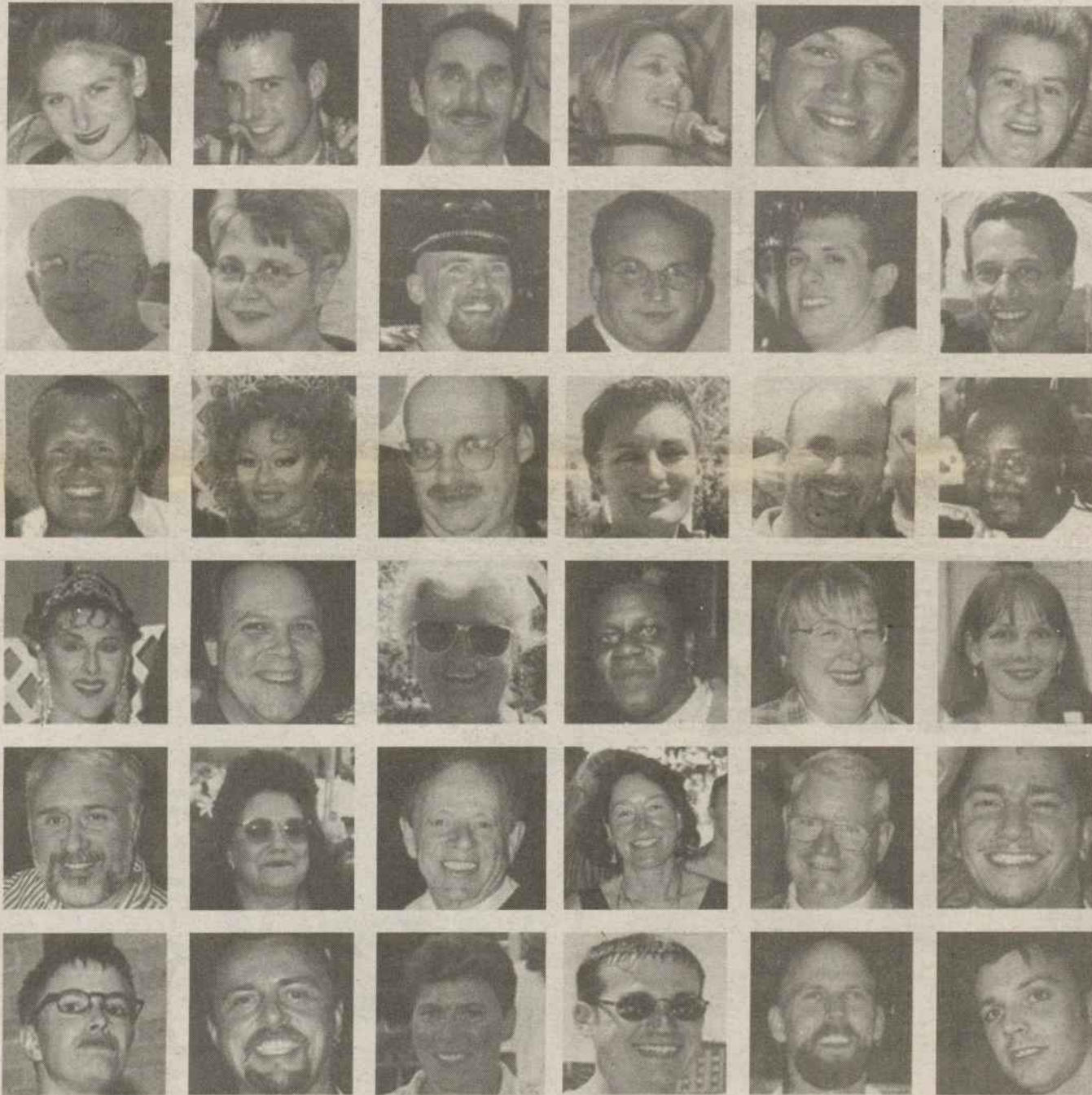


The Weekly Voice of Wisconsin's LGBT Community

WI Light WEEKLY

June 2-8, 1999

Building A COMMUNITY



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Milwaukee Classic
Starts on Page 13



Deep Inside Hollywood
Page 13



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W!Light

June 2-8, 1999

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AP Associated Press

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 •

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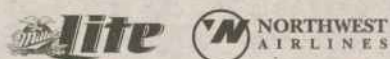
- Ras Dandiya (Indian Stick Dancing) — Saturday, June 12, 7-11 p.m.
- Native Taiwanese Dance Troupe — Various times all weekend
- Jan Warren Allen's "Year of the Hare Asian Psychic Faire" — All weekend
- Chinese Ribbon Dancing — Various times all weekend
- Unforgettable Impressions of Yunnan Province: 50 Years of Progress by Bert Krawczyk, Sr. 14th Air Force Flying Tiger — All weekend

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AROUND THE STATE

Police Take Nine Hours to Respond to Bashing Call

Milwaukee — On Friday, May 1, Mark and his lover, Rob, made one of their infrequent trips to Milwaukee's LGBT bar area. Their brief foray into Milwaukee's bar scene would have serious consequences. For Mark, those consequences include a battered leg, a head wound, weeks of missed work and questions about why it took the police nine hours to respond to three 911 calls for help. For Rob, it meant outing himself to his son.

Mark was attacked and beaten as he and Rob walked to their car, which was parked on South Third Street, just south of National Avenue.

The attackers were three Hispanic youths. Rob and Mark say that one was 5'9" and weighed around 180 pounds. He had a goatee and mustache. Another attacker was approximately 5'8", 200 pounds, clean-shaven and had a Vice Lords fork tattooed on his hand. Neither Mark nor Rob got a good enough look at the third attacker to describe him.

"They came up and said, 'Give me your money, Faggot!'" said Mark. "I said, 'Hell no. You got the wrong Faggot here.'"

That was when the trio beat Mark with an aluminum baseball bat. The bat landed on his skull at least twice. While he lay on the ground, they continued to beat him on his shins while attempting to find his wallet.

Rob ran to the other side of the street shouting for someone to call the police. His actions might have saved Mark's life. The would-be robbers ran from the scene, even though no one in the neighborhood responded.

All of that is bad enough. What happened in the aftermath didn't help Mark and Rob to feel safer. The couple made it to their car and drove to their near West Side home. "Within 10 minutes we were at home and on the phone to the police," said Mark.

"Rob made the call," said Mark. "He said, 'My significant other, Mark, was just bashed on South Third and National.' He said we were returning to our car after leaving a Gay bar." According to police records, the call was made at 1:28am.

The dispatcher asked Rob if she should send an ambulance. He declined. "I was hoping the police would show up quickly and drive me to the hospital," said Mark.

At 2:15am, Rob made a second call to the Police. Again, the Police said they would be arriving soon. After waiting for another 45 minutes, Rob and Mark went to Froedert Memorial Hospital.

"Mark was bleeding a lot," said Rob. "I went to the desk to check in. Five minutes later when I came back, there was pool of blood on the floor."

"The doctor said it was obscene that the police had not come," said Mark. He adds that the emergency room doctor called the police and told them he was the victim of a Gay bashing, described his injuries and asked them to come to the hospital. They never did.

Mark and Rob waited at the hospital for the police until 6am. Then they went to the home of Rob's ex-wife to pick up his son for a weekend visit.

Sometime after 10am, Police Officer D. Kramer arrived at their home. After seeing Mark's injuries, he called for a detective. Detective Tom Fischer was summoned from the Second District. Mark and Rob say that both officers were very professional.

Rob told *Light* the officers said the delay in getting a police response was caused by their call being reclassified. "They said that after the first call, it was put down as an armed robbery," said Rob. "After the second call, it was changed to an assault. They said assaults have a lower priority."

Stephanie Hume, a Lesbian activist who works on police issues, told *Light* that there have been problems with 911 dispatches and that those problems are not confined to the Gay community. She recommends that calls not drawing a response be repeated every 20 minutes.

By the time the police arrived, Rob's son was at their home. While the four-year-old boy sat on the couch, Mark and Rob had to explain their relationship and what happened to the police. "He didn't know any of this before then," said Mark.

A few days later, Mark developed a staph infection in his injured leg. The infection caused him to miss two weeks of work. The state's Department of Justice Crime Victim Compensation program has agreed to compensate Mark for his lost income.

Mark sent the police a letter to complain about the delay in responding to his calls. He plans to file a complaint with the Fire and Police Commission as well. "To me, the most interesting thing about this is not that I am Gay and not that it happened there," said Mark. "I vote. I am a decent person. Then I call 911 at 1:20am. I'm bleeding, and they can't show up until 10:00 the next day."

He adds, "I just want to raise our kid and be okay." He also wants to know why it took the police nine hours to respond to his call for help.

OutReach Hires New Executive Director

Madison — Milwaukeean Debra Weill will be the new Executive Director of OutReach, Inc., Madison's LGBT Community Center.

Ms. Weill replaces De Ette Tomlinson. Tomlinson *Wisconsin Light's* Woman of the Year, left Outreach to pursue other interests. Weill is a longtime Milwaukee resident and "brings to the agency a valuable range of skills and experiences obtained through her past employment in both business and community-based organizations," according to the organization.

She was most recently employed by the Milwaukee Urban League and the Walker's Point Development Corp.

"Ms. Weill also has a long history of community activism, related not only to LGBT issues, but also to violence, diversity and community development issues." She currently serves on the boards of the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center and the Human Rights League.

Search Committee Chair, Eric Boberg, said that Ms. Weill was far and away the most qualified candidate to apply for the position. "Debra was everyone's first choice," he said. "She's going to make an outstanding contribution to our community." Board President, Julia Belt, echoed this opinion, saying, "We're incredibly lucky to have found someone with her talents and experience."

Ms. Weill will begin her tenure as soon as she can complete her relocation to Madison. OutReach recently moved to a new and larger home at the Gateway Mall, 600 Williamson St. in Madison.

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AROUND THE WORLD

Same Sex Couples Gain Rights in New South Wales

Sydney, Australia – *The Sydney Morning Herald* reports that the New South Wales legislature granted same sex couples the same property and inheritance rights provided to married couples.

The Property Relationships Bill passed the New South Wales Upper House by a vote of 85 to 3. The passage came on the 15th anniversary of the decriminalization of Gay sex in Australia. The Bill gives those engaged in an opposite or same sex domestic partnerships, for at least two years, the right to divide property or ask for alimony in the event of a breakup. It also provides hospital visitation rights and inheritance rights.

Romanian PM Pledges Changes

Bucharest – Romania's new Prime Minister Radu Vasile promised that his government will decriminalize Gay sex acts performed between consenting adults. International groups have repeatedly criticized Romania over its treatment of Gays and Lesbians.

In early September 1996, the Romanian parliament adopted a new law that made all homosexual acts, including those in private, as well as membership of Homosexual and Lesbian movements, criminal offenses. The Council of Europe is demanding that the Balkan State repeal its harsh laws against Gay intimacy. Vasile said that new laws governing sexual relations between consenting adults will be proposed to and passed by the parliament before the end of this year.

Bishop's Apology Creates More Controversy

Sydney, Australia – Data Lounge reports that a Catholic Archbishop of Melbourne issued a qualified apology for saying that the health risks of being Gay exceed those posed by smoking. Melbourne Archbishop George Pell made the remark after refusing to give Holy Communion to rainbow sash wearing Gay parishioners.

The next day, the Bishop issued a statement saying his remark was intended to compare the health risks of smoking and homosexual activity "relative to their uptake in the population."

"I am aware that many more people die of smoking-related illnesses than those who die from AIDS each year," he said. "But for the number of individuals concerned, it's a moot point, which is worse."

Pell also said that the security of safe sex practices is "significantly overstated." While insisting that the Catholic Church is opposed to homophobia, the Bishop said that homosexuality is "tied up with a great deal of promiscuity and there's no happiness for anybody in the long term in that direction."

Asked about Pell's comments, one angry but amused local activist said, "He opens his mouth

to apologize and swallows more of his foot."

Blair Government Focuses on Anti-Gay Law

London – The government of Tony Blair committed itself to the repeal of an anti-Gay law passed during the Margaret Thatcher era. The law known as Section 28 prohibits local governments from acting to "promote homosexuality." It also banned schools from using curriculum that shows "homosexuality as a pretended family life."

Section 28 made it impossible for any program, even health programs designed to fight HIV, from getting government funding help.

Angela Mason, the Executive Director of the LGBT group Stonewall, hailed the decision. She told Reuters News Agency that England's LGBT community has focused on repealing Section 28 for more than a decade.

Cabinet Office Minister Jack Cunningham announced the Blair commitment at a Stonewall Dinner. To thunderous applause Cunningham said, "Section 28 was wrong. It is wrong in 1999 and it will go."

Mason thinks the move is the result of the Gay and Lesbian community playing practical politics. "Ten years ago we were very much on the margins of politics," she said. "Today we are a mainstream and influential force, right at the heart of the debate."

Activists Honored At Dinner

New York – The International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission honored two activists and two organizations for their work to advance Gay and Lesbian civil rights in their countries during an IGLHRC dinner held in New York on May 12. Prudence Mabele of South Africa, Aung Myo Min of Burma, and Kiri Kiri and Chingu Sai of Korea were honored with the Felipa Award.

Mabele is an HIV+ Lesbian activist. She has worked to develop programs for HIV+ youth. The founder of several LGBT groups, Min lives in Thailand where he organizes confidential workshops for Burmese Gays and Lesbians. Kiri Kiri ("together" in Korean) and Chingu Sai ("Between friends" in Korean) are LGBT groups working to advance LGBT equality in South Korea.

The award is named after Felipa de Souza, a Brazilian woman convicted and tortured by the Portuguese Inquisition in 1591 for having sexual relationships with other women.

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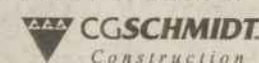
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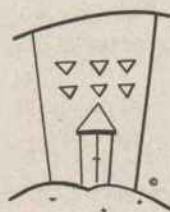
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CommUNITY

Beloit Pride Pig Roast

Beloit - State line LGBT communities will have their first Pride Celebration on Saturday, June 5 when The Kloset Bar and UnCommon Grounds Coffeehouse co-host an outdoor Pig Roast.

From noon to 2:30am, the Kloset will welcome local LGBTs and their friends and families who want to get an early start on the Gay Pride season by partying in the bar's backyard. The Kloset is located at 232 Shirland Avenue in Beloit.

Cheryl Kader, owner of UnCommon Grounds, commented, "At the time The Kloset's owners, John and Kurt, opened their bar last year, they conceived it as being more than a bar, but a community gathering place."

Until now, LGBTs living in the state line area have had to travel to Milwaukee, Madison, Rockford or Chicago to take part in pride events, but "now we initiate pride season with a celebration of our own."

Kader, who will offer non-alcoholic, gourmet coffee concoctions as well as fresh-fruit smoothies, will join the staff of Kloset for the celebration. Karaoke will be featured in the bar. "All of us involved in this year's gathering hope to make it an annual event involving an expanded menu of vendors, entertainers, and who knows, even a parade!" concluded Kader.

