

The Weekly Voice of Wisconsin's LGBT Community



# Light WEEKLY

May 26-June 1, 1999



**Lesbian White House Staff Chief Interviewed**  
*A Wisconsin Light Exclusive*  
Page 4

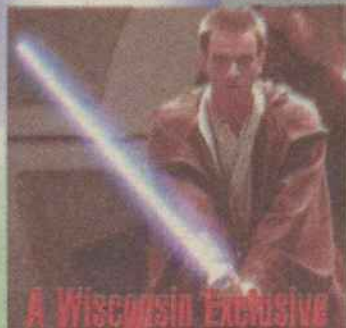
# A CLASSIC Time In MILWAUKEE



## Inside

**LGBT Couples Win Landmark Case in Canada**

Page 9



*A Wisconsin Exclusive*  
**George Lucas and the Actors Speak**  
Page 14



**SSBL Follies Pictures**  
Page 26



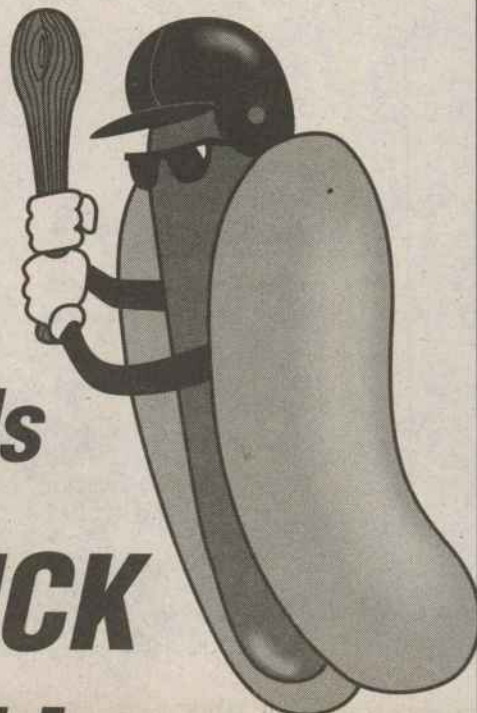
**Mr. Gay Wisconsin USofA**  
Page 20



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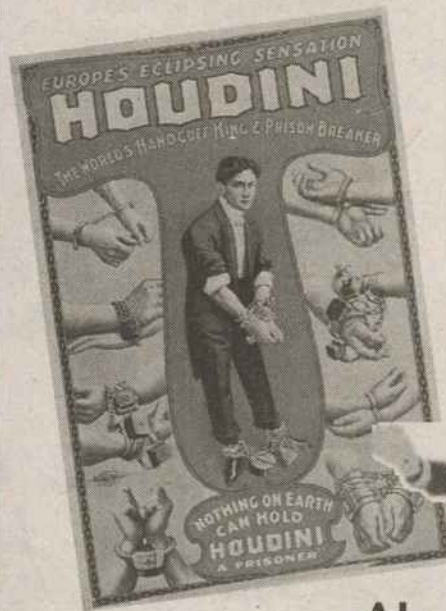
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May 26-June 1, 1999

**Contents****News & Commentary**

- 4 Virginia Apuzzo Interviewed
- 6 Outted Students Find Support
- 8 National News
- 9 Canadian Court Legalizes LGBT Couples

**Spotlight Section**

- 14 Star Wars - the Actors & George Lucas Speak to Us
- 14 Film/Theater

**LifeStyle Section**

- 17 Milwaukee Classic
- 18 Dear Ruthie

**Nights Out Section**

- 25 Dusty After Dark
- 27 Bar Guide

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**AP** Associated Press**LETTER FROM THE EDITOR****Welcome to the Milwaukee Classic, Dear Friends,**

Welcome to one of America's oldest Gay sporting events, the Milwaukee Classic. It was 22 years ago, this Memorial Day weekend, that softball teams from around the country took to Milwaukee diamonds in a ground breaking display of skill, friendship and competition. It was the first LGBT softball tournament ever.

That first tournament was called "The Wreck Room Classic." After Wreck Room owner Wayne Bernhagen became ill due to HIV, he turned this gem over to our LGBT softball league, the SSBL. Wayne and his bar are gone now, but his spirit lives on through this tournament and all of those who play in it or come out to support their favorite teams.

Over the years the Classic has seen other changes. We no longer play beneath the Domes of Mitchell Park, where there were so many exciting games. On the other hand, Wick Field has enough diamonds to accommodate a two day tournament. We also don't have to shuttle teams between fields that are miles apart.

Despite many years of change, the Classic remains essentially the same. It is still an outstanding display of sportsmanship and a great time for players and fans alike.

Like the LGBT communities in your

cities, ours is changing. LGBT Wisconsin seems to be going through a period of great transition. We are very proud of the progress we've made over the last year. Those of you who have been here in the past may notice some changes.

You are reading one of them. In March *Wisconsin Light* became the first and only LGBT publication in Wisconsin history to publish weekly. The *Light* also remains the only LGBT Wisconsin paper to offer regular coverage of the Gay sports scene. We are a proud sponsor of the Milwaukee Classic.

There have been other changes, too. Last November, Milwaukee opened a new community center. Earlier this year, the Center hired Neil Albrecht as its full time Executive Director.

In the world of politics, Madison's Mark Pocan became the first openly Gay man elected to our State Legislature. In the state that brought the nation its first statewide Gay Civil Rights law, Lesbians and Gays played a crucial role electing Tammy Baldwin, America's first openly Lesbian Congresswoman.

I'm sure those of you from the Midwest can appreciate our feelings about Tammy. We are especially proud of the fact that she comes from Wisconsin instead of one of those places that think THEY are the center of the Gay universe.

We aren't done yet. Inside Milwaukee's City Hall, our aldermen are debating the establishment of a Domestic Partners Registry. Later this year, we will be asking the State of Wisconsin to make same-sex couples equal, under the law, to their married counterparts.

If this is your first visit to Milwaukee, you are in for a treat. While you are here, get a heaping helping of Gemuetlichkeit. That's German for hospitality. We pride ourselves on it. You will find Milwaukee to be a very friendly city.

Although we want you to enjoy your stay here, our hospitality will only go so far. We will be gracious hosts off the ball fields. However, when the umpire says "Play Ball," our local teams will do their best to make sure this year's trophies stay in Milwaukee. I'm sure you wouldn't have it any other way.

In closing let me repeat something I wrote in the *Light's* Milwaukee Classic issue two years ago, "When we strive for excellence we become stronger. When we work together, we become closer. When we do both, there are no losers only winners."

Congratulations to all of you, the winners in the Milwaukee Classic. Welcome to Wisconsin!

**Enjoy the Light!**  
**Bill Meunier**  
Editor

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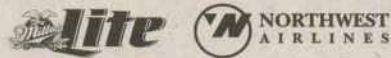
**FESTIVAL HOURS:**

FRI.	June 11 <sup>th</sup>	5pm - 11pm
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# Virginia Apuzzo

by Bill Meunier

Virginia Apuzzo, 58, is a true pioneer of the LGBT movement for Civil rights. In its early days, she was an articulate spokesperson for Gays and Lesbians. She served as Executive Director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force.

Apuzzo moved easily through the corridors of power in New York, where she served as Commissioner of the New York Civil Service. From 1985 to 1991, Apuzzo was the deputy executive director of the New York State Consumer Protection Board. From 1986 to 1989, she was also Governor Mario Cuomo's liaison to the LGBT community.

In 1996, Apuzzo accepted a Presidential appointment as Deputy Secretary of Labor. On February 1, 1997, the White House announced her appointment to the post of Assistant to the President for Management and Administration at the White House. That's a complicated title. It means Chief of the White House staff. Her appointment made Virginia Apuzzo the highest openly Gay person ever to serve in the Executive branch of the Federal government.

Despite her lofty position, Apuzzo remains an unabashed advocate of social change. She remains concerned with the welfare of Gays and Lesbians but her concern extends to the poor, women and other politically disadvantaged groups as well.



*The Wisconsin Light* was honored to be granted a rare interview with this remarkable woman. We present it as the final installment of our Village Elders series.

**Wisconsin Light: What does your job at the White House entail?**

Virginia Apuzzo: I run the White House. There are three major areas that come under my jurisdiction. The White House military office is one, which is kind of interesting, for a Lesbian. It takes in all of the White House communications agency as well as propeller and helicopter airlift operations for the President and Vice President. I have all the White House agencies, whether it's the National Economic Council or domestic policy, all of that.

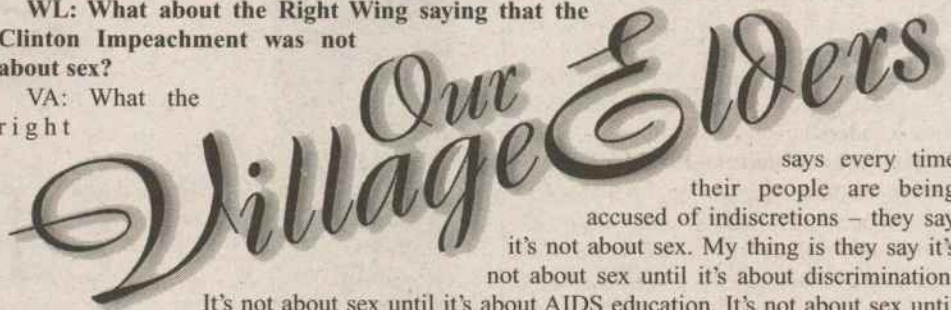
Basically, if you could picture the White House complex having a mayor, that's me.

**WL: What was the White House like during the impeachment hearings?**

VA: It is shocking and I am sure you will not believe it, but I can tell you that the vast majority of people, meaning 97% of the people, continued doing the work of the American people. I know it sounds like a cliché, it's not.

**WL: What about the Right Wing saying that the Clinton Impeachment was not about sex?**

VA: What the right



says every time their people are being accused of indiscretions — they say it's not about sex. My thing is they say it's not about sex until it's about discrimination.

It's not about sex until it's about AIDS education. It's not about sex until it's about the military. The world's a crazy thing. It's not about sex. That's exactly what we've been saying for years. It's not about sex.

**WL: We heard that some people in the White House were angry with the President.**

VA: Let me say this. As a person who was out when she was 18-years-old, which means in the late '50s, 1959, I have lied about my sex life. The fact of the matter is that Gay people particularly should be able to understand someone having to lie to avoid the repercussions. I can't waste my time getting angry. I've got a job to do. If people were angry, they kept it to themselves.

The fact that this President stands up for our political rights is in part, I believe, one of the reasons they attacked him. This is a President out doing things, getting health insurance for kids, making sure kids don't become road kill. This is a President who cares about workers. This is a President who has been responsive in a major way with regard to AIDS.

Is it everything we want? No. Must he do more? Yes. That's our job, to keep pressing.

**WL: You've been so involved with the movement. You've seen many changes. It seems that we are now at a crossroads. Now we have the debate going on about whether we are**



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**Gay, post-Gay, post post-Gay. What do you feel?**

VA: I am not for us being a market niche. That's not my goal. I didn't spend 30 years of my life to see Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgendered people become a market niche. I don't give a damn about Absolut taking out ads.

I don't happen to think that's a sign of my liberation. I have been involved in a movement for social change. That's what my own personal commitment is to. And I think that's a fundamental question we have to ask. Are we for legitimacy or liberation?

We are not some orphan principle in search of legitimization. The issue is not that for me personally. As a social change movement, I think we have to challenge to what degree this society is a democracy as we move into the 21st century.

**WL: Will we get the Hate Crimes Prevention Act and ENDA through Congress?**

VA: I think we have to expand our strategy. We have to get people into the boardrooms to fight discrimination. Getting back to the unions to talk about the pension funds. Give them a dialogue. We need to say, "Okay let's talk about these pension funds. Let's talk about where the funds are invested. Let's talk about whether or not you believe that there should be employment discrimination there. And if you don't, let's get on the boardroom floor and talk about it."

I don't think there's a business in America that wants to spend its time talking about employment rights for us. Our leverage should be, put your force behind coming to Congress asking for ENDA to pass.

**WL: So you are saying the fight should move off the streets and into the corporate boardroom?**

VA: I think we are ready for the next step.

**WL: What is the next step?**

VA: I think you go back and look at what NGLTF did. Remember we did a big thing on Fortune 500 about 15 or 20 years ago. The next step is to don't ask them, get into the boardroom and tell them. Make them make their commitment to ENDA something specific.

Our next step with regard to the anti-violence project is to make sure we get hate crimes laws

that include gender identity. We can't leave Transgendered people out of it. These folks are getting attacked. I just came back from New Orleans; they have a hate crimes law with gender identity and Transgendered people are covered. What is the point of getting a hate crimes law and leaving out one of the major targets?

**WL: Have you talked to the President about Gay issues?**

VA: I actually went with the President when he spoke to the Human Rights Campaign Dinner about a year or so ago. I told him, "Mr. President, people have called me and emailed me and wanted you to know how they feel about your doing this."

He looked at me and he said, "It's the right thing to do." We talked about the theme of the speech, which was Harry Truman's statement that when I say all Americans, I mean all Americans. He took that phrase and he said, "When I say all Americans, I mean all Americans including Gays, Lesbians, Bisexual and

**I didn't spend 30 years of my life to see Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgendered people become a market niche. I don't give a damn about Absolut taking out ads. I don't happen to think that's a sign of my liberation. I have been involved in a movement for social change.**

Transgendered people. You are part of one America."

**WL: What about the President? Has he done a good job?**

VA: We have a good man. I am not talking just about the economy. I don't think the economy can be what we ratchet up to or down to on every issue. I think the fact that we are putting community policing in context is important. I think the work he is trying to do making sure that poor children don't get left behind in the technological revolution is critical. I'm a teacher. At heart, I am a teacher. I think that's critical work. I do believe there's a real effort to make sure we all get health insurance.

**WL: What about Hillary? Is she going to run for Senate in New York?**

VA: I am a New Yorker. I hope she does. Secretly, I think, I've seen her in Uganda; I've seen her and children. I've seen her and women in South Africa and Uganda. I want her to have an international stage.

**WL: Is there any message you want to provide to our readers in Wisconsin?**

VA: I want them to understand that this is not something we can take a sabbatical on. The message is you have to keep moving. Don't stop. No grass under your feet. It never ends. Never ends.

The interview was over. Ms Apuzzo's aides escorted her to a waiting car, which took her to Madison's airport. As it drove off, I thought about the impact this woman has had. I remember reading about her in the *Advocate* when I was first coming out. She spoke with eloquence about ending discrimination against Gays and Lesbians. That was a radical concept back in the mid-1970s, even for some of us.

Virginia Apuzzo is still pushing her "radical ideas." Her closeness to the most powerful man on earth has not changed that. I doubt if anything could.

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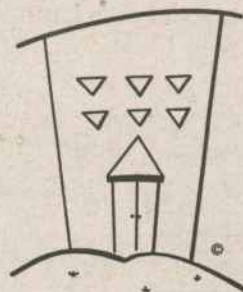
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## AROUND THE STATE

# Outed Students Find Support

by Bill Meunier

**Verona** — Last June, the Madison area LGBT community was shocked when Ralph Ovadal's Wisconsin Christians United targeted them with billboards denouncing homosexuality. Madison responded with anger and support. Hundreds of signs reading "Madison Supports Its Gays and Lesbians" went up on lawns everywhere. Local politicians denounced what they considered a message of hate.

On May 13, 3,000 households in this Madison suburb found another anti-Gay attack. This one came in the form of a letter. This time, among the targets were those who many would say are the LGBT community's most vulnerable members — Gay and Lesbian youth. Like last summer, the targets of the attack found support from their community.

Former firefighter and anti-Gay congressional candidate, Ron Greer, wrote the letter. Last year, Madison's Fire Department dismissed Greer for engaging in anti-Gay activities at the workplace. He narrowly lost his bid for the Republican nomination for Congress in September's primary.

Greer's letter denounced the Verona School District because it allows a pro-LGBT equality group, Alliance for Acceptance, to meet at the 1100 student Verona High School. It went on to attack GLSEN, the Gay Lesbian Straight Education Network. It even took a middle school social worker to task for displaying an anti-Gay violence poster on her office door.

Those who disagree with Greer say the letter wasn't the worst part of his activities. They reserve that judgement for something he included in the mailing, the minutes of one of the Alliance's meetings.

