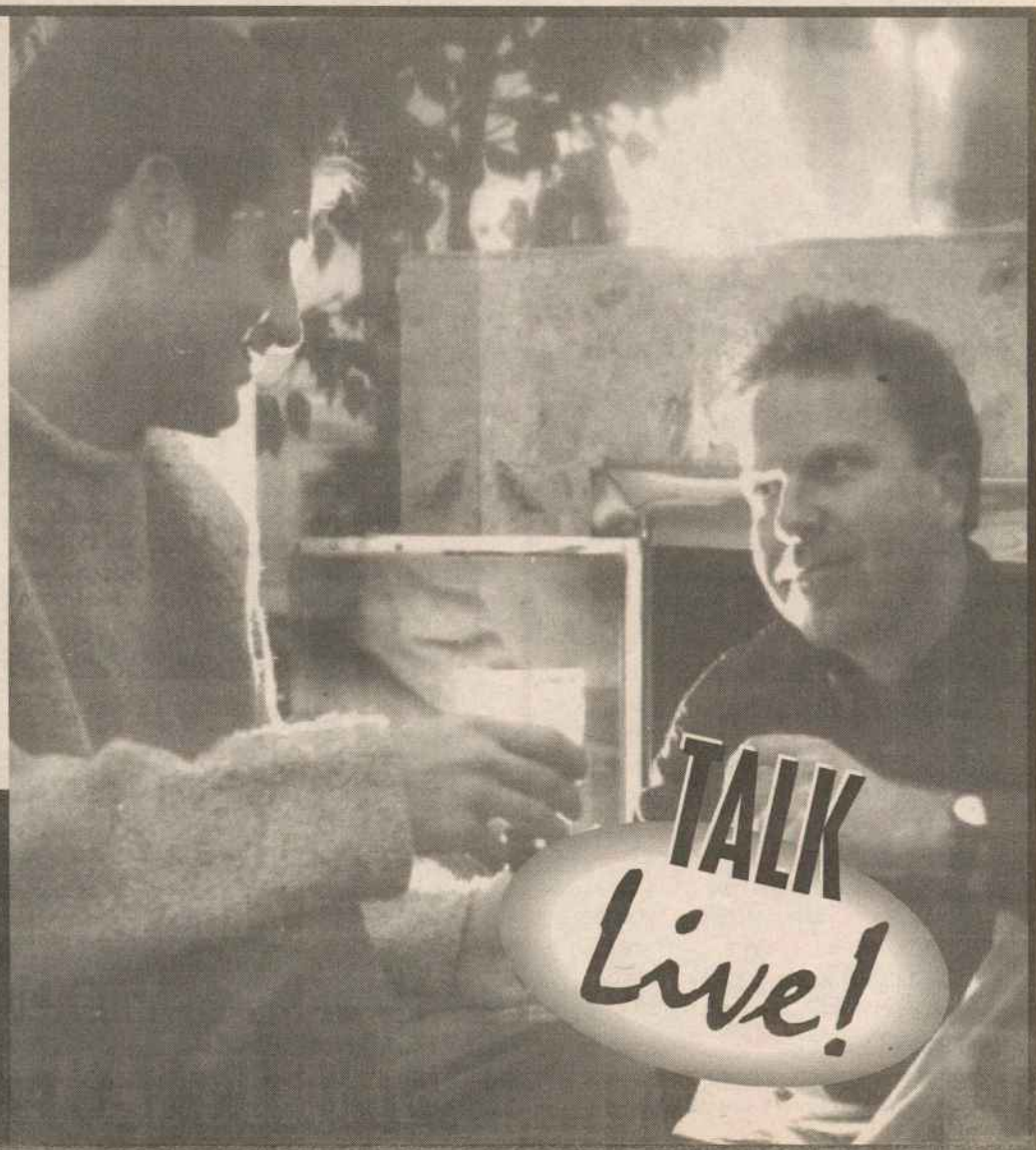
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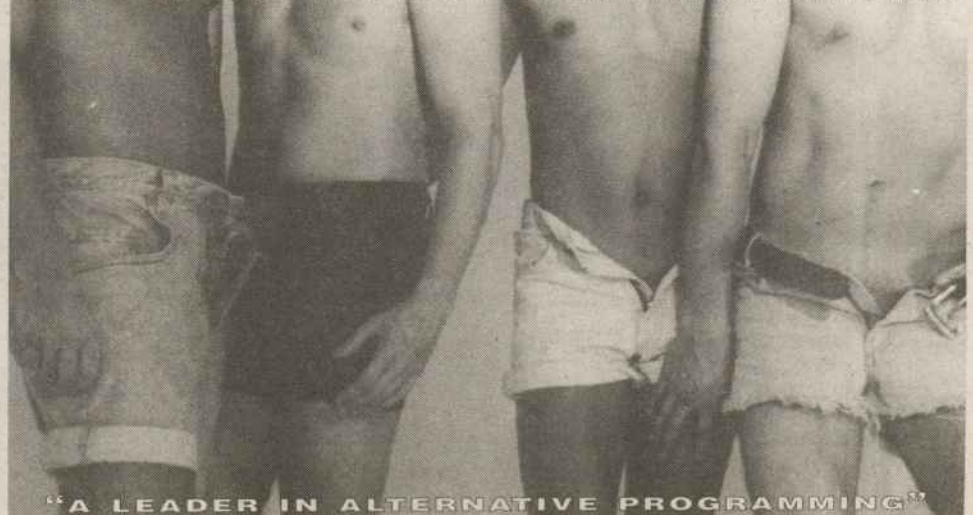
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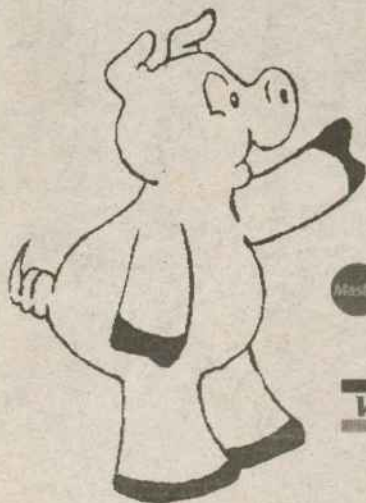
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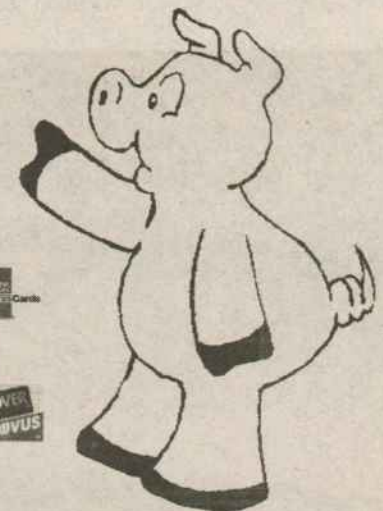
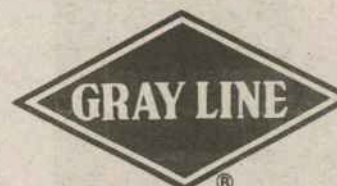
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LifeStyle