For more information or directions, call the Kloset at (608) 363-8764.

Vanderbosch Memorial Service

Milwaukee - A memorial service for activist Jane Vanderbosch, former Administrative Coordinator/Executive Director of the United (now OutReach), will be held at 10am on June 12 at the St. Benedict Center, 4200 County Highway M in Middleton.

"This will be a celebration of life of one who touched many others and brought value to each person she met," said an organizer.

Vanderbosch quietly passed away early in the morning of April 29 after her long battle with cancer, as noted in the May 12th issue of *Wisconsin Light*. In addition to her involvement with the United, Jane was an author, poet, bibliophile, mentor and inspiration.

Help Stamp out Breast Cancer

Washington, D.C. - The U.S. Postal Service has released a Breast Cancer Research Stamp that could raise up to \$16 million for beneficiaries, once all books of the "Fund The Cure" stamps are sold.

The stamp was designed by Ethel Kessler of Bethesda, Maryland to take a stand against this disease that kills and maims so many of our mothers, sisters and friends.

A regular book of stamps costs \$6.60, whereas these will cost \$8, with the extra \$1.40 going to research.

One Night Only AIDS Ride Fundraising Show

Milwaukee - Watercolorist Lisa Silverman will be featured in a one night only showing of recent works. All proceeds from the sale of her brightly-colored, small format paintings will be pledged to this year's Twin Cities-Wisconsin-Chicago AIDS Ride.

This is the 4th annual AIDS Ride Benefit with revenue going to local AIDS organizations. Ms. Silverman will be cycling in the long distance trek in July 1999 for the first time.

The show will be presented at Grava Gallery, 1209 E. Brady St. for ONE NIGHT ONLY on Friday, June 11, 1999 from 6-10pm. Ms. Silverman will be on hand to discuss her works and her fundraising concept.

For further information, please contact Michael Wavra at Grava Gallery, (414) 277-8228.

CAIR Research Conferences

Milwaukee - The Medical College of Wisconsin's Center for AIDS Intervention Research (CAIR) has announced June's series of accredited Research Conferences good for practitioners Continuing Education Units.

- Thursday, June 10, 3pm: *Impact of Medical and Non-medical Factors on Physician Decision-making for HIV/AIDS Antiretroviral Treatment*. Presented by Laura Bogart, Ph.D., a Postdoctoral Fellow at CAIR.

- Thursday, June 17, 3pm: *Twelve Years of Prison HIV Prevention Interventions, The Evolution of Programs*. Presented by Barry Zack, MPH, Director of the Health Programs Division of Centerforce, Inc., San Quentin, California.

- Thursday, June 24, 3pm: *Global Health Priorities, Influences and a Look at the Future*. Presented by Michael H. Merson, M.D., Dean of Public Health, Chair, Dept. of Epidemiology & Public Health at Yale's University School of Medicine.

Refreshment reception immediately follows the conferences, which are held in the CAIR Conference Room, 2071 N. Summit Avenue in Milwaukee. FMI call (414) 456-7731.

Lutheran Conference Links Gay, Peace and Race Issues

Minneapolis - For the first time ever, representatives of Lutheran congregations across North America will gather for a conference exploring and celebrating the "Ministry of welcome to all God's people."

The June 18-20 conference at Augsburg College in Minneapolis is open to anyone who wants to "explore how justice, peace and welcoming issues relate in a Christian context."

Tough Faith for Tough Times: Equipping Out Communities for Justice, Peace and Reconciliation is co-sponsored by Lutherans Concerned, Lutheran Human Relations Assoc. of America and Lutheran Peace Fellowship.

The programming will look at the interconnections between race and sexual orientation issues in the context of peace making. Dr. Walter Wink, author of *Homosexuality and the Bible*, will be the keynote speaker. An integral part of the conference will promote the Reconciling in Christ Program, which recognizes Lutheran communities of faith that publicly welcome LGBT believers and their families.

For more information, contact Bob Gibeling at (404) 266-9615 or e-mail Gibeling@aol.com. Web page: www.lcna.org

Building A COMMUNITY

For most people, the word "community" means being together. For increasing numbers of Gays and Lesbians here in Wisconsin and elsewhere, that sense of community focuses on a "home of our own," a LGBT community center.

LGBT America has seen an explosion of community centers in recent years. In just the last 12 months, over 30 new Centers have opened from coast to coast, including Milwaukee's new LGBT community center.

These centers are focal points for community activity. They provide meeting space as well as programs and services that are geared towards individuals and organizations. Some are no more than storefronts in small towns. Others have budgets well in excess of \$1 million. As Linda Malicki, Executive Director of the Cleveland Community Center, puts it, "We're fairly different animals everywhere. Some of us are all volunteer. Others have staffs. Some just provide space. Others have a variety of programs."

While these centers are diverse in nature, they do share a common goal: bringing the local LGBT communities that established them together. How they do that varies from city to city.

A basic LGBT center offers information and referral services. Many have libraries. Nearly all of them provide some type of meeting space for local LGBT groups.

Some LGBT centers serve as a Gay shopping mall for services and programs. For example, the Los Angeles Gay and Lesbian Community Center includes a shelter for homeless youth, legal advisers, and even its own HMO run through the Audre Lord Health clinic.

The LA Center has a budget of \$28 million. The money supports services and programs like an HIV testing program, mental health programs, a youth center and an anti-violence program. The Center has a staff of 275 full time employees in addition to over 3,000 volunteers.

The LA Center is not the only "mega mall" of LGBT programs and services, but is by far the biggest. The next largest, New York City's Lesbian and Gay Community Services Center, has a budget of *only* \$3.9 million to support a staff of 44 full time and 30 part time employees.

Those larger centers are the exception, not the rule. Most big city LGBT centers have small staffs and budgets well under \$1 million.

Each community establishing a center has its own reasons for doing so such as the need for meeting space or a central location for services. However, conversations with volunteers and staff at several centers indicated agreement on some major causes for the explosive growth of LGBT Centers from coast to coast.

When asked what prompted the growth of LGBT community centers, Malicki cites the National Association of Community Centers. "It's partly because of the National Association, which has reached out and helped community centers in a limited way," she said. "The Association offers support that was never here before. It's an indication of the growth of the queer movement."

She believes that the growing visibility of our national organizations is playing a part as well. "As HRC and NGLTF have made our movement more visible on a national level, more people are looking for something at home," says Malicki.

Anne De Groot, a member of the Association's Board of Directors and the Executive Director of OutFront Minnesota, also sees the increased visibility of Gays and Lesbians as a major factor.

"No matter where they live, people are more out than they used to be," said De Groot. "They want to be out and they want a place to be out that isn't just the bars. Community centers offer that alternative. It's a place where you can be out. You can see other Gay people, learn things and get information. People want to feel that sense of community. They want to get to know other people."

That increased visibility has helped in many ways. LGBT community centers offer professionals who dislike or don't have time for grassroots activism an opportunity to contribute to their community by using their expertise and opening their checkbooks.

De Groot says that community centers have benefited as more professionals have come out

of the closet at their workplace. She believes that the Gays and Lesbians with good paying professional jobs are looking for outlets in the community and that community centers provide the type of outlet they are looking for.

"The community people with resources feel more secure supporting a center," she says. "I've been out for 25 years, a group would start to raise a bunch of money and then fold. We've developed a number of different places in the community that have more security about them."

"A center is perfect for that. We've gone from a bunch of small temporary groups to groups that have some permanence to them. If you are going to give \$25,000 or \$50,000, you want to know that your money is going to be used properly. The centers have been able to provide that for people."

Another reason for the interest in LGBT centers is the need for information. For example, many LGBT centers, including Madison's Outreach Community Center, provide counseling and support group services for those who are coming to terms with their sexual orientation.

Furthermore, increasing numbers of Gays and Lesbians are leading open lives. Many of them want Gay or Lesbian accountants, doctors and lawyers who understand their needs. Many LGBT centers provide information on where to find a LGBT or Gay friendly professional service provider.

Both Malicki and De Groot believe that a major reason for the increase in the number of centers is the ability of local LGBT communities to use them as a means to define themselves.

"We are a visible queer presence at a local level," says Malicki. "The community decides what we are going to look like, what we're going to do is based on its needs."

De Groot agrees and adds: "In a lot of places, especially smaller communities, the visibility of the center is so important to counter the right wing. To have a center that people can go to has provided a really important safety net. There are centers in places where you wouldn't think they would be, places like Des Moines and Wichita."

One place you wouldn't expect to find an LGBT Community Center is Springfield, Missouri, the boyhood home of Brad Pitt. Springfield is a town of 125,000. It is but an hour's drive from Arkansas. Yet Springfield's LGBT community center, GLO, Gay Lesbian Community Center of the Ozarks, thrives in what GLO volunteer Tamara Livingston calls "the buckle of the Bible belt."

GLO has a budget of \$35,000. That's a lot of money for a place that Livingston says would never be considered a Gay Mecca. It offers a library, the Café GLO, a monthly social gathering, support groups for Gay parents, persons living with AIDS/HIV, Transgendered individuals, and others. It also provides a meeting space for the Ozark Mountain Men, a Gay leather group and a monthly newsletter.

The money to support GLO comes from memberships, grants and fundraisers. GLO members should consider themselves fortunate. They have something most small town LGBT centers don't have, a staff person.

Malicki's center has a budget of \$300,000 and a staff of six full time employees. De Groot's OutFront Minnesota raises and spends \$500,000 a year. In a sense, OutFront Minnesota's center is a statewide one. The organization has a full time employee who travels to rural areas of Minnesota to reach Gays and Lesbians living outside of the Twin Cities.

What it doesn't have is a building of its own. OutFront Minnesota leases space within another Community Center. "We made a strategic decision to put our resources and money into development of our services and programs," said De Groot. "It was important for us to work hard on that first."

OutFront provides information, referrals and counseling services for individuals. Its programs also include a variety of services to organizations and different segments of the LGBT community.

For example, OutFront Minnesota recently convened a meeting of Transgendered persons to help them get organized. It works with other organizations to help them plan meetings and conferences. It also acts as fiscal agent for several groups.

That mix of organizational and individual services is not uncommon among LGBT Community Centers including two in Wisconsin, Madison's Outreach Community Center and Milwaukee's LGBT Community Center.

Next Week — A look at Milwaukee's LGBT Community Center

"No matter where they live, people are more out than they used to be. They want to be out and they want a place to be out that isn't just the bars. Community centers offer that alternative. It's a place where you can be out. You can see other Gay people, learn things and get information. People want to feel that sense of community. They want to get to know other people."

— Anne De Groot

AROUND THE NATION

Jury Recommends Death Sentence — Again

Jacksonville, FL — A Florida jury recommended that Gary Ray Bowles, who once held a position on the FBI's 10 Most Wanted list, be sentenced to death for killing a Gay man who befriended him.

Bowles was originally sentenced to death in 1996. That sentence followed his conviction for the 1994 murder of Walter Jammell Hinton. The Florida Supreme Court overturned the sentence saying that prosecutors should not have told the jury that Bowles admitted hatred of Gays led him to kill Hinton. The court said Bowles' statements that he hates Gays was not enough to show that hatred was the reason for the murder.

Bowles admits to killing six Gay men along the East Coast. A Judge will rule on Bowles' sentence on June 24.

Ralph Geffen Dies

Los Angeles, CA — Ralph Geffen, a Federal Judge who issued a 1988 landmark decision on FBI surveillance of Gay groups, died on Wednesday, May 26.

Judge Geffen won a place in LGBT history with his ruling that there was no basis for FBI infiltration and surveillance operations directed at LGBT civil rights groups. The ruling came in a suit filed by the ACLU on behalf of a Los Angeles man who was seeking records under the Freedom of Information Act.

Geffen's decision forced the FBI to

release over 5,800 pages of documents and effectively ended the practice. In his ruling the Judge wrote the FBI operation was based upon the "anti-homosexual bias of the late FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover and his belief that homosexuals, especially when organized or joining in groups, posed a threat to national security."

Ironically, after his death, Hoover's own homosexuality was revealed in several well-documented books.

San Francisco Debates Bathhouses

San Francisco, CA — A movement to reopen San Francisco's Gay bathhouses is growing in size. The bathhouses closed in 1984 as AIDS infections grew to epidemic proportions.

Those favoring the reopening say that it will promote safe sex. City ordinances allow sex clubs if all sexual acts occur in public where they can be monitored to ensure the use of a condom. Bathhouse backers say that this has forced those who do not wish to have public sex into parks and bathroom stalls where condoms are not available.

There have been over 26,000 reported cases of AIDS and 17,800 deaths from HIV in San Francisco. Even in the wake of AIDS, some cities allow bathhouses to remain open but require their operators to provide condoms and give safe sex information to their customers.

Florida Adoption Ban Challenged

Miami, FL — The American Civil Liberties Union is challenging Florida's ban on LGBT adoptions. Florida is the only state that prohibits Gays and Lesbians from adopting children.

On Wednesday, May 28, the ACLU filed a class action suit asking a Federal court to overturn the ban. The group says that at least 1,000 foster children are awaiting adoption. Florida does not prohibit Gays and Lesbians from providing foster care. "Part of the ignorance is that the state trusts a homosexual couple to be foster parents indefinitely, but not to be adoptive parents," said Howard Simon, the Executive Director of the Florida ACLU.

Boy Scouts Complain About Anti-Gay Ads

Los Angeles, CA — *The Orange County Register* reports that the Boy Scouts of America is complaining about the use of scouts in ads and demonstrations that oppose a Gay civil rights law.

In a letter to the Campaign for California Families, BSA Attorney David Park said, "We feel that... your organization is engaged in some sort of exploitation of the proprietary interests of the Boy Scouts of America." The conservative group used pictures of a Cub Scout in a full-page ad run in *The Register*. The ad claimed that passage of a bill banning employment discrimination based on sexual orientation would harm the Boy Scouts.

Furthermore, children and adults dressed in scout uniforms participated in a Santa Ana

demonstration against the bill. The bill's sponsor says that since it exempts not for profit groups, it would not affect the Boy Scouts.