They contained the names of all who attended. Suddenly, about a dozen students — some straight and some Gay — were outed to the community. "It's an incredible violation of someone's rights," said Larry Palmer, Co-Director of the Madison chapter of GLSEN.

Ironically, the minutes also contained the names of potential speakers to the group, including Greer's name. There was a question mark behind Greer's name with the notation, "Just to hear another point of view."

If Greer's intent was to create an anti-Gay feeling in Verona, his missive failed. A spokeswoman at the School District office told *Light*, "The school itself is surrounding these students providing emotional support. Everyone is concerned."

That concern extends beyond the school. Angry residents are calling about the letter. Sources at both the school and the district office told *Light* that the calls are running 6 to 1 against the letter.

School Principal Kelly Meyers told Madison's *Capital Times* that she took 100 calls about the letter the day after it came out. That doesn't count calls taken by school secretaries and other administrators.

The letter says the school district has "taken concern for the safety of your children to advance a radical agenda." It accuses the District of using tax dollars to "endanger" children by promoting acceptance of Gays and Lesbians.

Greer accused GLSEN and others of using violence in the schools for political advantage. He wrote, "They (GLSEN teachers, adults) stress the need to take advantage of name calling... or incidents of bullying, etc. and use them as a reason for pro-homosexual instruction."

He blasts a school social worker for putting a "safe zone" poster on her office door. The poster displays a pink triangle and the words "Safe Zone." It reads in part, "I display this symbol because I'm here to help. No one should feel ashamed because of who they are. All people are entitled to be proud and productive members of our community regardless of race, gender, age, handicaps or sexual orientation. It is this diversity that creates a world that is unique and interesting."

Meyers told the *Capital Times* that she is not aware of any school that does not take a stand that all children are to be kept safe, valued and respected. She added, "The poster that he's talking about literally just says Safe Zone. If they are feeling unsafe, ridiculed or threatened, they can go to this area or space."

Greer writes that the pink triangle on the poster commemorates the Stonewall riots, which he claimed occurred in the late 1970s when New York police tried to arrest "a 15-year-old male prostitute." His letter asserts that the patrons of Stonewall bar barricaded the Police inside and then set fire to it. Then he asks, "This symbolizes tolerance? What is it they really want to teach your children?"

Historians, Gay and Straight alike, would take exception to Greer's version of the Stonewall riots, which occurred in 1969. They say the Police raided the bar because its owners were late with a payoff. The bar was never set on fire and it was the Police, not the patrons, who barricaded themselves inside of it.

LGBT activists say that the Pink Triangle commemorates the LGBT victims of the holocaust, not the Stonewall riots.

Palmer takes exception to Greer's characterization of his group as a "radical" one. "The only radical notion GLSEN supports is safe schools for everyone," he said.

He told *Light* that GLSEN promotes Gay-Straight alliances in the schools to promote understanding. He also said that GLSEN has never met in the Verona schools.

While the controversy swirls around them, 12 students, who attended a meeting to promote understanding, have learned a lesson. Palmer says that lesson can be summed up quite succinctly: "There are mean people out there."

## AROUND THE STATE

### ARCW Launches HIV Prevention Vaccine Trial

**Milwaukee** – The Wisconsin trial of an experimental HIV vaccine is underway. Volunteer Patrick Price became the first Wisconsin volunteer to receive an inoculation of the vaccine, AIDS-VAX. It was administered to Price at the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin (ARCW) office on May 20. Approximately 70 people have already enlisted in the drug trial. ARCW hopes to enroll 150 subjects by the end of August.

Price said he was volunteering for the study in memory of friends who died of AIDS, in spite of some fears. "I never thought I'd be the proverbial poster child... but I'm doing this for the next generation."

ARCW's Research Consortium is one of 31 sites across the country, and the only one in Wisconsin, that will be conducting Phase III clinical trials of the AIDS-VAX<sup>®</sup> vaccine developed by VaxGen Inc.

"From the beginning of AIDS 18 years ago, we have all dreamed of a prevention vaccine," said Doug Nelson, ARCW Executive Director. "Today we make history by launching this vaccine trial which is a giant step forward toward realizing the dream of a vaccine that will save lives and put an end to the AIDS epidemic."

Volunteers for the study must be currently HIV negative but at risk for HIV infection. Each person will receive seven inoculations during a 30-month period. Sixteen follow-up risk reduction-counseling sessions with each volunteer will stress HIV prevention messages.

"We will emphasize strongly that no volunteer can rely on this trial as protection from HIV infection," Nelson said. "This research will only measure the potential of the vaccine. Our emphasis on HIV risk reduction will be strong and constant."

During the three-year trial, neither volunteers nor researchers will know which volunteers are receiving the vaccine and which receive a placebo. Two out of three participants will receive the actual vaccine. At the end of the trial, researchers will compare the rate of HIV infection in the group that received the placebo with the rate among volunteers who received the vaccine. That comparison will be used to determine its effectiveness.

According to Brian Buggy, MD, ARCW's Medical Director and the trial's principal Milwaukee investigator, "AIDS-VAX is designed to stimulate an immune response resulting in the production of antibodies that will hopefully identify and neutralize HIV."

Researchers are hoping to enroll 5,000 American volunteers. They will join 2,500 injection drug users in Thailand in the study. Earlier clinical trials have shown the vaccine is safe for use in humans and induces a strong immune response. This vaccine cannot infect volunteers because it is not made from live HIV-1 virus. To date, there have been no known side effects except those that often occur with other types of inoculations.

Those interested in volunteering for the study may call ARCW at (414) 225-1548 or (800) 359-9272 ext. 248 for more information.

### Religious Right Opposes Registry

**Milwaukee** – Fundamentalist Christians are trying to drum up support against a proposed Domestic Partnership Registry in Milwaukee. Ralph Ovadal's group, Wisconsin Christians United, has been passing out flyers in at least one Aldermanic District. Wisconsin Christians United and Ovadal are headquartered in Monroe, Wisconsin, a small city in Southwest Wisconsin.

The flyers, titled "Here We Go Again," include a quote from a February Flood Light column in *Wisconsin Light*. The quote read, "Mayor Norquist has publicly expressed support for such an initiative in Milwaukee. There are actions taking place to bring this up again to the people of Milwaukee. Our community is building momentum..."

*Wisconsin Light* editor Bill Meunier accused Ovadal of taking the quote out of context. The last sentence in it actually read, "Our community is building momentum with the inauguration of the new LGBT community center and the election of Tammy Baldwin and other wins in Madison and around the state." Meunier said, "That had nothing to do with this issue."

The flyer charges that Domestic partnership benefits would be expensive for City taxpayers. It claims that taxes have gone up "considerably" in cities that provide domestic partners benefits. Proponents of the registry say that \$35 fee couples will pay to register will more than cover the costs.

On the back of the flier is a listing of the home phone numbers and addresses of the entire Milwaukee Common Council.

Attached to the flier were three pages attacking the LGBT community. The attachment urged society to discriminate against Gays and Lesbians. It also charged that Gays were responsible for the holocaust. Historians say that between 500,000 and 1,000,000 Gays and Lesbians died in Nazi death camps during the holocaust.

Ald. Mike D'Amato, the chief sponsor of the registry, responded to the Ovadal flyer saying, "It's tragic to see that much hatred in the City and fear mongering by those types of people. I am confident this is just a small group of people that don't represent the fair minded people of Milwaukee."

On the issue of cost, D'Amato said, "This doesn't cost the City of Milwaukee a penny, while it does provide many Milwaukeeans with the ability to register and receive benefits from other organizations."

Patrick Flaherty, Co-Chair of Milwaukee's Domestic Partners Task Force, also responded to the literature. He told the *Light*, "With the other side resorting to such despicable tactics, it becomes imperative that every person that supports Gay and Lesbian couples call their Alderperson at 286-2221."

He added, "The Common Council needs to decide who it will side with: hate filled out of town extremists or same sex couples committed to each other and Milwaukee."

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**AROUND THE NATION****President Appoints Gay  
 Advisor**

Washington, D.C. - President Bill Clinton appointed Sean Maloney to the post of Assistant to the President and Staff Secretary. Maloney joins White House Staffers Virginia Apuzzo and Karen Tromanato as openly LGBT Assistants to the President. He has been a deputy assistant to the President and Deputy Staff Secretary since October 1998.

Maloney began working with Clinton during the 1992 presidential primaries. A lawyer, Maloney's duties will include clearing all written material going to and from the Oval Office, including all presidential briefing and decision memos, executive orders, directives and legislation.

In making the appointment, the President said, "Sean Maloney has done an outstanding job of managing the flow of information to and from my desk and providing important counsel. He is a valued member of my senior staff in a critically important job."

A White House press release announcing the appointment points out that Maloney and his partner, Randy Florke, have a nine-year-old son.

**Poll Says Racism,  
 Homophobia Connected**

New York, NY - A new Gallup Poll shows a connection between homophobia, racism and violence directed at minority students.

The poll of high school students showed that 58% believe violence prone groups are a particular threat to Gays and Lesbians. Half of the students reporting hearing these groups speak of hatred for Gays. Furthermore, 51% said the groups were a threat to African American, Hispanic and other minority students.

Recently, a state of Massachusetts agency said its research found that Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual students are more than seven times as likely as their heterosexual classmates to be threatened with a weapon at school. The study said they are more than five times as likely to skip school due to feeling unsafe at or en route to school.

GLSEN, the Gay Straight Education Network, said its research indicates the average high school student hears anti-Gay epithets 25 times a day.

**Anti-Gay Vandalism At  
 University**

South Kingstown, RI - University officials, students and others responded to a rash of anti-Gay vandalism on the University of Rhode Island campus. An anti-Gay slogan and an obscenity were painted on a closed frat house. The Sigma Phi Epsilon frat house, which was closed for alcohol violations, will become a multi-cultural house next fall.

Last week someone set a fire next to the frat house. A crowd jeered and threw beer bottles at the firefighters who responded. University President Robert Carothers told the Providence *Journal Bulletin* that the graffiti was the "physical manifestation of a culture that is morally bankrupt." He added, "I want to make this clear, that this stuff is over.

Anybody that persists in this kind of behavior will be thrown off campus."

A rally outside the frat house attracted 50 people.

**Texas Hate Crime Bill Dies,  
 Bush Is Silent**

Austin, TX - A bill that would have increased criminal penalties for those committing hate crimes, and added crimes based on sexual orientation to the hate crimes law, died in the State Senate.

The James Bryd, Jr. Hate Crimes act overwhelmingly passed the Democrat controlled House. It ran into trouble in the Republican controlled State Senate. Its supporters were unable to force the bill's release from a Senate Committee.

Earlier this year, Texas Governor George W. Bush, Jr., the leading GOP candidate for President, said he opposed providing hate crime protection to Gays and Lesbians. When asked if he would sign the bill should it pass, Bush's office would only say he would "study it."

A Bush spokesperson said that the Governor offered some ideas to break the stalemate but did not provide specifics. Republican State Senators said they were unaware of any Bush attempt to reach a compromise.

Last August, a group of men attacked James Bryd, Jr. because he was black. The men chained Bryd to a pickup truck. They then drove the truck down a dirt road, dragging Bryd until he was decapitated. A Texas court convicted one man of the crime and sentenced him to death. The others are awaiting trial.

**School Superintendent  
 Rebuffs Conservatives**

Salt Lake City, UT - School Superintendent Darlene Robles is refusing to discipline a High School Principal because she allowed a Gay student group to participate in a school assembly.

The *Salt Lake Tribune* reports that East High Principal, Kay Peterson, allowed the Gay Straight Alliance to make a six-minute presentation during last April's annual multicultural assembly at her school. That decision outraged conservative parents, who began a petition seeking Peterson's removal.

The presentation discussed anti-Gay violence and LGBT history. Robles said state and local prosecutors reviewed the matter and found no violations of state laws. While saying that Peterson should have exercised more control over the content of the presentation, Robles said there was no cause for further action.

Well before the controversy, Peterson scheduled her retirement for the end of this school year. She has refused to step down earlier.

**Gaither Suspects Plead  
 Innocent**

Rockford, AL - The two men accused of killing Billy Jack Gaither because he was Gay pleaded innocent to charges of capital murder. Charles Monroe Butler, Jr., 21, and

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## AROUND THE NATION

Steven Eric Mullins, 25, are charged with beating Gaither to death with an ax handle and then burning his body atop a funeral pyre of kerosene soaked tires. Police say the men confessed to the crime.

### Shepard Murder Suspect Sentenced

**Laramie, WY** — A sobbing Chastity Vera Pasley, 20, was sentenced to 15 to 20 months in prison after pleading guilty to the charges related to the murder of 22-year-old, Gay University of Wyoming student, Matthew Shepard.

Police say Pasley aided her boyfriend, Russell Henderson, after he and Aaron McKinney left the battered student unconscious and hanging on a barb wired fence. Pasley helped Henderson hide his bloody clothes and provided an alibi for him.

Henderson pled guilty to the murder last month. He was sentenced to two consecutive life terms.

### IL Judge Charged with Ethics Breach

**Chicago, IL** — Cook County Judge Susan J. McDunn stands accused of ethics violations related to her handling of two Lesbian adoption cases. McDunn breached the confidentiality of two Lesbian couples, who filed adoption papers with her court. The Judge sent the papers to the anti-Gay Family Research Council.

Her supervising Judge Francis Barth transferred McDunn to the Traffic Court. However, she refuses to surrender jurisdiction over the two cases. McDunn could face disbarment for her actions.

### Myrtle Beach Flag Controversy

**Myrtle Beach, SC** — The controversy over whether a business owner has the right to fly a rainbow flag in violation of a City zoning code continues. Municipal Court Judge Ted Collins levied a \$373 fine on Rainbow Bistro owner, Linda Robertson, for flying the flag.

Robertson contends the code is unfair and violates her right of free speech. The code allows American, state, city, town, county and foreign flags to be flown, but bars corporate flags. Initially Robertson removed her two Rainbow flags. Later she put one back in place.

The case appears headed to the Federal court system.

### Senator Wants to Protect LGBT Students

**New York, NY** — *The New York Blade* reports that openly Gay State Senator Tom Duane introduced a bill that would make anti-Gay taunts and harassment illegal in New York schools.

The bill called the Dignity for All Students Act, would require New York schools to develop plans for dealing with anti-Gay behavior among students. It would also require each school to designate a staff member who would deal with the harassment and teacher training.

### Man Who Fought Gay Adoption Charged

**Indianapolis, IN** — A man who fought a Gay couple's attempts to adopt his nine-year-old foster daughter stands accused of molesting her.

Police arrested Earl "Butch" Kimmerling charging him with four counts of felony child molestation. He was released after posting a \$35,000 bond. Kimmerling's wife contacted police after the girl told her of the alleged abuse.

The Kimmerlings opposed the attempts of a Gay couple to adopt the girl and her three brothers last fall. Politicians from throughout the state signed a letter of opposition to the proposed adoption. During the controversy, two State Legislators introduced a bill banning Gay adoptions. That bill passed the House but failed to win a majority in the State Senate.

Police report that Kimmerling admitted to sexual contact with the girl "many times since April or May, 1998. The last time on the morning of May 10, 1999."

During the controversy, the Kimmerlings described themselves as Christians who believed that traditional family settings were best for children. Mr. Kimmerling could face a prison term of 20 to 116 years.

### Gay Man Murdered

**Albany, NY** — A 20-year-old man accused of murdering a Gay family friend, says that he did it to ward off a sexual advance. David Linen told Police that his victim, Robert Carpenter, grabbed him, tried to kiss him and attempted to pull down his pants behind a local bowling alley following a night of drinking with his victim.

Linen states that he became enraged because Carpenter was HIV+. "I was upset because I remembered being told that he was HIV positive, and this was my death sentence," said Linen. The victim's HIV status was not confirmed at press time.

Linen said he picked up a piece of wood and struck Carpenter with it. After beating Carpenter he dragged his body a few feet and ran away. Prosecutors are charging Linen with second degree murder.

### Gay Chorus Gets National Exposure

**Boston, MA** — One of America's most popular Fourth of July celebrations will get a Gay twist this year, according to the *Bay Area Window*. Members of the Boston Gay Men's Chorus will perform at the annual Boston Pop's Concert on the Esplanade.