by Sasha Alyson

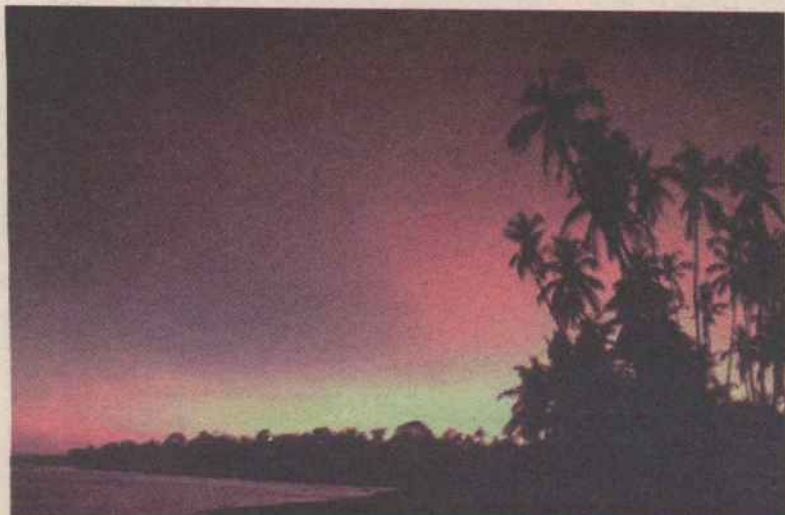
Do you know what you'll be doing when the clock turns to 2000?

Don't worry. Most of the people I spoke with for this column didn't know, either.

Tour companies began planning their millennium parties and packages years ago, blocking out hotel space, airplane seats, and every venue that lends itself to a big bash. Although a few of these packages are already booked up, you still have plenty to choose from.

But first things first. Ask yourself several questions before making plans.

How much of a premium are you willing to spend? Expect to pay at least 50% more, and in many cases two to three times as much, as you'd pay for a similar vacation before



GAY2K Travel

December

15 or after January 15. Don't even think about cashing in frequent flyer points for your travel! Remember that "black-out dates" provision in your Frequent Flyer brochure? The airline remembers it, too.

How much potential travel stress are you ready to endure? Personally, I'm confident the much-heralded Y2K problem will not cause any airline crashes, but it could lead to delays and disruptions in a few airports. Those delays, compounded by a snowstorm here or there, will snowball into further delays if every airplane seat is filled. Massive confusion? Probably not. Your odds of spending a night in the airport waiting lounge? Higher than usual.

Don't book the land until you have the air. At this writing, you cannot book an airline ticket from anywhere to anywhere, between next Dec. 20 and Jan. 10, for under a

thousand dollars. Yes, I'm exaggerating, but not by much. If you want to fly from Topeka to Indianapolis, you're still in luck. Your best bet is a package that includes air from a city within driving distance.

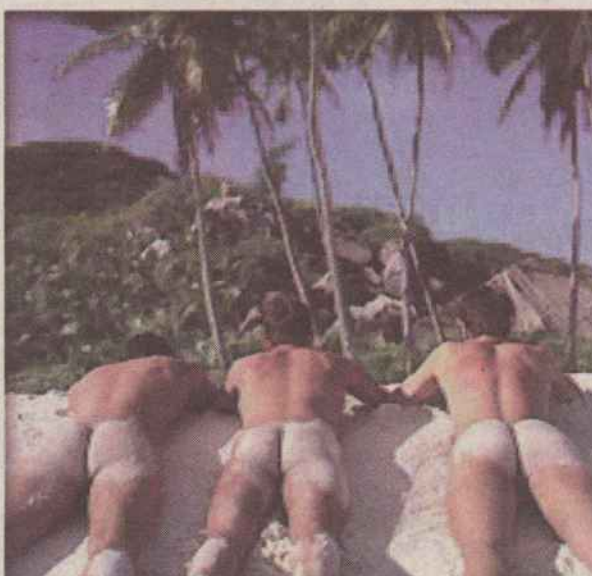
Where do you want to go? Don't pay that extra money unless that trip will be special to you. If you never liked Caribbean cruises, they're not going to be more fun just

because the calendar suddenly acquires a bunch of zeroes. If you're going to do this, find a trip that really stirs your soul — then grit your teeth and pay the extra.