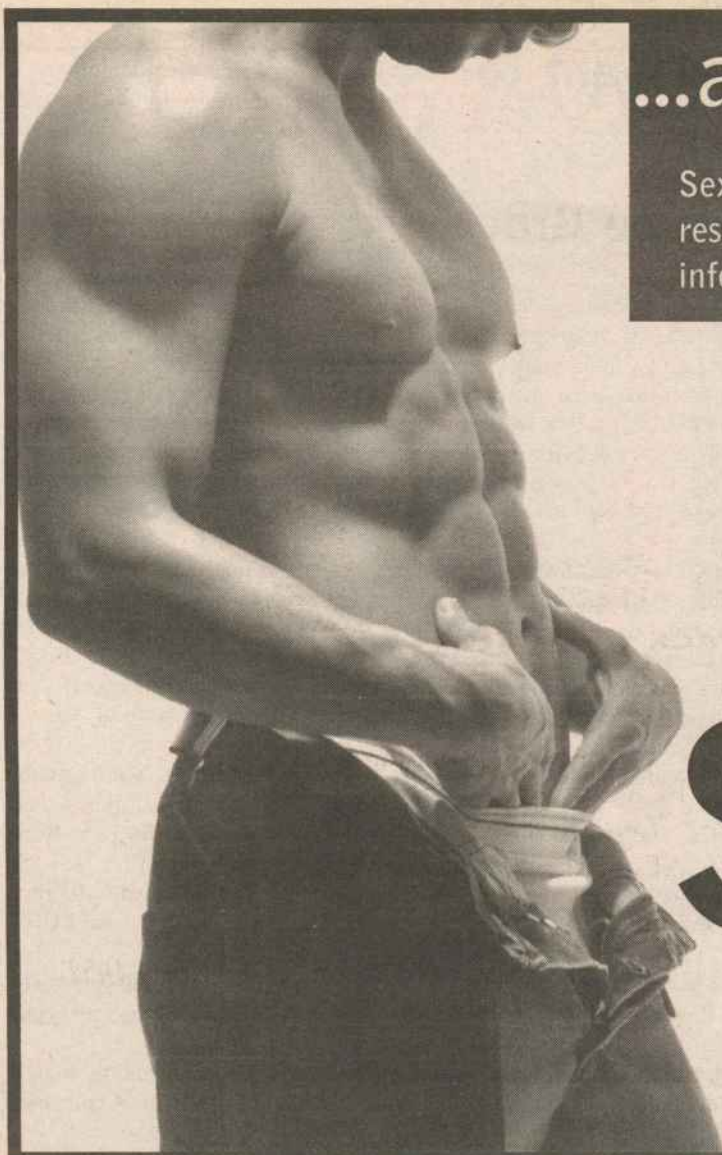
But Continue Fight with Unitarians

Los Angeles, CA — *The Los Angeles Times* reports that the Boy Scouts of America rescinded an offer to settle a dispute with Unitarian Universal Association. The Unitarians and the Boy Scouts have sparred over the BSA's ban on Gay scouts and scout masters.

The dispute began when the Boy Scouts said the Unitarians could not give out a "Religion in Life" award to its scout troops. The Unitarians are a Boston based church dating back to colonial times. They reject most orthodox Christian tenets. The BSA objected to a manual that the church-sponsored troops require their members to read in order to earn the award.

The Unitarians objected to the Scouts telling them what religious and political materials they could distribute to their scout troops. The two sides engaged in lengthy negotiations to settle the dispute.

Last month, Unitarian President John A. Buehrens declared in a letter to his denomination: "It pleases me to tell you that this conflict has been resolved." Not so said a May 7 letter from Lawrence Ray Smith, Chairman of the Boy Scouts' Religious Relationships Committee to Buehrens. In his letter, Smith said the Scouts could not allow the Unitarians to distribute their own religious materials or materials about homosexuality to Unitarian Scouts trying to earn the award.



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AROUND THE NATION

Group Forms for Parents of Black Gays

Washington, D.C. — The *Washington Post* reports that a new PFLAG group created for parents of African American Gays and Lesbians made its debut in Washington, D.C. The group, For Those We Love, is modeled on a similar PFLAG group for parents of Asian Lesbians and Gays.

William Beale, one of the founders of For Those We Love, told *The Post* that when he found out his son was Gay, he turned to his Baptist Church but found little comfort there. He said he then turned to PFLAG, but found few Black members of that group.

Beale said, "Because of our culture, and the way we're grounded, some of us don't want to share our feelings with [nonblack] people. Just like there are children in the closet, there are Black parents in the closet, who would like to come out."

Judge Orders Airlines to Provide DP Benefits

San Francisco, CA — A Federal District judge upheld San Francisco's controversial Domestic Partners law and ordered the air carriers challenging it to provide Domestic Partner benefits to their employees. The law requires all businesses with City contracts to provide the benefits to their partners.

The ruling came in a suit filed by an Ohio firm, SD Meyers Inc. Meyers lost a bid for a City contract when it refused to comply with the ordinance. The Meyers suit was joined by air carriers who said the City did not have the right to order them to provide benefits to their employees.

The Clinton appointed Federal Judge, Claudia Wilkins, had already ruled that the City cannot force airlines to offer health and pension benefits because those benefits are federally regulated. In her latest ruling on the case, Wilkins said San Francisco could require air carriers leasing space at its airport to offer other benefits such as relocation compensation, free travel privileges and family medical leave.

Meyers was represented by Jay Sekulow, an attorney with televangelist Pat Robertson's American Center for Law and Justice. Sekulow said his client would appeal the decision.

United Airlines, which is also contesting the ordinance, is the target of a nationwide boycott that's being promoted by local activists. An attorney with the Air Transportation Association of America said he would seek an order to block the ruling while it is appealed.

Pro Gay Civil Rights Bills In California

Sacramento, CA — Buoyed by the election of a Democratic Governor and Democratic control of both houses in the State Legislature, Gay civil rights activists are pushing a set of eight Gay civil rights bills.

The two most controversial bills, a statewide domestic partners law and a proposal that would require school districts to include sexual orientation in their non-discrimination policies, are drawing heavy fire from the Religious Right.

The Partnership law would grant unmarried couples the ability to visit each other in the hospital and other limited rights. It has strong support from senior citizen groups. The bill passed the Senate by a vote of 23 to 14. Every Democratic State Senator voted for the bill. Every Republican in the State Senate voted against it.

The school law would outlaw discrimination against Gay and Lesbian students. Opponents are attacking the bill with radio and newspaper ads run in the districts of selected Democratic State Representatives. House Speaker Sheila Kuehl, an open Lesbian, called the conservative tactics "disgusting."

Maine Times Three

Augusta, ME — Maine voters may soon face the question of LGBT civil rights — for the third time.

In 1995, Maine voters rejected a statewide referendum that would have prohibited local governments from passing and enforcing LGBT civil rights ordinances. In 1998, when the State Legislature passed a statewide LGBT civil rights law, the Religious Right succeeded in getting the law placed on the ballot for special referendum. The law was overturned by the narrow margin of 51% to 49%. Only 30% of the voters turned out for the referendum.

LGBT civil rights activists are pushing for a bill that would end anti-Gay discrimination in housing, employment, public services and credit. Written in the bill is a requirement that the voters approve it during the 2000 presidential election.

Nevada Bans Anti-Gay Job Discrimination

Carson City, NV — Nevada Governor Kenny Guinn put his signed AB311 into law. AB311 bans anti-Gay employment discrimination in the state.

Ten other states, including Wisconsin, have similar laws on the books. The bill's sponsor, State Representative David Parks (D-Las Vegas), is the only openly Gay member of the State Legislature.

In a concession to the religious right, AB311 exempts not for profits from compliance with its provisions.

Shepard Suspect Trial Delayed

Laramie, WY — Lawyers for Aaron McKinney, who is accused of murdering Gay college student Matthew Shepard last year, requested and received a postponement of his trial. District Judge Barton Voight granted a defense motion to postpone McKinney's trial until October 11. The trial was set to begin on August 9.

Ironically, the trial would now begin the day before the first anniversary of Shepard's death. McKinney is accused of beating Shepard and then leaving him hung on a barbed wire fence. Shepard was found by someone passing by and was rushed to a hospital. He died on October 12.

In April, Russell Henderson pled guilty to playing a role in the murder. He received two consecutive life sentences. McKinney could face the death penalty if he is convicted.

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**BUSINESS &
FINANCE****Exxon Rejects Non-Discrimination
Resolution**

by Gip Plaster
 Contributing Writer

Exxon's shareholders voted against an important and unusual shareholder proposal to add sexual orientation to the company's nondiscrimination policy — a proposal the company's Board of Directors recommended voting against.

Due to its proposed merger with Mobil, Exxon had a lot of business to conduct at its annual meeting this year. However, buried in the meeting booklet was the proposal that, until recently, would not have been allowed by Securities and Exchange Commission rules.

A 1992 ruling by the SEC prohibited shareholders from making proposals based on "social issues." The SEC reversed its policy on shareholder proposals in 1998.

When contacted before the meeting, Exxon officials had little to say about the proposal, how it got on the agenda or who proposed it. "It must have come up through our standard process," company spokesperson Tom Cirigliano said. "Any shareholder can submit a proposal. If we don't think it's adequate, we take it to the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and they tell us whether we have to put it in."

Cirigliano said he could offer no other comments and that the shareholder meeting materials provide all the information about the proposal that the company is releasing.

Exxon is the number two oil company in the world. Once Exxon has completed its purchase of Mobil, the newly formed Exxon Mobil will be the world's largest oil company. Shareholders approved the merger at the meeting.

Proxy voting cards mailed to Exxon shareholders listed eight items that required a vote at the annual meeting of shareholders on May 27. On ballot item 8, the board recommended voting against "sexual orientation principles."

Marianne Weil of Orient, New York and "three co-proponents," who were not named, submitted the proposal that called on the shareholders to adopt and implement a written policy barring sexual orientation discrimination. Cirigliano said only shareholders could submit proposals. He said he had no reason to believe that Weil is an employee shareholder.

Following a standard "Whereas... Resolved" format, the sexual orientation principles proposal noted that Exxon "has pledged its commitment to principles of non-discrimination, but has not in written form explicitly barred discrimination based on sexual orientation."

It cited a National Gay and Lesbian Task Force study that found between 16 and 44 percent of Gays and Lesbians in 20 cities nationwide have experienced some form of workplace discrimination. The proposal said that several cities, including San Francisco, Atlanta and New York have adopted legislation restricting business with companies that do not guarantee equal treatment for Gays and Lesbians. It also noted the fact that hundreds of corporations have adopted similar principles.

Exxon's Board of Directors recommended a vote against the proposal. In their response, the Directors said, "Exxon believes that its current policies on "Equal Employment Opportunity" and "Harassment in the Workplace" already meet the proponent's stated objective: that the Corporation adopt a written policy barring discrimination based on the grounds of sexual orientation."

The statement continued, "When this issue was raised at last year's Annual Meeting of Shareholders, Mr. Lee Raymond, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation, stated that '...we have a policy to not discriminate against anybody for any reason, period.'"

Exxon's current nondiscrimination statement only includes the categories required by law. No law requires protection based on sexual orientation. The policy adds, "In addition, the corporation's harassment policy prohibits any other form of harassment. Such conduct, while perhaps not unlawful, is considered unacceptable in Exxon's workplace."

The board's response to the proposal concluded, "In summary, the revised Harassment Policy makes it unequivocally clear that Exxon does not tolerate discrimination on any grounds, including sexual orientation. Thus, the Corporation has already implemented a written policy barring sexual orientation discrimination, and there is no need to make the changes recommended by the proponent."

The vote was 91.4% opposed to the measure and 8.6% in favor. There was some discussion, but when asked about it on the day of the meeting, Cirigliano said that he did not have full details about the nature of the discussion.

Calling for a vote by shareholders may not be the most effective way to create a change in policy, according to Sheryl Robertson. She is a longtime watcher of workplace issues and the chair of COLLEAGUES, an umbrella organization which Gay and Lesbian employee groups or individuals can join.

She said that individuals within the company usually form relationships with essential members of management and work together to create the change. "Usually it is a declaration from either the head of human resources or the CEO," Robertson said.

She said since the board is opposed to the measure, she does not understand how the approach can work.

"I don't think I would do it unless I had the board on my side," she said. "But I wish them luck."

An attempt to pass a similar measure last year at Cracker Barrel, the restaurant chain that made news several years ago for admitting it dismissed a Gay employee, also failed.

Editor's note: A similar resolution failed to pass at General Electric's shareholders meeting earlier this month. Last month, McDonald's Corporation added the words "sexual orientation" to its non-discrimination policy to avoid a shareholder vote on the issue.

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LETTERS

Another View

To the Editor

I agree that we are certainly having a serious problem with this attitude of hate in our society. I have been a Christian for approximately 30 of my 51 years on this earth. Christianity has become a doormat for many to step on in this ever-learning but never able to come to the truth society.

Hatred for Christianity and Christians has increased a great deal since the election of President Clinton. Talk about speaking out of both sides of the mouth! Mr. Clinton invented it.

From one side of his mouth he talks about knowing God. From the other side he encourages that which is contrary to God and His Word, the Bible. His encouragement of lifestyles that are contrary to God's Word has helped to encourage this hate.

How? The serious born-again believer, who stands against same-gender sexual relationships is looked upon as some hate monger.

Why? Because some in our society, the left wing radicals, led by a President who is ignorant of the scriptures, have decided that they can accept any lifestyle they choose. Just so happens these left wingers are in influential positions in our society and they can cry hate long enough that people confuse a stand for righteousness for hate.

A stand against same sex relationships is not hate but only Godly concern for a society that will reap the whirlwind if there is not a spiritual awakening.

Pastor Terry Hardison

Faith FWB Church

Brookfield, WI

Editor's Note: Obviously we do not agree with Pastor Hardison. We invite our readers to let us know what they think. Send your comments to editor@wilight.com or mail them to 225 S. Second Street, Milwaukee, WI 53204

FROM OUR ARCHIVES

Ten Years Ago — 1989

Domestic Partner Bill In San Francisco

San Francisco Mayor Art Agnos signed the first ever piece of legislation prohibiting discrimination based on marital status into law. The new ordinance allows unmarried couples to register as "domestic partners" with the County Clerk. Registered Domestic Partners will have the same rights as married couples do when using public facilities such as hospitals.

NGLFT Demands Apology from the Republican Party

The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force demanded an apology from the Republican National Committee. The controversy began with Republicans spreading rumors that House Speaker Tom Foley (D-Washington) is Gay. It continued when the RNC issued a memo to 200 Republican leaders around the country comparing Foley with openly Gay Congressman Barney Frank. Frank has threatened to out closeted Republicans in Congress.

Five Years Ago

Swedes Give Gays Right To Marry

Sweden joined Denmark and Norway when its parliament passed a bill allowing same sex couples to marry. After a lengthy debate, the Riksdag voted 171 to 141 with five abstentions to accept the Registered Partnership Law. The new law takes effect in January 1995. It gives Gay and Lesbian couples the same rights as married heterosexual couples.

Businesses Reach Out to Gay Market

According to an *Advertising Age* article, many companies are spending advertising dollars to reach the Gay and Lesbian market. Among them are AT&T, Dewars Scotch, Levi Strauss, Continental Airlines, American Express, Miller Brewing, Sony Music and Campari USA.

The article says that corporations are finding that Gay and Lesbian consumers have money. They are also learning that those consumers are loyal to those who make an effort to be supportive of their community.

1998 One Year Ago

Baldwin Makes It Official

Tammy Baldwin made her bid for Congress official with a June 7 announcement of her candidacy. Baldwin told a group of cheering supporters, "We have got to stop listening to those who say we can't achieve our dreams. We are Americans. We decide what's possible. Let's dare to dream about the world in which we want to live."