The concert attracts hundreds of thousands. It is broadcast live to a national television audience. As part of this year's concert, 12 members of the group will join with members of two other choruses in performing *With Voices Raised*. The song focuses on the women's suffragette movement, the civil rights movement and the Gay civil rights movement. Boston Pops conductor, Keith Lockhart, said the work would be the "centerpiece" of a new Boston Pops album.

### Canadian High Court Rules For LGBT Couples

**Ottawa, Canada** — The Canadian Supreme Court handed Gays and Lesbians a major victory on May 20. The Court issued a ruling ordering the Province of Ontario to put same-sex couples on the same legal footing as their common-law married heterosexual counterparts.

The ruling came in the case of M and H, two Lesbians. M sued for the right to collect alimony following the end of her relationship

with H. The spousal law of Ontario limits the right to collect alimony to legally married or common-law heterosexual couples. The court ruled that the law was unconstitutional because it violated the 1982 Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

In its decision, the court stressed that it was not changing the "traditional concepts of marriage." It noted that Ontario already allowed alimony for non-married heterosexual couples. Justice Frank Iacobucci who co-authored the majority opinion wrote that, while the ruling does not recognize Gay marriages, it does require Ontario to treat same-sex equally with common-law heterosexual couples.

Nevertheless, the ruling said that the decision "may well affect numerous other statutes that rely upon a similar definition of the term spouse." That is because most of Canada puts common-law marriages among heterosexual couples on an equal footing with legally married couples. The court gave Ontario 6 months to change all statutes that limit the legal definition of the word "spouse" to heterosexual couples.

The Charter of Rights and Freedoms says that all individuals must be treated equally. The provinces and the federal government approved the charter in an effort to keep Quebec from leaving the country. French speaking Quebecois demanded guarantees that their rights would be respected.

In the United States, a Supreme Court ruling is instantly the law of the land. Canada's legal system is different. The Canadian Charter allows each province and the federal government to decide whether it will abide by the Court's rulings. In response to the decision, Ontario's Premier Mike Harris, said, "It's not my definition of family." Nonetheless, he promised to rewrite Ontario's laws to comply with it.

Two other Canadian Premiers, Saskatchewan's Roy Romanow and Manitoba's Gary Filmon said that they would also go along with the ruling. The governments of other provinces indicated they would also comply.

Ironically, M and H had already settled the case, which has been in the courts for seven years. When the couple separated in 1992, M had less than \$10 Canadian in her bank account. She sued after finding that she could not collect alimony. The New

Democratic Party government of Ontario supported M as the case wound it's way through the lower courts, which ruled in her favor. When the Conservative Party took over the Provincial government, it decided to contest the lower court decisions.

This is not the first time that the Court has used the Charter to expand the legal rights of Canadian Gays and Lesbians. Previous rulings on the issue banned discrimination in

the Canadian military and other areas of public life.

The 182 page decision, the longest issued by the Court in many years, focused on

the case before it but much of what the Justices wrote indicated a clear sympathy with same-sex couples. Justice Peter Cory, who is retiring this week, wrote, "Certainly same-sex couples will often form long lasting, loving and intimate relationships. The choices they make in the context of those relationships may give rise to the financial dependence of one partner on the other. When a relationship breaks down, the support provisions help to ensure that a member of a couple who has contributed the couple's welfare in intangible ways will not find himself or herself utterly abandoned."

As might be expected, the court's ruling was met with a mixed reaction. Conservative groups denounced it, while liberals and Gay rights activists celebrated.

In a prepared statement, the victorious plaintiff M praised the decision. M said, "At the end of the 20th Century, it is long overdue that Lesbian and Gay people are not just tolerated in Canadian society but are recognized and included as full, valuable, participating members." Her former partner H also hailed the ruling because the court allowed Gays and Lesbians the right to reach written agreements to avoid alimony liabilities.

Meanwhile, Conservative groups were hopping mad over the decision. "The Supreme Court has overturned centuries of social tradition," said Darrell Reid of Focus on the Family — Canada. His group had intervened in the case in opposition to M's suit.

One newspaper, *The London (Ontario) Free Press* editorialized, "Thursday's Supreme Court decision spells it out. You can't pick and choose areas of discrimination once fundamental rights have been decided... Those who view this ruling as an attack on traditional families need to remember that you don't protect the rights of one group by stomping on those of another."

In the United States, LGBT civil rights activists hailed the ruling. Evan Wolfson, Director of the Marriage Project of the Lambda Legal Defense Fund, told the *Wall Street Journal*, "Any kind of high court recognition, particularly from a court as Canada's, is tremendously significant. Wolfson and others believe that the decision could have persuasive value in the courts here.



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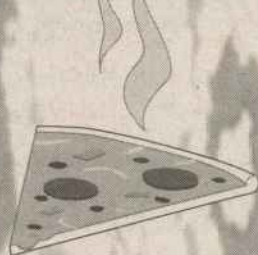
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# CommUNITY

**Future Search Conference Focus on Youth**

by Neil Albrecht

Special to *Wisconsin Light*

**Oshkosh** – Fifty Lesbians, Gays, Bisexuals, Transgendered individuals and their allies gathered here for the "Future Search" conference held May 13-15. The conference was called to discuss what is perhaps our community's greatest asset — our youth. Future Search focused on ensuring that resources are available for the healthy development of LGBT and questioning youth in Wisconsin.

The Future Search format is based on a national model. It uses a cross section of participants brought together to share historical and global perspectives and identify common grounds. The conference facilitators, Gary Hollander, Ph.D. and L.G. Shanklin-Flowers, have a long and rich history of assisting people, organizations and communities in reaching their full potential. The YWCA of Onalaska, Wisconsin was the Future Search sponsor, with funding from Wisconsin AIDS Fund, the Department of Public Instruction Equity Team, and the Gill Foundation, among others.

I attended the conference for multiple reasons. My primary reason was that as the Executive Director and a leader of the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center, I want to ensure that the Center will play a vital and collaborative role in identifying and responding to the needs of LGBTQ (questioning) youth in Milwaukee.

The other attendees were also stakeholders: youth service providers, funders, educators, community and faith leaders and, of course, youth. I sat next to Marilyn Levin, who started GALAXY (Gay Alliance of La Crosse Area Youth) three years ago. Everyone, of all ages, should have role models. Marilyn Levin is mine.

Future Search is not a "sit and listen" conference. It is challenging, highly participatory, intense, insightful, exhilarating, and exhausting. In 23 hours, we tackled the touchy issues of generation gaps, school safety, Internet censorship, turf wars, internal and external oppression, our greatest successes and our immobilizing fears.

One exercise led us to identify our "prouds" and our "sorries." Many wrote that they were proud of what has been done in Wisconsin, others were sorry there hasn't been more. One youth was sorry to have attempted suicide. At that moment, no one could speak.

Our community's youth are brilliant with creativity, endurance, intelligence and awareness. They are traveling down a familiar road... one that is alive with freedom, and newfound identity, but also marred with violence, abuse, neglect and invisibility.

When the conference ended, coalitions had formed, dreams were converted into collaborative action steps and ideas moved toward realities. Proceedings from the conference will be reviewed and edited by the conference planning committee before they are distributed to those who attended. One common theme prevailed — a commitment to make the road an easier path for travel.

## LGBT Youth Photo Exhibit in Appleton

**Appleton** – *The Sacred Heart: Portraits Celebrating Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Young People* will be on exhibit at the Appleton Public Library through June 4.

The display features photographs by Adam Mastoon. Its sponsors include the Appleton Public Library, Positive Voice, GLBT Partnership and Fox Valley Unitarian Universalist Fellowship.

*Sacred Heart* will be located in the west wing of the first floor of the library, located at 225 North Oneida Street. The exhibit is free and open to the general public during library hours.

## Cream City Chorus Shows its "True Colors"

**Milwaukee** – The Wisconsin Cream City Chorus will perform *True Colors: The Gay Concert IV* and host its annual Silent Auction on Saturday, June 12 at 8pm in the Milwaukee Center's Stackner Cabaret. This combined spring concert will mark the first offering under the musical leadership of returning Director Kristi Uitts.

The evening will begin with a traditional assortment of music ranging from drinking songs to madrigals, toe-tappers and lullabies. The concert's second half will revisit the Chorus' Gay concert format, presenting solo and ensemble performances. The Silent Auction serves to help the Chorus and provides an opportunity to bid on an array of unusual pieces and services.

The Stackner Cabaret is located on the second floor of the Milwaukee Center, 108 E. Wells St. Seating will be limited. Tickets are \$8 in advance or \$10 at the door. Advance tickets are available through Chorus members, the M&M Club, Afterwords and the Chorus office. To order tickets, or for more information, contact the office at Milwaukee's LGBT Community Center, 170 S. 2nd St., Milwaukee, or call (414) 276-8787.



One of the photos of Gay youth on display at the Appleton Public Library through June 4 as part of the *Shared Heart* exhibit.

# TIDBITS FROM TITLETOWN

by Mike Fitzpatrick

Wisconsin Light Northeast Wisconsin Bureau

**Hearts Shared In Appleton:** *The Shared Heart*, a nationally touring collection of portraits and stories celebrating the lives of LGBT young people, will be making a two week stop in Appleton. The exhibit opened May 24 and runs to June 4 thanks to a coalition of LGBT, religious and civic groups.

The exhibit features photographs from Adam Mastoon's book of the same title. It will be on display at the Appleton Public Library, 225 North Oneida St. The display is in the west wing on the first floor. The exhibition sponsors are the library, Positive Voice, the GLBT Partnership youth group and the Fox Valley Unitarian-Universalist Fellowship.

In a stirring combination of photography and narrative, both the book and the exhibit tell the stories of young people facing the challenges growing up as Gay, Lesbian or Bisexual. Teen athletes, class presidents, painters and others tell their stories of overcoming loneliness and reconciling their emerging sexuality with their diverse religious, social and cultural heritage.

Adam Mastoon is an internally recognized photographer who lives in Massachusetts. Mastoon's work is frequently featured in periodicals such as *Inc.*, *Spin*, *Esquire*, *Forbes* and *The Village Voice*. *The Shared Heart*, published in 1997 by William Morrow & Company, is his first book.

The exhibit will be available for viewing during regular library hours. For more information, call (920) 832-1695 or access the library's Internet website at [www.apl.org](http://www.apl.org). *Editor's note: See our article on the exhibit and an example of the photos on page 10.*

**Drowning Saddens Community:** Central Wisconsin's LGBT community was stunned and saddened by the recent death of Timothy Lipke in a canoeing accident on Second Lake near Stevens Point. The body of the 20-year-old was found on May 12 almost two days after he was reported missing to the Portage County Sheriff's Department. Lipke's death was ruled an accidental drowning according to Portage County Coroner Scott Rifleman.

Lipke had been involved with the 10% Society at UW-GB, although he had attended Mid-State Technical College in Wisconsin Rapids until last year.

Lipke was reported missing by Ann Ackerman, his employer at the Perkins Family Restaurant in Stevens Point. "All in all, he was a wonderful person," Ackerman said in an interview published in the *Stevens Point Journal*. "Great personality. Exceptional employee. Got along with co-workers and was very well liked. He had an art of making people always feel good."

LGBT community members from Nekoosa, Auburndale, Wisconsin Rapids and other cities in a 40-mile radius attended funeral services for Lipke held near his hometown of Plainfield on May 15. Rev. Ed Hunt of Frame Memorial Presbyterian Church in Stevens Point, one of four ministers conducting the funeral, made mention of Lipke's involvement in the Gay community during his remarks at the ceremony.

**Pigs Fly at Annual Meeting:** Positive Voice (PV) held its annual meeting following a dinner at Liberty Hall in Kimberly on May 17. About a third of the membership elected three new members to the group's board of directors. Among those reelected was current president Cheryl Myers of Green Bay.

Following the election and a discussion of the group's goals for the next year, attendees enjoyed Lloyd Schaefer's presentation about *Harold Crabtree's When Pigs Fly*, the satirical LGBT Off-Broadway revue which ran from 1996-98.

The critically acclaimed show featured costumes with four-foot wigs, rib-tickling set pieces and songs such as *Light in the Loafers* and *You Can't Take the Color Out of Colorado*. An ongoing gag from the show was one Gay man's serially unrequited love for conservative icons Newt Gingrich, Jesse Helms and Rush Limbaugh.

**Green Bay LGBT Youths Meet:** Green Bay's new youth group for LGBT teens 14 to 18 had its first meeting on May 17. A small but enthusiastic group discussed how to discreetly spread the word about the new organization. It will pursue the establishment of a separate phone line and an Internet website, according to lead organizer Patti Peterson-Bilatto of Renaissance Healing Arts Center.

The group will meet every Monday from 6:30 to 8:30pm at the center, 311 S. Jefferson St. For more information on the group, call (920) 437-4325.

**Gay Guernsey Dates Reset:** The Gay Guernsey competition's key organizer, Dowager Empress Elsie Bovine (AKA Wayne Thiele), has announced new dates for the 7th annual Gay Guernsey pageant benefiting ARCW. The pageant kick-off show will now be held July 9 at Napalese Lounge. The campaign will conclude at Buddies on August 7. The annual softball tournament is now set for July 25. Elsie's goal is to match or beat the \$12,000 raised last year.

**Outdoor Brunch Season Begins:** May means more than spring flowers to Gay Green Bay. It also means the return of leisurely Sunday brunches on Cafe Bourbon's outdoor deck, which opened for the summer season last week.

One of life's little pleasures is savoring freshly-brewed coffee and Za's delectable caramel nut baked French toast on a sunny Sunday morning when there's just a hint of a chill and the scent of lilacs in the air.

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# From the **RIGHT**

by Jim McFarland

## Guns, Murder, and Spankings

Since the horrible tragedy in Littleton, Colorado, the drum beat for gun control has become incessant. Recently, the spineless Republicans in the Senate buckled down to the pressure from gun control advocates and voted for two gun control measures, reversing previous votes.

No one seems to care that neither gun control measure, a law requiring that all handguns be sold with trigger locks and a law requiring background checks for buyers at gun shows, would have prevented the Littleton massacre, nor do they care that the Constitution does not give the Federal government the role of preventing crime, which is reserved to the states.

The Littleton perpetrators already violated the law when they purchased their handguns. So did their supplier, as it is illegal to sell handguns to minors. This fact demonstrates the ultimate failure of gun control. A huge percentage of handgun crimes are committed by minors who cannot legally own handguns, but still get them. The bottom line is that gun control never keeps criminals from getting their guns.

It is interesting to note that we have far more gun control laws today than we did in the 1950s. Yet, there is no comparison between the 1990s and the 1950s with respect to crimes committed with guns. There certainly were no incidents of mass shootings in suburban, predominantly white schools in the 1950s. So what explains the change?

Of course, there are many factors that have led to this (none of which is the availability of guns which is actually less now), but I think a breakdown in the moral values of our youth is a prime suspect. We now have a generation in high school raised on "time-outs" and by parents who believe that spanking is child abuse.

Is it a coincidence that these children, who have never learned discipline from their parents, are much more likely to use drugs, smoke cigarettes, engage in premarital sex, fail achievement tests, fail to learn how to write properly, and commit murders? The new method of "punishment" simply does not work.

Unfortunately, government can do little about this problem. (It cannot force parents to spank their children for instance). Elected officials can, however, make a statement about the importance of returning to traditional disciplining measures. Government can end the ban on "corporal punishment" (spanking) in public schools. The Federal government can scrap the Goals 2000 "educational plan," which opposes traditional disciplinary methods, it has forced on school districts.

While government can do little legislatively, there is one legislative remedy that state governments can employ to prevent these tragedies: make concealed weapons permits available to those who wish to carry handguns for their self-defense. If just one of the teachers in the Littleton school had been armed with a handgun, it is likely that fewer people would have died.

In states that have adopted concealed weapons legislation, the crime rates have plummeted because criminals never know whether the person they are targeting might be packing. Liberals will argue, of course, that permit holders will misuse their weapons, e.g. use them to resolve heated arguments.

In practice, however, there have been very few cases of such misuse in the states that permit concealed weapons. Permit holders must go through rigorous gun safety courses and background checks to receive permits. No one with

a criminal record or a record of mental health problems can obtain them.

Equally important is the need for the Federal government to adopt legislation which would require states to honor concealed weapons permits issued by other states. This would allow tourists to carry their weapons with them. Few people realize that the rash of crimes against tourists in Florida occurred as a result of its adoption of a concealed weapons carry law.