How important is a millennium vacation? If you just have to be somewhere special when those zeroes appear, then book now and pay the price. If it's not that important — well, the fact is, nobody really knows what level of demand to expect for millen-

nium tours. Some operators might have excess capacity, in which case their prices will drop toward the end of the year. But you can't count on it.

You've read all that and still want to go? Good. It would be a duller world without you



party animals. Here are the most enticing Gay and Lesbian offerings that still have openings.

Starting at the high end is David's Trips and Tours. It has a well-deserved reputation for selecting the finest restaurants and most luxurious hotels. David's hosts a fantasy getaway to Morocco, as well as bashes in South Africa, New York, New Orleans, and Budapest. Prices range from about \$6500 for Morocco to \$1500 for four nights in New Orleans; air not included. (888-723-0699; www.davidtours.com)

Greet the millennium from Sydney or Fiji, and you'll greet it hours ahead of your friends. Above and Beyond, with the widest selection of any Gay tour company, offers these two sites and five others to choose from. Above and Beyond also includes airfare from selected U.S. cities. (800-397-2681; www.abovebeyondtours.com)

Call Family Abroad for a 12-day "Millennium Celebration at the Pyramids." It includes a celebration at the foot of the Giza pyramids — a glorious spot at which to welcome a new millennium, albeit one of the few locations where the passage of another thousand years might seem insignificant! Expect to pay about \$6000 per person — double what you would at other times — which the company emphasizes is the result of high pricing by its Egyptian suppliers, not by Family Abroad. (800-999-5500; www.familyabroad.com)

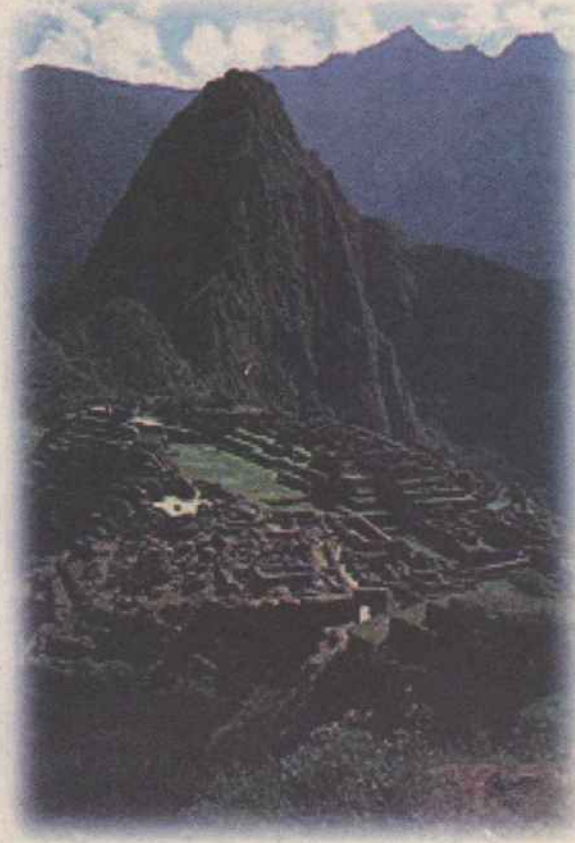
Same continent, quite different location: Venture Out offers a 14-day "soft adventure" to South Africa that

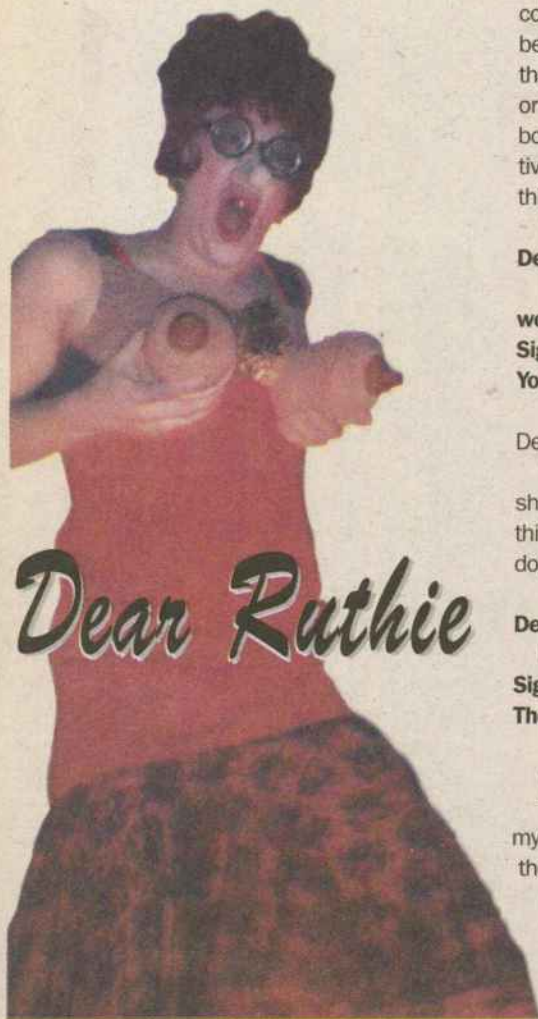
incorporates a traditional wildlife safari, non-strenuous hiking, a visit to the Winelands area, and more. The trip begins Dec. 20. African safaris, in case you didn't know, are nowadays about seeing and photographing wildlife — not shooting it. If you've never seen elephants, lions, and zebras in the wild — and if you can line up airfare — this is a great price for a memorable experience. (888-431-6789; www.venture-out.com)

Then there is the first New Year's Eve celebration at Versailles since the French revolution. The package includes dinner from an award-winning chef, fireworks from the Hall of Mirrors, and a private review of the palace's personal quarters and jewels formerly owned by French royalty. (www.gay-travel.com/2000.htm)

The above trips are generally open to all, but most participants will be Gay men. Women may prefer to get away from the crowds on an all-women, 11-day sea kayaking adventure with Mariah Wilderness Expeditions, in Baja and the Sea of Cortez. Another Mariah trip offers a variety of activities in Baja: hiking, mountain biking, and horseback riding, as well as sea kayaking. (800-462-7424; www.mariahwe.com/women.htm)

Any Gay travel agent will know about other millennium options. The frequently updated website of the Rancho Mirage travel agency has a page all about the millennium: www.Gay-travel.com.





color, artificial hair color, dress size, and number of men you've had in your bedroom — or the back-seat of your car, or the laundry mat, or the bowling alley, or on top of the ironing board, or under the Tilt-A-Whirl at a church festival, or... oh, well. Just don't tell anyone anything.