Wisconsin Light Sold

Publisher Jerry Johnson and Editor Terry Boughner announced that they have sold *The Wisconsin Light* to a group of investors headed by Greg Quindel. Quindel, who has been involved with two Milwaukee alternative newspapers *The Shepherd Express* and *The Paper*, promised to maintain the *Light's* high standards of outstanding journalism.

In making the announcement, Johnson and Boughner said that it was time to move onto other projects and allow Quindel to take the paper to the next level. Longtime activist and *Wisconsin Light* Political and Entertainment Editor Bill Meunier will become the Editor in Chief.

Meunier said that improvements would be made to the look of the paper. He also promised to add new features and maintain the *Wisconsin Light* tradition of solid news coverage.

WASHINGTON REPORT

Tammy Baldwin



Tanks and Teddy Bears: Reflections on my Trip to the Balkans

The phone call came unexpectedly on a Wednesday afternoon about 3pm. The caller, from House Minority Leader Dick Gephardt's office, asked whether I would want to participate in a congressional delegation trip to the Balkans. We would be leaving at 6am on Friday and returning Sunday evening, stopping in Germany, Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Italy, and NATO Headquarters in Brussels, Belgium. There was some hurried rearranging of my schedule, but I quickly said yes.

A few weeks earlier, I expressed an interest to Rep. Gephardt to visit the Balkans. I was particularly concerned about the plight of the refugees we'd all seen on TV pouring out of Kosovo. News reports told us of slaughter and rape, of families rushing from their homes with nothing but the clothes on their backs, of mothers being separated from their children, and husbands from wives. We saw the elderly, the infirm, the frightened, the desperate arrive at makeshift relief camps not yet fully understanding how their lives had changed so dramatically.

Initially, I had supported the limited bombing of military targets in Kosovo as a way of helping to stop the ethnic cleansing that was occurring. At the time, I called it the best of several bad options. As the weeks passed, and as the bombing escalated to include the civilian infrastructure of Yugoslavia, I saw that the bombing was not helping the refugees, nor was it weakening support among civilian Serbs for Slobodan Milosevic. In fact, I saw more and more of our resources going into the military campaign and not enough going to refugee relief.

Our congressional delegation was bipartisan, led by House Majority Leader Dick Army. Flying in a massive C17 transport plane, I was struck first by the sight of the cargo we carried. Next to the small group of passengers, a tank and a shipment of teddy bears sat side by side on route to the war zone. It was a startling juxtaposition and one which stays in my mind to this day.

Our first stop Saturday was an airbase in Tirana, Albania where we visited with American servicemen and women. We spoke with the U.S. Air Force personnel who were aiding in the massive airlift of food, medical supplies and other provisions for the nearly 400,000 refugees in Albania. Their pride in the key role they are playing in the humanitarian relief operation was evident. We also met with the Prime Minister of Albania and the U.S. Ambassador to Albania.

Departing Albania, we headed off to Skopje in the former Yugoslavian Republic of Macedonia. In Skopje, we met briefly with the President and the Prime Minister before visiting the Stenkovec refugee camp located just two miles south of the Kosovo border. The Stenkovec camp houses more than 30,000 refugees in row after row of tents.

There, with the help of an interpreter, I spoke with a few women about their experiences. There were no probing questions. I simply let each talk about whatever she wanted to tell me. Most of them were there with children and many had no idea where their husbands were or whether they were even alive.

The situation in the refugee camps is still precarious. We need to focus on providing additional food, ensuring better medical care, and improving the sanitary conditions as quickly as possible. We should also be planning for the future reconstruction of Kosovo when, and if, these refugees are allowed to return to their homes.

Late Saturday evening we visited airmen and women at the Aviano airbase in Italy and then went on to Brussels for a briefing by NATO Commander Gen. Wesley Clark. When I visited our military personnel in Albania, Germany and Italy, I was enormously impressed with their dedication and commitment to helping the Kosovars.

I returned to Washington moved by the scenes I had witnessed, the people I had met, and even more committed to moving our resources toward humanitarian aid for the people of Kosovo. In the final analysis, our mission must be a moral one to relieve the suffering of hundreds of thousands of displaced families and to seek lasting peace in the region.

LETTERS POLICY

We gladly accept letters and especially e-mail (those with more than 300 words are subject to editing). Please include your name, address and verifiable phone number. We will gladly withhold your name from publication upon request.

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Spotlight

It's ELEMENTARY

Talking About Gay Issues in School

by John Jahn

Negative language about Gays and Lesbians is commonplace on today's playgrounds, in school hallways, in the classrooms and even in the teachers' lounges. Indeed, with increased tolerance, acceptance and visibility in modern culture also comes accented hatred and fear. It starts at a young age, and often in most subtle ways. All children — not just those with openly Gay or Lesbian family members or those who will grow up to be Gay or Lesbian themselves — are negatively affected by the reluctance to address anti-Gay prejudice in schools.

Go to a school — any school — and it won't take you long to hear some child call someone (or something) Gay. "Oh, that's so Gay." The term has become a negative adjective. An assignment, musical group, movie, etc. so described is being called bad, distasteful, unwanted, anathema. Even a fellow student or teacher called "Gay" by a juvenile doesn't have to exhibit certain behaviors perceived as stereotypically Gay. The person needs only to be disliked. This begins as early as the first grade, even though such young children have



no idea what the word actually represents.

This negative environment is particularly distressing when you consider these facts. Five to nine percent of all children currently in school will grow up to identify themselves as a member of the LGBT community. There are increasing numbers of children of openly Gay or Lesbian parents in school; indeed, six to eleven percent of school children have a Gay or Lesbian member of their immediate family.

It's not appropriate for schools to teach young children about Gay sex, but learning about members of the LGBT community isn't about sex. Children can learn that many prominent figures throughout history were Gay or Lesbian, many of whom raised families themselves. They need to know that LGBT civil rights issues are a part of the current political debate as well.

The ground breaking documentary *It's Elementary: Talking About Gay Issues in*

School will air for the first time on more than 80 public TV stations throughout the U.S. starting this month. In Milwaukee, it will air on PBS on June 9. Previously, it had only been shown at UW-Madison in 1996, when originally released.

Created by Academy Award winner Debra Chasnoff and Producer Helen S. Cohen, *It's Elementary*, first released in 1996, shows how six public and inde-

pendent elementary and middle schools have integrated LGBT issues into their school curricula in positive, age-appropriate ways. The documentary has won numerous awards, including GLAAD's Best Documentary of the Year, the CINE Golden Eagle Award for Best Educational Film, as well as top prizes at various LGBT Film Festivals around the country.

Since its initial release three years ago, the film has earned widespread praise and has aired at nearly 500 teacher training programs. It has also

been presented to parents at hundreds of schools, churches and synagogues. Last November, the Chicago Public School District, in a precedent-setting move, announced it would use the film for staff development and training in every one of its schools.

"This film is about more than Gay and Lesbian issues," said Mary Morten, Director of the Advisory Council on Gay and Lesbian Issues of Chicago's Human Relations Commission. "It is about respect, acceptance and understanding, which is why we feel all of our teachers should see it."

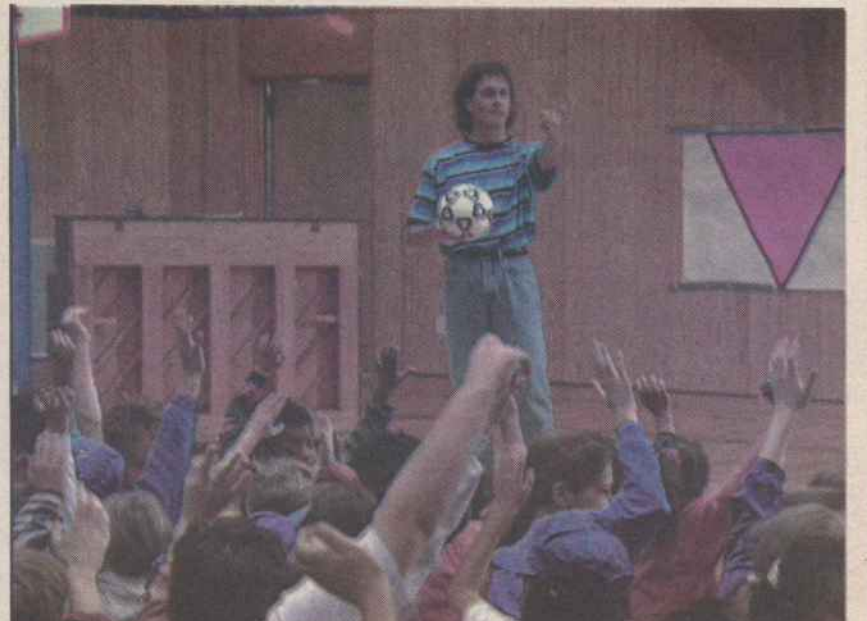
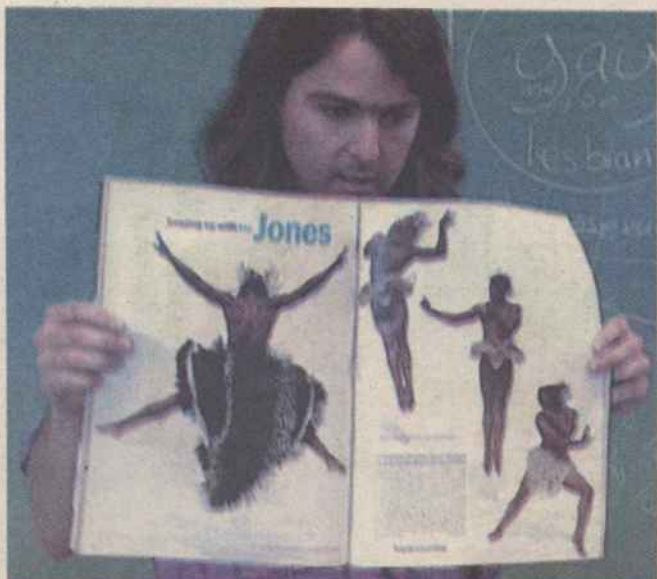
But homophobia is never far away from positive messages concerning the LGBT community. Chasnoff and Cohen have had to counter mass mailings and petition drives protesting the film. Dr. D. James Kennedy's Coral Ridge Ministries called *It's Elementary* "child abuse" in a mailing to its members, and the American Family Association has demanded that PBS stations showing it also air their anti-Gay video *Suffer the Children*.

But Chasnoff and Cohen are not deterred. "The religious rights' response to the film underscores exactly why this documentary is so important and so necessary," says Cohen. "Given the recent hate crimes that have attracted media attention over the past few months, such as the brutal murder of Matthew Shepard, more and more people have recognized the need for honest, open discussion with young people about Gay issues."

Some PBS affiliates have declined to show *It's Elementary* (Cleveland, New Jersey, Iowa, New Hampshire, Orlando, FL), but thankfully not the PBS stations in southeastern Wisconsin. "I'm sure that the religious right's negative campaign had an impact on those decisions," says Chasnoff.

Debra Chasnoff, a Lesbian mother and the first — and only — woman to come out during an Academy Awards ceremony, decided to make *It's Elementary* when her oldest son started kindergarten. "I was concerned about all the anti-Gay name calling that goes on in playgrounds and hallways," she states, concerned about how juvenile Gay bashing can "affect kids' attitudes about Gay people."

It's Elementary has gradually been making its way around the country in the past three years, as its reputation has grown. It has been embraced by educators and parents all over the U.S.



DEEP INSIDE HOLLYWOOD

by Romeo San Vicente

Nathan Lane: Broadway Producer?

While his television series was short-lived, Gay actor and Broadway powerhouse **Nathan Lane** isn't hurting for work. The plump funnyman has emerged the frontrunner for several high-profile stage productions.

Lane will likely star in an exclusive workshop production of the new musical *Wise Guys* by Gay



Nathan Lane

songster **Stephen Sondheim** and **John Weidman**. The show will be produced by *In And Out* producer **Scott Rudin** and **Roger Berlind**.

Victor Garber, who portrayed Liberace in the eponymous telefilm, will likely play Lane's brother. **Sam Mendes**, who earned a Tony nomination for co-directing *Cabaret*, will direct. *Wise Guys* is set to workshop this November at the New York Theater Workshop.

Rumors also swirl about Nathan Lane being the top choice to headline **Mel Brooks'** in-the-works musical based on his hysterical 1967 film *The Producers*. Lane would be a natural to play the zealous Broadway producer Max (played by Zero Mostel in the film) who plans to profit by overcapitalizing on a doomed play. The show becomes a hit despite such humorous and loathsome musical numbers as the legendary *Springtime for Hitler*.

Brooks is currently in negotiation to reacquire the project rights, which he sold more than 20 years ago, so Lane won't be picking up his Tony for this one until at least 2001.



Joey Lauren Adams

C-Anne She Direct?

Talented Lesbian **Anne Heche** is in demand these days — as a director. Heche will direct a short film she wrote entitled *Reaching Normal* for Showtime's ongoing *Directed By* series of films directed by actors. The film's



Andie McDowell

plot is about a married woman (played by the lovely **Andie McDowell**) who has ESP and engages in a mental affair with a man who is not her husband. **Paul Rudd**, who played Gay in *The Object of My Affection*, will be the object of McDowell's affections.

Despite such a heterosexual plot, Heche seems to like to direct actors who've played queer in the past. In addition to Rudd, the cast includes actress **Joey Lauren Adams** (who played the lovable Lesbian in *Chasing Amy*) and Heche's other half, **Ellen DeGeneres** (who had some TV role a few years back). Showtime hasn't set an airdate for the film.

Between *Reaching Normal* and the segment she is helming in HBO's *If These Walls Could Talk II*, we'll soon get to see if Heche can display talent without her ever-perky nipples showing.

Some Like Them Before They're Hot

Gay scribe **Kevin Williamson** is the Queen with the Midas touch. Williamson was given the ultimate vote of confidence by Miramax, the company whose low-budget division Dimension became uberprofitable with his *Scream* series.

Anticipating that Williamson's eye for casting talented actors isn't a fluke, the studio has already hammered out pre-emptive deals with all the regular cast members of Williamson's new television series *Wasteland*. While the show won't air until fall, Miramax is assuming the *Dawson's Creek* creator has another hit on his hands. It snapped up the hot twentysomething cast (including *Billy's Hollywood Screen Kiss* actor **Brad Rowe**) at what are sure to be bargain basement prices. So, perhaps we'll be seeing Rowe starring in *Scream 6*.

Romeo San Vicente would gladly give up writing this column to star in a Kevin Williamson series. Kevin (or you) can contact Romeo care of Wisconsin Light or E-mail RomeoDeep@aol.com. For more Deep Inside Hollywood, visit www.Gay.com or www.popcorn.com

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OUT ON FILM

Instinct

Reviewed by John Jahn

Instinct boasts two Oscar-winning, principal actors: Anthony Hopkins and Cuba Gooding, Jr. Hopkins portrays Dr. Ethan Powell, who disappeared into the African jungle while studying gorillas. The famed anthropologist and primatologist loses touch with humanity, being absorbed into the gorilla community. He even leaves his own daughter, Lynn (Maura Tierney), behind. But tragedy befalls Powell, resulting in bloodshed, and he's imprisoned.