While the overall crime rate plummeted because the criminals did not know if their targets were carrying guns, crimes against tourists increased because the criminals knew that the tourists would not have them. Just two months ago, a client of mine who works in our Tennessee office was mugged while she was in Florida. As she put it, if she had been able to bring her handgun with her, for which she has a Tennessee permit, she could have stopped the mugging.

The solution liberals advocate would ensure that only criminals will have access to guns, as they always will. Conservatives argue instead that not only should law-abiding criminals retain their right to own guns for the defense of their homes, but also that they should be granted the right to carry guns for the defense of their persons. It is time for the American people to wake up and realize that the only new gun law which is needed is a concealed weapons carry law.

*From the Right is a column of personal opinion.*



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## FROM THE ARCHIVES

### 10 years Ago

**Thousands March in Madison** – Despite temperatures that hovered in the 30's, an estimated 7,000 marchers for LGBT civil rights filled the streets of Madison. Speakers at the Pre-March Rally included State Representative David Clarenbach (D-Madison), Openly Lesbian Dane County Supervisor Tammy Baldwin, Madison Alderman Ricardo Gonzales and Openly Gay Dane County Board Chairman Dick Wagner.

**Milwaukee Classic Scores Big** – The Milwaukee Classic featured a record 33 teams from throughout the country during its Memorial Day weekend run. Burharts of Atlanta won the Competitive Division title. New York's Buddies won the Rec Division crown. First place in the Women's Division went to Club 1270 of Boston.

**Tommy Thompson Says No to AIDS Victims** – Governor Tommy Thompson refused a Madison AIDS Network request to issue a proclamation remembering those who have died of AIDS. The proclamation was to be read at the opening of the AIDS Name Quilt exhibit in Madison on May 5. Thompson gave no reason for the refusal.

**Lobby Day At Home** – The National Gay Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) is recruiting individuals and organizations to lobby their Congressional Representatives to support the Gay Rights bill before Congress. NGLTF "Lobby Day Kits" help volunteers to organize letter-writing campaigns and to provide talking points for face-to-face meetings with their congressional representatives.

### Five Years Ago

**PrideFest Awards Announced** – In honor of Stonewall 25, PrideFest instituted a new category of awards, "The Stonewall Awards." The first recipients are: Miriam Ben Shalom, Nate Dawson, Shirley Fitzpatrick, HFF, Eldon Murray, and Lula Reams of Milwaukee; Sarah Hinkel, La Crosse; Robert Jansen, Superior; Steve Jones, Green Bay; and Dick Wagner, Madison. BJ Daniels and LAMM organizers, Karen Gotzler and her partner Kitty Barber, will receive PrideFest Community Service Awards. Milwaukee County Supervisor Dorothy Dean won the Alyn Hess Award presented by Gay People's Union.

**Madison Bar Faces Charges** – Madison's Club 3054 was the target of an undercover investigation conducted by Madison Police. The investigation reportedly uncovered unsafe sex taking place in the patio area and in the basement leather bar, Wings. The City Attorney's office is charging owner Sherri Becker with 13 violations of city codes for sexual activities that allegedly occurred at the Club. Becker denies the allegations.

**Letter Causes Furor in Sheboygan** – A *Sheboygan Press* letter to the editor suggesting a Sheboygan Gay Pride celebration is causing an uproar. The Reformed Church of Gibbsville circulated a petition opposing the idea. The petition with more than 200 signatures demanded that the Sheboygan Common Council refuse to issue permits for a Pride Parade even though no one has requested any. Christine Menard, Chair of the Council's Judiciary and Legislative Committee, said, "This is goofy. Why should Gibbsville care unless they're going to march in Gibbsville?"

### One Year Ago

**Manoeuvres to Move** – Madison's popular Manoeuvres bar may be moving soon to a new location, the site of the old Bombay Bicycle Club. Owner Ed Grunewald has secured the needed City permits for the move. He is awaiting word on financing for the project.

**Milwaukee Teams Win Classic** – In a rare double win for Milwaukee, two SSBL teams were the surprise winners of the annual Milwaukee Classic Softball tournament. Balistreri's Pizza shocked everyone by winning the title in the National Division. The Dunn Brothers Spurs of Minneapolis won the runner-up spot. The Chicago Hitmen took home the third place trophy.

After three consecutive third place finishes, the M&M Club won the crown in the American Division. Second place went to Toronto Remington. The Melrose Rockers of Chicago placed third.

## Terry Boughner Released From Hospital

Former *Wisconsin Light* Editor, Terry Boughner, was released from St. Joseph's Hospital on May 20. Boughner was admitted to the hospital due to a bacterial infection.

Boughner is continuing his recovery at the Brewer's Hill home he shares with his partner for life, former *Light* Publisher, Jerry Johnson.

Terry and Jerry express their thanks to the many people who showed their concern, friendship and support during Terry's hospitalization.

## LETTERS

### To the Editor:

I enjoyed the article "Which Burger is LGBT Friendly?" in the May 12, 1999 issue of *Wisconsin Light*.

Wendy's spokesperson, Denny Lynch, is quoted as saying, "Judge Wendy's on its actions or if we do a good job at the restaurant."

Here are some significant actions Wendy's took that were not covered in the article:

\* Wendy's, one of the *Ellen* TV show's national sponsors, pulled their commercials from the show, starting with *Ellen*'s 1997 coming-out episode.

\* Wendy's also ran a commercial in the last 6 months where a waiter with what might be interpreted as "Gay" mannerisms waits on a mocking Dave Thomas.

Those are the actions on which I have based my judgment.

**Dan Ross  
Madison**

### To the Editor:

Those who've seen my letters over the years, and especially the newspaper column I wrote, will appreciate a rare sight: Al Geiersbach saying something good about Alderman Paul Henningsen.

Here it is: My hat is off to Aldermen Henningsen, Butler, and especially D'Amato, for their sponsorship of the Milwaukee Domestic Partners Registry.

I just saw a news article about a celebration attendant on the opening of the Los Angeles Domestic Partners Registry. Of course, there are registries in other large cities around the country. Is Milwaukee truly going to play in the league with the big boys?

Now how about those partner benefits for city employees? I offered a way to get around the excuse used to block it the first time it came up, namely, don't take sexual orientation into account in allowing partner benefits, but give them to every employee who, with his or her partner, has applied for and been denied a marriage license.

**Al Geiersbach  
Milwaukee**

### To the Editor:

There are three things that every Wisconsin resident who cares about protecting Gays and Lesbians against violent crime should know about the Hate Crimes Prevention Act of 1999.

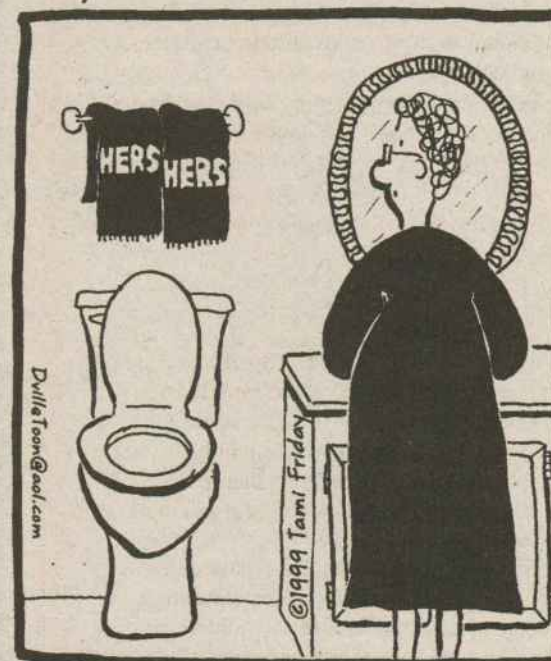
First, the current hate crimes *statute* does not cover sexual orientation. Second, the current statute only allows federal authorities to act when a victim of a violent crime is engaged in a federally protected activity — such as voting or serving on a jury or going to school. That's why federal prosecution of hate crimes is rare indeed. Third, Senators Herb Kohl and Russ Feingold are the only two Democrats on the Senate Judiciary Committee who have not signed on as co-sponsors of the Act.

Opposition to the proposed law is being led by the Religious Right political movement. These are the folks who condemned the murder of Matthew Shepard, while launching a brazen ad campaign aimed at convincing Americans that there is "hope" for Gays and Lesbians to change their "lifestyle." How devastatingly cruel that these same political forces would deny adequate protection for those for whom they preach "hope."

The Religious Right is wrong on this issue. If you hate and if that hatred leads to violence, the full weight of this nation's system of justice should come down upon you. Please contact Senator Kohl's office at (800) 247-5645 and Senator Feingold's office at (414) 276-7282 and let them know you support the Hate Crimes Prevention Act. Let's not wait for another victim. The memory of Matthew Shepard demands that we act.

**Randi L. Copeland**

*Dykesville* by Tami Friday



Coming out story # 35:  
Mother's visit



# Spotlight

## Lucas, the Stars Speak

by Tim Nasson  
Last of a Series

"I wrote 'Phantom Menace' 20 years ago," says Lucas. "I originally wrote Anakin as a 12 or 13-year-old but realized when I was ready to complete the screenplay a few years ago that he needed to be a bit younger. He is a slave who is separated from his mother, and I thought that the issues would not have been as dramatic if I had not changed his age to nine."

### STAR WARS EPISODE I THE PHANTOM MENACE

Lucas dreamed up the whole *Star Wars* saga, nine films in total, over 25 years ago. He came to the conclusion only four years ago that the time was right to begin production on the three prequels to *Star Wars*.

"I was supervising the direction of the first *Jurassic Park* film," says Lucas, who is a friend of and sometimes partner with Steven Spielberg (all of the *Indiana Jones* films), "while Steven was in Poland finishing up *Schindler's List*. There was this hand held camera shot of a dinosaur chasing Jeff Goldblum that looked so real that I realized technology was ready for a new *Star Wars*. A *Star Wars* that I would be uninhibited with in the special effects department."

After seeing *Phantom Menace*, you may find that it was filmed in a more 'kid friendly' style.

"I did not set out to make this installment more kid friendly," says Lucas, although the film does seem a lot less violent than the previous three. In fact, the deaths of two of the most important characters in *Phantom Menace* seem anticlimactic.

"The one thing I set out to do most was ensure that the millions of fans who want to see *Phantom Menace* get to see it in a venue

it was intended. Great sound, huge screen, etc. I am not interested in winning Academy Awards, breaking any box office record, or whether I get good or bad reviews," he added.

Natalie Portman, who plays Queen Amidala, walks into a suite in the hotel with glitter on her face, exuding a sense of maturity that seems well beyond her 17 years.

Born in Israel, Portman, who made her film debut six years ago in *The Professional*, did not grow up in an 'American' household and was not a die-hard fan of *Star Wars* when she took the role. "I had to think for three weeks whether I even wanted to take this role," she says. "It is a nine-year commitment. I have to be in all three. I love my privacy and knew that by accepting the role as the Queen, I would lose it immediately."

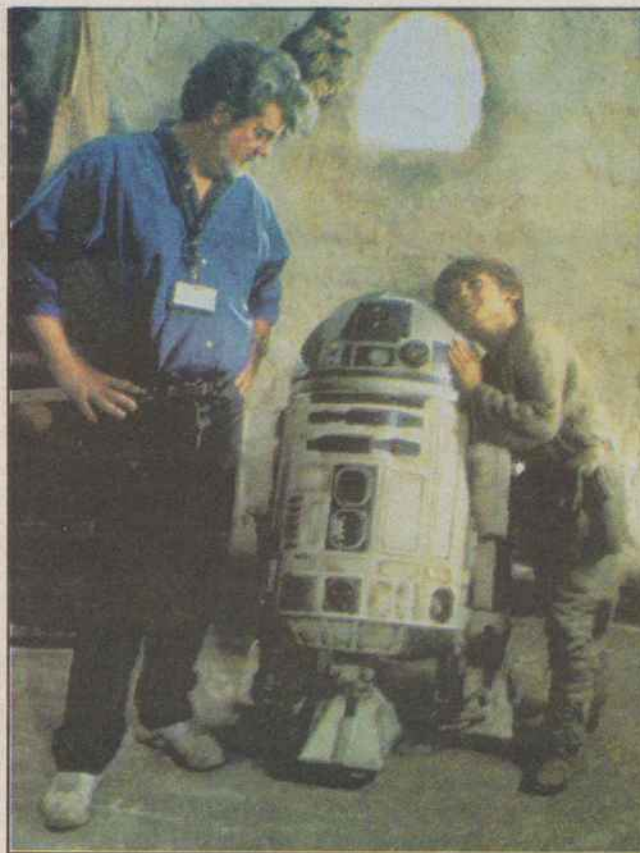
All of this from a girl who turned down a lot of money to take a lead role in *The Horse Whisperer* to play Anne Frank on Broadway.

Jake Lloyd, who plays young Darth Vader, first gained fame opposite Marisa Tomei and Gena Rowlands in *Unhook the Stars* and gave Arnold Schwarzenegger a run for his money in *Jingle All the Way*.

The fourth grader admits that life hasn't changed too much for him since he signed to work on the 'biggest' film of all time. Ironically, his father was the age he is now when the first *Star Wars* film was released.

"I love making movies," says the preco-

cious lad, putting in a plug for a role he'd kill for. "I'd love to make a movie based on one of the 'Harry Potter' stories. I've read a lot of them and loved them all."



Liam Neeson, who stars in the upcoming *The Haunting*, stands six feet, four inches and immediately commands a presence upon entering the suite. He's the son-in-law of Vanessa Redgrave and husband of acclaimed stage actress Natasha Richardson, who last year was nominated for a Tony Award for the revival of *Cabaret* on Broadway. Neeson is

proud to be included in the ensemble.

"Next to *Schindler's List* and *Michael Collins*, I'd say this is my favorite role," he comments on playing Qui-Gon Jinn. Jinn is one

of the Jedi Knights who teaches Obi-Wan Kenobi, played in *Phantom Menace* by Ewan McGregor (who happened to be the only main character who did not participate in the film's junket).

Soft spoken and a true gentleman, Neeson calmly answers my question about the rumors flying around that he is getting out of the film business.

"You know what?" he asks. "I had just gotten done with a play on Broadway, (*Oscar Wilde*) finished *Phantom Menace* and had been away from my family for quite some time. That comment stemmed from a sudden burst of anger. I did say that I was going to give up acting. But I am not going to. I will never direct a film, but I am not going to give up acting."

Hot Irish temper? Definitely a hot Irishman, and a talented one, Neeson garnered an Academy Award nomination for *Schindler's List*. He's bound to win at least one in the near future if he picks and chooses his roles as carefully as he has been.

Samuel Jackson, best known, until now, for his Academy Award nominated performance in *Pulp Fiction*, was happy to be cast as Mace Windu, even if he is only in the film for a couple of minutes.

"I remember seeing *Star Wars* the first day it opened," he says, "smoking up and drinking with the rest of the audience, who thought it was a movie only for pot heads, with all those crazy special effects and space ships. Those types of movies, until then, were always campy and stupid. No one knew to what an extent that *Star Wars* was going to be 'the' movie of the '70s and its generation."

"I always wanted to be in a sci-fi, monster movie," he says of *Phantom Menace*, laughing, making light of the horrible film *Sphere* he co-starred in last year.

Wearing his trademark Kangol hat, this one personally inscribed by the company with the words *The Phantom Menace*, Jackson admitted he looks forward to being part of the next two 'Star Wars' films, "hopefully in a bigger role."

Did I leave anything out? Yes. Lots. Chances are, though, that you will read about that stuff in any of the thousands of papers and magazines that are devoting cover stories and dozens of pages to the film. Not many, however, got the chance to speak to anyone involved in the film.

With this, *Phantom Menace*, a new trilogy begins. A new generation and an old are about to behold what many call a religious experience. Whatever it is you get from *Phantom Menace*, remember one thing, "A long time ago in a galaxy far, far away..."



# DEEP INSIDE HOLLYWOOD

by *Romeo San Vicente*

## Poets on the Queer Beat

Twenty-something actor **Adam Goldberg**, who last summer played the annoying Jewish GI who helped save Private Ryan, has signed on to portray seminal

Gay poet **Allen**

**Ginsberg** in

an inde-

pendent

film enti-

tled *Beat*.

The movie,

which begins

production in

New York and

Mexico in

June, focus-

es on sev-

eral major

literary

figures

of the

*Beat*

generation. It includes not only Ginsberg, but also *Naked Lunch* and *Queer* novelist **William S. Burroughs**.