Dear Ruthie,
If you could be anything for a day, what would you be?
Signed
Your Psychic Friend

Dear Psychic,
That's easy. I'd be a bar of soap in Fabio's shower. Knowing my luck, he'd grab me first thing in the morning and use me to wash the dogs.

Dear Ruthie,
I wanna screw your brains out! Call Me!
Signed,
The A Master**

Dear Brain Surgeon,
Thanks for the offer, but I really don't want my brains screwed out. Besides, I just washed the pillowcases.

Ruthie,
Take it from a real performer — your hair is too big, your shoulders are too big, your waist is too big, your knees and hands are too big, and your legs are too big.
Signed,
A Real Queen

Dear Bitch,
Your mouth is too big!

Dear Ruthie,
Does your carpet match your curtains?
Signed
Inquiring Minds

Dear Nosy,
What are you, an interior decorator? Honey, at my age I'm thankful just to have carpet in my rec room! I'm just glad I'm not looking at hardwood floors yet! Who has time to worry about coloring that! I have enough trouble painting my toenails. You think I'm going to waste another night trying to paint that?

Dear Ruthie,
Have you ever gone to a woman's bar? Would you like us to take you?
Signed
The Girls

Dear Girls,
I love women's bars! Particularly when they're full of men! Just kidding! Why don't you gals and I get together, and we'll go nuts! "Give me some tequila! Break the top of the bottle off! I want to cut my lips up! I want to drink my own blood tonight, damnit!" When are we going? Now I'm titillated — no one says "titillated" anymore, and that saddens me.

Dear Ruthie,
Have you ever been with a man who is in prison?
Signed
Number 205637B

Hey there, everyone! It's been great to meet so many of you at recent Possum Queen functions. We had a helluva time over at the 1100 Club for Iona Trailer's big campaign kick-off. What a great bunch of people attended that show. Of course Iona's sister — and This Is It Possum Queen wannabe, Ilisa Trailer — was there as well.

Talk about sibling rivalry! These two make Marcia and Jan Brady look like the Gabor sisters. The incredible Ms. Ross — M&M's Possum hopeful — had a terrific show that same night as well. The place was packed and the dollars were flying! I was lucky enough to participate in both events and had a blast! I'll be writing updates of the entire Possum Queen campaign, so be sure to look for them right here in *Wisconsin Light*.

Every now and then I get a letter that's... well... sort of different. I've been saving these for awhile and thought I'd share a few with you right now. Sit back and enjoy what some fellow Wisconsinites have to say!

Dear Ruthie,
I currently have a ballpoint pen stuck inside my a\$\$.
Signed,
Guy with pen stuck inside his a\$\$

Dear Pen,
What I want to know is how the hell you managed to write this letter!

Dear Ruthie,
How many men have you made love to?
Signed,
A Reader of Ruthie

Dear Ruthie-Reader,
There are several bits of personal information I never give out, and I think you should follow suite. Never tell anyone your age, true hair

Dear 205637B,

Only before I put him there myself! Now stop writing me! And what the hell does that 'B' stand for? Are there two of you in there? Not that you have to write to tell me — let's just take that hypothetically.

Dear Ruthie,
Why are people so strange?
Signed
A Normal Joe

Dear Joe,
I don't know, but I heard that if you wrap your body in toilet paper, suck on a marshmallow and lay in the bathtub, you'll find out.

Dear Ruthie,
"I don't want anybody else. When I think about you I touch myself."
Signed
Touchy-Feely Guy

Dear Guy,
I'm afraid you're barking up the wrong tree, mister. Have you ever made love to a man who is in prison? What about a guy who really likes pens?

Hey everyone — the mailbag is running a bit low now that I've cleared out some of these letters. It's a great time for you to drop me a note, picture, request, whatever. You can reach me at: Dear Ruthie, c/o Wisconsin Light, 225 S. Second St., Milwaukee, WI 53202. You zany cyber-kids can email me care of www.wilight.com.

WANT TO REACH US
phone
414 226 0075
fax
414 226 0096
e-mail
editor@wilight.com
web
wilight.com

OUTBACK PATIO
MAKE THE SWITCH
MAY '99

SERVING THE COMMUNITY WITH PRIDE SINCE 1974

BESTD CLINIC

HIV TESTING AT:

C'EST LA VIE
SATURDAY
MAY 15
9pm-Midnight

FLUID
WEDNESDAY
MAY 19
9pm-Midnight

TRIANGLE
WEDNESDAY
MAY 26
9pm-Midnight

1240 E. BRADY STREET • MILW. WI 53202 • 272-2144

ANONYMOUS HIV TESTS
Mon, Tue, Thur
6-8:30pm
By Appointment

BESTD MEN'S CLINIC
STD Diagnosis & Treatment
Tue, 6-8:30pm
Walk In

BESTD WOMEN'S CLINIC
1st & 3rd
Thursdays (Monthly)
6-8:30pm
Walk In

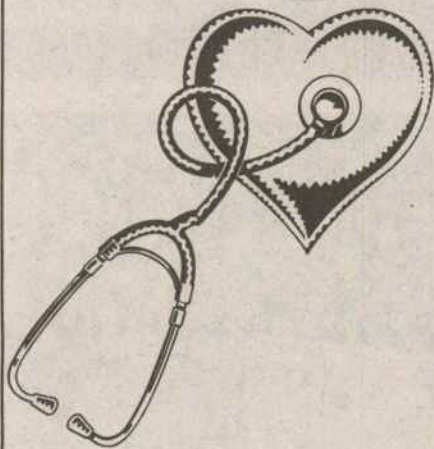
SUPPORT GROUPS
for Gay HIV+ Men

HIV EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAM
Call for information

REMEMBER TO:

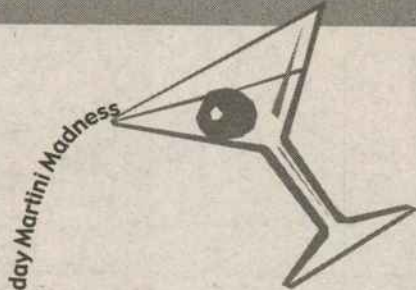
- EAT WELL
- GET PLENTY OF REST
- DRINK PLENTY OF

fluid



FLUID'S GREAT WEEKLY SPECIALS!

MONDAY	2-4-1 Drinks 5-8pm
TUESDAY	2-4-1 Drinks 5-8pm
WEDNESDAY	2-4-1 Drinks 5-8pm
	Corona and shots of Cuervo \$2 8pm-close
THURSDAY	2-4-1 Drinks 5-8pm
	\$3 Cosmopolitan Martini's 8pm-close
FRIDAY	2-4-1 Drinks 5-8pm
SAT & SUN	Open at 5pm



\$3 COSMO'S 8PM TO CLOSE

fluid

Id's required

819 S. Second St
(414) 645-8330

OUT IN CYBERSPACE

Cyber-Activism

by Michael Stewart

One of Matthew Shepard's murderers is sentenced to a double life term (and the other is due to be tried in August). The "Talk Show Murder" civil trial of Scott Amedure's killer is underway. The tragic story of hate crime victim Billy Jack Gaither is the lead story of a recent

issue of the national LGBT newsmagazine *The Advocate*. National attention is focused more clearly than ever on bigoted America's favorite pastime: homo-hate.

The national debate on the civil rights protections denied to most LGBT citizens is often viewed as a good thing. However, the Leadership Conference on Education's Hate Crimes Prevention Center (online at <http://www.civilrights.org/lcef/hcpc/>) has an ominous note. "Gays and Lesbians seem most at risk of attack when there is emotionally charged political debate and heightened media coverage about their rights and their role in society... debates about Gay/Lesbian issues often demonize the members of minorities already subject to discrimination."

A read-through of the site provides some chilling statistics. In 1995, the National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs documented 2,212 attacks on Lesbians and Gay men, an 8% increase over 1994's figures. Nearly 40% of these attacks involved assaults with a weapon, resulting in the serious injury or death of 265 people.

In 1997, anti-Gay hate crimes accounted for 14% of all hate crimes statistics collected, the third highest category of hate crimes reported to the FBI. The Coalition's 1998 statistics, online at http://www.avp.org/ncavp_1998_report.htm, show 2,552 incidents of anti-Gay violence from just the 16 agencies it monitors, including 33 actual or suspected LGBT murders, up from 14 the year before.

These are merely the tip of the proverbial iceberg. The Hate Crimes Prevention Center calculates that only 36% of anti-Gay violence is even reported. Moreover, they note, "even when victims reported an incident to the police and stressed its biased nature, more than half the time police failed to classify the incidents as bias-motivated." The true figures will never be known, except by those left to pick up the pieces after an attack.

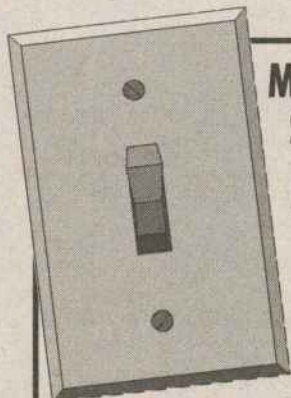
What Can I Do? Not everyone has the luxury of circumstances needed to be an in-your-face activist, working picket lines and phone banks or even just encouraging friends and relatives to support your right to live free from fear. Fortunately, even the most closeted among us can use the facilities of the World Wide Web to become better educated and help make a difference.

The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) founded in 1973 spearheads grassroots organizing and advocacy. The Task Force maintains a comprehensive website at <http://www.nglft.org>. The site touches on every aspect of the ongoing quest for LGBT civil rights and includes a section with updated information on hate crimes.

The Human Rights Campaign (at <http://www.hrc.org>) has the most thorough online resource for information on national legislation, including the stalled federal Hate Crimes Prevention Act (HCPA) of 1999. The act would expand federal jurisdiction to crimes in which the hate violence occurs because of the victim's real or perceived sexual orientation. It would come into play when local laws do not cover the crime and when local authorities refuse to use existing local laws to prosecute a hate crime.

According to the HRC's special Hate Crimes Prevention Act section (at <http://www.hrc.org/issues/leg/hcpa/index.html>), the Senate version of the HCPA, S. 622, has no Wisconsin co-sponsors. The House version, HR 1082, is sponsored by Wisconsin Representatives Tammy Baldwin (D-2nd District), Ron Kind (D-3rd District), and Thomas Barrett (D-5th District).

You can use the HRC site to send Senators Kohl and Feingold as well as your congressional representative a note. Either thank them for their support of the lives and well being of *all* their constituents, or remind them that America's Gay, Bi, Lesbian and Transgendered citizens are terrorized by hate crimes wherever they occur, and deserve protection from them.