Powell finds himself in the psycho ward of Harmony Bay maximum security prison in Florida, where he encounters eager, young psychiatrist Theo Caulder (Gooding, Jr.). Powell turns out to be both fascinating and dangerous to Caulder, who finds himself drawn deeper into Powell's mind.

Instinct is not an original movie, containing strong links to *Gorillas in the Mist*, *Dances with Wolves*, *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* and *Awakenings*. Stereotypical characters abound, including an evil prison warden and the older, wiser mentor (Donald Sutherland).

Despite the lack of originality, *Instinct* flows remarkably well. Powell's story is compelling. For those concerned with environmental issues, the theme of Man's destructive need to control his world has resonance. The gorillas (by special effects wizard Stan Winston) are among the most realistic ever to appear on screen. The chemistry between Gooding, Jr. and Hopkins is powerful, and their scenes together are riveting.

Instinct is not a thriller but a drama about the darker aspects of human nature — about man's ability, under the right circumstances, to "go native." Though not very original, it nevertheless succeeds by the earnest, powerful performances of its two lead actors.

3 1/2 Stars

The Winslow Boy

Review by John Jahn

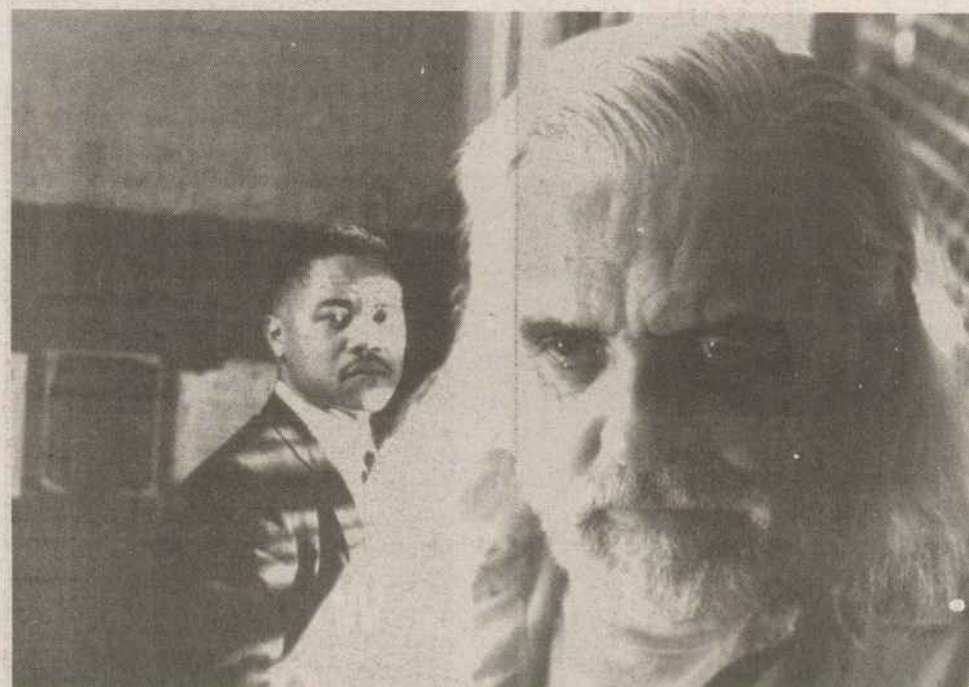
The Winslow Boy, based upon a 1946 play by British playwright Terence Rattigan, has now received superb theatrical treatment by Director David Mamet. It is Mamet's sixth movie as a director but the first he hasn't written.

It's 1912, and everything is as it should be in Arthur Winslow's (Nigel Hawthorne) London home. His eldest son, Dickie (Matthew Pidgeon), might be more settled, like his father, but at least he's at Oxford. Daughter Catherine (Rebecca Pidgeon) could be less of a feminist, but then she's about to engage a promising young man. However, youngest son, Ronnie (Guy Edwards), has been expelled from Osbourne Naval College for stealing a five shilling postal note.

Ronnie claims he's innocent and Arthur believes him. In fact, he's willing to sacrifice his wealth, standing in the community and family's happiness to see the expulsion overturned in court. When the case is taken by Sir Robert Morton (Jeremy Northam), a flamboyant and famous barrister, it becomes a national cause. The Winslows are, predictably, ridiculed and pilloried by some and supported outspokenly by others.

The Winslow Boy is a restrained film, possessing a hushed urgency in almost every scene. Mamet has handled the story astonishingly well, with care and thoughtfulness. It also helps that his cast is so good. It's a smart and oddly daring movie. "Let Right Be Done" becomes the national catch phrase for the boy's cause. Mamet and his actors heeded the call.

3 1/2 Stars



Academy Award winners Cuba Gooding, Jr. (L) and Anthony Hopkins (R) star in *Instinct*.

OUT in the Theatre

A Grand Night for Singing

Preview by John Jahn

If you're like most people and absolutely love the music of Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein II, then the upcoming Milwaukee premiere of the Tony Award-winning musical revue *A Grand Night for Singing* at the Circlestage is right up your alley.

A Grand Night for Singing is a Rodgers & Hammerstein musical revue, which opened on Broadway more than five years ago. It is filled with immortal songs culled from the duo's shows, such as *Oklahoma!*, *Flower Drum Song*, *Carousel*, *South Pacific* and *The King and I*. A carefully chosen, full-voiced cast will carry the intricate harmonies of such classics as *Something Wonderful*, *I Have Dreamed*, *I'm Gonna Wash That Man Right Outta My Hair*, *If I Loved You*, *Some Enchanted Evening*, and others both familiar and unfamiliar.

The ensemble cast includes David Brown, Jane Purse, Karla Sherman, David Siegworth, Cleo Ware and Rebecca Whitney. The show will be directed and staged by Don Hoffman and David Flores. "The intent of the staging is to reclaim these great songs and bring them into present times," says Hoffman.

A Grand Night for Singing runs through June 5 at the Circlestage Theatre, 783 N. Jefferson St. in Milwaukee. For further information, call (414) 270-1994.

Twelfth Night

Preview by John Jahn

Viola loves Sebastian, but Sebastian gets physical with Olivia. Olivia is hot for Cesario, and so is Orsino. Malvolio dresses in outrageous costumes in an effort to get Olivia's attention. Hearts pound and pulses race in the land known as Illyria, where man is man, but may also be woman! Throw in a bunch of drinking cronies, a dash of swordplay, a stunning landscape and the immortal words by the Bard and you have a mystical tale unlike any other.

Bialystock & Bloom will be taking a unique look at one of William Shakespeare's most enduring comedies about blurred sexual identity, lost love, newly discovered passion and fantastical foibles. They will be employing its largest company of performers to date in order to bring this epic production to light.

It will be directed by Skylight Opera Theatre Associate Artistic Director Paula Suozzi. Ms. Suozzi recently directed the highly-acclaimed Skylight production of *Don Pasquale* and will be working with Tanglewood Music Festival and the Metropolitan Opera in New York in the coming months.

Bialystock & Bloom has previously produced the Gay-themed plays *Bent* and *Boys in the Band*. While *Twelfth Night* isn't specifically Gay-themed, it nevertheless is concerned with issues of gender identity, sexuality and the blurred lines of attraction both between and within the sexes.

Twelfth Night will be presented June 4 through 13 at the Studio Theater of the Broadway Theatre Center, 158 North Broadway, in Milwaukee. Tickets are \$12 and may be reserved by calling (414) 297-9010.

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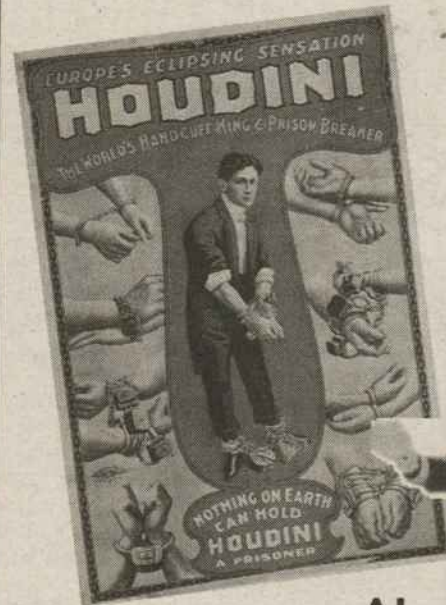


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WEDNESDAY, JUNE 2

Charles Allis Art Museum (Milwaukee). Paintings, prints, drawings and sculpture exhibit featuring Schomer Lichtner and Ruth Grotenrath, Margaret Rahill Great Hall, 1630 E. Royall, (414) 278-8295. Through July 3. \$2 admission, children free.

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.

Michael H. Lord Gallery (Milwaukee). Photo exhibit by J.P. Atterberry of his Recent Works of plants from the Horticultural Conservatory. Extended through June 12. 420 E. Wisconsin Ave., FMI (414) 272-1007.

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

THURSDAY, JUNE 3

LGBT Community Center (Milwaukee). Book club meeting, 6:30pm, 170 S. 2nd St., FMI call (414) 271-2656.

Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra (Milwaukee). *Charming Chang*, Andreas Delfs, conductor, Sarah Chang, violin, MSO Chorus. Through Saturday, June 5. Uihlein Hall. Times & ticket costs vary. FMI call (414) 291-7605 or 273-7206.

UCC Ameritech Fiesta (Milwaukee). Through June 6, family entertainment, live music, authentic Latin American food, cultural arts, games and carnival rides. Noon-10pm daily, Walker's Square Park, S. 9th and Washington, free.

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.

LGBT Community Center (Milwaukee). SAGE Social Night, 6-10pm, 170 S. 2nd St., FMI call (414) 271-2656.

Walker's Point Center for the Arts (Milwaukee). Membership Show Celebration, opening reception tonight from 6-9pm. Art, artists, food and music. Show runs through July 10. 911 W. National Ave.

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.

LGBT Community Center (Milwaukee). Saturday Night at the Movies, free, choose several movies to watch, bring snacks to share, 6pm, 170 S. 2nd St., FMI call (414) 271-2656.

Pride Pig Roast (Beloit). Outdoor pig roast, backyard of the Kloset, 232 Shirland Avenue, in cooperation with UnCommon Grounds Coffeehouse. Noon until 2:30am. (See article on the COMMUNITY page for details.) FMI call (608) 363-8764.

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.

LGBT Community Center (Milwaukee). Tai Chi, Yoga style classes taught by Dr. Maggi Cage. Continues

every Sunday through August 1 at the Community Center, 170 S. 2nd St., (414) 271-2656.

Madison Art Center (Madison). Peter Shelton: *sixtieslippers*, 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.

Villa Terrace Decorative Arts Museum (Milwaukee). *A Decade of Acquisitions: 1989-1999*, through July 3. 2220 N. Terrace Avenue, (414) 271-3656, \$2, members and children free. Opening reception today from 1-4pm.

MONDAY, JUNE 7

Milw. Co. Commission on Aging (Milwaukee). Public Hearings for the 2000-2002 area plan. Join the Commission on Aging and the Dept. of Aging to discuss plans for providing services to older adults. Clinton Rose Senior Center, 4420 W. Vliet St., 10am.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 9

Alternative Business Assoc. (Milwaukee). Monthly program and network meeting and Summer potluck 7pm. M&M Club upstairs banquet room. FMI call (414) 299-9271.

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

Unique Lives & Experiences (Milwaukee). Final speaker of America's foremost women's lecture series: Mia Farrow. 7:30pm, Uihlein Hall, Marcus Center. Doors open 6pm with pre show activities including a fashion show. Tickets start at \$23 Marcus Box Office: (414) 273-7206 or (888) 612-3500. Also through TicketMaster. \$10 Student Rush Tickets available the day of the show.

THURSDAY, JUNE 10

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

MCOw's Center for AIDS Intervention Research (Milwaukee). (CAIR) Research Conference: Impact of Medical and Non-Medical Factors on Physician Decision-making for HIV/AIDS Antiretroviral Treatment. 3pm, Conference Room at 2071 N. Summit Avenue. FMI (414) 456-7731.

Milw. Co. Commission on Aging (Milwaukee). Public Hearings for the 2000-2002 area plan. Join the Commission on Aging and the Dept. of Aging to discuss plans for providing services to older adults. Jewish Community Center, 6255 N. Santa Monica Blvd., 1:30pm.

Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra (Milwaukee). Concert to benefit the United Performing Arts Fund, 7:30pm. *Doc and Fabulous Fiddlin'* with Doc Severinsen, conductor and trumpet, Violinist and fiddle grand champion Mark O'Connor. Uihlein Hall. Tickets \$15-50. FMI call (414) 291-7605 or 273-7206.

FRIDAY, JUNE 11

Asian Moon Festival (Milwaukee). Satisfy your taste for the exotic at the Lakefront Festival Grounds, all weekend. Tickets at the gate, \$8.

Grava Gallery (Milwaukee). One Night Only Fund-raising show featuring recent watercolor works by Lisa Silverman. All sales pledged to Lisa's cycling effort for the Twin Cities — Wisconsin — Chicago AIDS Ride. 1209 E. Brady St., 6-10pm only.

Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra (Milwaukee). *Doc and Fabulous Fiddlin'* with Doc Severinsen, conductor and trumpet. Through Sunday, June 13, Uihlein Hall. Times & ticket costs vary. FMI call (414) 291-7605 or 273-7206.

SATURDAY, JUNE 12

GAMMA Social Volleyball (Milwaukee). Social outdoor volleyball returns at Brown Deer Park. GAMMA members and non-members are invited to play between 1-3pm. There is no fee. Bring a beverage, sun screen and enthusiasm. For exact location call John at (414) 540-1202.

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

Rainbow Heights Assoc. (Milwaukee). 3rd annual yard sale from 8am-3pm, 1722 N. 52nd Street just north of Washington Blvd. Follow the rainbow signs. If you can donate items, call (414) 778-1269. Unsold items will be donated to Survival Revival.

Regency's 10th Annual Seniorfest (New Berlin). National Regency Senior Communities 10th Annual Seniorfest, 1-3:30pm. Free food, music, entertainment, games, door prizes and benefit raffle, 13750 W. National Ave., FMI (414) 789-1699.

Vanderbosch Memorial Service (Madison). A service for Jane Vanderbosch, former director of the United (now OutReach). St. Benedict Center, 4200 County Hwy. M, Middleton, 10am.

Wisconsin Cream City Chorus (Milwaukee). *True Colors: The Gay Concert IV*, and annual Silent Auction. 8pm, Stackner Cabaret, Milwaukee Center, 108 E. Wells, second floor. Limited seating, tickets \$10 at the door.