Ginsberg, perhaps the most influential open-

ly Gay poet since **Sappho**, was a fixture at the Gay bars in Greenwich Village long before he received national attention. He became the poster-boy for the Beat generation when a court declared his landmark poem *Howl* obscene. That made him an international symbol of what was then referred to as "sexual depravity." Ginsberg kept up the East Village poetry reading thing until he died in April, 1997.

## Judy Davis: A Friend of Dorothy?

Extremely talented Australian actress **Judy Davis**, who filled out cross-dressing feminist author **George Sand's** britches in 1991's *Impromptu*, has been cast to play Gay icon **Judy Garland** in a made-for-television movie. The ABC project is based on *Me and My Shadows*, the dishy memoir by Garland's daughter **Lorna Luft**, which was published to mucho fanfare last year.

The story has definite *Mommie Dearest* moments, including a detailed telling of Ms. Garland's chemical dependency and psychotic episodes. Also sprinkled in are dirty little tales about Luft's estranged half-sister **Liza Minnelli** and Luft's affair with **Barry Manilow**. (Who knew he liked women?) ABC can expect over-

the-rainbow ratings on this one.

## Melissa Etheridge Goes Cable

Apparently being a rock star isn't enough for **Melissa Etheridge**. The Dyke chanteuse has taken a moonlight gig hosting a cable television show. Etheridge will present *How It Could Happen*, a new one-hour reality-based show for the femme-heavy Lifetime Channel. The series will explore the twists of fate that have changed the lives of women — hmm... like when **Lou Diamond Phillips'** wife left him for a Lesbian rocker? Look for the show to premiere late this summer.

## The Sun Will Come Out... on ABC

Openly Gay producers **Craig Zaden** and **Neil Meron**, the team behind last year's diva-heavy *Cinderella*, are bringing the Broadway classic *Annie* to a television near you. **Kathy Bates**, whose turn as a Lesbian campaign manager in *Primary Colors* garnered her an Academy Award nomination, has joined the cast of the telefilm in the singing role of the spinster Miss Hannigan, who runs an orphanage for girls.

Eleven-year-old **Alicia Morton**, who currently stars as the young Cossette in the Broadway production of *Les Miserables*, will play the carrot-topped heroine. The musical will undergo a slight re-tooling to give the talented Ms. Bates more room to flex her vocal muscles, with two more songs added to the original score. *Annie* is slated to air on ABC during the November sweeps period.

## The 'Will' to Go On

**Eric McCormack**, the extremely affable actor who plays Grace's better half on NBC's hit show *Will & Grace*, is finding that playing Gay for pay is good for one's career. The actor has a slew of projects in the works. Should you find yourself stranded

in the south of

France with noth-

ing to do, you can

check out

McCormack at

the Cannes

film festival

in a flick

called *Free*

*Enterprise*,

where he

plays a

trekkie who

meets

**William**

**Shatner**.



Jennifer Love Hewitt

McCormack is also joining P05's **Jennifer Love Hewitt** in a small-screen biopic about **Audrey Hepburn**. He takes on the role of actor Mel Ferrer, a.k.a. Mr. Audrey Hepburn.

*Romeo San Vicente would like to find his own Daddy Warbucks. You can contact Romeo care of Wisconsin Light or email [RomeoDeep@aol.com](mailto:RomeoDeep@aol.com). For more Deep Inside Hollywood, visit [www.Gay.com](http://www.Gay.com) or [www.pop-comq.com](http://www.pop-comq.com).*

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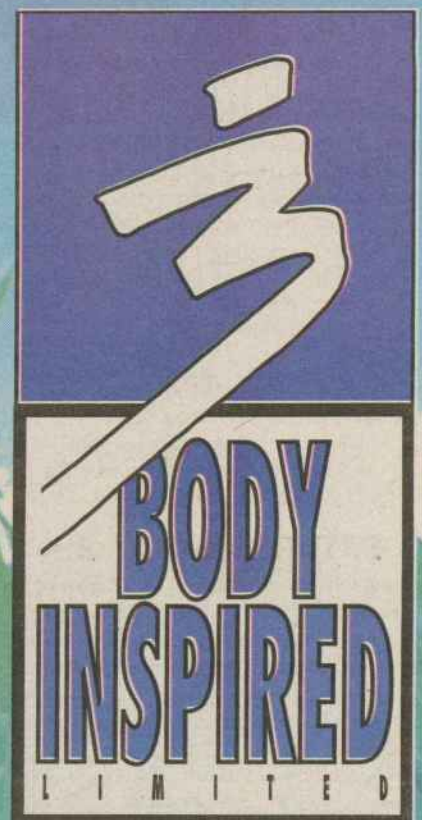
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# Events CALENDAR

## WEDNESDAY, MAY 26

**Appleton Public Library** (Appleton), *The Shared Heart, Portraits Celebrating LGBT Young People*, photo exhibit on display at the Library through June 4. Co-sponsored by Positive Voice, GLBT Partnership, and Fox Valley Unitarian-Universalist Fellowship. Free and open to the public during library hours.

**Charles Allis Art Museum** (Milwaukee), Mostly never before exhibited art works by Ruth Grotehrath and Schomer Lichtner. 1-5pm Wed-Sun., \$2 admission. Through July 3, 1801 N. Prospect Ave.

**Dairyland Cowgirls and Cowboys** (Madison), Sapphire Ballroom, 1133 N. Sherman. 7pm lessons for beginning Line Dancing taught by Elaine or Joan; 8pm advanced Two Step by Kris D. Open dancing follows lessons. \$3 donation and cash bar, everyone welcome.

**Gallery H20** (Milwaukee), *Lingua Franca: Photography*, through June 27. 221 N. Water St., 271-8032.

**Katie Gingrass Gallery** (Milwaukee), Pastels from Wisconsin artists, continues through June. Also, baskets by well known Midwest artist, Mary Merkel Hess Free and open to the public. 241 N. Broadway, (414) 289-0855.

**LGBT Community Center** (Milwaukee), 170 S. 2nd St., 271-2656: Rainbow U Lecture on LGBT domestic abuse by Professor Tess Meuer. 170 S. 2nd St., (414) 271-2656.

**Milw. Symphony Orchestra** (Milwaukee), League's Young Musicians Concert showcasing the outstanding artistry of young area musicians. Led by Assoc. Conductor Andrews Sill. Features the three winners of the March Young Artists Audition and 21 finalists performing with the MSO. 7:30pm, Pabst Theater. Tickets, more info (414) 286-3663.

## THURSDAY, MAY 27

**Dancing Ganesha** (Milwaukee), Multimedia benefit for the Hunger Task Force. Alternative music DJ, reggae, snacks and drink specials. Starts 10pm, admission is \$8 plus one or more non-perishable food items. 1692 N. Van Buren St. FMI (414) 220-0202.

**LGBT Community Center** (Milwaukee), 170 S. 2nd St., 271-2656: Entrepreneurs Network, 7-8:30pm. Meeting open to any LGBT small business owners interested in networking with other entrepreneurs in the LGBT Community. FMI call Pat Walsh, (414) 329-8404.

**Milwaukee Ballet Co.** (Milwaukee), Farewell performance of principal dancer Anne Finch in the full length ballet: *Giselle*. Marcus Center for the Performing Arts through May 30. Guest conductor Carmon DeLeone. Opening night showtime 7:30pm, call the box office for full schedule and tickets (range from \$15.50 to \$64.50). Ballet box office: (414) 643-7677; Marcus Center box office: (414) 273-7206; and at TicketMaster outlets: (414) 276-4545.

## FRIDAY, MAY 28

**Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra** (Milwaukee), Pabst Theater, 7:30pm, *Classical Conversations: Mozart and the Sounds of Symphonies*, Andrew Sills conductor. Tickets \$15-29, (414) 291-7605.

## SATURDAY, MAY 29

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

**LGBT Community Center** (Milwaukee), 170 S. 2nd St., 271-2656: Black Lesbian and Gay Task Force meeting from 6:30pm.

**Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra** (Fish Creek), *Run Out Concert*, Andrews Sill, conductor. Door County Auditorium, call (920) 868-2728 for tickets.

**Woodland Patten Book Center** (Milwaukee), 720 E. Locust St., FMI (414) 263-5001. Readings by poet Roberta Hill and writer Jackie Dettloff, 8pm, \$6..

## MONDAY, MAY 31

**Saint Camillus HIV/AIDS Ministry** (Milwaukee), Memorial Day Service of Remembrance, 11:30am celebration remembering those who have died of AIDS and honoring those living with it. Everyone invited to St. Camillus's HIV/AIDS Memorial Garden, 10101 W. Wisconsin Ave. In case of rain, service will be moved indoors to the Zingsheim Multi-purpose room at the same address. FMI Joe, (414) 259-4664.

## TUESDAY, JUNE 1

**Kate Gingrass Gallery** (Milwaukee), Vintage European Poster Exhibition. Through June 30. FMI call (414) 289-0855.

## WEDNESDAY, JUNE 2

**Dairyland Cowgirls and Cowboys** (Madison), Dances at Sapphire Ballroom, 1133 N. Sherman Ave., (608) 245-0627, cash bar, \$3 suggested donation. 7pm: Beginning East Coast Swing Lessons; 8pm Advanced Line Dance Lessons; 9pm Open dancing.

## FRIDAY, JUNE 4

**Gutzman Productions** (Milwaukee), *You Ain't Seen Nothing Yet!* A mad, merry, nostalgic farce about Harry Houdini and Al Jolson. Milwaukee Public Library, Centennial Hall. Tickets \$12-15, call (414) 327-3552. Tonight's showing at 8pm.

**Katie Gingrass Gallery** (Milwaukee), Annual spring showing of European Vintage Posters. Opening night reception from 3-7:30pm, continues through June. Free and open to the public. 241 N. Broadway, (414) 289-0855.

## SATURDAY, JUNE 5

**Bi Definition** (Milwaukee), Bi-weekly meeting, 7pm, Milwaukee LGBT Community Center, 170 S. 2nd St. Topic: *Bisexual Community, Pt. 1.*

**Dairyland Cowgirls and Cowboys** (Madison), Dances at Sapphire Ballroom, 1133 N. Sherman Ave., (608) 245-0627, cash bar, \$3 suggested donation. 8-9pm Line Dance Lessons and Review; 9pm Open dancing.

**Gutzman Productions** (Milwaukee), *You Ain't Seen Nothing Yet!* A mad, merry, nostalgic farce about Harry Houdini and Al Jolson. Milwaukee Public Library, Centennial Hall. Tickets \$12-15, call (414) 327-3552. Tonight's showing at 8pm.

## SUNDAY, JUNE 6

**Gutzman Productions** (Milwaukee), *You Ain't Seen Nothing Yet!* A mad, merry, nostalgic farce about Harry Houdini and Al Jolson with music from the 20's. Milwaukee Public Library, Centennial Hall. Tickets \$12-15, call (414) 327-3552. Today at 2pm.

**Madison Art Center** (Madison), *Peter Shelton: sixtysippers*, an installation by the California-based sculptor featuring sixty iron discs suspended for the gallery ceiling. Through August 22. 211 W. State Street.

**Madison Art Center** (Madison), Exhibition featuring works by John Buck from the Art Center's permanent collection. Through August 22. 211 W. State Street.

**Madison Art Center** (Madison), *Wendy Jacob: The Squeeze Chair Project*. Through August 22. 211 W. State Street.

## EVERY THURSDAY,

**BESTD Clinic/ STD Specialties** (Milwaukee), HIV testing and counseling, and STD screen, 5-7:30pm at the BESTD Office in the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center, 170 S. 2nd St.

## EVERY TUESDAY,

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

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

**Nothing To Hide** at 4pm, Living With HIV/AIDS at 6pm.

# OUT in the Theatre

## Harry and Al

Preview by John Jahn

The personal lives of three famed showmen are explored in a new comedy written by Gay Milwaukee theater personality Dale Gutzman. *Harry and Al* involves an imaginary meeting between Harry Houdini and Al Jolson (with Eddie Cantor thrown in for good measure) — larger-than-life, Jewish-American performers of the first half of the 20th century.

Jolson's ego was second only to Houdini's, yet both possessed inferiority complexes and maternal fixations. They had disastrous relationships with women and were more than just rumored to be Gay. Gutzman has taken their fascinating lives off-stage and put them onstage in a frantic farce. The particular, backstage meeting of the three giants is fictitious, but all the other events in the play are true. Gutzman and his actors did extensive research for their roles.

*Harry and Al* has the fast-paced, freewheeling style of a Vaudeville act. It contains excerpts of some 20 songs from the period, and is set in the year Houdini died and Jolson started filming *The Jazz Singer*. Gutzman will portray Jolson, Vince Lombardo is Houdini, and Cantor will be performed by 19-year-old singer/dancer/actor Brian Sheridan. Versatile character actor Lawrence Lukasavage plays one of Lucky Luciano's hitmen, sent out to rub out Jolson!

Though *Harry and Al* strives for historical accuracy, it is mainly a fun-filled comedy, taking aim at the bombast of three legendary showmen. It will play at Centennial Hall of the Central Library in downtown Milwaukee June 4-6. Gutzman has offered a special \$5 discount for readers of *Wisconsin Light* for the Sunday matinee performance. For tickets and further information, call (414) 327-3552.

## Rent

Preview by John Jahn

Jonathan Larson's Tony Award and Pulitzer Prize-winning musical *Rent*, performed to critical and audience acclaim this March in Milwaukee, is coming to Green Bay next month. Larson was a naive, sentimental fellow — characteristics that wear away at his famed, Gay-themed musical's rougher edges. *Rent* deals with issues of sexual orientation, HIV, drug abuse and dysfunctional relationships. It asks us to think about how better the world would be if we could just accept people for who they are. The show boasts a cast of talented, energetic, Gen-X actors, dancers and singers, combining forces on *Rent's* 28 musical numbers and dance sequences.

*Rent* will be performed at Green Bay's Weidner Center for the Performing Arts from June 1-6. For further information, call (920) 465-2217 or (800) 328-8587.

# OUT ON FILM

## Three Seasons

Review by John Jahn

Sundance Film Festival prizes don't guarantee excellence. Case in point is *Three Seasons*. Its Best Dramatic Film and Audience Favorite awards are mostly unjustified. Rather, it plays more like a stereotype of what film festival audiences are supposed to like: a humanistic interweaving of banal stories about little people; at base a nice-looking but essentially meaningless cultural milestone: the first American production filmed entirely in Vietnam and mostly in Vietnamese.

Writer-Director Tony Bui's approach is really more pictorial than visual, framing mostly static scenes rather than going for lucid, kinetic visuals. To be sure, the work of his cinematographer (Lisa Rinzier) is technically first-rate. Whether her camera is gliding among lotus blossoms in a paddy, moving along the streets of Saigon, or peering through the dimness of sunset, Rinzier's work makes *Three Seasons* consistently watchable. I've no quarrel with the movie's award for Best Cinematography.

Bui ostensibly set out to depict "the new Vietnam," erasing wartime images of refugees and bloodshed. Visually, this goal is accomplished. But, although played by a personable cast, Bui's characters aren't so much ordinary people as embarrassing stereotypes whose behavior often resembles B-movies more than real life.

There's Ken An (Nguyen Ngoc Hiep), a flower girl whose work harvesting lotuses near an abandoned temple brings her into contact with the dying teacher who lives there. There's Hai (Don Duong), a cyclo driver who falls in love with a gorgeous prostitute (Zoe Bui), and sinks deeper into incredibility as their story develops. There's Hager (Harvey Keitel), a grim-looking American who has come back to Saigon seeking a daughter he never met. There's also a young street urchin named "Woody" who sells trinkets out of a wooden box. The two-dimensional characters fail to connect.

Alas, as far as compelling narrative is concerned, they made a snoozefest and called it peace.

2 STARS



# MILWAUKEE CLASSIC

by Bill Meunier and Bob Melig

**Milwaukee** - It's Classic time in Milwaukee! Teams competing in America's oldest LGBT softball tournament will again take to the diamonds at Wick Field, N. 51st and W. Vliet Street, over the Memorial Day weekend. Hundreds of players from Milwaukee, Chicago, Toronto, Cleveland, Tucson, St. Louis and the Twin Cities will vie for the championship in two divisions. Hundreds of fans and onlookers will join them.