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MAY '99**

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ON THURSDAYS**

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or discount offer.
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**The 1998 Gay Erotic Video Awards were just presented
in Las Vegas, and the Winners are . . .**

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French Connections
BEST SPECIAL INTEREST VIDEO
Fallen Angel 2
BEST SOLO
Alex & His Buddies
BEST SEX COMEDY
Thunderballs
BEST BI-SEXUAL VIDEO
Czech Bi Demand
BEST DIRECTIONS
Three Brothers

BEST SCREENPLAY
Three Brothers
BEST PRODUCTION DESIGN
French Connections
BEST EDITING
Link 2 Link
BEST CINEMATOGRAPHY
French Connections
BEST MUSIC
Fallen Angel 2

BEST PACKAGING
Ryker's Revenge
BEST ACTOR
Vince Rockland
"Three Brothers"
BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR
Joey Hart
"Ryker's Revenge"
BEST CUM SHOT
Three Brothers
BEST EROTIC SCENE
California Kings

**And you can find ALL the titles IN STOCK for your
viewing pleasure at . . .**



1418 E. Brady Street • Open Daily 10am-10pm
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NIGHTS OUT

News...

Two important people were missing from **La Cage** last weekend. George Prentice, the owner, was in Denver with his racecar. Back here, DJ Tanya AKA Tony was home with a banged up leg. Not to worry though — DJ Dave filled in admirably while Tim worked the lights.

Up in Mad Town, fans of frozen drinks should be all abuzz over **Club 5's** new frozen drink machine. Owner Ed Grunewald said it can make somewhere around a gazillion different kinds. Hmm... that should be just enough of a variety for the big crowds that flock there. Look for the new — and from what

it might be better to separate these contests on the calendar. That way both of them get more attention. Maybe we can invent some new ones like Mr. Dungeon Master USofA or Mr. Master and Slave Wisconsin — America. Then we can have some other leather pageants during the rest of the year. Plus, if we organized enough of those pageants, Milwaukee could become the Butch capital of the world!

Speaking of contests, the Mr. SSBL contest held at **The Ball Game** was a big success. \$870 was raised by and for the Saturday Softball League. The winner

was David Frye of the **Balistreri's Pizza** team. Second place went to Joe from **Club 219**. There are seven teams this year, but there were only four contestants. Hey, where were the rest of you?

Speaking of softball, the **Mugshots** team has started something over at that bar. They've been gathering there on Tuesday evenings, and now the place gets packed with other Gays, too. Of course, that's a good thing for owner Craig, who happens to be Gay himself.

The last, last call for **In Between** was sounded at about 1:35am on Monday, May 10. The closing night party was a blast, a sad blast, but a blast nonetheless. Signs and ads

Boy week-end was

just two weeks ago,

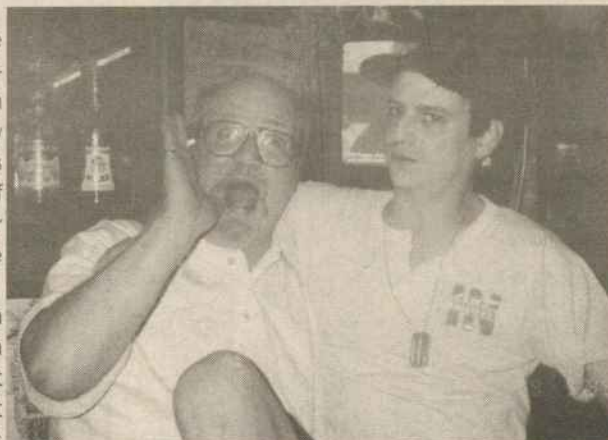
promoting parties held at the bar over the last three and half years were plastered on the walls.

In addition to a lot of regulars, bartenders and owners, several bars including **Fluid**, **Mugshots** and **La Cage** showed up to give the place a good send off. Owner Curt Peck brought in a stripper and the last half-hour or so featured an open bar. At one point, they broke open a Packer piñata. There were tons of lighters — collected from those left behind at the bar — inside. I think I have a six or seven month supply now. People scribbled messages on big sheets of paper wishing Curt and his staff all the best.

I did have two last night honors. I had the last highest score on the Lucky 13 game. Curt said he was going to use all his quarters to beat me — HA! I was also the last customer out of the door. For one last time, we all had a great time.

Speaking of last, here's one last thing for you to think about. Remember the Switch is on in Walker's Point!

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



The Final "Last Call" at In Between.



I hear expensive — machine to start cranking out some really cool stuff very soon.

Speaking of **Club 5**, we understand they are going to do a new menu in the restaurant. Word has it that there will still be some high end items, but the emphasis will be on more casual fare. The publisher and I had a great lunch there last Thursday. We found good food, good service and reasonable prices. What more could you ask for?

Recaps... The Mr. Drummer weekend was a roaring success. (See our photo spread on the next page.) There were nice receptions at the **1100 Club**, **Woody's** and **South Water Street Docks**. The main event was at the **Milwaukee Eagle**. It's nice to see the bars working together to put something like this on.

However, considering the fact that Daddy-



Going Out

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. Also, new La Cage cards available 11pm-close.

THURSDAY, MAY 13

La Cage (Milwaukee), New La Cage cards available 11pm-close.

FRIDAY, MAY 14

Cavalier Lounge (La Crosse), Grand re-opening. DJ, buffet, prize drawings. You could win a free 4-day, 3-night Bahamas cruise. 114 5th Ave., North.

La Cage (Milwaukee), New La Cage cards available 11pm-close.