EVERY THURSDAY

BESTD Clinic/ STD Specialties (Milwaukee). HIV testing and counseling, and STD screen, 5-7:30pm every Thursday 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.

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

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- North Shore couple with grown children wants to hire a mature individual with long term intent to help keep their home running. Full time (5 days on 45 hrs/week). We are willing to train. Fax resume and letter of intro to Betsy Lewis, (414) 278-5991.

200-Real Estate

BAYVIEW - 2 Bedroom Upper Appliances, laundry hook-up, parking. No pets or waterbeds. \$450/month plus deposit. Call (414) 744-9693.

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.

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

Roommate Wanted Older Lesbian, back in school, would like to share house with other mature Lesbian. WWM neighbor, lots of parking, N/S, N/D, no pets. August 1. \$265 + utilities. Call (414) 964-5997.

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

200-Real Estate

Madison Apartment: Spacious, bright 2-bedroom apartment in 4-unit building. Second floor with fenced backyard. Off-street parking included. Garage available. Pets/significant others welcome! Available August 1. \$570/month, heat included. Mark/Todd, (608) 835-9115.

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

400-Services

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700-Speak Your Mind

PARTICIPANTS SOUGHT

for a research study focusing on institutional climate for gay/lesbian/bisexual/ transgender people in Wisconsin's Adult Technical College system. The purpose of this research is an assessment of institutional climate; all data will be kept confidential and will be reported anonymously. To participate, write

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P. O. Box 375 Sullivan, Wisconsin 53178-9755

800-Miscellaneous

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Milwaukee, WI 53204
414/226-0075
Fax 414/226-0096
E-mail Ads@wilight.com

YOUR AD IS ON THE WEB - www.wilight.com

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* (Sextion 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 Sextion 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)

AD TO APPEAR beginning _____ (Wednesday date), run it
 every week every other week and run it for _____ issues.

COSTING

Categories 100-800

First 25 words \$5
Each add'l word x 25¢ = _____
No. of issues to run - x _____
Total = _____

*Category 900

First 30 Words \$12.50
Each add'l word x 25¢ = _____
No. of issues running - x 2 min.
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*Category 900 Renewals

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Each add'l word x 25¢ = _____
No. of issues to run - x _____
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LifeStyle

TOP TRAVEL TIPS

by Sasha Alyson

We all know (or assume) that more money will buy you a better vacation. However, over the years, I've discovered that some of the best ways to get more from your vacation don't require extra cash — merely a bit of effort.

The following tips are among my favorite rules of thumb for travelers. Most of them are based on the idea that people, within reason and with few exceptions, want to get along. You want to show respect for your host culture, and they want to share their way of life. Our differences make us interesting, even vital, to each other.

Make a native friend before you go. Have someone to look up when you arrive. Traveling to Thailand? Tell the waitress at the local Thai restaurant. She may have a brother in Bangkok. New Zealand? Many Gay organizations there host a website. France? You must know someone who spent a year in Paris. Once you have a few names, and assuming you have a common language, call or email them. Let them know when you'll be in town, and make a courteous request.

Could you take them out for coffee for an hour? Most people will say yes. If you know of common interests, mention them. Then see what good things happen.

Break the ice. You're waiting at the airport, a restaurant, or a castle. If you greet both locals and other travelers, you might make a new friend.

Learning just a dozen words of the native language will smooth your journey: hello, good-bye, thank you, please, sir, ma'am, miss. And, finally, learn to ask, "Do you speak English?" If they do, they probably want to practice. If they do not, then you've avoided the obnoxious travel sin of assuming that they should.

Learn basic local customs. Tipping is the first one to learn about. Even the small Berlitz guides include a few pages on this subject, and that's enough to prevent major embarrassments. Some actions, even simple hand signals that are common at home, can deeply offend someone in your host country.

Don't make the O.K. sign in Italy; it's comparable to flipping your middle finger at someone in the States. Tipping is not expected in Japan. Pointing your feet at someone (when you sit on a temple floor for example) is highly insulting to Thais. Do yourself a big favor and read those few pages once before

you depart — and again after you've been in a new country for a day or two.

Take time to browse. You cannot absorb French culture from the top of the Eiffel Tower. Sure, you want to see the Parisian skyline, but also peruse the narrow streets, browse the local food markets, shops and cafes; study the local craftspeople at work, even if you are not buying.

People-watch from an outdoor cafe or a park bench. Even if you do not speak the language, a visit to a bookstore showcases the culture and its values. It's a fascinating experience, one of the best places to learn. Enjoy your position as an outsider to make observations about the local culture.

Ask for information. Most people want to help a confused traveler. Beyond that, you will find that a simple request often affects a more generous exchange. I once asked for directions to a cafe, and was invited into someone's home for coffee instead!

While these experiences are among my most treasured, I still regard such generosity with healthy caution. The instinct to help is sometimes too strong. Someone uncertain of the right way to the train station may point down the wrong road, only because they are so eager to assist you. I routinely ask directions twice, after I have passed the eyeshot of my first advisor.

Prepare for the unexpected. Murphy's Law is international, and things can go wrong on a trip. Carry several credit cards, and keep them in different places: One in your wallet in your back pocket, one in your fanny pack, a third in your suitcase.

I organize traveler's checks and vital information in the same fashion. For a critical item such as your passport, designate a special place. After use, always return it to that spot as soon as possible.

A great vacation is not the perfect destination. It's an attitude! Wherever you travel, keep an open mind and smile. You may find that you save money and add great value by making new friends.

Sasha Alyson coordinates active and adventure vacations for the Gay community through his company, Alyson Adventures. Venturing Out columns from past months may be found at www.q-web.com/gay-travel/

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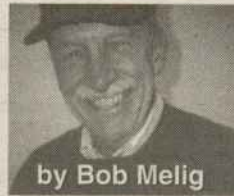
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Sports



by Bob Melig

The Milwaukee Classic: An Incredible Finish

Incredible is the "word." Stand aside Frank Merriwell; you have nothing over the 1999 Milwaukee Classic finish. None of the 18 previous Milwaukee Classic Tournaments ended like this one did.

One team came from so far behind, the Guinness Book of Records has to take note. To top off the day, the American Division winner came to town with only eight players, picked up one Milwaukeean and won their first tournament ever. No one wins without a bench? Think again World of Softball.

In books and on the radio, Frank Merriwell could be counted on to pull off unbelievable wins against unbelievable odds. If the Milwaukee Classic Committee scripted a perfect lead-in to next year's 20 Anniversary event, they could not have come up with a better one.

Milwaukee's 219 came from 19 runs behind to tie, and then take the lead to win the National Division of this year's Classic. This is unheard of in Softball on any level. The Milwaukee team came back from a 25 to 6 deficit to tie the score in the sixth inning. Folks, that means scoring 19 runs and keeping the opposition to "Zip"... nil... nada.

The clincher came with the bases loaded, the score tied, and Tom Rowland at bat. His white hair radiating in the sun might have occluded the pitchers aim. Taking advantage of a "gimmie" pitch, Tom smashed it through the legs of the 3rd baseman to bring in the winning run.

The final tally was 26 to 25. If there were an SSBL Hall of Fame, Tom would be the prime candidate this year.

Tom's hit was the clincher, but 219 worked with all guns blasting during every inning to narrow the margin. Defensively, they rallied to stop further bloodshed. Offensively, inning by inning, they unleashed a volley worthy of Lord Nelson to gain a tie. With Tom's smasher, it was all she wrote. SSBL fans may never see an ending like this ever again. This was a once in a lifetime experience for any team, in any tournament.

A hapless bunch of wannabes from Minneapolis called the Classics won the American Division. They were caught short-handed due to untrustworthy teammates, who at the last minute said they would not make the trip.

With only eight members at registration, the Classics scoured the fields for a pickup player — something allowed by the rules of an open tournament. In a gesture of friendship, Milwaukee's Woody's offered them a player. The Twin Cities team played minus one outfielder for two straight days. Talk about heart!

Readers have to remember that it was almost 90 degrees. Each team played four or five games on Saturday in that heat. Keep in

mind that on any team you watched, countless players were suffering from heat stroke or heat exhaustion.

This benchless team with no one to relieve anyone suffered through it all. One fielder, who smashed into a 12 foot fence for a ball, hit the ground in a bloody mess after making the last needed out in one of the games. Badly wounded from the confrontation, he kept on playing throughout the tournament. He had heart. He gave them all of his heart.

The Classics are the second Frank Merriwell story of the 1999 Milwaukee Classic — one for the history books. Coming to Milwaukee from the middle of the standings in their home league, they go back Champions of the Milwaukee Classic. Never having won ANY trophy before, they won one of the most prestigious. Wouldn't we all relish the feeling of returning home with that kind of Olympic Gold?

Placing second in the National Division was Scott's Shots of Chicago. This was their second trip to Milwaukee. At home in the Windy City League, they are 2 and 4; here they were 5 and 2. They are going to import some Miller Beer for their home games from now on.

Placing third in the National Division was North End of Chicago, a perennial entry in the Milwaukee Classic.

Remington's of Toronto placed second in the American division. A long time favorite of Milwaukee fans, they always come to play softball. Scandal of Chicago finished third.

Both Balistreri's and the Ballgame were within one win of third place trophies for Milwaukee — a great show for both.

What Does Seeding Mean In A Tournament? Apparently not that much.

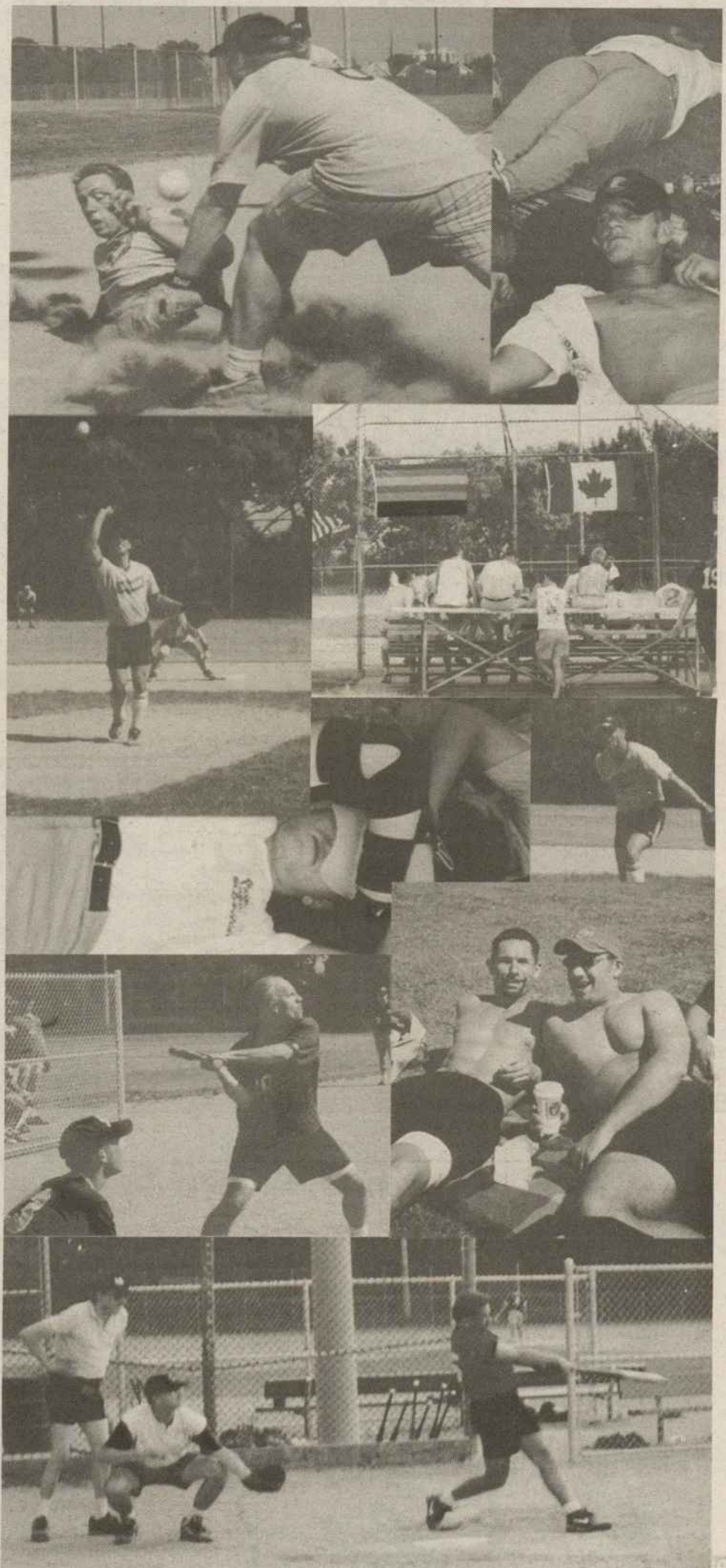
The top seeded teams play one less game than the pack, but look at the top seeds in this year's Classic. In the National Division, the top seed placed second, the third and fourth seeds were also-rans. In the American division, only the second seed placed.

In the National Division, 219 had the sixth seed but finished first. In the American Division, the fifth seed, the Classics, took first. What it really comes down to is who has the heart.

Dan Nelson, Tournament Director, and his planning team have to be congratulated on a splendid tournament. This reporter interviewed countless teams and they were in unison on the quality of the 1999 Milwaukee Classic.

Editor's Note: We express our thanks to our Sports Editor Bob Melig for the heart that he showed in getting us this column on what was a very busy weekend for him.

MILWAUKEE 1999 CLASSIC



Miss A Week Miss A Lot

Step Into the Light Every Week.

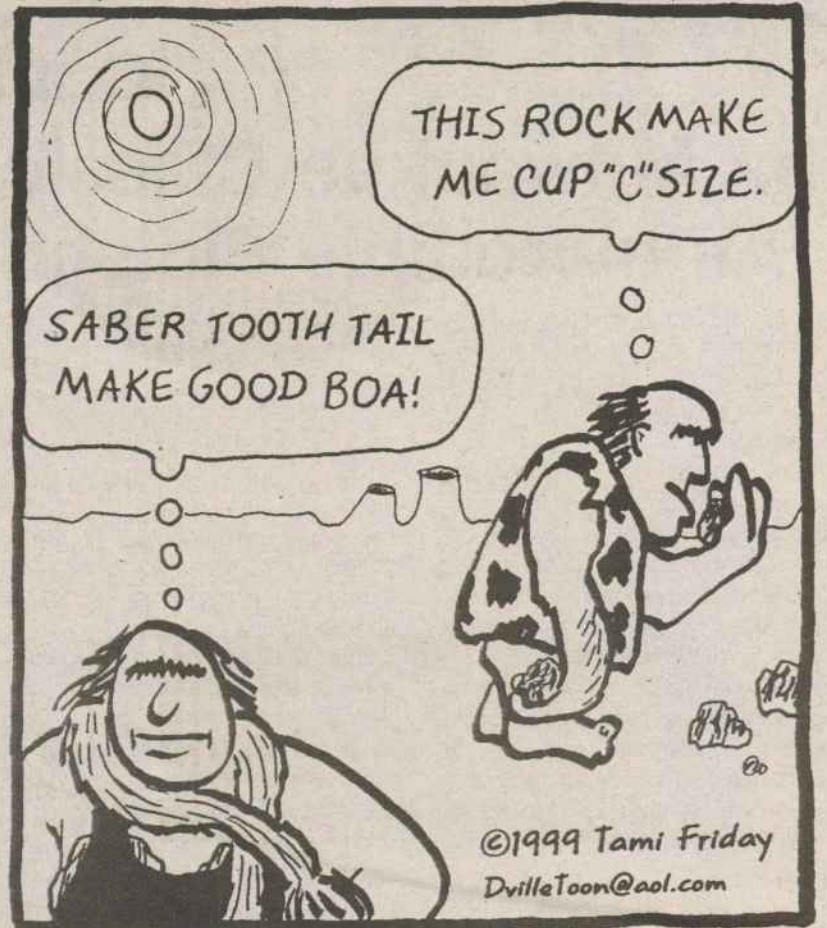
WILIGHT

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Dykesville

by Tami Friday



Early drag queens preparing for their first show.