Milwaukee sports fans will have a chance to welcome the out of town players even before the tournament begins. On Friday, May 28, 219 will host the registration and reception for players. Registration begins at 5pm.

Round Robin play opens at 9am on Saturday. Each team will play two games in the round robin. The round robin records and scores

will be used to determine which division each team will play in and what seeding they will have within that division.

Then the teams get down to serious business as they play a double elimination tournament. Tournament play begins around 2pm. Saturday's games will end around 4:30pm.

On Sunday, the games again begin at 9am. The winnowing of the field will be in earnest as teams are eliminated. The Milwaukee Classic Championship game will be held mid-afternoon. The tournament champs are then crowned at the annual banquet, which this year will be held at Serb Hall, at 6pm.

The 1999 Classic is already a winner. It's logo won first place in a national



contest sponsored by Office Max. Designer, Rodney Stockel, who has designed five consecutive Classic logos, won a \$1,000 first prize for his efforts.

Rodney's close friend, Tracy, entered the design in the contest, for the best use of a paper clip, without his knowledge.

Good art is inspired art. Rodney says he got his inspiration while playing with a paper clip. "It hit me that this was going to be it," said Rodney of his thoughts while he played with a paper clip. "I was trying to save embroi-

dery costs, so I decided to keep it simple and clean," he continued. "I knew I had a winner when our shirts began selling so well this year."

Souvenir T-shirts, sweatshirts and mock turtle-necks bearing the award winning design are available at the Ball Game and Designing Men. They will also be available at the field and the banquet while supplies last. The league is already on its second order of this merchandise. Fans should shop early while all sizes and colors are still available.



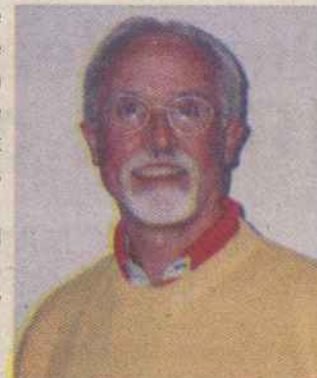
There is always fun to be had at the Milwaukee Classic.

You will want to be wearing one of those when you head out to the bars that weekend. No less an authority than Wisconsin Light's own Dusty Sass calls the Milwaukee Classic "the best party of the spring on the field and off the field." That's how it should be, too. Milwaukee's LGBT community rolls out the red carpet for its guests.



...and a lot of scoring.

On the field, the competition can be fierce, but it remains friendly. Players and fans from the host city mingle with those coming from out of town. Friendships that last for years are born. For all the rivalry on the field, Gay softball is played for fun. There aren't any million dollar contracts or holdouts. There is only exciting competition followed by good times after the games.



The Classic commissioner, Dan Nelson.

To get an understanding of how good this tournament is, you only have to look at the number of teams who come back year after year.

A lot of the credit for that is due to the volunteer spirit shown by the Saturday Softball Beer League. Classic Commissioner Dan Nelson and his 20-member committee have been hard at work for months to make sure that this year's event is a proper springboard into next year's big 20th Classic bash.

Nelson, who also serves as the SSBL Commissioner, spoke to both the players and fans, telling *Light*, "We'll do all in our power to make your stay a great one, one that you'll remember for many years to come. Milwaukeeans, be out at Wick Field to see

some of the best Softball around. It'll be worth your time."

When hasn't it been? Who can forget the great match ups between Milwaukee's powerhouse, the Wreck Room Chaps and Chicago's Sidetracks? They are among many great teams who've played in the Classic. Milwaukee's tournament has hosted the who's who of Gay softball. Griff's from LA, Atlanta's Armory, the Minneapolis Saloon, Club 1270 from Boston, the New York Eagle, Philadelphia's Venture and San Francisco's Pendulum, which featured former major league baseball shortstop Glenn Burke, have all played in the Classic. So have dozens of others.

Last year, the local fans got a treat. It was a rare double win for Milwaukee as teams from the Cream City took home the championship in both divisions. The M&M Club was the surprise winner in the American Division. Balistreri's Pizza was an even bigger surprise as it stunned the competition in the National Division.

Can they repeat? Possibly, but the competition will be tough. Those teams along with the Ball Game, 219, Switch and Woody's will want all the fan support they can get.

The fans will be there, too, rooting their favorite teams onto victory. By mid afternoon on Saturday and Sunday, the bleachers throughout Wick field will be crowded with players and fans ooing and ahhhing the great plays, as the seven-diamond complex becomes America's Gay sports capital.

The Milwaukee Classic is a tradition. It's LGBT sports history. It's people of all ages, races and backgrounds coming together for a weekend of good softball and good fun. It's America's oldest Gay softball tournament and, after two decades, it's still one of the best.



M&M's, last years American Division Champions.

# LifeStyle

# The Milwaukee Idea: A Tournament of Our Own

by Bob Melig

It was that one pitcher of beer that did it. A group of Milwaukee Gay ballplayers was at the Wreck Room. The "What ifs" were tossed around the bar. What if Milwaukee invited some other cities here for a softball tournament? Wouldn't that be great?

The naysayers were in full force. It can't happen! Who would come to Milwaukee to play softball? Well, the innovators of the "Milwaukee idea" found someone who would listen, Wayne Bernhagen, owner of the Wreck Room. With his encouragement, they invited others anyway, and that started a tradition — a tradition that is 19-years-old and counting.

The invitations were by phone that first year. Teams from both coasts and Canada showed

up. The Milwaukee Classic (then called the Wreck Room Classic) was born.

It was more like softball early on. The best playing the best. It was a real World Series of Gay softball. Only those who *knew* they could play good ball were here. In the first few years, the elite of Gay Softball trekked to Milwaukee on Memorial Day year after year.

As softball gained more interest in city after city, the "A" teams became a smaller part of the mix. The Classic, recognizing the facts, began to invite other teams to its tournament. Eventually, it split into two divisions to allow more players the chance to feel the thrill of winning a championship. Only so many players could be on "A" teams, but hundreds could come to enjoy a broader-based tournament.

At its peak, the Classic hosted 45+ teams. Run on three fields, it gobbled up hundreds of volunteers and stretched the ability of the league to cope with the logistics of this huge event. Not only were both coasts coming, but the Deep South and the Midwest were sending more teams, too. If you were into Gay softball, you were in



Milwaukee on Memorial Day.

Milwaukee's success spawned what now are dozens of other tournaments held in every month of the year. Palm Springs in January or Toronto in July, you can now take your pick, or do both. This multiplication of the Milwaukee idea saved the Classic from its own success.

As tournaments "regionalized" and recreational teams became the predominant participants, the Milwaukee Classic settled into a 20 to 25 team event. It was now manageable, pays for itself, and is played at one complex instead of three.

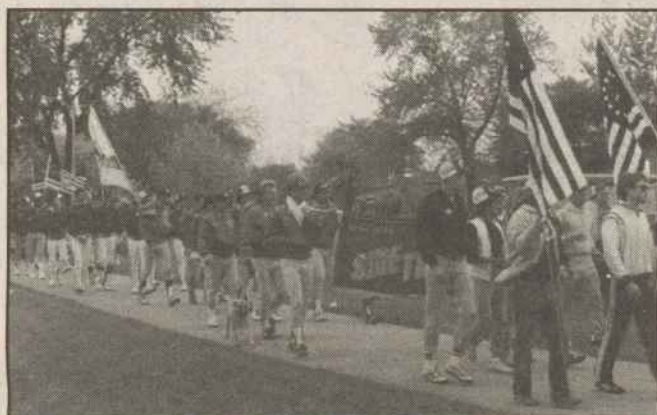
The Milwaukee idea, born and raised here, has given thousands of softball players in every section of the country the opportunity to participate in a tournament

within miles of their homes. The better, and even the lesser, ballplayers now have a variety of venues to choose from, other than their home league programs.

The Milwaukee idea has brought literally thousands of friends to greet and meet in cities across the country every year. LGBT softball players travel extensively. If you've played for several years, it can be hard to go to another city

anywhere and not meet another softball player you know.

The tradition, the Milwaukee idea, is alive here and in dozens of cities across the country. All stemming from that one pitcher of beer, and the faith of those who overcame the hand wringing of those early naysayers.



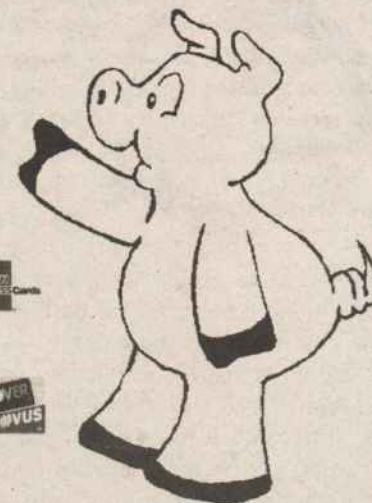
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## Dear Ruthie

### Dear Ruthie,

Please don't dismiss this letter as a gag, because it is the truth. I work ten hours a day in a stressful office environment. I am actively searching for a new job, but in the meantime it is an endless struggle to endure each day. I am hoping for some advice concerning a medical problem that has developed as a result of my pressure-packed daily routine.

Several years ago while in a bathroom stall at work, I was blessed with a moment of divine inspiration. I was my usual bundle of nerves, just stewing on the pot while maddening visions of my a-hole boss raged through my throbbing mind. Then with barely a conscious thought, I pulled out a permanent marker and began massaging my long-neglected fun hole.

Before long, my troubles seemed far away. As time passed, I relied on this ritual more and more as a crutch to get me through the days.

Two months ago, however, everything changed. After having finished, I withdrew my magna friend (it didn't take long to gravitate toward the larger offerings) only to be horrified at what I saw — a capless permanent marker!

Initially, I was only mildly concerned — mainly over whether or not I had infected my internal passageway with marker fluid. Is it toxic? I checked the MSDS sheet at work, but it didn't say anything definitive like "Not to be used for anal insertion."

Since then, I have plopped every single one of my stools into a freezer bag or onto a sheet of tinfoil so that I could see if the cap was there. It hasn't come out yet. I also tried one of those high colonic procedures — got some spare change and a PEZ head, but no cap. That's a joke, but it really isn't funny.

I told one friend about this, and he said I should go see a doctor. Ruthie, there is no way I am going to do that. I would rather die of a blocked colon than have to explain my situation to a doctor or nurse.

You are truly my last hope. Please show me the way...

Magna Man

Dear Magna,

Are you serious? Is this one of those turban legends I hear so much about? You know, like the one about the guy with the frozen hot dog? Or the girl who shoved a remote control down her panties and had to be taken to the emergency room? That girl, by the way, now works at Best Buy — every time she walks past the

TVs, they all change channels.

Marker in the tush, huh? Now that's taking graffiti to a new level. What I want to know is what the hell kind of job you have that you have to shove highlighters up your rear? That's one stressful job! Thank God you don't work at Crayola, or worse yet, a chalk factory.

You better get a handle on this now. One day it's markers, the next day it's cans of spray paint. Before you know it, you're lubing up gallon-sized cans of semi-gloss and you've been banned from Sherwin Williams. You know you're in trouble when you've got Dutch Boy labels hanging in your bedroom or you trade in your porn tapes for a Bob Villa instructional video.

I'm sure this is a very embarrassing and uncomfortable situation for you — mentally and physically. I can understand your hesitation about explaining this to a doctor, so I'm flattered you turned to me.

However, I am not a doctor. I've had a few, but that's about it.

Your friend is right. You need to see a health care provider. Yes, you will feel embarrassed, but trust me, these people have heard and seen just about everything. Just between you and me, I once drove Pearl to the emergency room after she got her right breast tangled in a Slinky.

I'm not one to recommend lying to your doctor — that's one of the worst things you can do — but if you can't bring yourself to tell him or her the truth, say you accidentally swallowed the cap. (You're on your own creating that story.) I'd rather see you fib to your doctor and protect your insides, then have you not go at all and get into some serious health problems.

Your doctor will probably know the real story, but at least some x-rays can be completed, the proper measures taken, and your mind and body set to rest that things are okay.

Now, find yourself a better job and keep writing utensils out of there!

Have something stuck in an orifice? Well go to the doctor! Or, write me at Dear Ruthie, c/o Wisconsin Light, 225 S. Second St., Milwaukee, WI 53202. You zany cyber-kids can email care of [www.wilight.com](http://www.wilight.com).

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**Ray's FISH FRY, 4-7pm**

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## SATURDAY, MAY 29

**LADIES NIGHT OUT, 10pm, Drag Show**

**THE MEN'S ROOM**

**Progressive Happy Hour**  
**7-10pm**

## SUNDAY 5/30 • MONDAY 5/31

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**PORTFOLIO Men**  
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**10:30pm (Sunday)**

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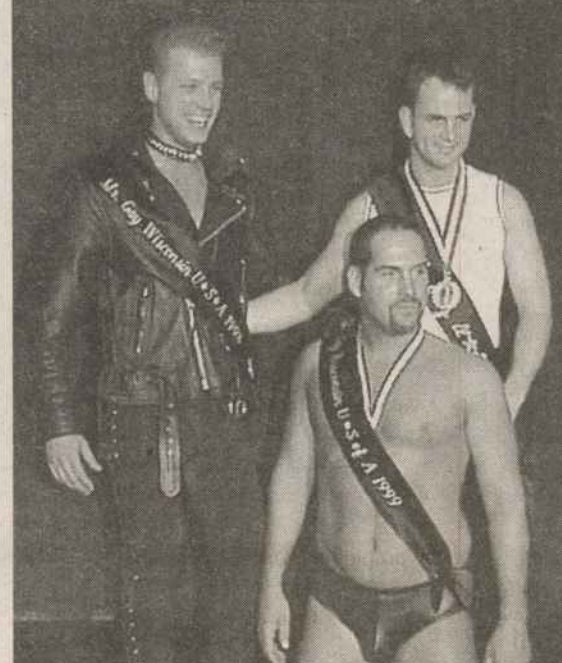
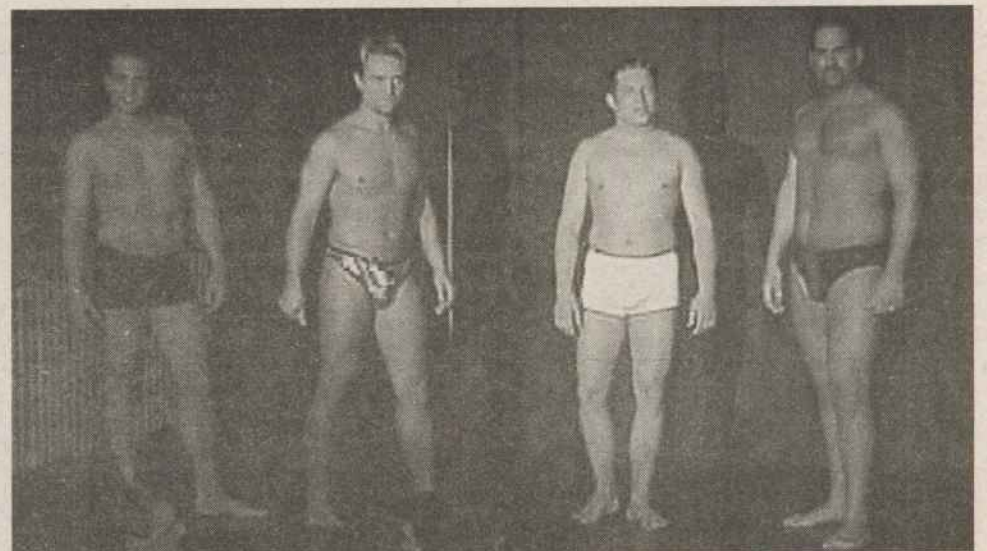
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# OUT IN CYBERSPACE

## CyberEtiquette

by Michael Stewart

According to those who keep track of such things, 1998 was the first year in which the number of electronic mail messages sent exceeded the quantity of paper "snail-mail" letters. That's a truly extraordinary statistic, when you consider that not everyone has Internet access, but even the family dog and deceased relatives receive "You may already be a winner!" letters.

The rules of etiquette for classic letters have had many years to develop and be refined. We all know, for example, that the salutation in a friendly letter ends with a comma, whereas the greeting to a business ends in a colon. E-mail standards have had only the last decade to evolve. Many email users, especially those new to the wired world, often run afoul of the basics.