SATURDAY, MAY 15

Balgame (Milwaukee), Possum Queen fund-raising Tenderloin Dinner served 4:30-6:30pm; silent auction, \$10 per dinner ticket. Party goes from 4-8pm.

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

La Cage (Milwaukee), New La Cage cards available 11pm-close.

Napalese (Green Bay), Turn-About Nite.

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

WEDNESDAY, MAY 19

Fluid (Milwaukee), BESTD Clinic offers free, anonymous HIV testing and counseling, 9pm-midnight.

FRIDAY, MAY 21

M&M Club (Milwaukee), The vocal stylings of John Scoots.

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.

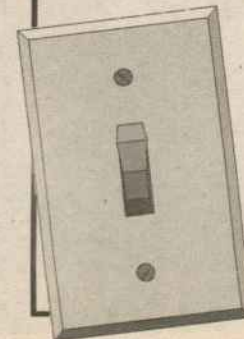
La Cage (Milwaukee), La Cage Showcase every Fri. & Sun. at 11pm.

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

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

OUTBACK PATIO

MAKE THE SWITCH
MAY '99





BAR GUIDE

APPLETON (920)

Rascal's Bar & Grill MW, F 702 E. Wisconsin, 54991 954-9262

BELOIT (608)

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

CENTRAL WISCONSIN (715)

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

EAU CLAIRE (715)

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

GREEN BAY (920)

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

RESTAURANTS

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

LA CROSSE (608)

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

MADISON (608)

CE's W,m 2415 Winnebago St. 53704 241-5042
 Club 5 MW, F 5 Applegate Ct., 53713 277-9700
 Fox Hole W 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

Club 5 Fine Dining 5 Applegate Ct., 53713 277-9700
 Fyfe's Corner Bistro Fine Dining 1344 E. Washington 251-8700

MILWAUKEE (414)

1100 Club M, L/L, Food 1100 S. 1st St., 53204 647-9950
Ball Game M, S 196 S. 2nd St., 53204 273-7474
(Open 2pm, Cocktail hour 2-9 Mon.-Fri., Sat-Sun Open at 11am)
 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
 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
(Open 4pm, Cocktail hour 4-9 Mon.-Fri., Tues. buffet, Wed. darts 7:30pm)

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
 Main Club MW 1217 Tower Ave., 55880 392-1756

PLEASE SUBMIT GUIDE CHANGES IN WRITING OR BY FAX (414) 226-0096.

CLASSIFIEDS

100-Employment

LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL TRANSGENDER ISSUES COORDINATOR

The Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender (LGBT) Issues Coordinator is a full-time, 12-month position to promote the academic achievement of LGBT students; improve and coordinate programs and services for LGBT students; and integrate LGBT academic programs with student services and community resources. Duties will focus on providing campus-wide leadership on LGBT issues; consultation and technical assistance to offices and programs; and direct service and programming. The initial appointment period is for July 1, 1999 to June 30, 2000. The Coordinator reports to the Dean of Students.

Qualifications: Minimum of Master's degree in a relevant discipline; 3 years experience working with LGBT teens or traditional age college students; demonstrated expertise in developing, implementing and coordinating programs; experience working with diverse populations; and superior writing and speaking skills. Ideal candidates should have broad professional experience with LGBT issues, demonstrated advising skills, experience in outreach, familiarity with budgets, scholarly and programming experience with diversity, experience coordinating teams in a complex decentralized public institution, comfort and skill with computer technology. Full job description available at www.wisc.edu/students/lgbtad.htm or by calling (608) 263-5700.

Application & Deadline: May 28, 1999. Send cover letter, current resume, name, phone, e-mail and address of three professional references to:
Dean of Students
LGBT Coordinator Search
75 Bascom Hall
500 Lincoln Drive,
Madison, WI 53706

PART TIME HELP WANTED

Designing Men, Milwaukee's premier Gay & Lesbian Gift Store is looking for part-time retail help. Retail experience preferred.
Call (414) 389-1200

100-Employment

EXECUTIVE ADMINISTRATOR

Unique opportunity for a highly organized, experienced professional to make a significant contribution to the on-going success of a small, downtown service firm with a national clientele. Your leadership qualities, superior administrative skills and ability to manage department procedures while supporting the Director are essential. Work full-time, Mon-Fri, 8am-5pm. We offer top salary, benefits, monthly bonus potential and pair parking. Fax letter of introduction with salary history and resume to Hiring Committee at
(414) 347-1080

ARTS MARKETING

Join the telemarketing sales force at Milwaukee Repertory Theater. If you love the arts, are a dependable, savvy salesperson, and want a yearround job with part-time evening hours (Sun-Thu), the Rep is looking for you. Full-time \$\$\$ possible for part-time hours (up to \$20/hr salary + commission) selling subscriptions and fundraising. Excellent phone skills and experient in the arts, sales, telemarketing or customer service desired. Great job w/full training in creative environment.
**Call Manager
(414) 290-5363**

200-Real Estate

WANTED TO RENT

Sleeping Room. Desire sleeping room for months of June, July & August. I live outside Milwaukee and my summer job demanded I have some early mornings/late evenings.
Call (608) 883-9996

SOUTHEAST-SUBURBAN BAY VIEW

By owner/by appointment. 1839 East Hillcrest Avenue. Great location - 10 blocks to lake. Quiet street. Roomy 3+ bedroom, living room, dining room, natural fireplace, kitchen 1&1/2 baths, 2 car garage. Enclosed porch-garden shed. Aluminum siding and windows. \$98,000
(414) 744-1182

200-Real Estate

Real Estate Lots



CONDO, Northwest Luxury, for RENT or SALE. Minutes from Northridge, secluded backyard. 2-bedroom (12-1/2 x 12-1/2) with 2 triple door closets. 19x12-1/2 living room with west (sunny) facing patio. Washer/dryer, range/refrig, air, dishwasher, disposer. Newly painted and carpeted. 1 year lease - \$645 w/\$750 security. 2 year lease - \$595 w/\$750 security. **RENTERS** call (920) 387-9968 (Rick). **SERIOUS BUYERS** call (414) 785-4875, ext. 106 (Brian).