Dykes To Watch Out For by Alison Bechdel



BIFF 'N BUNKY by KEITH N ANDERSON



NIGHTS OUT

I hope you had a great Memorial Day weekend. I know I did! I ran myself ragged in the interest of keeping you, my loyal readers, fully informed on all the happenings and news on the bar scene.

News... The Switch is on. **Switch**, Milwaukee's newest LGBT bar, is now open. This place used to be called **Mugshots**, which was a straight bar. But the owner is Gay, most



of the employees were Gay, and a good part of the clientele was Gay, so they decided to make it official, hence the name **Switch**. A makeover, new signs and a few little touches here and there and presto chango, Milwaukee's newest LGBT bar is born.

If the initial reviews are any indication, the place is going to be a big hit. On Friday, May 28, it was packed with well wishers and out of town softball players. Even the large patio area was crowded. Ditto for Saturday night and for Sunday's after the Classic banquet crowd. Owner Craig said he is very pleased with the initial response.

The new place has a hump night 2 for 1 special on Wednesdays and karaoke on Thursdays. SIN on Sundays is Service Industry Night. Those who spend the rest of the week

servicing others in restaurants, bars and hotels get a special discount. Switch also has a large patio in the back.

Another bar opening of sorts also occurred on Friday, May 28. **Dish** opened its Second Floor. Bet you didn't even know those stairs led up to something else, did you?

Well, I am here to tell you they do. What they lead up to is one chic place full of comfy furniture groupings, a relaxed atmosphere and even a water fountain. It's fabulous! It's awesome! It's hot, hot, hot. It's the latest word on the bar scene.

Opening night was a real blast. Owner Julie gave me a personal tour. She was beaming with pride and, well, she should be. Downstairs there was a hot fashion show, a DJ from LA and a huge crowd. Upstairs you could mill among the trendy and get a massage. The folks who brought Milwaukee the concept of a big city bar that mixed Lesbians and Gay men together have done it again.

Congrats Julie. It's every bit as good as you hoped it would be!

Recaps... Speaking of good, a good time was had by all during the Milwaukee Classic. Over at **Woody's**, several teams were partying hard with the hometown boys, reliving the glories of the diamond and making new friends. Woody's own team captured the

"Have A Shot Against AIDS" contest, with the Ball Game team taking second.

The same was true at the **Ball Game**. The Toronto team was there when I stopped in. I can see why they are fan favorites! **219** was just the perfect host for the registration on Friday night. The bar remained crowded throughout the weekend. Sunday night everyone was celebrating **219's** come from behind win to capture the Upper Division crown in the tournament.

Over at **M&M's**, there was a big crowd on Saturday night. That's not even mentioning the Friday night fish fry, which of course is very popular even when there isn't 1,000 or so out of town guests to help consume it.

Even bars that didn't sponsor a team in the tourney did well. **This Is It** and **Barbie Doll's Play House** both had nice crowds when I stopped in. Just don't tell my coach that I was out that late on Saturday night. I was supposed to be home early resting for Sunday's games.

I didn't get to Madison, but my spies tell me that the crowd at **Ray's** had a blast over the Memorial Day weekend. There were lots of specials and lots of people on the patio. I heard that **Club 5** was also packed on Saturday night — so why should a holiday weekend be any different? No reason that I can think of.

Speaking of thinking of things, I can't think of anything else to tell you about, so that's a wrap for this week. I hope to see you out and about soon. Meanwhile, be fierce, stay safe and be proud!

Going Out

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

Barracks/Club 5 (Madison), Unicorns Club Night, 1st Saturday of the month.

Capers/Illusions (Kenosha), 1999 Ms. Gay WI-USofA Pageant featuring Sarah Janie 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 Corner 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.

Pride Pig Roast (Beloit), Outdoor pig roast, backyard of the Kloset, 232 Shirland Avenue, in cooperation with UnCommon Grounds Coffeehouse. Noon until 2:30am. (See article on the COMMUNITY page for details.) FMI call (608) 363-8764.

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.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 9

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

FRIDAY, JUNE 11

Za's (Green Bay), Mr. Gay WI All America Pageant, 9pm, featuring Richard Greer, Mr. Gay All American 1999. \$7 cover, \$15 reserved tables. For more information call (800) 715-5877 or Kelli at (920) 430-8775.

SATURDAY, JUNE 12

1100 Club (Milwaukee), BESTD Clinic offers free, anonymous HIV testing and counseling, 10pm-1am. **Napalese** (Green Bay), Country Show.

SUNDAY, JUNE 13

Fannie's (Milwaukee), Ronnie Nyle's encore performance, 7pm.

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.

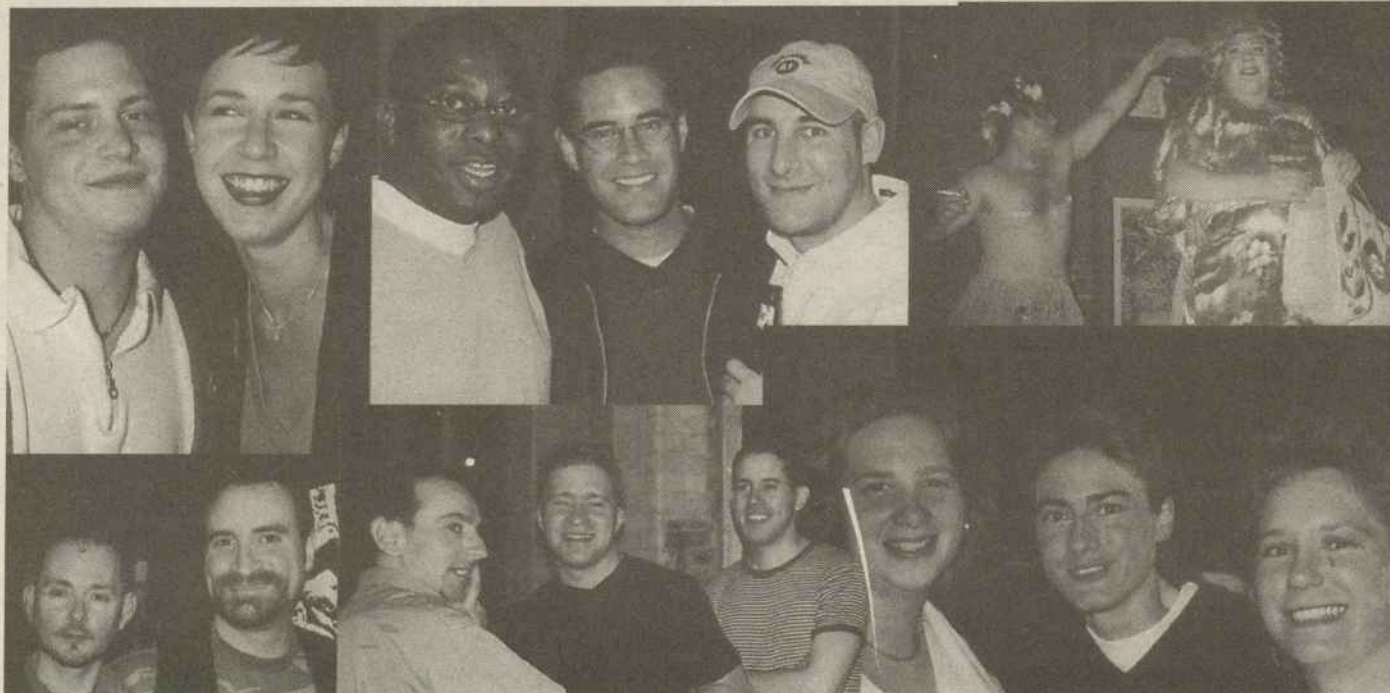
Kirby's Klub (Madison), Female Impersonators on Sat., 10pm.

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.

MILWAUKEE NIGHT LIFE





Opening of 2nd Floor Lounge & Fashion Show by Detour, Beauty & Groom



(Top) L. The new 2nd floor of Dish. R. Julia, owner of Dish relaxing in the new room of Dish.
 (Bottom) The fashion show put on by Detour, Beauty, and Groom as part of Musique Friday night promotion.



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
<i>(Open Fri & Sat, 9pm-Close)</i>			
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
<i>(Open 2pm, Cocktail Hour 2-9 Mon-Fri; Sat & Sun open 11am)</i>			
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
<i>(Open 5pm, Cocktail Hour 5-8 Mon-Fri; Sat & Sun open 2pm, Daily Specials)</i>			
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
<i>(Open 5pm everyday; 2-for-1 Drinks 5-8 Mon-Fri; Wed & Thur specials, 8pm-close)</i>			
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
<i>(Open 8pm; DJ 7-nights-a-week; Sunday show; Thur. Super Bust)</i>			
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
<i>(Open 6pm, Outdoor Patio, Cocktail hour 6-9pm, nightly specials 9-Close)</i>			
This Is It	Mw	418 E. Wells St., 53202	278-9192
<i>(Open 3pm every day; Cocktail hour special)</i>			
Triangle	M	135 E. National Ave., 53204	383-9412
Woody's	M	1579 S. 2nd St., 53204	672-0806
<i>(Open 4pm-Close, 7 days a week)</i>			
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
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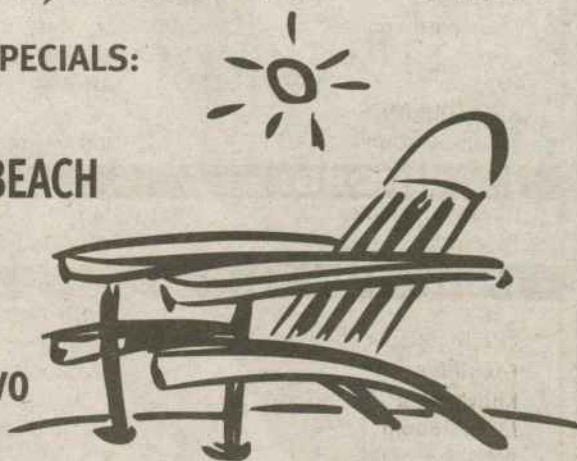
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Corona and shots of Cuervo