The online world's biggest bugaboos are chain letters. Some might be excused on the grounds that the sender "meant well," such as calls for mobilization whenever local or national legislators are debating a piece of legislation of concern to the LGBT community. To avoid looking foolish, be selective as to whom with you chose to share your activism or outrage.

Close friends may find the information of value, but sending copies to every e-mail address in your address book is wasteful. Whomever you forward to, take a moment and remove from the note the lengthy chain of forwarding headers. This information serves no purpose except to bury your message. Why not replace it with a few words on why the recipient might find the note of interest?

Other chain letters are less forgivable, especially those of the "classic" chain-letter type. Any note containing a variant of "forward this to ten people within a day or dire consequences will befall you" is a chain letter. It should simply be deleted.

If you choose to ignore both common sense and good manners by actually passing one of these notes along, don't be surprised if dire consequences befall you anyway. Most Internet Service Providers specifically list the sending of chain letters as a prohibited activity in your usage agreement. Should one of your recipients be less amused than yourself with being on the receiving end and complains, you could lose your Internet access.

Another common complaint concerns the sending of files. Sending large files to someone who isn't expecting one is extraordinarily rude. If you want to share something you've downloaded from the web with your friends, send them the URL you got it from instead. That will allow those you email the luxury of looking at it when it's most convenient for them.

If you absolutely must send a large file, first send a quick note telling the recipient that it's coming, and send the file attached to a separate letter. Many ISP's have limits on the size of files they'll allow to pass through their systems, and large files often go astray. The first note will give a heads-up to your recipient that something enormous is on its way. Doing that allows them to be prepared for it. Also they can follow up if it vanishes into the void of cyberspace along with all the cyber-socks.

Finally, be careful what you say and to whom. The Supreme Court last month upheld one small part of the "Communications Decency Act," part of the 1996 Telecommunication Reform Act, which makes it unlawful to send obscene messages for the purpose of threatening or harassing another. You may have every reason to write a scathing letter to your ex inviting him to commit an indecency on himself, but if you provide vivid and anatomically-correct instructions, you may be breaking federal law.

*You can send your questions and comments on the Internet to the author at MichaelStewart.com.*

## WANT TO REACH US

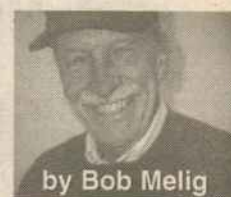
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# Sports



by Bob Melig

The SSBL season is still all packed into equally competitive teams knocking each other off each and every week. The parity of the League has most teams at 2 and 2 with 219 not having lost a game this year as expected. Balisteries has a one game lead over the pack for 2nd place. It's still anyone's opportunity for 2nd place. A good game here or there can change the standings real fast.

With two "position weeks" ahead (when teams with like records play each other) the season is shaping up to be a real scramble. Teams are scheduled to face each other only twice, but the position week often forces two additional games against close competitors. After those four games, teams on the bubble either pull it all together for a win, or lose a place or two in the standings.

Position weeks are not only about winning your team's games, but about how the team tied with you or just a game below you play on that particular day. With every week being a tussle for teams, position weeks offer games that are really keen competition.

If you haven't been to the fields yet (KK & California, that's in Bayview across the street from the Kohl's store), make it the thing to do in the next few weeks. Fans will not be sorry when they watch the type of softball being played in SSBL this year.

## THE CLASSIC

### The People Make Lasting Memories

To the players and fans, the Milwaukee Classic means people. People that they have met, people they see every year, and people who no longer are with us. All of us have fond memories of the recent past, with the certainty that one way or another, we'll all meet again on the morrow.

Friday night is the best. After a cold winter, you see players from other cities that you have met at the Classic and maybe have seen two or three times at other tournaments during the past summer.

When they come to registration, it's like old home week. You hug, you kiss, you pat rears. You get a beer and catch up on the winter. The Classic is the first tournament of the season, and it has been a long winter.

You meet all the new players, sometimes more intimately than you expect. Non-team groups form and stop at different bars — friendship is king. After the Friday night festivities, you head home.

That homeward drive is a rush of memories of one, two and/or ten years ago. In my ten Classics, no drive home has been the same. You think of Arturo and leaders like him, people who you have looked up to. You think of people who have kept the magic of the Classic alive, but are no longer with us. Besides Arturo, there's Wayne Bernhagen (a deep pockets backer, softball lover and community champion) and Tom Theis. Both were co-

founders of the Classic.

I think of Tommy Salszieder managing the Wreck Room Spurs. For six straight years, the Spurs could only win one Classic game. Tommy managed them into a third place finish. On Saturday morning, he gathered those who were looked at as lesser ball players by many and coolly convinced this group that they could do it. We believed him and did it.

I think of Steve and the Cincinnati Cats and their sister team the Kittens. Our first banquet together was the most fun of any I have attended anywhere. They won first place and we took last place that year, but the chants between tables and the good natured joking cemented a bond that would last for ten years.

We traveled to see them in Cincy and Columbus, and they brought themselves to Milwaukee each year. I think of the M&M of Milwaukee, the Sailors of Toronto and the friendships that developed between those two teams. It's neat, and it's the true essence of softball.

You sit around the table all weekend long with different folks. No one can wait to recount the tales that are the lore of the Classic, and the reason we all come back. You say, "Your story reminds me of one more outrageous than yours, and his is even more outrageous yet."

And so it goes on the fields and off the fields until Sunday night. Then at the banquet the Canadian National Anthem and the Stars Spangled Banner ring out. The chants from table to table, some rehearsed, some spontaneous, punctuate the clinking sounds of glasses and the trays and silver of the servers.

The roars of appreciative humor echo through the hall. That prompts another chant, one to top their chant. So it goes through the evening.

One last tour of the clubs and another Classic is in our memories. Our minds are now stocked with things we'll bring up next year and the year after and hopefully more after that. Friends part with dewy eyes, some never to be seen again, others promising to meet in Toronto, Chicago, Columbus, Palm Springs or Minneapolis later this summer.


Bonds are forged at the Classic. Surprise visits are sure to follow throughout the next year from those who experienced our city during the tournament. That's the enduring part of the Milwaukee Classic, its memories for us all, fan or participant. It's people like us.

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MOM, WE'RE MEETING THE GANG AT...



GREAT DARTS, POOL & MUSIC

# WOODY'S

WHERE OUR NUTS ARE ALWAYS ON THE BAR

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 1579 South 2nd • Milwaukee  
[www.wilight.links/woodys.html](http://www.wilight.links/woodys.html)

## MEMORIAL WEEKEND...

**Welcome Classic Players & Friends**  
 Start your partying at Woody's  
 Milwaukee's Friendliest Bar

**SUPPORT A CLASSIC TEAM**  
**HAVE A SHOT AGAINST AIDS**  
 Shots are \$2 from 4pm Friday  
 to 2am Sunday  
 Each shot is a VOTE for your favorite  
 Classic Team

**Team with most  
 votes receives \$200  
 Prize Awarded Midnight Sunday**

Start your Saturday softball partying at Woody's, where the fun players hang out!

Just 2 stop lights south of National Ave. on 2nd Street  
**Open 4 - close, 7 days a week**

# POSITIVE HEALTH OUTLOOK

## A Look at ARCW

**Milwaukee** - The AIDS epidemic is now in its 18th year. Research and improved drug treatments have created a sense of hopefulness about AIDS, but the danger remains. Unfortunately, the progress that's been made has lulled many people into a sense of complacency. They believe that HIV is a manageable disease and less of a public health threat.

On the contrary, in 1999 the rates of HIV infection continue to rise and caseloads are at an all time high. The largest organization in Wisconsin's response to the epidemic is the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin. ARCW provides a wide variety of programs and services both to prevent the further spread of HIV and to assist those who are living with AIDS/HIV.

At ARCW, everyone recognizes the value of preventing the continued spread of AIDS. Its prevention services include information and materials for communities at high risk for HIV, community education, the Wisconsin AIDS Line and the Wisconsin AIDS Library.

ARCW's Gay Outreach works with communities in rural and urban environments, providing HIV prevention information and safer sex materials. Special emphasis is placed on youth and men of color, two groups at highest risk for HIV.

ARCW also coordinates the Wisconsin AIDS Line. The AIDS Line provides information including HIV risk reduction, HIV counseling and testing and referrals to local resources. HIV counseling and testing takes place at ARCW offices, as well as through mobile testing at venues where those at highest risk for HIV gather.

ARCW's health services help people monitor their immune system and health status through the Early Intervention Program. The program works with clients early in their HIV diagnoses to maintain and improve their quality of health and of life.

Other health care services include the state's only HIV dental clinic. The Clinic helps those with HIV to achieve and maintain good dental health. ARCW also offers cooperative therapies such as acupuncture, massage and mental health services. All of these programs work to provide support for individuals and to help them cope with the many issues related to living with HIV.

A collaboration between ARCW and the UW-Medical School hosts the Midwest AIDS Training and Education Center which enhances HIV training and education to doctors, nurses and other HIV care providers.

ARCW's Legal Services Program helps people with HIV/AIDS access an attorney when dealing with a variety of issues such as whether or not to disclose HIV status when returning to work. ARCW's attorney travels regularly throughout Wisconsin to meet with individuals.

ARCW's housing services recently expanded throughout Wisconsin. The program is a national model for providing housing opportunities for people with HIV/AIDS who also have severe alcohol or drug addiction and/or chronic mental health diagnoses.

The comprehensive housing program also includes assistance locating safe and affordable housing, links to AODA treatment and rent assistance.

ARCW's comprehensive social support system for people with HIV, and their families, helps fill the need for food, transportation, financial assistance, in-home care and personal support.

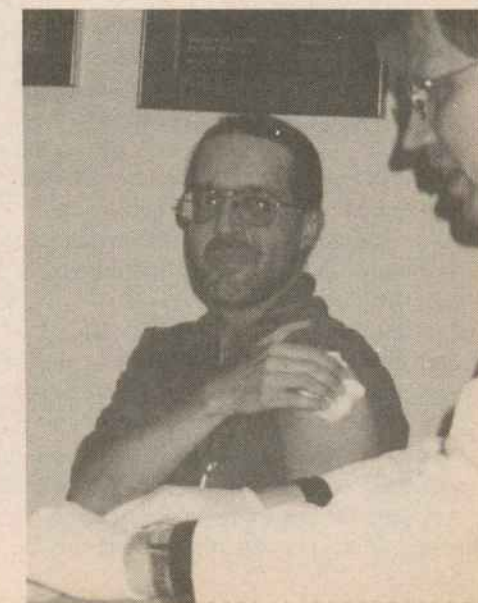
In addition, ARCW's Lifepoint clean needle exchange operates in Milwaukee, Madison and Racine. Needle exchange workers build relationships, exchange needles, provide HIV prevention information and make lifesaving referrals to local drug treatment centers.

On the research front, ARCW is continually seeking clinical drug trials that it can offer on a statewide basis. ARCW is currently participating in the historic prevention vaccine trial for AIDS VAX™. The vaccine is designed to stimulate the immune response in the production of antibodies that will hopefully identify and neutralize HIV. ARCW will enroll 150 volunteers into the trial.

ARCW is a strong advocate for enlightened AIDS policies. Its public policy staff works to advance HIV/AIDS legislation at the local, state and national levels. Increased funding for prevention programs, drug treatments, support services and access to health care are all priority issues.

Citizens concerned about furthering the cause can join ARCW's grassroots public policy organization, AIDS Action Wisconsin.

Despite the progress made in the fight against AIDS/HIV, this era of the epidemic will be the most dangerous of all unless we replace complacency with a renewed sense of urgency in the continuing fight against AIDS. ARCW is working hard to meet that challenge.




**YOUR LATE NIGHT ALTERNATIVE**

## THE ANNEX CAFE

1106 S. 1st St.  
 Milwaukee  
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**WELCOME**  
 all Classic Players, Friends & Fans

# MEET

your friends here after bar closing



**OPEN: Every Day 8pm to 4pm**

we're open till 4am, every night of the week

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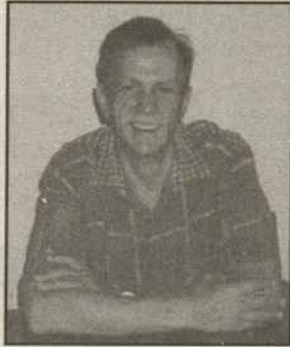
phone 414.226.0075

fax 414.226.0096

e-mail [editor@wilight.com](mailto:editor@wilight.com)

web [www.wilight.com](http://www.wilight.com)

# So...



by Ron Geiman

The unofficial start of summer comes this weekend with Memorial Day activities around the state, and — for the Milwaukee LGBT community — The Milwaukee Classic Softball Tournament.

I always judge how far along the spring season is by the area lilac bushes. Yes, lilacs and the Classic. When the Classic was held at Mitchell Park years back, the top of the hill overlooking the lower diamond was filled with lilac bushes, creating a Gay lavender colored setting.

Some years the lilacs are in full bloom by Memorial/Classic weekend. Other years they are past their prime or getting ready to bloom. This year, the lilacs should be past their prime, hopefully indicating we will have early warm weather... and great weather for the entire weekend.

The Classic has been held in every weather condition imaginable in years past: sleet, rain, cool, cold, and downright hot. Let's hope that this weekend it's warm and sunny enough to go shirtless so us locals can ogle the hunky out of town players!

In recent years, and again this year, the Classic, the oldest LGBT softball tournament in the country, will be at Wick Fields, 49th and Vliet Streets. Wick's multiple diamonds are bordered on the west by the Milwaukee Public Schools Administration Building, and they are east of the Milwaukee Police Department District Headquarters.

Games are played all day this Saturday and Sunday, providing plenty of opportunities to "Catch the Excitement." Perhaps you can catch yourself a husband for the weekend. All of Milwaukee's LGBT bars do their best to be great hosts, so after the games, check them out as well. This is one of their biggest weekends of the year with all the players, fans, and former residents back in town for a family visit.

**So...** Play Ball!

**So...** How about them flags? Rainbow flags that is, flying en masse in front of Milwaukee's LGBT Community Center and throughout downtown and the Third Ward. The flags by the Center serve as a Gay "Welcome" sign as you head south on 2nd St. into the Walker's Point Gay bar district. They also serve as a beacon to pull attention to the Center's location.

The June *Cosmopolitan* women's magazine has an interesting article giving "8 Reasons Gay Men Are A Girl's Best Friend." **So...** what did they come up with?

- Gay men are funnier than straight men.
- Gay men are into silly pop culture.
- Gay men like to talk as much as you do.
- Gay men 'get' shopping.
- Gay men are still men.
- Gay men know that gossiping is the single most entertaining pastime in the world.
- Going dancing with Gay men is a blast.

- You can tell Gay men the stuff you can't tell anyone else.

**So...** How would you like an insiders look into our office on Distribution Wednesdays?

The day starts out waiting for delivery of the next issue, and hoping — as usual — that the printers did a good job inking the presses so the printed colors match up with what we previewed on the computer monitor. A drop too much or too little of one of the four colors (cyan, magenta, yellow, black) in the mix can drastically change the look of the finished product.

Early Wednesday, everyone in the office (there are 5 of us) starts by working on the following weeks issue. Once the paper arrives, we all go into Distribution Mode. If the issue we are waiting for is our biweekly issue that contains Sextion X, that immediately throws things into a quandary.

Since Sextion X is not available in certain locations, we have to pull that four-page section from hundreds of issues before we begin distribution. After that, the actual distribution process begins in earnest.

The printers themselves take the burden of doing our UPS shipments to most of our non-Milwaukee and Madison locations around the state and nation. The rest of the papers are delivered to the receiving dock at our office. We then deliver a big load to our Madison driver, who makes sure the latest *Wisconsin Light* is distributed there on Wednesday evening.