BAYVIEW - 2 Bedroom Upper

Appliances, laundry hook-up, parking. No pets or waterbeds.
\$450/month plus deposit.
Call (414) 744-9693

Upper 1-Bedroom, SE Milw

Kitchen with appliances, dining room, living room, den, carpeted. Large fenced-in yard.
(414) 481-4107

SLEEPING ROOMS FOR RENT

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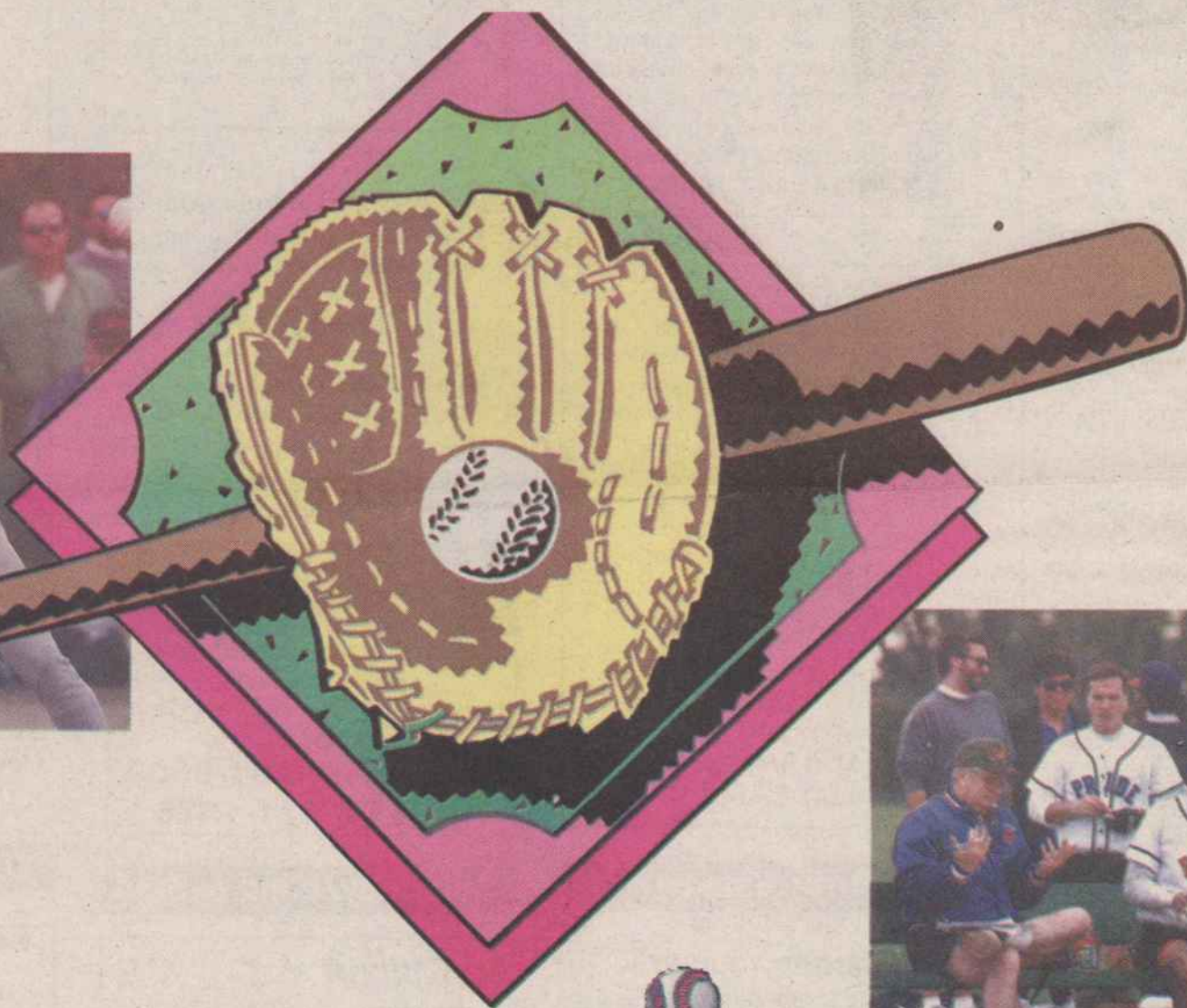
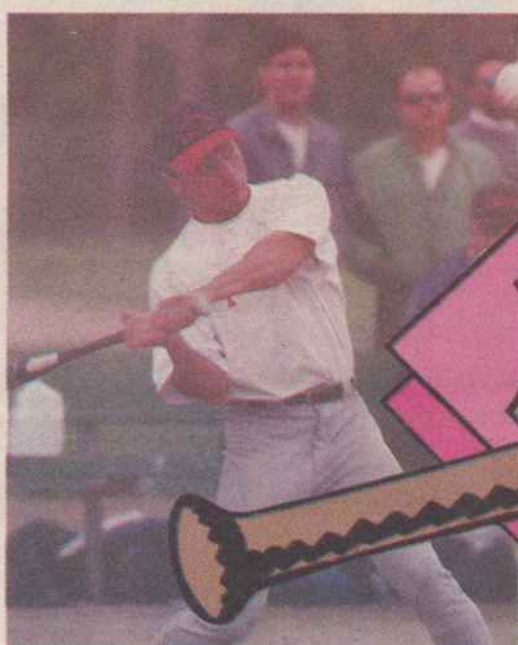
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