\$2 8pm-close

THURSDAY 2-4-1 Drinks, 5-8pm

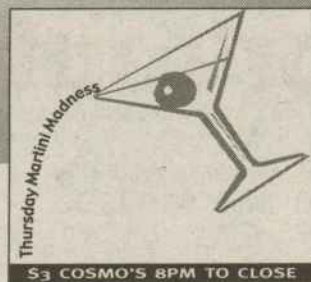
\$3 Cosmopolitan Martini's

8pm-close

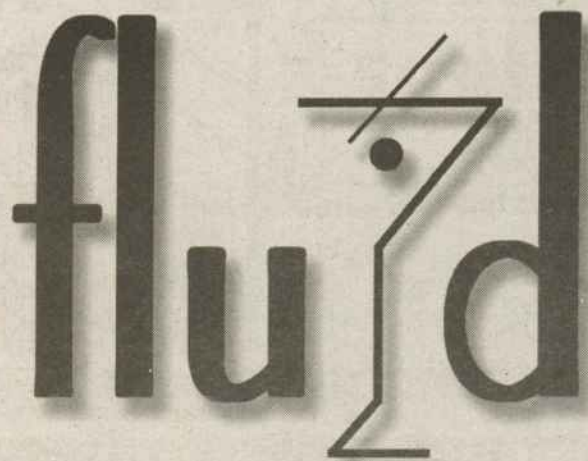
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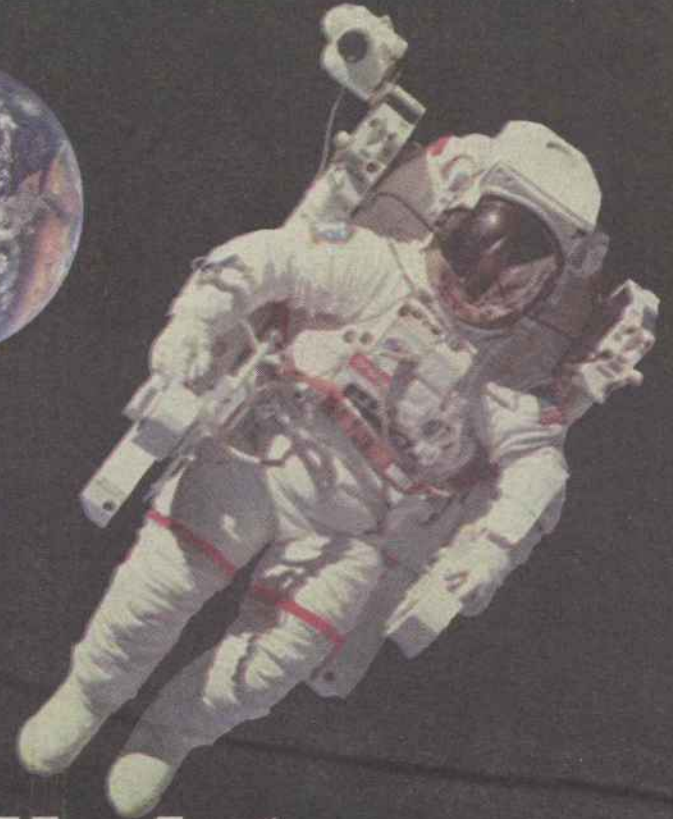
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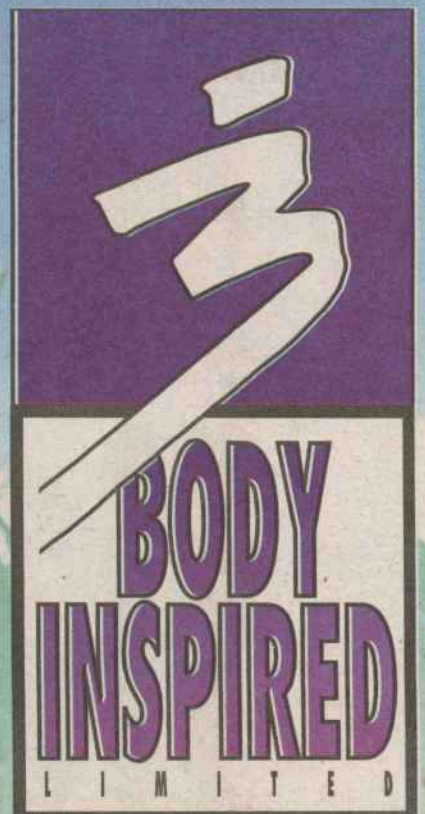
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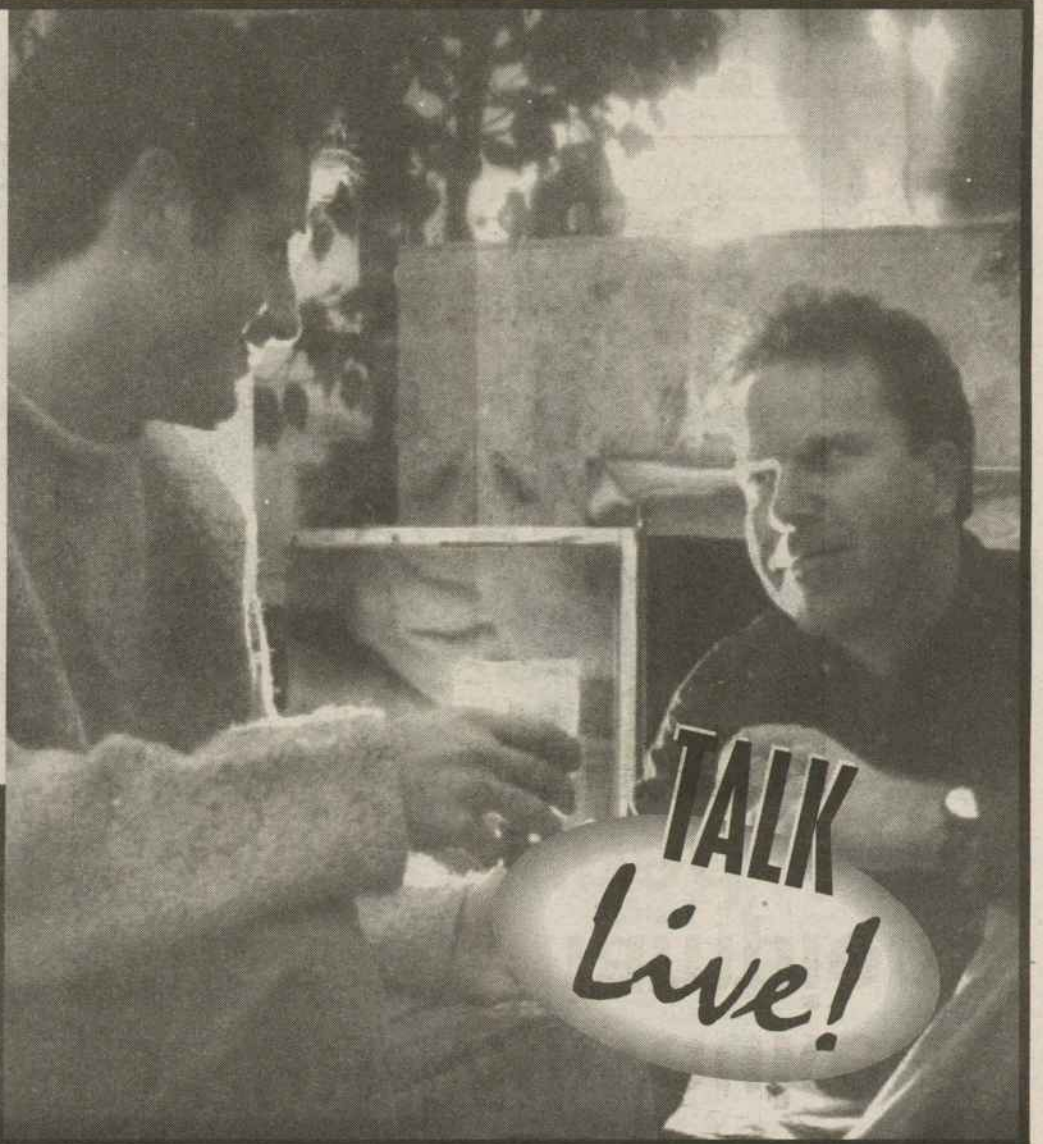
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NAUGHTY Esmeralda

Bear Hunting

I've always dreamed of getting fucked by a lumberjack. That's what we called hard, sexy, masculine men in my hometown. They love the outdoors, but more importantly, they love to stroke their equipment inside someone's hole. When I moved to Wisconsin, I was determined to have a lumberjack of my very own.

It wasn't long after I moved that I fulfilled this fantasy. Perhaps, in reality, he wasn't a lumberjack at all. Perhaps he didn't know how to chop wood with his solid hands or pile lumber in the thick of the forest. Maybe he traded his warm flannel shirt and dust covered boots for a silk tie and polished wingtips when Monday reared its inevitable head.

Perhaps. None of that mattered. I was in ecstasy when for one weekend this lumberjack took me to his cabin and wrapped me in a delicious sheath of flannel, leather, cum and sweat.

This was a man — a big, hairy, thick-chested man, who force-fed me more of that juicy dick than I could handle in three sittings.

This was the sort of man who loved to fuck — and did so very well. He didn't worry about his hairstyle or the size of his waist. To be honest, I didn't care about his haircut or waist either. All he cared about was getting his tongue, fingers and cock inside me, and jerking off on my quivering stomach. And, as long as we're being honest, that's all I cared about, too.

This particular stud taught me two of the things I keep locked inside my ever-expanding encyclopedia of bed-play. 1) Lumberjacks make the best lovers and 2) people living in the Midwest call their Lumberjacks "Bears."

You can imagine how excited I was when I discovered the number of hungry and well-hung bears residing in Wisconsin. Would you like to go hunting for some?

The first bear I talked to asked to be called Jim. He greeted me with a warm kiss that made me want to bend over and mate on the spot. Of course, I fastened my proverbial muzzle and began my interview.

"I'm proud to be a Bear," Jim said. "I'm proud to be Gay, and I'm proud to be a Bear." The sexy Bear and I were soon joined by Jim's friend, Dan.

Another Bear and Bear-lover, Dan was

taller, wonderfully hairy, and wore an inviting leather jacket over his naked, or should I say "bear," chest.

Through the rest of our discussion, I couldn't help but imagine how warm that lovely forest on Dan's chest must have felt.

For a moment, I considered the possibility of a three-way, and the opportunity to suck Dan's tanned nipple while Jim overpowered me from behind. But I realized that this was a fantasy to pursue on another day.

"Some think that Bears are too heavy and hairy," I said with a hint of reservation. After all, I didn't want these two animals to think I wasn't interested in a casual romp.

"The part about Bears that turns me on," answered Dan, "is that we are big men. We're men's-men. Bears are guys. We're totally men and isn't that what being Gay is about? It's being attracted to the same sex, right?" Dan asked. "Well, I'm a Gay man, so I'm attracted to men. Not boys. Not guys who shave their eyebrows or highlight their hair. I want a big, hairy, masculine man."

"Bears are just a bunch of guys having fun," Jim laughed. "When that fun turns into sex, it's hard, intense... guy-on-guy fucking." Jim ran his hand through his hair as if to say he needed some action of that sort at that exact minute.

"We just like the very masculine men,"

said Dan. "And Bears are extremely masculine."

"There are a lot of misconceptions about Bears," Jim explained. "Not all Bears are overweight. Many are very, very fit. Huge muscles. They consider themselves Bears because they are masculine, or fuzzy, or like Bears, or whatever."

Dan agreed. "I hate when our own community creates a stereotype of something they don't know enough about."

I asked why Bears were often so closely tied to the leather community. Both men agreed that many Gay men get turned on by leather because it's, again, very masculine — like Bears. "A lot of Bears are into leather," Jim said. "Not all, but many. The two communities often become one."

These hungry Bears were on their way to hunt down some Grizzlies; so I concluded my interview, thanked Jim and Dan, and headed home. I was eager to undress and slip into bed. Little did these two hot Bears know that our interview continued in a much more adult manner that night within the confines of my dreams.

Thank you for exploring this delicious taste of Wisconsin sex with me, and as always, pleasant wet dreams.

Are you a Gay Wisconsin dweller who'd like to share some information on sexual practices with me? Into amateur erotic photos or videos? Write me a letter c/o Wisconsin Light, 225 S. Second St., Milwaukee, WI 53202. I look forward to hearing from you.

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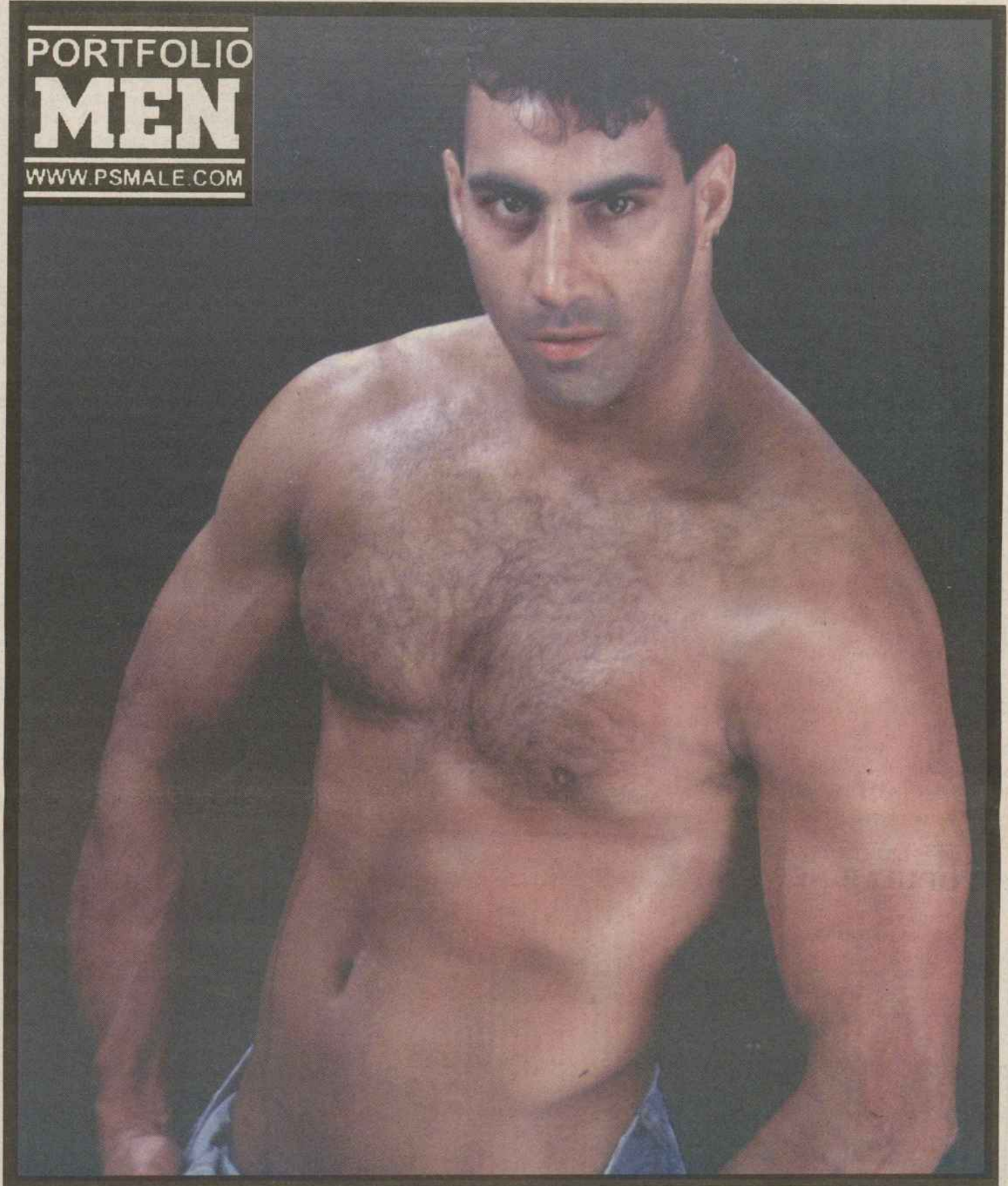
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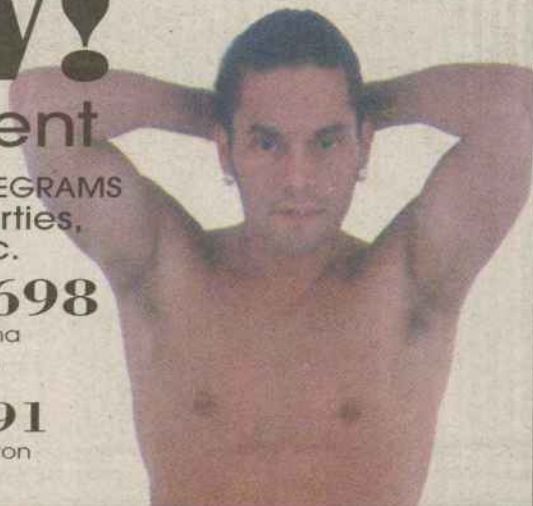
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Reviewed by Sam Edwards

When you lift part of a document and place it in a new document in the computer world, it is called "cut and paste." Since X-rated videos have been legal for a long time now, a lot of material is available. Producers are cutting and pasting the sex scenes from

old films. Since the result costs very little and can earn just as much as a new production, many of these cut and paste jobs are showing up at the adult video store. Sometimes they are clearly marked, showing which films the parts are from, and sometimes they have no notice and a hot title. Many of these productions use just any part of an old sex film the producers can lay their

hands on cheaply, no matter how awful the production values and action.

Metro Pictures, in this case, has been very selective. Although the films from which the scenes are lifted are quite old, they are "oldies, but goodies." The films used are from 1990, '91, and '92, but each of the scenes is exceptionally well done, both from the standpoint of production values and hot action. Since everything has been cut out except the actual sex, Metro is able to give you eight sex scenes instead of the usual four.

The first scene is a three-way; the rest are oral 1, 2, and anal top and bottom, the stan-

dard formula. I usually try to avoid this type of flick, but I was not unhappy with this one because the scenes are good. In addition, one of my old favorite porn stars was featured in two scenes; Danny Sommers, when he was several years younger and at the peak of his beauty, performs as bottom in one scene and top in another. Both performances are first rate since Danny is, in my opinion, the most talented actor in porn today. Yes, he is still making films, even though his tattoo is not as clear and sharp as it was when he was younger.

You may recognize some of these actors, since some are still working away at their chosen profession (an old one). It is sort of nice to be able to see some of these people repeat some of their best performances. Nice watching!

This video is available at Video Adventures.

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