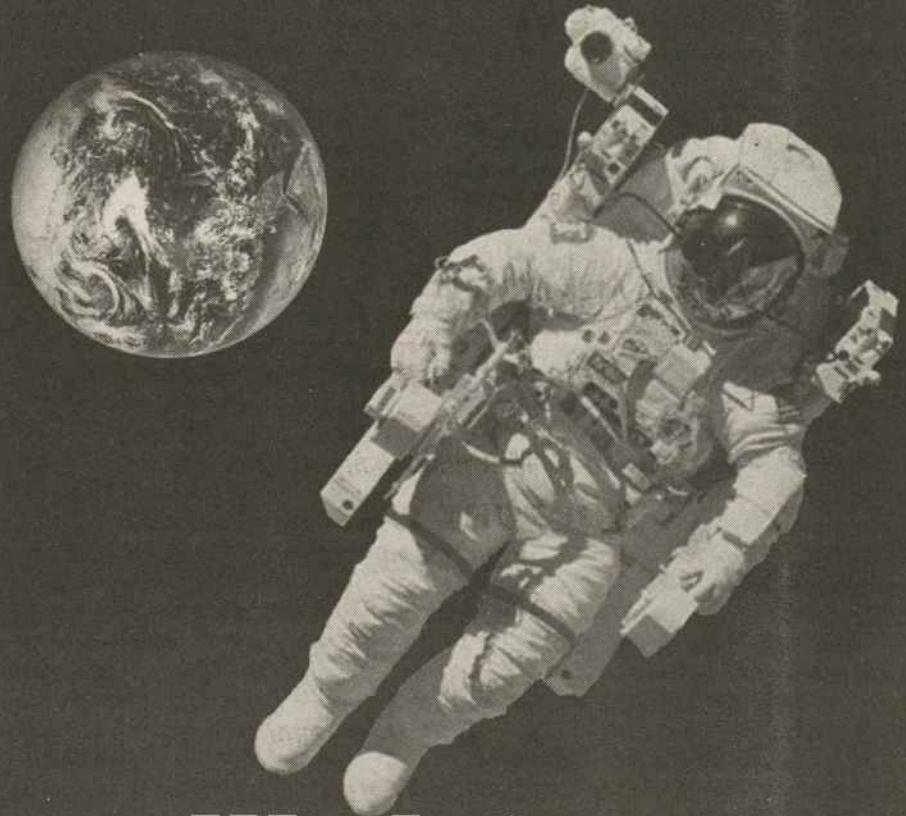
Meanwhile, we get all the priority, first class and bulk rate issues of the paper ready to mail. Then they we take them to the downtown post office as quickly as possible insuring fast delivery to our subscribers.

While the mailing is finished, two of us load up the car for the first of four delivery routes around the Milwaukee metro area. All four delivery routes around Milwaukee are completed before the night is over. (By the way, we are interested in finding people to take over several of the routes, so if you're interested, contact Greg at our office.)

In other words, the paper arrives early Wednesday afternoon, or late morning, and is totally distributed by the end of the day. On Thursday, the office is back into the normal daily routine getting the next issue ready to go to the printer the following Tuesday.

**So...** Needless to say, going weekly has kept us all very busy, but the finished product, and your comments, have made it all worthwhile. **So...** Thanks for picking us up. We all vow to continue to do our best to keep you informed.

Sometimes picking up our paper can be inconvenient.



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## 100-Employment

**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.

## 200-Real Estate

**BAYVIEW - 2 Bedroom Upper**  
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## SLEEPING ROOMS FOR RENT

**231 South 2nd Street**  
(Above C'est la Vie)  
New Paint & Carpet • Very Clean  
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**CALL (414) 291-9600**  
or **(414) 271-1576**

**FOR RENT, 1914 N. 58th**  
Washington Heights, 2-bedroom lower. Formal dining-room, sunroom, French doors, hardwood floors, stained glass, great condition/location. \$600+ security deposit includes water, laundry hook-up, parking. Non-smoker. July 1, 1999. (414) 479-9129.

**Updated 2-Bedroom** with dining room. Riverwest, lower flat. Garage, laundry, alarm system and new appliances included. Available July 1. \$475 plus security. No children, no pets, no smokers. (414) 305-0030.

**Roommate Wanted**  
Large private bedroom for 1 male near St. Joe's (47th & Locust). Private phone line/cable available. 3-bedroom Sherman Park home. \$225+ deposit and 1/2 utilities. (414) 445-5552.

## 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).

## 200-Real Estate

**SUPERB/LARGE FIRST FLOOR**  
Sherman Park apartment (3-bed-rooms) and half basement available July 1. Near St. Joseph's Hospital. \$625. Appointments, call (414) 445-5552.

## 300-Body, Mind & Soul

*St. Matthew's Celebrates Diversity*  
St. Matthew's Catholic Church at 1138 S. 25th Street in Milwaukee is a community which not only welcomes diversity but celebrates it! Please join us for worship on Sunday at 10:30am

**I lost 40 pounds in 2 months!** All natural, doctor recommended and money back guaranteed. Call 1-888-658-3871 Free samples & consultation

## 500-Buy & Sell

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**Rubber Stamps** We make Ideal self-inking stamps. Reasonable Prices! Guaranteed! Embossers, notary and professional stamps also made. Please contact as at [www.cmmarketing.com](http://www.cmmarketing.com)

## 800-Miscellaneous

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### I COMPLETE THIS INFORMATION

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_  
*(Needed for verification)*

\*Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
*(For 900 Category Classifieds. Must be 18+)*

### 2 SELECT YOUR CATEGORY

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 100 Employment        | <input type="checkbox"/> 600 Transportation           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 200 Real Estate       | <input type="checkbox"/> 700 Speak Your Mind          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 300 Body, Mind & Soul | <input type="checkbox"/> 800 Miscellaneous            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 400 Services          | <input type="checkbox"/> 900 Adults Only* (Section X) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 500 Buy & Sell        |   |

### 3 METHOD OF PAYMENT

Cash (in person only)     Check     Money Order  
Credit Card:  VISA     MC     DISCOVER

Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Name as it Appears on Card: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Charging: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**CLASSIFIED RATES:** Categories 100-800 are \$5 for the first 25 words, 25¢ for each additional word. \*Category 900 classifieds appear only in Section X and cost \$25 for up to 30 words, each add'l word 25¢ for 2 issues (minimum run) with renewals costing \$10 each add'l issue.

### 4 WRITE YOUR AD

BOLD LEAD-IN (minimum 5 words):  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

BALANCE OF AD (non-bold)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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AD TO APPEAR beginning \_\_\_\_\_ (Wednesday date), run it  
 every week  every other week and run it for \_\_\_\_\_ issues.

### COSTING

<b>Categories 100-800</b>	
First 25 words	\$5
Each add'l word x 25¢	_____
No. of issues to run - x	_____
Total *	_____
<b>*Category 900</b>	
First 30 Words	\$12.50
Each add'l word x 25¢	_____
No. of issues running - x 2 min.	_____
Total *	_____
<b>*Category 900 Renewals</b>	
First 30 Words	\$10
Each add'l word x 25¢	_____
No. of issues to run - x	_____
Total *	_____

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# NIGHTS OUT

## A Guide to the Classic

Well it's Classic time again, which means it's time for Dusty's handy tips on how to get the most out of the upcoming weekend.

Friday night there will be a reception at **219**. The players, both out of town and in



town, will be on hand to register and carry on. This provides you with the perfect opportunity to meet and greet that hot stud who's going to be playing shortstop all weekend before anyone else gets their hooks into him. Um, I mean this gives you a chance to be one of the first people to welcome our out of town guests.

The games — well the ones on the field anyway — will be at Wick Field on Saturday and Sunday. To keep the softball impaired from embarrassing themselves, let me point out a few differences between softball and baseball.

Leading lines — like your base or mine are okay. Leading off the base is not. The only bunting allowed is the stuff hung on the backstops.

Base stealing is a no-no. Keep that in mind before you get up and yell, "Hey why don't you steal second and bring it over to my place?"

Pitchers throw underhanded. So don't get up and scream, "Burn one in there for me baby!"

Everyone is supposed to be color coordinated including the umpires. It is, however, considered bad form to dis a team's puce and orange uniforms. Hey, can they help it if they are colorblind?

The games are fun, but they are competitive. Cheering is encouraged. Please try to cheer more for a player's ability than you do for the looks of his butt when he bends over to pick up a bat. In some cases — and for some people — this can be difficult, but as they say, sports require some effort.

Many of the umps are from out of town. Try to be pleasant to them. If you must cast doubt on their parentage, ability to see, or knowledge of the rules, attempt to do it nicely. Rather than scream, "You're blind, you fool," you may want to offer to pay of an eye exam.

Dress appropriately. As we all know the weather over the Memorial Day weekend is notoriously fickle. Sitting on the bleachers clad in nothing but a jockstrap may be good adver-

tising, but it's unlikely to get you anything but laughter and a bad cold. Bring a few essentials like a parka, long underwear, an umbrella and just on the off chance that we may actually have sunny warm weather, some tanning lotion or sun screen.

Saturday night, there will be parties at **219**, the **Ball Game**, **M&M's**, **Switch** (the former Mugshots is opening on Friday night) and **Woody's**. These bars

all have teams entering the tournament. Each of them is hosting up to four out of town teams. Check with each of them to find out when their event starts.

Speaking of partying with those who do not have the good fortune to live here, try to avoid some faux pas when meeting them.

For example, it's bad form to ask the Chicago players if they want to go back to your place and watch the highlights of last year's Packer-Bear games.

Keep in mind that these guys are from out of town. Ask them if they would like some sausage and you may get a request for another brat or a visit to Usinger's.

Above all else, enjoy the weekend and those coming to enjoy it with you.

Speaking of softball, check out the photos we took at the SSBL Follies held at **219**. They are on the next page. That's a wrap for this week. I hope to see you out and about soon. Meanwhile be fierce, stay safe and be proud!



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DJ Friday & Saturday Nights

**THE SHAFT BAR**  
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Leather/Latex/Uniform Dress Code

## 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/Planet Q MW, F, DJ, V, E 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  
*(Open Fri & Sat, 9pm-Close)*  
Ray's Bar & Grill WM, 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  
**Ballgame** M, S 196 S. 2nd St., 53204 273-7474  
*(Open 2pm, Cocktail Hour 2-9 Mon-Fri; Sat & Sun open 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  
*(Open 5pm, Cocktail Hour 5-8 Mon-Fri; Sat & Sun open 2pm, Daily Specials)*  
Club 219 Mw, DJ, E, V 219 S. 2nd St., 53204 271-3732  
Dish W, DJ 235 S. 2nd St., 53204 273-DISH  
Emerald City D, DJ, E, V, G/S 1101 N. Old World 3rd 53202 226-2489  
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  
*(Open 5pm everyday; 2-for-1 Drinks 5-8 Mon-Fri; Wed & Thur specials, 8pm-close)*  
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  
*(Open 8pm; DJ 7-nights-a-week; Sunday show; Thur. Super Bust)*  
M&M Club MW, E, F 124 N. Water St., 53202 347-1962  
Milw Eagle/Shaft M, L/L, DJ 300 W. Juneau, 53203 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  
**Switch** Mw 124 W. National, 53204 220-4340  
*(Open 6pm, Outdoor Patio, Cocktail hour 6-9pm, nightly specials 9-Close)*  
**This Is It** Mw 418 E. Wells St., 53202 278-9192  
*(Open 3pm every day; Cocktail hour special)*  
Triangle M 135 E. National Ave., 53204 383-9412  
**Woody's** M 1579 S. 2nd St., 53204 672-0806  
*(Open 4pm-Close, 7 days a week)*

### 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

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OPEN FRIDAY,  
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SOFTBALL PLAYERS



GOOD LUCK TO OUR  
SWITCH HITTERS TEAM!



**SWITCH**

124 West National Avenue • 220-4340  
Gay Milwaukee's Sports Bar



219 was the site of the annual SSBL Follies on Saturday May 22. We offer pictures of these "beauties" without further comment.

# Going Out

## WEDNESDAY, MAY 26

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

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

## FRIDAY, MAY 28

**The Men's Room** (Madison), Friday night fetish night, 7-close.

**Switch** (Milwaukee), Opening of Milwaukee's newest LGBT bar, 6-close; 124 W. National Ave.

**Woody's** (Milwaukee), Have a Shot Against AIDS. Shots are \$2 from 4pm-on with each shot counting as a vote for your favorite Milwaukee Classic team. Team with most votes receives \$200; prize awarded mid-night Sunday, 25% of proceeds will go to a Milwaukee AIDS organ.

## SATURDAY, MAY 29

**Ray's Bar & Grill** (Madison), Ladies Night Out, 10pm, drag show.

**The Ballgame** (Milwaukee), Special Classic/Memorial Weekend opening time of 11am.

**The Main Club** (Superior), Levi/leather night, last Saturday of the month.

**The Men's Room** (Madison), Progressive Happy Hour, 7-10pm.

**Woody's** (Milwaukee), Have a Shot Against AIDS. Shots are \$2 from 4pm-on with each shot counting as a vote for your favorite Milwaukee Classic team. Team with most votes receives \$200; prize awarded mid-night Sunday, 25% of proceeds will go to a Milwaukee AIDS organ.

## SUNDAY, MAY 30

**Fannie's** (Milwaukee), Memorial Day Weekend, 2 All Girl Bands: Venus Envy and Eden, 8pm-?

**Ray's Bar & Grill** (Madison), Memorial Day Weekend, Patio Bar Annual Opening 2pm; Beer Bash 2-8pm; Open Volleyball 2-8pm; Portfolio Men Dancers 10:30pm.

**The Ballgame** (Milwaukee), Special Classic/Memorial Weekend opening time of 11am.

**Woody's** (Milwaukee), Have a Shot Against AIDS. Shots are \$2 from 4pm-on with each shot counting as a vote for your favorite Milwaukee Classic team. Team with most votes receives \$200; prize awarded mid-night Sunday, 25% of proceeds will go to a Milwaukee AIDS organ.

## MONDAY, MAY 31

**Ray's Bar & Grill** (Madison), Memorial Day Weekend, Patio Bar Annual Opening 2pm; Beer Bash 2-8pm; Open Volleyball 2-8pm; Sumo Wrestling 2pm-?; 2-4-1 Happy Hour 10-close.

**The Ballgame** (Milwaukee), SSBL Fund-raiser: Memorial Day in Chicago. Depart Milwaukee 9am from the Ballgame, return to Milwaukee 6pm. Includes drinks served on a Grayline Coach; admission to The Lucky Horseshoe Private Party; Brunch Buffet; 3 drink tickets. \$70 per person, call (414) 271-0996 for reservations.

**The Ballgame** (Milwaukee), Special Classic/Memorial Weekend opening time of 11am.

## THURSDAY, JUNE 3

**LaCage** (Milwaukee), BESTD Clinic offers free, anonymous HIV testing and counseling, 10pm-1am.

## FRIDAY, JUNE 4

**Za's** (Green Bay), Justine D'Zire's Birthday Show.

## SATURDAY, JUNE 5

**Capers/Illusions** (Kenosha), 1999 Ms. Gay WI-USofA Pageant featuring Sarah Jane Whitney, Ms. Gay WI USofA '97-98. Showtime 10:30pm. Contest open to

all female residents of Wisconsin from the Lesbian or Bi communities over 21 years of age. Interested contestants contact Capers/Illusions or call Quest at (800) 578-3785.

**Fyfe's Comer Bistro** (Madison), MAGIC Picnic fund raising dance with live DJ and cash bar. Doors of the Banquet Room open 10pm -2:30am, \$3 suggested donation, 1344 E. Washington Avenue. FMI call (608) 251-8700. The picnic will be held July 17.

## SUNDAY, JUNE 6

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

**LaCage** (Milwaukee), The LaCage showcase welcomes Tania Michaels to the cast. Tania was the first Miss WI USofA and returns after years in LA.

## 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.

Get Your  
**MITTS**  
on a



cold  
one

Welcome all  
**Milwaukee Classic**  
Tournament  
Players, Fans &  
Friends.

## 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

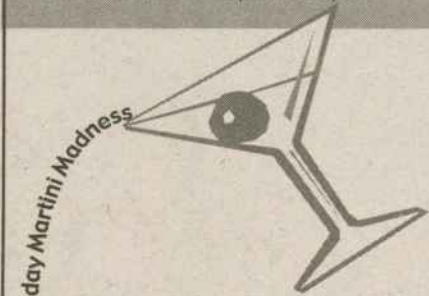
**Corona and shots of Cuervo**  
\$2 8pm-close

**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

## If you missed one of our recent issues YOU MAY NOT KNOW ABOUT

Cher's latest film • The "Gay" Star Wars Character • What a national poll said about LGBT candidates • The latest development at Mazo Beach • The last night at In Between • A Royal visit to a bombed London Gay pub • Milwaukee's Town Hall meeting on Domestic Partnership • And a whole lot more

Miss A Week?  
You Missed a Lot

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**hits on the field . . .**

**We play the**



**hits on the dance floor!**

**LaCage**

**Get**



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